



SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER 2024

Class: 12
Maximum Marks: 80

Subject: English (Core)
Duration: 3 Hours

General Instructions

- The paper is divided into three sections: A, B, and C. All the sections are compulsory.
- Specific instructions, wherever necessary, are given. Follow them strictly.
- Read the division of the marks as "number of question(s) × mark(s) = total."

SECTION A (READING SKILLS)

22

I. Read the passage below carefully and answer the questions that follow it:

12

- [1] People often get their news online as the accessibility of online news is difficult to compete with.
- [2] Physical newspapers are typically large, need to be folded, and are not always free, making them an overall hassle. With virtual media outlets being available to nearly everybody at the click of a button, it comes as no surprise that it is grown to be a dominant form of news consumption. However, it is important for readers to consider exactly what they are consuming when getting their news through an app or a paper, namely the influence of an algorithm.
- [3] A search algorithm is a set of rules made to put forward content the reader is more likely to engage with and filter out what they will ignore. Based on one's viewing history, an app or service determines what kind of content the user enjoys, then recommends similar content from that point onwards. Algorithms give the viewer what he or she wants. There is no denying that, but that is also the problem.
- [4] Digital media experts warn readers to be cautious of how an algorithm processes content. These systems show a reader more of what they want, but they, in the process, block out any pieces that are not in sync with their observed beliefs (for the sake of customer service). The result is a person who is always given the same type of content, rarely venturing beyond his or her own viewpoints.
- [5] There is, fortunately, a way for readers to get their news still, without risking the entrapment of an algorithm: classic print newspapers, which are not limited by any set of rules, constantly tailor their words they offer to their readers. The news in print needs to satisfy every type of readers with only one copy, allowing it to offer a wide scope of topics. Further, it offers its viewership more freedom concerning what they choose to read.
- [6] While an algorithm purposely chooses and narrows potential news, the diversity of a physical newspaper grants its news a more exploratory nature. Taking the time to engage with every part of the physical newspaper puts for its readers a variety of subjects, views, and information on display.
- [7] It will be naive to believe that print newspapers are completely free from biases or certain degrees of filtering. Nonetheless, a physical newspaper will almost never be as narrow in scope as the suggestions of a digital media outlet will be.

- a. Online news is becoming popular because it is _____ 1
- i. economically affordable
 - ii. readily accessible
 - iii. less cumbersome
 - iv. more interesting
- b. The phrase "venturing beyond his or her own viewpoints" (in the fourth paragraph) most nearly means _____ 1
- i. stepping into someone's shoes.
 - ii. challenging others' opinions.
 - iii. combining traditional beliefs with modern ideology.
 - iv. moving away from one's personal opinions.
- c. Complete the sentence with evidence from the text. _____ 1
- Online readers are unaware that the news they read on a digital platform is _____

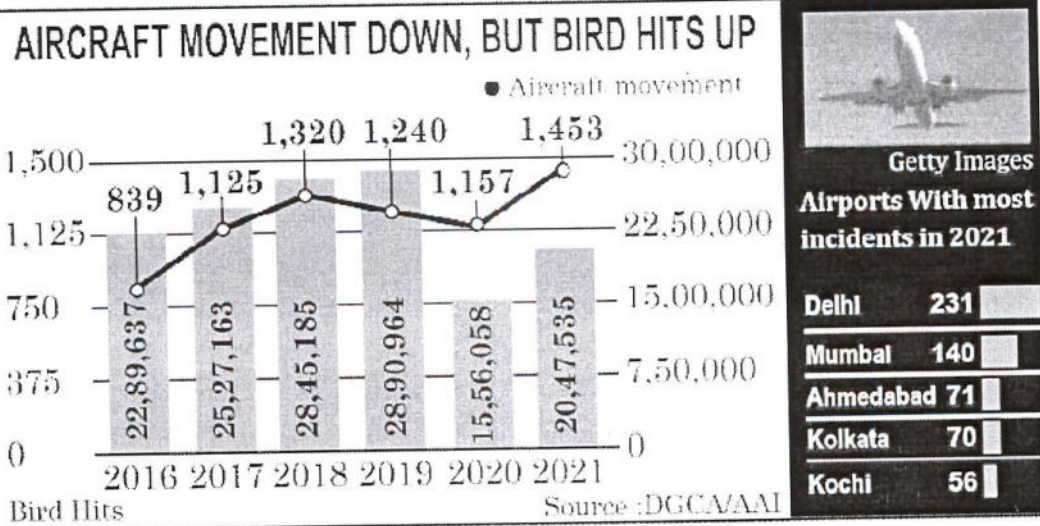
- d. A set of rules made to put forward content the reader is more likely to engage with and filter out what they will ignore is referred to as _____. 1
- e. Mention two advantages of classic print newspapers. 2
- f. An advantage of the diversity of a physical newspaper is _____. 1
- g. The writer concedes that newspapers, too, are _____. 1
- h. The passage suggests that the reader while reading news online must be _____. 1
 - i. focused ii. discerning iii. Indifferent iv. attentive
- i. Identify the option that displays the headline that does not correspond with occurrences in the passage. 1

- i. NEWSPAPERS : FREEDOM OF SPEECH
- ii. THE INTERNET: A NEWS ENTERTAINER
- iii. ONLINE NEWS: A LIMITED PERCEPTION
- iv. NEWSPAPERS VS. NEWS APPS
- v. NEWS: A BIASED PERSPECTIVE

- j. Share the evidence from the text, *in about forty words*, to support the view that though algorithms give the reader what he or she wants to read, they are also the problem. 2

II. Read the passage below carefully and answer the questions that follow it: 10

- [1] At least two bird strike incidents happened on Sunday. Both aircraft returned to their airports of origin and were grounded for maintenance. An ABC aircraft, which had taken off from Guwahati towards Delhi, suffered damage to its left engine following a bird hit at 1600 feet. The pilots returned to Guwahati. The other strike happened on another flight from Patna to Delhi. The pilots of the aircraft suspected a bird strike during the take-off roll, but continued to climb. Following the take-off rotation, they were informed by the cabin crew of the sparks emanating from the left engine. Subsequently, the pilots were also informed by the air traffic control of the smoke coming out of one of the engines. The pilots declared an emergency and returned to Patna.
- [2] Bird strikes are among the most common threats to aircraft safety, and they typically occur during take-off or landing. Dozens of bird-strikes happen every day, but some can be more dangerous than others. Typically, when birds collide with an aircraft's airframe, it is unlikely to cause significant problems for the pilots flying. But there are instances when the aircraft engine ingests the birds. This can lead to a loss of thrust for the engine and cause maneuverability problems for the crew. In these cases, where a jet engine ingests a bird, procedures would generally call for pilots to land the plane at the closest airport. While most airframe bird strikes are not considered critical to air safety; if a collision cracks a window or a windscreen, then pilots will look to land as early as possible.



- [3] Smaller planes would generally be more susceptible to the dangers of bird strikes than larger ones. However, given that bird strikes mostly happen during take-off and landing, these incidents could distract the pilots during what are highly critical phases of flights that demand the complete attention of the crew.

[4] The presence of birds around an aircraft increases the chances of a bird strike. In the monsoon, as water puddles emerge on open grounds attracting insects to breed, the presence of birds increases. In some cases, bird hits also happen at higher altitudes when a plane is cruising. These are more dangerous than low-altitude hits, given that they can cause rapid depressurization of cabins. Other reasons for bird activity around the airfield are the presence of landfills or waste disposal sites that can attract a large number of birds.

- a. Does the following statement agree with the information given in the first paragraph? 1
When an airplane is hit by a bird or is suspected to have been hit, the passengers must be asked to get down at once.

Select from the following:

TRUE (if the statement agrees with the information)
FALSE (if the statement does not agree with the information)
NOT GIVEN (if there is no information about this)

- b. Bird hits occur 1

- i. when an aircraft is overloaded.
- ii. at the time of landing or taking off.
- iii. when the crew becomes negligent.
- iv. when the passengers become panicky.

- c. Fill in the blank: 1

Smaller planes are generally more _____ than larger ones.

- d. Complete the sentence by selecting the most appropriate option: 1

When the window or the windscreen of the airplane is cracked because of a bird hit,
_____.

- i. the crew must rush to the cockpit
- ii. the pilot must land at the nearest airport
- iii. the pilot must inform the maintenance engineer
- iv. the pilot must get instructions from the aviation wing.

- e. Look at the graph. It shows that between 2016 and 2021, whereas air flights have come down, the bird hits have gone up. This implies that the incidence of bird hits has _____. 1

- i. decreased
- ii. just increased
- iii. remained constant
- iv. been alarming

- f. Complete the sentence based on the following statement: 1

Complete attention of the crew is demanded during the take-off and landing.

We can say this because _____.

- g. Incidents of bird hits occur because _____

_____.

(in 30–40 words)

- h. Based on the reading of the text, state a point to challenge the given statement: 2
The area around an airfield lacks waste disposal sites.

SECTION B (CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS)

18

III. Answer *only one* of the following:

1×4

a. You are Ganesh / Geeta Rao, the secretary of the Platinum Housing Society. Draft a notice, in not more than fifty words, to inform the residents about a workshop at 10 *a.m.* on Sunday on safety and emergency management in lifts. The workshop will be organized by Sky Lifts. Invent the necessary details.

b. There has been an increase in the number of cyberbullying cases in your school. That has worried the parents as well as the students. As the school counsellor, you are going to organize a talk by Mr. Sunil Aneja, director, department of cybercrime. The talk is intended for both the students and their parents. Draft a notice, in not more than fifty words, mentioning the day, the date, the time, and the venue.

IV. Answer only one of the following:

1×4

a. You are Milkha Singh / Maina Singh. You have been invited to inaugurate the arts and crafts exhibition at Crown Public School, Ranchi-834 001. Write a formal letter of regret, in not more than fifty words, expressing your inability to grace the occasion because of a prior engagement.

b. You are Ravindra Yadav / Ragini Yadav, the president of the archery club of Senapati Public School, Bhilai-490 023. Tarun Dutt, a former student of the school, has won the gold medal in an international archery competition. The school wants to honour him. Write a formal letter, in not more than fifty words, inviting him to the school. Invent the necessary details.

V. Answer only one of the following:

1×5

a. You are Sundar Mehta / Santushti Mehta. You are a member of the Residents' Welfare Association. During your morning walks, you have noticed that the parks are in a dismal condition. Because of the neglect, they are no longer safe for the residents to walk or the children to play. Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper, in 120–150 words, expressing your views on the situation and suggesting some ways to improve their condition. You may use the cues given below.

| Condition of Parks | Suggestions |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| overgrown trees/grass | pruning trees/grass |
| broken walking tracks | repairing walking tracks |
| open pits | covering open pits |
| no boundary walls | building boundary walls |
| no lights | installing solar lights |
| no dustbins | putting dustbins |

b. You are Pawan Singh / Smita Singh, a fresh graduate from the University of Delhi. You saw an advertisement in a newspaper and now wish to apply for the position advertised. Write a letter, in 120–150 words, to the director, Urjit Public School, Khushi Nagar. Share your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

**URJIT PUBLIC SCHOOL, KHUSHI NAGAR
REQUIRES**

a CTET-qualified, trained graduate teacher of science.

Job description

- teaching in an engaging, stimulating manner
- supervising lab activities
- providing extra support for weak students

Age: not more than forty years (as on 1 January 2025)

Principal

VI. Answer only one of the following:

1×5

a. You are Mohan Sahu / Mohini Sahu, a student of class 12 at Vikas Bharti School, New Delhi. Recently, you read in a newspaper about an incident in which a child tried to imitate a stunt shown

on television and sustained serious injuries. Write an article, in 120–150 words, on the hazards of unsupervised television viewing by kids and how parents should guide them in this matter.

b. You are Tarun Lodhi / Trishna Lodhi. Recently, the health minister of the state visited the local hospital. You accompanied him as a reporter. At the hospital, you found that the children's ward was very clean and the hospital was maintained very well. Imagine all the possible details and write, in 120–150 words, a report on the visit, to be published in your newspaper.

SECTION C
(LITERATURE)

40

VII. Attempt only one of the following extracts:

6×1

A. Read the following extract and answer the questions:

Sometimes I feel myself I can hardly bear
The thought of so much childish longing in vain,
The sadness that lurks near the open window there,
That waits all day in almost open prayer
For the squeal of brakes, the sound of a stopping car,
Of all the thousand selfish cars that pass,
Just one to inquire what a farmer's prices are.
And one did stop, but only to plow up grass
In using the yard to back and turn around;
And another to ask the way to where it was bound; . . .

[“A Roadside Stand”]

a. Select the option that has the same literary device as in “The sadness that lurks near the open window there.”

- i. Lucy moved across the room like a warship sailing into battle.
- ii. Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.
- iii. The water-wraith was shrieking.
- iv. The pen is mightier than the sword.

b. They prayed for the stopping of a car. When one car finally stopped, it brought _____ to the people of the roadside stand.

- i. help ii. happiness iii. disappointment iv. cash flow

c. Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line “...childish longing in vain.”

d. Complete the following sentence appropriately:

The emotion of the poet reflected in the above extract is _____.

e. The expression “selfish car” suggests that _____.

f. Based on the rhyme scheme evident in the last two lines of the extract, which word would rhyme with the last line: *brass*, *reply*, or *sound*?

B. Read the following extract and answer the questions:

What I want should not be confused
with total inactivity.
Life is what it is about;
I want no truck with death.
If we were not so single-minded
about keeping our lives moving,
and for once could do nothing,
perhaps a huge silence
might interrupt this sadness
of never understanding ourselves
and of threatening ourselves with death.

[“Keeping Quiet”]

- a. State whether the following statement is true or false: "The speaker advocates total inactivity."
- b. Why does the speaker say, "What I want should not be confused. . . ."?
- c. The speaker says that life is what it is about because _____.
- d. By "I want no truck with death," the speaker means that
- he does not want a truck to kill him.
 - he should not be carried on a truck.
 - he has nothing to do with death.
 - he does not want to see a truck with a dead body.
- e. Which line shows that people are not happy?
- f. We are single-minded because _____.

VIII. Attempt *only one* of the following extracts:

4×1=4

A. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

Antarctica, because of her simple ecosystem and lack of biodiversity, is the perfect place to study how little changes in the environment can have big repercussions. Take the microscopic phytoplankton — those grasses of the sea that nourish and sustain the entire Southern Ocean's food chain. These single-celled plants use the sun's energy to assimilate carbon and synthesise organic compounds in that wondrous and most important of processes called photosynthesis. Scientists warn that a further depletion in the ozone layer will affect the activities of phytoplankton, which in turn will affect the lives of all the marine animals and birds of the region, and the global carbon cycle.

["Journey to the End of the Earth"]

- a. Antarctica is the perfect place to study ecological evolution because _____.
- b. Phytoplanktons can be defined as _____.
- microscopic grasses of the sea.
 - plants at the bottom of the sea.
 - multicelled plants.
 - small viruses in the ice-covered areas.
- c. What, according to scientists, will impact the activities of phytoplanktons ?
- d. What is the reaction of human beings when they come to Antarctica?

B. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

I cried aloud, shaking my head all the while until I felt the cold blades of the scissors against my neck, and heard them gnaw off one of my thick braids. Then I lost my spirit. Since the day I was taken from my mother I had suffered extreme indignities. People had stared at me. I had been tossed about in the air like a wooden puppet. And now my long hair was shingled like a coward's! In my anguish I moaned for my mother, but no one came to comfort me. Not a soul reasoned quietly with me, as my own mother used to do; for now I was only one of many little animals driven by a herder.

["The Cutting of My Long Hair" in *Memories of Childhood*]

a. Complete the following suitably.

Zitkala-Sa's description of her experience at the boarding school conveys a sense of abandonment through her portrayal of _____.

b. Mention any one emotion that Zitkala-Sa experiences as her hair is being cut.

c. Select the suitable option to complete the following.

The expression "tossed about in the air like a wooden puppet" contributes to the reader's understanding of Zitkala-Sa's feelings of being _____.

- i. forced to interact with others
- ii. manipulated and controlled
- iii. preached at and insulted
- iv. made to exist like toy animals

d. In what ways does the image of her long hair shingled like a coward's symbolize the erasure of Zitkala's cultural heritage and the imposition of the Western norms?

IX. Attempt *only one* of the following extracts:

6×1=4

A. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

And survival in Seemapuri means rag-picking. Through the years, it has acquired the proportions of a fine art. Garbage to them is gold. It is their daily bread, a roof over their heads, even if it is a leaking roof. But for a child it is even more.

"I sometimes find a rupee, even a ten-rupee note," Saheb says, his eyes lighting up. When you can find a silver coin in a heap of garbage, you don't stop scrounging, for there is hope of finding more. It seems that for children, garbage has a meaning different from what it means to their parents. For the children it is wrapped in wonder, for the elders it is a means of survival.

["Lost Spring"]

a. What does Saheb's statement about finding money in the garbage reveal about his daily life and aspirations?

b. Select the correct option from those given in the brackets to fill in the blank.

Describing garbage as gold metaphorically elevates its value to the children, helping the reader understand the _____ (dynamic / desperate) conditions under which these children live, where even garbage can represent crucial economic resources.

c. Complete the following with a suitable reason.

