

AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD

SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

CLASS X

ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS (THEORY) 2025

English Compulsory Paper II

Time: 2 hours Marks: 45

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Check your name and school information. Sign if it is accurate.

**I agree that this is my name and school.
Candidate's Signature**

RUBRIC

2. There are **THREE** questions. Answer **ALL** questions. Question 2 offers **TWO** choices and Question 3 offers **THREE** choices. Attempt any **ONE** of the options in each.

3. When answering the questions:

Read each question carefully.

Use a black pointer to write your answers. **DO NOT** write your answers in pencil.

DO NOT use staples, paper clips, glue, correcting fluid or ink erasers.

Complete your answer in the allocated space only. **DO NOT** write outside the answer box.

4. The marks for the questions are shown in brackets ().

Q.1.

(Total 17 Marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer all the questions that follow:

Reading Passage I

From its stunning beaches to its historical monuments, and from its vibrant cities to its stunning natural wonders, Sindh has something to offer for everyone. As a result, it has become an increasingly popular travel destination...From stunning natural landscapes and wildlife to historic ruins and monuments, there is something for everyone to explore and experience in Sindh.

- 5 Sindh has numerous tourist sites with the most prominent being the ruins of Mohenjo-daro near the city of Larkana.

The city of Mohenjo-daro is one of Pakistan's most well-known United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Sites. Archaeologists have discovered that the history of Mohenjo-daro dates to the 26th century BC...Mohenjo-daro is a word borrowed from the local Sindhi language, which means 'Mound of the Dead'. Many ancient artefacts have been discovered here...These artefacts are on display at the Mohenjo-daro museum, which is around 800 metres away from the ancient city.

[Another attraction is the] Ranikot Fort located in one of the most remote areas of Jamshoro District in Sindh, and is considered one of the top places to visit in Sindh. Also known as 'The Great Wall of Sindh', it still stands tall today.

If you love seafood and want to enjoy a fresh catch, Keenjhar Lake is the place to be, as it is one of the most well-known fishing places near Karachi...In addition to fishing, other outdoor activities include swimming, boating, and jet skiing...

There are plenty of exciting and unique experiences to be had when exploring the province of Sindh...The *Sindhu Desh Mela* is an annual festival held in Hyderabad that celebrates the culture and heritage of Sindh. *Urs* is [another] annual festival held in several shrines in Sindh to commemorate the death of Sufi saints and includes music, singing, and religious sermons...

From the bustling streets of Karachi to the breathtaking forts and monuments of the desert, Sindh is a province that offers a wealth of cultural attractions...

Source: Adapted from the following websites:

1. <https://www.sindh.gov.pk/tourist-attraction>
2. <https://www.graana.com/blog/places-to-visit-in-sindh/>
3. <https://zameenlocator.com/blog-detail/exploring-sindh-pakistan-tourist-attractions-culture-and-travel-tips/32>

- a. Discuss any TWO ways in which the author has provided information about Sindh in the given passage. (4 Marks)

- b. Describe the author's purpose in including UNESCO in the given passage. (2 Marks)

- c. Identify any THREE cohesive (connective) devices from the given passage. (3 Marks)

Q.2.

(Total 10 Marks)

Compose a response of about 200-250 words to any **ONE** of the options **a** or **b**.

EITHER

- a. Recently, it has been observed that many students are dropping out of school. Write a report on the given issue. In your report, discuss ONE
- reason why students are dropping out of school.
 - way in which schools can retain the students.

OR

- b. Assume you are an intern in a reputable organisation. During your internship, you are not allowed to go on any leaves. However, a personal issue must be addressed with urgency, and this requires you to take a day's leave.

Write a letter to your supervisor. In your letter, explain

- the reason for taking the leave.
- how you will make up for the day you went on leave.

Make your notes below or on the pages given for rough work. Write your final draft on pages 6 and 7.

PLEASE TURN OVER THE PAGE

Q.3.

(Total 18 Marks)

Write a composition of about 200-300 words on any **ONE** of the options **a, b** or **c**.
Remember to compose the final draft in complete sentences.

EITHER

a. A lot of people enjoy travelling domestically and internationally for various reasons. Write an essay on the importance of travelling. In your essay, discuss

- TWO reasons why people travel.
- THREE impacts of travelling on a person's life.

OR

b. Some studies have shown that students often perform better on exams if music is played softly in the background at the exam centre. However, some students may find the music distracting.

Write an argumentative essay on the given issue. In your essay,

- explain your stance on whether schools should play music during exams or not.
- support your stance by discussing THREE reasons.

Note: Your reasons can either be in favour of your stance or counter the opposing stance.

OR

c. Write an essay about an unusual hobby you have. In your essay,

- mention the hobby.
- explain the reason for having the hobby.
- describe TWO ways in which the hobby impacts your personal life.

Make your notes below or on the pages given for rough work. Write your final draft on pages 9 and 10.

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END OF PAPER

Please use this page for rough work

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