

**Subject: English Class: X**

**Assignment 3**

**1. Read the passage carefully.**

WATER MANAGEMENT

1. Needless to say that water will perhaps be the scarcest commodity of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. On global scale it is assessed that over the next two decades, water use by human beings will increase by 40% and that 17% more water will be needed to grow more food for the increasing population. Water is finite in nature and the quantum of water cannot be increased. The World Water Vision Commission drew attention to the 'gloomy arithmetic of water', as water demand will outstrip its availability. As such State of Art and innovative technologies have to be developed for reducing wastage of water and recycling waste water. There is need for a Water Secure World and to achieve this objective 5000 experts had gathered in Hague in March 2000 to prepare a policy document on this subject. And they have indeed provided very useful guidelines.
2. The scenario of water in India is equally gloomy. Against our requirement of about 2788 billion cu. metres of water annually by 2050, availability of water will only be about 2300 billion cu. metres including that from the ground water sources. The problem is further compounded by the fact that only 15-16% of water resources have been developed thus leaving a very large gap thereby emphasizing the need for conservation and preservation of water.
3. As regards the drinking water scenario although it is claimed that 83% of urban population and 90% of rural population is covered, the sustainable availability, coverage and quality of water carry a big question mark.
4. The situation on the sanitation front is far worse, so much so that even Metro cities have not been fully covered with underground sewerage. My visit to several cities and towns as a consultant to the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has revealed that even though the water supply and sanitation facilities are available, these are either not working or operating at very low efficiency. The main reason being lack of skills and shortage of funds. This has resulted in untreated wastewater flowing into drains and rivers and other water bodies. We have before us a really grim scenario of polluted rivers and water bodies. The problem is further compounded due to discharge of untreated wastewater from industries and dumping of solid waste. These issues need to be addressed more effectively and at the earliest.
5. The Government of India and State Governments are addressing these serious problems. The World Bank, ADB and other funding agencies are also supporting several schemes in the fields of agriculture and water supply and sanitation to cities and towns. But the magnitude of funds required for outstrips the funds available. In the Ninth Five Year Plan alone, there was a gap to the tune of about Rs. 39,000 crores in this field. A time has come when the private sector should start playing an active role. There is a need to induct private investment and management in the sector and to improve the efficiency.  
There is a huge scope for such private involvement in the water industry. Privatisation is not the panacea of all ills but this could be a way for change and improvement. As a safeguard against any abuse and misuse there is a need to build necessary checks and balances.

– P.P. Gurnani: The Hindustan Times

**1.1 Fill in the blanks using one word only as given in the example. Write answers in your answer sheets.**

Water *management* will be a major problem in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The (a) ..... for water is likely to increase but supply is finite. The wide gap between the two (b) ..... the

need for conservation and preservation of water. Rivers are (c) ..... because untreated wastewater from industries is (d) ..... into them.

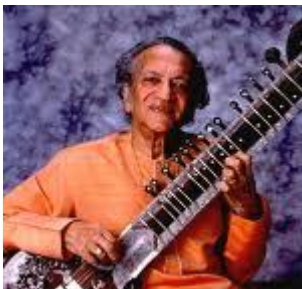
**1.2 Based on your understanding of the extract, complete the following with words/ phrases. Write answers only in your answer sheets against correct blank numbers.**

- (a) The main reason for water scarcity in future is .....
- (b) Since water demand will outstrip its availability, we need technologies for .....
- (c) The main reason for inefficient working of sanitation facilities in many metros is .....
- (d) The two factors responsible for water pollution are : (i) ..... (ii) .....
- (e) Various agencies are funding schemes for supply of water for ..... and .....
- (f) Private involvement is advocated for .....

**1.3 Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following. Write only the answers in your answer sheets.**

- (a) amount that is requires/desired (para 1) .....
- (b) become larger (para 1) .....
- (c) Imagined sequence of future events (para 3) .....
- (d) Depressing unpleasant events (para 4) .....

**2. Read the profile of Sitar maestro Pt. Ravi Shankar and write a short biography of his.**



- born on April 7, 1920 in Benares, Bengali brahmin community
- family's native place Kalia -now in Bangladesh.
- very young parents shifted to Europe
- 1938 moved back India -formal training
- composed music for films *Dharti ke Lal*, *Neecha Nagar*.  
Mohd. Iqbal's *Sare Jahan Se Accha*
- 1966 George Harrison of the Beatles became his student.
- won many awards Bharat Ratna, several Grammy awards, numerous honorary Doctorates.
- two daughters Anoushka Shankar, Sitarist , Nora Jones –singer

**Q3. Complete the news reports accompanying the following headlines by filling in the blanks.**

**1. HEAVY RAINS LASH GUJRAT**

a) \_\_\_\_\_ threw normal life out of gear.

**2. MBA CLASSES TO BEGIN ON SEPT.20<sup>th</sup>**

The centre coordinator informed the candidates (b) \_\_\_\_\_ Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>

### 3. 12 INJURED AS 2 BUSES COLLIDE

About (c) \_\_\_\_\_ at the KNP junction here today.

### 4. TRUCK BOMB EXPLODES IN ISLAMABAD, KILLS 200, SCORES INJURED

A bomb in a truck (d) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Q4. Given below is a set of instructions on how to make thandai. Using the instructions, fill in the blanks in the paragraph with suitable words.**

1. Boil the milk and set aside to cool.
2. Soak the almonds, saunf, elaichi, pumpkin seeds in half a cup of water for twenty minutes.
3. Grind them in a blender, pour the mixture in milk, add sugar and stir well.
4. Refrigerate for two hours.
5. Garnish the drink with saffron strands and almond flakes.
6. You could add a few ice cubes to thandai while serving.

The milk (a) \_\_\_\_\_ and set aside to cool. The almonds, saunf, elaichi, pumpkin seeds and khas khas (b) \_\_\_\_\_ in half a cup of water for 20 minutes. They (c) \_\_\_\_\_ in a blender and the mixture (d) \_\_\_\_\_ in milk. Sugar (e) \_\_\_\_\_ and the mixture (f) \_\_\_\_\_ well. It (g) \_\_\_\_\_ for two hours. The drink (h) \_\_\_\_\_ with saffron strands and almond flakes. A few cubes can also be added while serving.

**Q5. Read the passage given below and answer the following questions.**

In the midst of this procedure a jesting voice from inside called, "Coachman Ali!" The old man got up, raised his eyes to heaven in gratitude and stepping forward put his hands to the door.

- a. What does the phrase 'this procedure' refer to in the above passage?
- b. Why did the old man raise his eyes to heaven?
- c. Whom did the post office employees made fun of and why?

**Q6. Read the extract given below and answer the following questions.**

'Gainst death and all oblivious enmity

Shall you pace forth; your praise shall still find room,  
Even in the eyes of all posterity  
That wear this world out to the ending doom

- a. According to the speaker, what will happen to the young man?
- b. What idea does the poet convey through this stanza?
- c. What does the phrase 'the ending doom' refer to?

**Q7. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each.**

- a. What does the poet mean by 'the living record'? how does it survive the ravages of time?
- b. What did the post office symbolize for Ali? Why?

**Q8. Answer the following questions in about 120-150 words each.**

- a. Imagine that you are the grandfather in the play 'The Dear Departed'. Write a page in your diary describing the day when your children thought you were dead.