The children continue to scrounge in the garbage because _____.

d. How do the perceptions of garbage made by the children and the adults (of Seemapuri) differ?

e. What is implied by the description of rag-picking as having "acquired the proportions of a fine art"?

- i. Rag-picking is an undesirable and simple task that anyone can do without effort.
- ii. Rag-picking has evolved into a complex skill that is valued within the community.
- iii. Rag-picking is a temporary activity that does not significantly impact the community.
- iv. Rag-picking has the status of an artistic hobby that children pursue for enjoyment.

f. What is the reason for Saheb's eyes lighting up?

- i. the immediate experience of finding something valuable
- ii. discussing his findings with others
- iii. reminiscing about past findings in the garbage
- iv. planning future scavenging expeditions

B. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

My introduction to the Y.M.C.A. swimming pool revived unpleasant memories and stirred childish fears. But in a little while I gathered confidence. I paddled with my new water wings, watching the other boys and trying to learn by aping them. I did this two or three times on different days and was just beginning to feel at ease in the water when the misadventure happened.

["Deep Water"]

a. Identify the phrase from the given extract that bears evidence to the fact that the narrator's association with the "childish fears" was not a recent one.

b. How does the writer try to learn it? Mention any two ways.

- c. What did the Y.M.C.A. pool bring back to Douglas?
 i. unpleasant memories
 ii. the memory of a boat
 iii. meeting a bruiser of a boy
 iv. the memory of his visit to the Yakima River
- d. The two emotions of Douglas mentioned in the given extract are _____ and _____.
- e. Why did Douglas ape the other boys?
- f. The writing style of the extract is autobiographical because _____.

X. Answer any five of the following questions, each in 40–50 words: 5×2=10

- a. How does nature contribute to our good health? ["A Thing of Beauty"]
- b. What was unusual about M. Hamel on the last day? ["The Last Lesson"]
- c. What does Sophie want to know of Geoff? ["Going Places"]
- d. "The battle of Champaran is won." Why does Gandhi say it? ["Indigo"]
- e. "... perhaps a huge silence / might interrupt this sadness. ..." What is the sadness Neruda talks about? ["Keeping Quiet"]
- f. What is the significance of the rattrap peddler's note? ["The Rattrap"]

XI. Answer any two of the following questions, each in 40–50 words: 2×2=4

- a. What did Charley learn about Sam from the stamp and coin store? ["The Third Level"]
- b. "Those islands yonder, they are the stepping stones to the future for Japan." What is the significance of the observation made by Dr. Sadao's father? ["The Enemy"]
- c. "They decided that the Maharaja must not come to know that he had missed his target." Why did the hunters try to hide the truth from the king? ["The Tiger King"]

XII. Answer only one of the following questions in 120–150 words: 1×5=5

- a. "These days, more than at any other time, our most vivid impressions of our contemporaries are through interviews." Justify the remark with reference to the Umberto Eco interview.
- b. Compare the characters of the office boy and Subbu.

XIII. Answer only one of the following questions in 120–150 words: 1×5=5

- a. Discuss the satire used in "The Tiger King," highlighting the use of irony as its vehicle.
- b. Discuss how Mr. Lamb brings about a sea change in Derry's approach to life.

Sample Question Paper - English Core (301)

General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them.

1. This question paper has 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains three sections-Section A : Reading Skills, Section B : Creative Writing Skills and Section C : Literature.
3. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
4. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
5. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Time : 3 Hrs.

Max. Marks : 80

Section A Reading Skills (22 Marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully. (12)

1. Road safety rules are essential guidelines designed to protect the lives of motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists, ensuring safe and orderly traffic flow on our roads. These rules encompass a wide range of regulations and best practices aimed at minimising accidents, injuries, and fatalities.
2. One fundamental road safety rule is obeying traffic signals and signs. Reducing speed and stopping at red lights, yielding to pedestrians at crosswalks, and following directional signs contribute to orderly traffic movement and prevent collisions. Similarly, adhering to speed limits is crucial, as speeding significantly increases the risk of accidents and the severity of injuries.
3. Another critical aspect of road safety is wearing seat belts and helmets. Seat belts save lives by preventing occupants from being ejected during crashes, while helmets protect motorcyclists and cyclists from head injuries in the event of accidents. These simple safety measures can significantly reduce the likelihood of fatalities and serious injuries.
4. Additionally, maintaining a safe distance between vehicles is paramount for avoiding rear-end collisions. The 'two-second rule,' where drivers maintain a distance equivalent to two seconds behind the vehicle in front, allows for adequate reaction time and braking distance, reducing the risk of accidents, especially in adverse weather conditions.
5. Moreover, avoiding distractions while driving, such as texting, talking on the phone, or adjusting the radio, is crucial for maintaining focus on the road. Distracted driving is a leading cause of accidents and can have devastating consequences. Therefore, drivers must prioritise their attention on driving and minimise distractions to ensure safety for themselves and others.
6. Furthermore, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs is not only illegal but also extremely dangerous. Impaired drivers have reduced reaction times, impaired judgment, and compromised motor skills, posing a significant risk to themselves and other road users. Strict enforcement of laws against drunk driving and promoting public awareness campaigns about the dangers of driving under the influence are essential for preventing alcohol-related accidents.
7. In conclusion, road safety rules play a vital role in promoting safer roads and reducing the number of accidents and fatalities. By following these rules, drivers can contribute to creating a culture of safety and responsibility on our roads, ultimately saving lives and preventing injuries.

Answer the following questions based on the above passage.

- (i) Explain the importance of obeying speed limits and wearing seat belts and helmets in ensuring road safety. (1)
- (ii) What is a fundamental road safety rule mentioned in the passage? (1)
- (iii) Choose the word that best describes the tone of the above passage. (1)
A. Instructive B. Informative
- (iv) Complete the following sentence with an appropriate word. (1)
'Road safety rules play a vital role in promoting safer roads and reducing the
- (v) What is a leading cause of accidents mentioned in the passage? (1)
(a) Adhering to speed limits
(b) Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs
(c) Using seat belts and helmets
(d) Following traffic signals
- (vi) Why is maintaining a safe distance between vehicles important? (1)
- (vii) How does distracted driving contribute to road accidents and what measures can drivers take to minimise distractions? (2)

(viii) Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph. (1)

Posing : Risk :: Play :

- (a) Role (b) Rule
(c) Reaction (d) Campaign

(ix) Which of the following does not corresponds with the occurrences in the above passage? (1)

- (a) Wearing seat belts and helmets is essential for safety
(b) Ignoring speed limits does not increase risk of accidents
(c) Driving under the influence of alcohol is dangerous
(d) Both (b) and (c)

(x) How do road safety rules contribute to reducing accidents and what is the significance of wearing seat belts and helmets? (2)

2. Read the following passage carefully. (10)

Information Technology (IT) education in Indian schools has seen substantial growth reflecting the country's role in the global tech industry. IT education aims to equip students with essential digital skills, fostering innovation and preparing a technologically adept workforce.

IT education typically begins at the primary school level. According to a 2019 Ministry of Education report, about 70% of schools offer basic computer education at this level, introducing students to basic computer operations, software applications, and internet usage. As students progress, the IT curriculum becomes more comprehensive. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) states that 45% of secondary schools offer courses in programming, data management, web design, and cybersecurity, introducing languages such as Python, Java, and HTML.

The Indian government has promoted IT education through initiatives like the National Policy on ICT in School Education, impacting over 10,000 schools by 2021. The Digital India campaign, launched in 2015, aims to provide broadband connectivity to over 250,000 rural villages.

Private sector involvement has also been crucial. Technology companies and educational startups have developed e-learning platforms and coding boot camps. According to KPMG, the edtech sector in India is growing at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 52%, driven by digital learning demand.

Despite advancements, challenges remain. A significant disparity exists between urban and rural schools. The 2018 National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) report shows only 24% of rural households have computer access compared to 72% in urban areas. Addressing these disparities is crucial for equitable IT education. Continued investment in infrastructure, teacher training, and curriculum development, along with public-private partnerships, can help bridge the gap, ensuring all students develop essential IT skills.

Answer the following questions based on the given passage.

(i) Complete the following sentence appropriately. (1)

The edtech sector in India is growing at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of according to KPMG.

(ii) According to the 2018 NSSO report, what percentage of rural households in India have computer access? (1)

- (a) 24% (b) 36% (c) 48% (d) 72%

(iii) Explain the challenges faced in bridging the urban-rural disparity in IT education in India. (2)

(iv) The given passage states what computer skills the child learns in primary and senior secondary classes. (1)

Classify the following cases as such.

Case 1 Python

Case 2 MS word

(v) Read the following. (1)

- A. Curriculum Development. B. Broadband Connectivity
C. Teacher Training

Select the option that lists the gap found in IT skills development.

