

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
BHAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG
NEW DELHI-110002**

**PROFORMA FOR SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION AT THE TIME OF SENDING
THE FINAL REPORT OF WORK DONE ON THE PROJECT**

A. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: MS SHARMILA
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3. UGC APPROVAL NO AND DATE: FILE No 23-233/07(WRO) dated 7th February 2008

4. DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION: Same as above

5. TENURE OF THE PROJECT: Two years

6. TOTAL GRANT ALLOCATED: Rs. 65,000/-

7. TOTAL GRANT RECEIVED: Rs. 50,000/-

8. FINAL EXPENDITURE: RS. 49031/-

9. TITLE OF THE PROJECT: “ A Study of the Standard XII English Test Papers(of last 5 years) in the Light of the Objectives Mentioned in the Syllabus Prescribed by the Board ”.

10. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECTS: 1) To study the type of syllabus prescribed for standard XII and the evaluation procedure followed. 2) To study whether the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing are covered in testing or only reading and writing skills are tested. 3) To test the validity of the test papers. 4) To test the reliability of the test papers. 5) To test if the objectives of the syllabus are realized in the test papers. 6) To study the techniques used in the format of the papers.

11. WHETHER OBJECTIVES WERE ACHIEVED: YES.

(GIVE DETAILS) - The details are given in the answer below.

12. ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THE PROJECT: The researcher undertook this study as a Minor Research Project for which she received a grant from the UGC. Testing or evaluation is a very important aspect of any teaching programme,

Generally, we focus more on teaching and take examination for granted. Setting a question paper is a very complex activity which needs to follow the objectives given in the syllabus. The methodology, the material, the classroom teaching strategies are based on those objectives. The main aim of a test is to focus on the realization of these objectives. Then only we can say that the teaching is successful. English in India is taught as a second language. Being an international language and link language, it is required for the vertical growth of a person. Standard XII is the most crucial juncture in the life of a student as it becomes the stepping stone of his / her future career. The communicative approach aims at preparing students to use English in their future life endeavours. Here, teaching and testing become the major ingredients in his / her growth. Hence, the researcher was interested in knowing whether the testing pattern justifies this. For this purpose, she studied the Standard XII English test papers from 2001- 2005. The researcher tried to judge the testing skills of the teachers / examiners - whether they are suitable enough to test the Reading and Writing skills of the students and how far they are successful in it the light of the objectives given in the Course book. In conclusion, the researcher was able to make some important general observations about the realization of objectives in the test papers and has also given some suggestions for improvement in the testing pattern.

13. SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS: (IN 500 WORDS)

Suggestions - The researcher feels that while the current ratio of the comprehension passages is that of 70 is to 30, it should be made 50 is to 50. This will make the test paper more challenging hence more motivating. In the first instance, the students are already aware of the content, so there is no novelty. Besides the chances are that they might have practiced in the classroom. They need to be given more unseen passages as in their future life they have to appear in competitive exams where they will have to deal with unseen passages. This could be a preparation for the same.

There is a need to amend the marking scheme. It does not correspond properly with the content. For example, in poetry scheme the information is abstract and need more marks. It is seen that for an objective question 1 mark is given where as for abstract questions only 2 marks are given. So, it would be desirable to avoid this kind of mismatch.

For vocabulary testing more focus should be given on active vocabulary as that has to be part of their vocabulary repertoire. Here in these papers it was found that the emphasis was more on passive vocabulary. The marking scheme too was also not appropriate as two items had half marks each.

There is a pressing need of developing writing skills. So, the weightage should be increased. 5 marks for letter writing is not enough since writing skills require more time to think and write. Otherwise, the content of the test for writing is good and follows the communicative pattern.

In the case of essay writing the topics need to be interesting, motivating and challenging. They should relate to the real life experiences of the students. Hackneyed and vague topics should be avoided and specific and narrowed down topics should be given. The best strategy is to give only one topic so that the students's proficiency is properly judged.

14. CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOCIETY: The Standard XII examination is of great importance in the career of all students. It is important to develop aural and oral proficiency in English for the students's success in social and professional life. Success in important exams like CAT, TOEFL and in interviews and group discussions depends on this proficiency, it also enhances the confidence of the student and contributes to the over-all development of personality.

(GIVE DETAILS)

15. WHETHER ANY PH.D. ENROLLED/PRODUCED OUT OF THE PROJECT: No.

16. NO. OF PUBLICATIONS OUT OF THE PROJECTS: Nil.

(PLEASE ATTACH RE-PRINT)

MS. SHARMILA GUPTA
(PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR)