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**FIRST MID TERM EXAMINATION 2023 – 2024**  
**SUBJECT : ENGLISH COMMUNICATION SKILLS**

Std. XII VOC (OM/AA/CT)

Marks : 20

Date : 07/08/2023

Time: 1 Hour

**Instructions:**

1. The Question Paper consists of questions from 1 to 15.
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. Figures to the right indicate full marks to each question.

From the alternatives given below, choose the most appropriate synonym for the underlined word: ( 01 )

1. Your grades have shown consistent improvement this year.
- fast
  - positive
  - steady
  - absolute

From the below provided alternatives, choose an appropriate antonym of the underlined word: ( 01 )

2. It was evident that she was unhappy about the situation.
- said
  - proven
  - important
  - doubtful

Answer the following question in not more than 10 - 15 words: ( 01 )

3. What is Digital Marketing?

Answer the following question in not more than 25 – 30 words: ( 02 )

4. Why was it difficult for Booker to bid goodbye to his mother?

Answer the following question in not more than 25 – 30 words: ( 02 )

5. In the poem 'Hope is the thing with feathers', what has the poet compared 'hope' to?

Rewrite each of the following sentences as per the instructions given in the brackets.

6. She want outside to jog in \_\_\_ garden {Insert a suitable Determiner.} ( 01 )

7. I came to Pune because my office \_\_\_\_\_ (transfer) me here. ( 01 )  
{Use the Past Perfect Tense of the verb.}

8. My sister has drawn this portrait. {Change to Passive Voice.} ( 01 )

**Read the passage carefully:**

Born in Kasauli on 19 May 1934 in pre-independence India, Ruskin Bond is the quintessential Indian writer in English and a lifelong lover of India. Bond spent his early childhood in Jamnagar, Dehradun and Shimla. His parents divorced when he was young and he had a rather

solitary childhood. In 1944, Ruskin's father passed away, succumbing to malaria. He was raised by his mother (who remarried an Indian businessman), and other relatives. He completed his schooling at Bishop Cotton School in Shimla in 1952.

Ruskin's love for books and writing had come early to him, since his father always surrounded him with books and encouraged him to write little descriptions of the surrounding natural beauty, as he took Rusty on hikes around the hills. It was after school that he began to carve out a niche as a writer.

Soon after his schooling, Ruskin left India to live in London. There, he took up odd jobs like working for a travel agency and a photograph shop. He lived there for four years, but memories of India continuously haunted and overwhelmed him.

Bond wrote his first story, *Room on the Roof* at the age of 17. It won him instant recognition and also the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize in 1957, awarded to a British Commonwealth writer under 30. The book captured the vibrant mystique of the Himalayas, and evidently earned him his passage to India too. With the money that he earned from this book, he bought a ticket to India—his home for the rest of his life.

On the basis of your reading and comprehending the above passage, answer the following questions given below in complete sentences in 10 – 15 words:

9. Why was Ruskin's childhood unhappy? (01)
10. What influenced Ruskin to become a writer? (01)
11. Why was Ruskin unhappy in London? (01)
12. How did Ruskin's first book help him? (01)

From the alternatives provided below, choose the most appropriate meaning of the word given below: (01)

13. **Quintessential**
  - typical
  - well known
  - passionate
  - mature

The alternatives provided are words from the passage. Choose the correct alternative that best matches the meaning given below: (01)

14. **Surrender**
  - capture
  - succumb
  - haunt
  - earn

15. Given below is the first line of a story. Complete the paragraph in a narrative form. (04)  
(about 65 words)

**First line :** I was alone at home. Suddenly the phone rang. I hesitated for a moment and picked up the receiver and said 'Hello', but there was no response from the other side. \_\_\_\_\_

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