- (a) A and B (b) B and C
(c) A and C (d) All of these

(vi) What initiative aims to provide broadband connectivity to rural villages in India? (1)

(vii) Describe the significance of the National Policy on ICT in School Education in promoting IT education in India. (2)

(viii) percentage of secondary schools in India offer courses in programming, data management, web design and cybersecurity. (1)

- (a) 25% (b) 45% (c) 65% (d) 85%

Section B Creative Writing Skills (18 Marks)

Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

3. Attempt ANY ONE of two in about 50 words. (4)

A. The Debating Society of your school is organising an Inter-School Debate. The last date for submitting names for the audition on Friday 17th March. There will be on-the-spot trials. Draft a notice in about 50 words informing students about the team selection time, date, and venue. You are Pratik/Pragati, President, Debating Society, ABC International School.

OR

B. Yesterday, during lunch break, you misplaced your notes on Chemistry lectures. You want to get them back. Write a notice for the school notice board. You are Karuna/ Karan, a student of Class XII A in Vanasthali Public School, Ludhiana.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of two in about 50 words. (4)

A. You are Akshay/Aakriti. You have been invited to participate in a seminar on 'Fundamental Rights of Children', organised by the Lions Club of your district. Respond to the invitation by writing a letter to the Secretary of the Club. (50 words)

OR

B. You have been invited to an evening bash at Hashtag Food Cafe by Vibhu, your close friend, to celebrate his selection in NDA. Respond to the invitation. You are Nitin of 56, Gautama Enclave, New Delhi-56.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of two in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. UNO Bank needs PROs in their branches all over India. The bank is offering a handsome salary even to freshers who have excellent command over English. You are Ritika Khanna. Write an application to the HR Manager, UNO Bank, New Delhi offering your services. Also forward your detailed resume. You can use the following clues.

UNO Bank Recruitment

Applications are invited from Indian citizens for appointment as PROs in UNO Bank.

Eligibility Criteria

- Post-Graduate in Commerce with a minimum 60%
- Excellent command over English
- 2 Years working experience of the same post

OR

B. You are CK Gupta of Delhi. Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper about the rising prices of daily commodities. You can take help from the following visuals.



6. Attempt ANY ONE of two in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. As the Sports Captain of your school, write an article for your school magazine emphasising the need of adventure sports in the life of youngsters. You are Rohit/Roshani of Happy Public School, Mathura. You can use the following clues

Clues

- Attraction towards exploring and experiencing the outdoors
- Help us in being strong, both in body and mind
- Prepare us to face the future challenges of life
- Lot of geographical diversity (mountains, hills, rivers, beaches, etc.) in our country

OR

B. Your school is situated near a road intersection. Last week, in the morning, a bus coming at a great speed overturned. Senior students of your school rushed out and did everything to save the passengers. You were part of the rescue efforts. Write a report on the accident for your school's newsletter. You can use the following clues

Clues

Morning time- bus and care- overturning- attention of students- how was the situation handled- appreciation to students

Section C Literature (40 Marks)

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the given two (A) or (B). (6)

A.

*Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen.
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.
They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.
Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.* (Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

- (i) Identify the phrase from the extract that suggests the following (1)
The tigers are fearless, graceful and beautiful.
- (ii) What is the tone of the poet in the given lines? (1)
(a) Wondrous (b) Sympathetic
(c) Sarcastic and tolerant (d) None of these
- (iii) Complete the following sentence appropriately. (1)
Aunt Jennifer's tigers do not fear
- (iv) Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank. (1)
'...Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand' implies that Aunt Jennifer was
(sad/oppressed) in her marriage.
- (v) Read the Assertion and the Reason below, with reference to the given extract. (1)
Assertion The tigers are representative of man on one hand.
Reason The tiger are unafraid of man on the other.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
(a) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
(b) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, but the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.
(c) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.
(d) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.
- (vi) Why was Aunt Jennifer's fingers shaking? (1)

OR

B.

*Perhaps the Earth can teach us
as when everything seems dead
and later proves to be alive.
Now I'll count up to twelve
and you keep quiet and I will go.* (Keeping Quiet)

- (i) Identify the phrase from the extract that suggests the following. (1)
The poet thinks that he has said what he intended to say.
- (ii) Which poetic device has been used in the second line of the extract? (1)
(a) Alliteration (b) Transferred epithet
(c) Metaphor (d) Paradox
- (iii) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)
The poet wants to convey the message that
- (iv) Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank. (1)
The poet uses a conversational style and personal pronouns 'you', 'we' and 'I' because
(he tries to reach out to the reader/he wants us to be friendly with the whole mankind)
- (v) Read the Assertion and the Reason below, with reference to the given extract. (1)
Assertion The poet gives an example of Earth to state that we can grow out of silence or inactivity.
Reason The Earth example is related to the birth of a tree.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
(a) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
(b) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, but the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.
(c) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.
(d) the Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.
- (vi) State whether the given statement is True or False with reference to the extract. (1)
The Earth can teach us that there is no life under apparent stillness.

8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the given two (A) or (B). (4)

A. **MR. LAMB** Like a bomb only blew up my leg. There's worse things can happen. You can burn yourself away inside.

DERRY After I'd come home, one person said, "He'd have been better off stopping in there. In the hospital. He'd be better off with others like himself." She thinks blind people only ought to be with other blind people and idiot boys with idiot boys.

MR. LAMB And people with no legs altogether?

DERRY That's right.

MR. LAMB What kind of a world would that be? (On the Face of It)

(i) Complete the sentence suitably. (1)

The attitude shown by 'she' in the extract is

(ii) What do the given lines tell about the relationship between Mr. Lamb and Derry? (1)

(iii) Select the option that best describes the stranger's belief regarding people like Derry. (1)

(a) That no one would love him and he would be alone forever.

(b) That he would not live for long and so should stay at home.

(c) That there should be a place where all people like him could stay together.

(d) That he should stop being a burden.

(iv) What does 'you can burn yourself away inside' mean? (1)

OR

B. Yes, I've taken the obvious step: I talked to a psychiatrist friend of mine, among others. I told him about the third level at Grand Central Station and he said it was a waking dream wish fulfillment. He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it and that I just want to escape. Well, who doesn't? Everybody I know wants to escape, but they don't wander down into any third level at Grand Central Station.

(The Third Level)

(i) Complete the sentence appropriately with reference to the extract. (1)

The third level, according to Charley, was

(ii) Why did the narrator go to a psychiatrist? (1)

(iii) What is 'waking dream wish fulfillment' according to the psychiatrist in the lesson? (1)

(a) Charley's finding of a Third Level at Grand Central Station.

(b) Charley's realisation of his wish to visit Galesburg Illinois.

(c) Charley's escaping into his daydreaming everyday.

(d) Charley's post stamp collecting habit.

(iv) What does the psychiatrist explain to Charley? (1)

9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the given two (A) or (B). (6)

A. She still has bangles on her wrist, but no light in her eyes. "Ek waqt ser bhar khana bhi nahin khaya," she says, in a voice drained of joy. She has not enjoyed even one full meal in her entire lifetime — that's what she has reaped! Her husband, an old man with a flowing beard, says, "I know nothing except bangles. All I have done is make a house for the family to live in." Hearing him, one wonders if he has achieved what many have failed in their lifetime. He has a roof over his head! The cry of no: having money to do anything except carry on the business of making bangles, not even enough to eat, rings in every home. The young men echo the lament of their elders. Little has moved with time, it seems, in Firozabad. Years of mind-numbing toil have killed all initiative and the ability to dream. (Lost Spring)

(i) Identify the line from the text that shows reiteration. (1)

(ii) Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank. (1)

The phrase 'carry on' in the extract suggests (to continue something/to fight against)

(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

The drudgery of work has destroyed the people of Firozabad's

(iv) State whether the following statement is True or False with reference to the extract. (1)

There is no ability to dream in Firozabad because everyone ends up getting eye problems.

(v) The statement 'She still has bangles on her wrist, but no light in her eyes' implies that (1)

(a) she is married but has lost the charm in her eyes

(b) she is a married woman who has lost her grace and beauty

(c) though she is married, her eyes are devoid of happiness

(d) she is a married woman who has lost her eyesight

- (vi) 'He has a roof over his head'. The tone of the author while saying this line is (1)
(a) empathetic (b) pessimistic (c) optimistic (d) sympathetic

OR

B. His success in films overshadowed and dwarfed his literary achievements — or so his critics felt. He composed several truly original 'story poems' in folk refrain and diction and also wrote a sprawling novel *Thillana Mohanambal* with dozens of very deftly etched characters. He quite successfully recreated the mood and manner of the Devadasis of the early 20th century. He was an amazing actor — he never aspired to the lead roles — but whatever subsidiary role he played in any of the films, he performed better than the supposed main players. He had a genuine love for anyone he came across and his house was a permanent residence for dozens of near and far relations and acquaintances.

(*Poets and Pancakes*)

- (i) What inference can be drawn from the line 'dozens of very deftly etched characters'? (1)
- (ii) Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank.
The phrase 'near and far' suggests (everywhere/nearby) (1)
- (iii) Complete the following sentence. (1)
According to the extract, Subbu was benevolent,
- (iv) Why does the narrator say that Subbu never aspires to be a lead actor even though he was an amazing actor? (1)
- (v) Which of these statements is not True about Subbu? (1)
(a) His literary achievements stole the limelight from his films.
(b) He was a gifted poet and writer and his literary works were noteworthy.
(c) He was selfless in nature and was empathetic towards others.
(d) He never hankered after lead roles and performed minor roles in films.
- (vi) The writer talks about Subbu's literary genius in a tone. (1)
(a) proud (b) sarcastic (c) gleeful (d) critical

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 40-50 words each. (5 × 2 = 10)

- (i) 'At last I felt released'. Describe the efforts undertaken by Douglas to find this moment of release. (*Deep Water*)
- (ii) Mention the changes that came over little Franz after he heard M. Hamel's announcement. (*The Last Lesson*)
- (iii) What is the 'endless fountain' and what is its effect? (*A Thing of Beauty*)
- (iv) Give an example of what now seems to be dead but later on becomes alive. (*Keeping Quiet*)
- (v) Sophie flits from one dream to another. What trait of her character is brought out by this action? (*Going Places*)
- (vi) What does 'The God that Failed' refer to? (*Poets and Pancakes*)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in about 40-50 words each. (2 × 2 = 4)

- (i) What qualities of Mr. Lamb attracted Derry towards him? (*On the Face of It*)
- (ii) How does the writer indicate that Dr. Sadao's father was a very traditional and conventional man? (*The Enemy*)
- (iii) The manner of his (the Tiger King's) death is a matter of extraordinary interest. Comment.

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. 'Self-reliance, Indian independence and help to sharecroppers were all bound together.' You have just read how Gandhiji manage bring self reliance in India. You have been writing an essay about Indian Independence and Gandhi's role in it. Write the section wherein you mention the instance of the same from the lesson *Indigo*.

You may begin like this

Self-reliance was a virtue which was of utmost importance to Gandhiji. He wanted....

OR

B. Under the apparent stillness, there is life. Justify with reference to the poem *Keeping Quiet*.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. Both Derry and Lamb are victims of physical impairment but much more painful for them is the feeling of loneliness. Comment. (*On the Face of It*)

OR

B. How would you describe the behaviour of the Maharaja's minions towards him? Do you find them truly sincere towards him or are they driven by fear when they obey him? (*The Tiger King*)

Class XII (2024-25)

English Core Sample Paper

General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them.

1. This question paper has 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains three sections-Section A : Reading Skills, Section B : Creative Writing Skills and Section C : Literature.
3. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
4. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
5. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Time : 3 Hrs.

Max. Marks : 80

Section A Reading Skills (22 Marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully. (12)

1. As two friends sit down for a chat over coffee, the topic of healthy eating inevitably arises. One friend, let's call her Sarah, expresses her recent efforts to avoid junk food and adopt a healthier lifestyle.
2. Sarah begins by sharing her realisation that consuming junk food regularly was taking a toll on her health and energy levels. She explains how she decided to make a conscious effort to cut back on unhealthy snacks and meals, opting instead for nutritious options like fruits, vegetables, and whole grains.
3. Her friend, Emily, listens intently and agrees, admitting that she also struggles with avoiding junk food temptations. She confesses that convenience and cravings often lead her to indulge in unhealthy snacks, especially during stressful times.
4. Sarah nods empathetically, acknowledging the allure of junk food but emphasising the importance of making healthier choices for long-term well-being. She suggests finding healthier alternatives to satisfy cravings, such as air-popped popcorn instead of chips or homemade smoothies instead of sugary drinks.
5. Emily appreciates the suggestions and admits that she needs to be more mindful of her food choices. She shares her concern about the negative effects of junk food on her overall health and weight, expressing a desire to make positive changes.
6. The conversation takes a lighter turn as they discuss their favorite healthy recipes and meal prep ideas. Sarah encourages Emily to join her in experimenting with nutritious meals and snacks, emphasising the benefits of cooking at home and having control over ingredients.
7. As they finish their conversation, both friends feel motivated and inspired to prioritize their health and make better food choices. They agree to support each other on their journey to avoid junk food and embrace a healthier lifestyle, knowing that small changes can lead to significant improvements in their well-being.

Answer the following questions based on the above passage.

- (i) How does Emily respond to Sarah's suggestions for healthier choices? (1)
- (ii) 'The conversation takes a lighter turn'. What does the conversation shift to? (1)
- (iii) Read and complete the following sentence suitably. (1)
The expression 'acknowledging the allure of junk food' indicates that there are various negative impacts of junk food.
The negative impacts can be discussed in terms of
A. Quality of raw food used and the conditions in which they are cooked
B. How they impact a person's life and well-being
- (iv) Fill in the blank with the correct word or phrase from the passage: (1)
The law empowered only the district magistrate to suspend or cancel the certificate of registration for a publication.
- (v) What does Sarah suggest as healthier alternatives to junk food? (1)
(a) Sugary drinks (b) Air-popped popcorn
(c) Fried chips (d) Processed snacks
- (vi) Why does Sarah emphasise the benefits of cooking at home during the conversation? (1)
- (vii) What agreement do Sarah and Emily come to at the end of their conversation? (2)
- (viii) Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph. (1)
Popcorn: Popped :: : Fizz
(a) Sugary drinks (b) Smoothies
(c) Coffee (d) Water
- (ix) What is one reason Emily admits to struggling with avoiding junk food temptations? (1)
(a) She doesn't enjoy healthy alternatives (b) Lack of awareness about nutrition
(c) Peer pressure (d) Convenience and cravings
- (x) How does Sarah's realisation about junk food affect her actions and how does Emily respond to Sarah's concerns? (2)

2. Read the following passage carefully.

(10)

The story of Joanne Kathleen Rowling's near magical rise to fame is almost as well known as the characters she creates.

Rowling was constantly writing and telling stories to her younger sister Dianne. 'The first story I ever wrote down was about a rabbit called Rabbit.' Rowling said in an interview. 'He got the Measles and was visited by his friends including a giant bee called Miss Bee. And, ever since Rabbit and Miss Bee, I have always wanted to be a writer though I rarely told anyone so.

However, my parents, both of whom come from impoverished backgrounds and neither of whom had been to college, took the view that my overactive imagination was an amusing personal quirk that would never pay a mortgage or secure a pension.

A writer from the age of six, with two unpublished novels in the * drawer, she was stuck on a train when Harry walked into her mind fully formed. She spent the next five years constructing the plots of seven books, one for every year of his secondary school life.

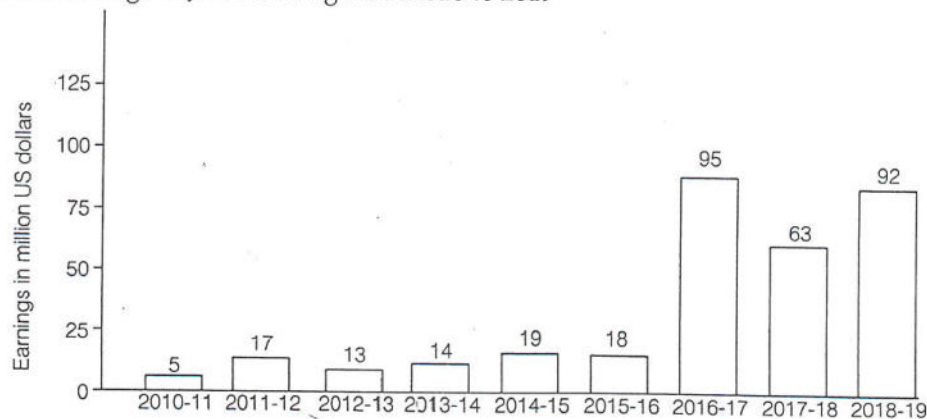
Rowling says she started writing the first book, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, in Portugal, where she was teaching English.

At first, nobody wanted to publish the Harry Potter books. She was told that plot was too complex. Refusing to compromise, she found a publisher.

In 1997, Rowling received her first royalty cheque. By book three, she had sky rocketed to the top of the publishing world. A row of zeroes appeared on the author's bank balance and her life was turned upside down. Day and night she had journalists knocking on the unanswered door of her flat.

Rowling's quality control has become legendary, as her obsession with accuracy. She's thrilled with Stephen Fry's taped version of the books and outraged that an Italian dust jacket showed Harry minus his glasses. 'Don't they understand that the glasses are the clue to his vulnerability.'

Annual earnings of J.K. Rowling from 2010 to 2019



Answer the following questions based on the above passage.

(i) Complete the following sentence appropriately. (1)

In 1997, Rowling received her first..... By book three, she had sky rocketed to the top of the publishing world.

(ii) What pivotal role did Portugal play in J.K. Rowling's journey to writing the Harry Potter series? (1)

- (a) It was where she attended university.
- (b) It was where she first conceived the idea for *Harry Potter*.
- (c) It was where she met her publisher.
- (d) It was where she completed her first draft of the series.

(iii) What challenges did Rowling face in getting her first *Harry Potter* book published? (2)

(iv) The given passage point out the difference between Rowling's books and their movie adaptation. (1)

Classify the following cases indicating which seems to be from the book and which from the movie.

Case 1 Harry does not wear any glasses and has an identification mark on his chin.

Case 2 Harry wears glasses and has a identification mark on his forehead.

(v) Which qualities of Rowling's have become legendary? (1)

- I. Imagination
- II. Story telling
- III. Quality control
- IV. Nuances
- V. Accuracy

- (a) I and III
- (b) II and IV
- (c) III and IV
- (d) III and V

(vi) What prompted Joanne Rowling to start writing the *Harry Potter* series? (1)

(vii) How did Rowling's parents view her aspirations to become a writer? How did Rowling's life change after the success of the *Harry Potter* series? (2)

(viii) Why did Miss Bee visit Rabbit? (1)

- (a) Because Miss Bee had baked a carrot cake for him.
- (b) Because it was Rabbit's birthday.
- (c) Because Miss Bee had to tutor Rabbit in Maths.
- (d) Because Rabbit had fallen ill with Measles.

Section B Creative Writing Skills (18 Marks)

Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

3. Attempt ANY ONE of two (A) or (B) in about 50 words. (4)

A. You are Reshma/ Rajan Head Girl/Head Boy of Moonrise Public School, Chandigarh. A cooking competition is going to take place in your school. Write a notice to be displayed on the school notice board informing the members of the Culinary club to attend a meeting with the Principal for the organisation of the competition.

OR

B. Water supply will be suspended for eight hours (10 am to 6 pm) on 6th March for cleaning of the water tank. Write a notice advising the residents to store water for a day. You are Karan Kumar/Karuna Bajaj, Secretary, Janata Group Housing Society, Palam Vihar, Kurnool.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of two (A) or (B) in about 50 words. (4)

A. As Secretary of the Literary Club of Vivekanand Senior Secondary School, Bhopal, draft a formal invitation for the inauguration of the club in your school.

OR

B. You are Sheena Malhotra of 12-A, RK Puram, New Delhi. You have been invited by the Principal of St. Joseph Public School, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi to act as one of the judges for a Debate Contest to be held on 15th Jan, 20XX. But you are unable to accept the invitation. Write a reply expressing your inability to accept the invitation.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of two (A) or (B) in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. Wanted a lady receptionist cum-telephone operator. Smart female graduate with an attractive personality of not more than 25 years with good command over English and Hindi may only apply. Experienced will be preferred.

Write to the MD, Ajeet Nursing Home, Kota with a detailed resume and a passport size photograph latest by next Tuesday. You are Nandini/Mohini Mehra. Write for this post after seeing its advertisement in 'The Express Times'.

OR

B. There is a flood of advertisements on television channels these days. Useless products are promoted through glamorous and exaggerated presentations. Write a letter to the Editor, Indian Express regarding the same using the clues given below. You are Sunita/Sunil of Mayur Vihar, Kanpur.

Clues

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Flood of advertisements | • Hide the realities of the products |
| • Lack in quality of the products. | • Boring, too long and too dull |
| • In between movies | |

6. Attempt ANY ONE of two (A) or (B) in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. Recently, you read about an incident in which a child tried to imitate the stunts shown on television and sustained serious injuries. Write an article on the hazards of unsupervised television viewing by kids and how parents should guide them in this matter.

Clues

TV for overall well-being of children- entices mind-effect greater than ever-ruin eyesight-lack of concentration- bad habits- copy actors-hero worship

OR

B. History Society of St. Jose, Krishna Nagar sent a group of students to visit a place of historical interest. You were its leader. Write a report for the school newsletter on the tour. You can use the following clues and add any other relevant details.

Name, location, dates- describe the place- its history- how you reached there and all that you have learnt

Section C Literature (40 Marks)

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the given two (A) or (B). (6)

A.

*I saw my mother, beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face ashen like that of a corpse
And realised with pain
that she was as old as she looked but soon
put that thought away*

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

- (i) What do you infer about the phrase 'like that of a corpse' from the extract? (1)
- (ii) Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the fourth line of the extract. (1)
- (a) As quick as a fox (b) Nature is God's gift to us
(c) The dazzling dames comes one by one (d) Life is full of ups and downs
- (iii) Complete the following suitably. (1)
- is the cause of pain and ache that the poet feels.
- (iv) Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank. (1)
- "Her face ashen like that of a corpse" means that the poet's mother's face was
(pale/restless)
- (v) Read the Assertion and the Reason below, with reference to the given extract. (1)
- Assertion** The poet put the thought away because it was painful.
Reason The poet wants her mother to wake up.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
- (a) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
(b) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, but the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.
(c) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.
(d) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.
- (vi) State whether True or False. (1)
- The poet put the thought away because it was unbearable for her.

OR

- B. *"The hurt to the scenery wouldn't be my complaint
So much as the trusting sorrow of what is unsaid:
Here far from the city we make our roadside stand
And ask for some city money to feel in hand
To try if it will not make our being expand,
And give us the life of the moving-pictures' promise
That the party in power is said to be keeping from us."* (The Roadside Stand)
- (i) In the extract, what does 'hurt to the scenery' imply? (1)
- (ii) Which of the following is an apt title for the extract? (1)
- (a) Manipulation (b) The Broken Promise
(c) Sympathy (d) The Agony of the Rural
- (iii) Fill in one word. (1)
- The poet seems to be towards the rural people.
- (iv) Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank. (1)
- Based on the rhyme scheme in the extract, rhymes with line 4 (grand/fend)
- (v) Read the Assertion and the Reason below, with reference to the given extract. (1)
- Assertion** The 'moving picture promise' refers to movies.
Reason The poet realises that those in power make false promises.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
- (a) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
(b) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, but the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.
(c) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.
(d) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.
- (vi) What was the promise made by the government? (1)
8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the given two (A) or (B). (4)
- A. He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it and that I just want to escape. Well, who doesn't? Everybody I know wants to escape, but they don't wander down into any third level at Grand Central Station. But that's the reason, he said, and my friends all agreed. Everything points to it, they claimed. My stamp collecting, for example; that's a 'temporary refuge from reality.' Well, maybe, but my grandfather didn't need any refuge from reality. (The Third Level)
- (i) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)
- Sam's explanation to the reaction of Charley's wife was in nature.
- (ii) Why didn't Charley's grandfather need refuge from reality? (1)
- (iii) Select the option that signifies the condition of people of the 'modern world' mentioned in the extract. (1)
- (a) Unsure (b) Anxious (c) Afraid (d) All of these
- (iv) Why did Sam's verdict make Charley's wife mad? (1)

OR

B. The Maharaja's anxiety reached a fever pitch when there remained just one tiger to achieve his tally of a hundred. He had this one thought during the day and the same dream at night. By this time the tiger farms had run dry even in his father-in-law's kingdom. It became impossible to locate tigers anywhere. Yet only one more was needed. If he could kill just that one single beast, the Maharaja would have no fears left. He could give up tiger hunting altogether. (The Tiger King)

(i) Complete the sentence appropriately with reference to the extract. (1)
The writer refers to the dreams of the Tiger King to highlight

(ii) Why was the Maharaja looking for a tiger? (1)

(iii) Select the most suitable title for the given extract. (1)

- (a) Maharaja's Determination
(b) On the Way of Killing a 100 Tigers
(c) The Selfish King
(d) Killing Other Creatures

(iv) "By this time the tiger farms had run dry even in his father-in-law's kingdom."
What does this line tell us about the Maharaja? (1)

9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the given two (A) or (B). (6)

A. When I passed the town hall, there was a crowd in front of the bulletin board. For the last two years all our bad news had come from there—the lost battles, the draft, the orders of the commanding officer—and I thought to myself, without stopping, "What can be the matter. Now?"

Then, as I hurried by as fast as I could go, the blacksmith, Wachter, who was there, with his apprentice, reading the bulletin, called after me, "Don't go so fast, bub: you'll get to your school in plenty of time!"

I thought he was making fun of me, and reached M. Hamel's little garden all out of breath. (The Last Lesson)

(i) How do you understand Wachter the blacksmith's advice to Franz? (1)

(ii) Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank. (1)

Franz that the bad news was that it was the last French Lesson. (knew/ignored)

(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

In the above extract, M. Hamel's little garden has been referred to as

(iv) Why do you think Franz was late for his lesson? (1)

(v) From where had all the bad news come for the last two years? (1)

- (a) School (b) Bulletin-board
(c) Prussia (d) Alsace

(vi) What did the blacksmith say to Franz? (1)

- (a) To read the bulletin-board
(b) To get his homework completed
(c) To hurry to the school
(d) To not go so fast

OR

B. This settlement was adopted unanimously by the commission. Gandhi explained that the amount of the refund was less important than the fact that the landlords had been obliged to surrender part of the money and, with it, part of their prestige. Therefore, as far as the peasants were concerned, the planters had behaved as lords above the law. Now the peasant saw that he had rights and defenders. He learned courage. (Indigo)

(i) Why is it that the big planters agreed to pay the refund to small farmers? (1)

(ii) Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank. (1)

The phrase 'lords above the law' in the extract means someone who does not have to obey the (law/order).

(iii) Complete the following suitably. (1)

Gandhiji accepted only that per cent of settlement because

(iv) Replace the underlined word with its antonym from the extract. (1)

The party has now abandoned its policy of free trade.

(v) What did the peasants learn from this incident? (1)

- (a) That they had to be courageous
(b) That there was strength in unity
(c) That they had to fight for their cause without fear
(d) All of the above

(vi) As per the settlement, how much was to be refunded? (1)

- (a) 50% (b) 75%
(c) 25% (d) 20%

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 40-50 words each. (5 × 2 = 10)

(i) What was the reason that made Douglas unable to emerge to the surface of the pool as he hoped? (Deep Water)

(ii) "Sophie felt a tightening in her throat. She went to look for her brother Geoff." In the light of this quote, discuss the relationship Sophie shared with Geoff. (Going Places)

(iii) Why does one feel 'a sudden strangeness' on counting to twelve and keeping quiet? (Keeping Quiet)

- (iv) What do you think is the significance of the parting words of the poet and her smile?
(*My Mother at Sixty-Six*)
- (v) Why was the peddler amused at the idea of the world being a rattrap? (*The Rattrap*)
- (vi) Read the given quote. In your opinion, what silence does the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' break?
Every poem breaks a silence that had to be overcome. — Adrienne Rich

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in about 40-50 words each. (2 × 2 = 4)

- (i) How is Derry we meet at the beginning different from the Derry at the end?
(*On the Face of it*)
- (ii) Throw light on the attitude of the General in the matter of the enemy soldier. (*The Enemy*)
- (iii) Answer the question in the context of the following lines from *The Tiger King*.

At midnight when the town slept in peace, the dewan and his aged wife dragged the tiger to the car and shoved it into the forest where the Maharaja was hunting. When they reached the forest the tiger launched its Satyagraha and refused to get out of the car. Why did the dewan decide to give up on his own tiger to be killed by the Maharaja?

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. Your teacher had made the statement- The Rattrap is both entertaining and philosophical. You, having read the story, understood the meaning. However, your classmates have not understood it. They ask you to explain the meaning of the statement to them. Make a write up for the same.

OR

B. According to Keats, nature has a positive sublimating effect on the minds of humans. Discuss. (*A Thing of Beauty*)

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words.

A. Why did Bama stroll in the marketplace instead of hurrying home? Describe the sights she enjoyed seeing there. (*We Too are Human Beings - Memories of Childhood*)

OR

B. Philately helps keep the past alive. Discuss other ways in which this is done. What do you think of the human tendency to constantly move between the past, the present and the future? (*The Third Level*)

Sample Paper
English Core (301)
Class-XII Exam 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

i. This question paper has 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.

ii This question paper contains three sections :

Section A : Reading Skills

Section B : Creative Writing Skills

Section C : Literature.

iii. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.

iv Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.

v. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Section A

READING SKILLS (22 marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The old library stood at the end of a quiet street, its walls showing signs of age. Inside, the air smelled of old books, a reminder of the knowledge stored here over the years. Tall wooden shelves were filled with books that seemed to hold endless stories. The only sound was the gentle rustling of pages, creating a peaceful atmosphere for anyone who visited. The library had stood for over a century, a silent witness to the countless people who had come in search of knowledge, solace, or simply an escape from the rush of everyday life.

2. Sunlight shone through the large, stained-glass windows, creating colorful patterns on the floor. The light was a quiet reminder of how time was passing by, even though the library itself seemed to stay the same. For many, the library was a place of escape, where the busy world outside didn't matter. Some visitors found comfort in its stillness, while others appreciated the opportunity to disconnect from the constant barrage of notifications and demands of modern life. Others, however, felt that the library was becoming outdated in a world where everything was available online at the click of a button.

3. In the quietest corners of the library, where dust gathered on untouched books, there was still something special. It wasn't just about reading; it was about

discovering forgotten wisdom and stories. Holding a book, feeling its weight, and turning its pages was a connection to the past—a time when stories were shared through paper, not screens. For some, this act of reading provided a sense of nostalgia, while for others, it was a reminder of the simple pleasures that technology could never replace.

4. Despite the rise of technology, the library remained a symbol of human curiosity and the desire for knowledge. In today's fast-paced world, the library encouraged visitors to slow down and take their time. It wasn't about how much information they could get, but about enjoying the experience of reading and thinking. Libraries represented a rare space where reflection and deep thinking were valued over speed.

5. In this space, time was measured not by the ticking of clocks but by how deeply one could lose themselves in a story. While the modern world seemed obsessed with speed, the library offered a different kind of richness—the kind that could only be found in the pages of a book, in the quiet moments of reflection. For those who appreciated it, the library was not just a place, but an experience, a pause from the relentless pace of life.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i. According to paragraph 1, what does the scent of old books in the library symbolize? 1

ii. How does the author use the sunlight coming through the stained-glass windows to show the passage of time in paragraph 2? 1

iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1

The phrase 'something special' in paragraph 3 suggests that beyond the dust and forgotten books, there is still an element of magic in the act of choosing and reading a book, connecting readers to the past.

Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.

The 'something special' refers to ____.

(a) a collection of rare and valuable artifacts

(b) untold stories and knowledge waiting to be discovered

iv. Complete the following with ONE reason, with reference to paragraph 2 : 1

The library is considered a place of escape because ____.

v. Why does the author describe reading physical books in the library as a 'connection to the past' in paragraph 3? 1

Because

(A) It brings readers closer to an old way of learning and storytelling.

(B) It offers a sense of nostalgia for those who miss the past.

(C) It provides a more authentic experience than reading on screens.

(D) It preserves books that have been forgotten by time.

vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 3, to support the following : 1

The act of reading a book is more than just gathering information.

vii. In the line, 'In today's fast-paced world, the library encouraged visitors to slow down...'

(Paragraph 4), what does the phrase 'slow down' mean in this context? 2

viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 4 : 1

rest: relax :: library: ____

(A) read (B) discover

(C) think (D) slow

ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement 'In this space, time was measured not by the ticking of clocks but by how deeply one could lose themselves in a story' in paragraph 5, uses contrast? 1

(A) It shows the difference between regular time and the emotional experience of losing oneself in a book.

(B) The author is pointing out the slow pace of the library compared to the busy modern world.

(C) The writer contrasts how people experience time in the library versus the outside world.

(D) The statement highlights the difference between time spent reading and time spent on other activities.

x. Evaluate the potential benefits or challenges of keeping libraries relevant in the digital age, as suggested in paragraph 4. 2

2. Read the following paragraph carefully. 10

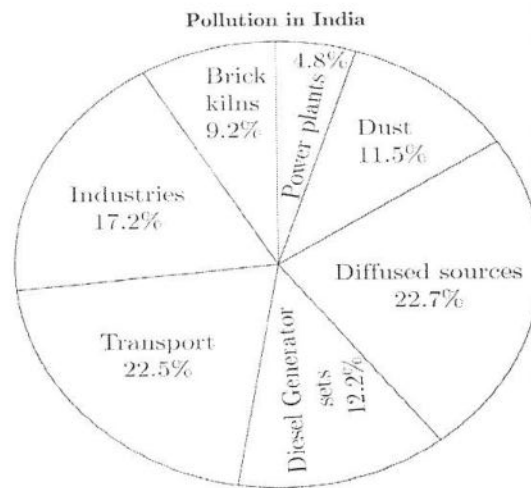
1. Air pollution poses a significant threat to human health, with 1.1 billion people globally breathing unhealthy air. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), urban air pollution leads to approximately 800,000 deaths worldwide each year, and 4.6 million people lose their lives due to pollution-related causes annually.

2. Several factors contribute to the aggravation of air pollution, including traffic, inadequate drainage facilities, lack of open spaces, carbon emissions, and waste accumulation. In developing countries, air pollution is linked with an increased risk of Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI), which is a leading cause of child mortality.

3. Urban air quality in mega cities such as Kolkata is particularly concerning. An Exceedance Factor (EF) analysis of ambient air quality in Kolkata found that out of 17 monitoring stations, five fell under the “critical” category, while 12 were classified as having high pollution levels. The pollutants identified include RPM, SPM, NO, and SO₂, with major sources being vehicular emissions (51.4%), industrial sources (24.5%), and dust particles (21.1%).

4. A health assessment conducted near highly polluted areas revealed that 85.1% of respondents had respiratory diseases, compared to 14.9% who suffered from waterborne diseases. Common respiratory ailments included Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI) (60%), Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) (7.8%), and Influenza (12.7%).

5. In order to promote well-being, it is essential for individuals to adopt pollution-avoiding practices in their daily lives. Public awareness campaigns about the dangers of polluted air can encourage these changes, helping people protect themselves and their community



Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

i. Complete the following suitably.

1

In the introduction, the researcher links urban air pollution with the global death toll to highlight ____.

ii. What would the following be classified as?

1

To examine the contribution of various sources, such as vehicular emissions and industrial sources, to air pollution in Kolkata.

Select the appropriate response.

(A) Secondary objective (B) Research outcome

(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective

iii. Give two points to support why awareness about air pollution is critical, based on the passage. 2

iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘vehicular emissions’ and ‘dust particles.’ 1

Classify the following sentences as ‘vehicular emissions’ or ‘dust particles’:

Sentence 1: The majority of pollutants in Kolkata come from cars and other motor vehicles.

Sentence 2: Air quality deteriorates significantly due to dust from construction sites.

v. Read the following : 1

Ravi works in an industry that is a major contributor to air pollution. Priya lives in an area where dust particles are the primary source of pollution. Meanwhile, Arvind, who drives a truck, contributes to vehicular emissions.

Select the option that identifies the correct sources of pollution associated with Ravi, Priya, and Arvind.

(A) Ravi – industrial pollution; Priya – dust particles; Arvind – vehicular emissions

(B) Ravi – vehicular emissions; Priya – industrial pollution; Arvind – dust particles

(C) Ravi – dust particles; Priya – vehicular emissions; Arvind – industrial pollution

(D) Ravi – industrial pollution; Priya – vehicular emissions; Arvind – dust particles

vi. Why is the increased incidence of respiratory diseases in polluted areas considered a major health concern? 1

vii. Analyse how the major sources of pollution in Kolkata contribute to deteriorating air quality. (Paragraph 3) 2

viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1

(A) Encourage more use of industrial resources

(B) Increase awareness of pollution-avoiding practices

(C) Promote the use of diesel generators for energy

(D) Limit the availability of medical assessments in polluted areas

Section B

CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18Marks)

3. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. 4

A. Recently there has been an increase in the cases of kidnappings, especially of children. On closer investigation it has been found that domestic help or some persons familiar with the family were involved in most cases. You are the Secretary of the Residents’ Welfare Association, Motipara, Kanpur. Write a notice

in about 50 words to be put up on the noticeboard of the colony informing the citizens about the following :

- Police verification of servants, identity cards to be made
- Register entry of visitors at the gate
- Installation of CCTV in the premises

OR

B. Your school is celebrating Grandparents' Day next week. Write a notice in 50 words to be put up on the school notice board informing students of the celebration and requesting them to be present with their grandparents. You are Samir/Suman, Head Boy/Head Girl, Sunrise Senior Secondary ,School, Delhi.

4. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. 4

A. The literary club of your school is putting up the play "The Merchant of Venice". As the secretary of the club, draft an invitation inviting the parents. The famous writer Ketan Anand is the guest of honour. Write an invitation in not more than 50 words.

OR

B. You are Lina/ Mohan. You are going for a picnic with a group of your friends to Rang Mahal Lake near Ghaziabad. Write an informal invitation to your friend to join you on that day. Invent necessary details.

5. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. 5

A. Two main parks in your locality have suffered from neglect on the part of local authorities. They have virtually been taken over by undesirable elements. As a result, the residents have stopped going to the parks. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the editor of a local newspaper expressing your concern about the problems the neglect has created and suggest measures to reclaim the parks for children. You are Gautam/ Gauri of 2, Glowing Gardens, Gondia. You may use the cues given below along with your own ideas.

| |
|---|
| Environment getting destroyed due to pollutants Contamination of environment causing disease Green cover lessening Miscreants misusing the area People to be educated about importance of environment Open spaces to be maintained |
|---|

OR

B. You are Anand/Arti of 14, Model Town, Delhi. You have seen an advertisement in The Hindu for the post of Chief Chef in a 5-Star Hotel. Apply for the job with complete bio-data.

Chief Chef required by Oberoi Hotel Mumbai

- *Hotel Management Graduates
- *Good communication skills
- *Good organizational skills
- *Fluent in English and State language

6. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words.

5

A. Incessant rain has caused extensive damage in your area. As an active participant in the flood relief programme, write a report in 120-150 words on the different flood relief measures carried out. Support your ideas with the cues given below. You are Krishnan/ Krishvi.

- *Causes
- *Affected areas
- *Damage
- *People affected
- *Response-role of government, NGOs, volunteers

OR

B. You are Preeti/Pranay. You feel that India, with its rich and varied heritage, linguistic and cultured diversity, is an excellent destination for tourism. Promoting tourism will surely promote our economy. Write an article titled, 'Promoting Tourism is Promoting Ourselves', in 120-150 words, specifying the advantages of promoting tourism and how it can be accomplished. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose the article.

Importance

- *Local culture , food, handicrafts promoted
- *The new influx generates jobs for local people

What needs to be done

- *Media's role in creating awareness
- *Strengthening the role of authorities

SECTION C- LITERATURE (40 Marks)

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two ,(A) or (B). 1x6 =6

A. Driving from my parent's
home to Cochin last Friday
morning, I saw my mother,
beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face
ashen like that
of a corpse and realised with
pain
that she was as old as she
looked but soon
put that thought away, and
looked out at Young Trees sprinting,
(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

i. What is the speaker's emotional state when she's looking at her mother?

- (A) Anxiety for her loved ones
- (B) Anger for her loved ones
- (C) Feeling of indifference for her loved ones
- (D) Anxiety and concern for her love

ii. What does the phrase 'Young Trees sprinting' indicate?

iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.

The theme of the poem is ___ (aging/aspiration), which is the law of nature.

iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.

Assertion : The poet is overcome with a painful realization about her mother's aging and frailty.

Reason : The sight of her mother's ashen, corpse-like face makes the poet painfully aware of her mother's mortality, prompting her to shift her focus to the young trees outside.

Choose the correct option regarding their relationship :

- (A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
- (B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
- (C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
- (D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

v. What message does the phrase 'ashen like that of a corpse' highlight?

vi. Complete the following suitably.

The poem does not follow any rhyming scheme, thus, it has been written in

OR

B. What I want should not be
confused
with total inactivity.
Life is what it is about;
I want no truck with death.
If we were not so single-minded
about keeping our lives moving
and for once could do nothing,
perhaps a huge silence
might interrupt this sadness
of never understanding ourselves
and of threatening ourselves with
death.

(Keeping Quiet)

i. Which of the following qualities is best represented in the given extract?

- (A) Ambitious (B) Futuristic
(C) Concerned (D) Hypocritical

ii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.

Assertion : The poet wants to embrace total inactivity as a way to connect with death.

Reason : The poet believes that if people pause their hectic lives and embrace silence, they may find peace and understanding.

Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.

- (A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

iii. Complete the following suitably.

People should not misunderstand the poet's suggestion of ____.

iv. Select the phrase that suggests the following:

The poet does not talk about 'total inactivity' related to no action in life which means end of life.

v. If this poem was not written in free verse which word would rhyme with line 5:

head , treat , breath

vi. Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank.

The tone of the poet in the above lines is (aggressive/suggestive)

8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (A) or (B). 1x4 =4

A. Will the West Antarctic ice sheet melt entirely ?

Will the Gulf stream ocean current be disrupted? Will it be the end of the world as we know it? May be. May be not . Either way Antarctica is a crucial element in this debate- not just because it's the only place in the world which has never sustained a human population and therefore remains relatively 'pristine 'in this respect but more importantly, because it holds in its ice -cores half- million- year- old carbon records trapped in its layers of ice.

i. Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract .

The questions asked by the narrator signify

ii. What does the phrase 'Maybe .Maybe not' in the extract indicate?

iii. According to the narrator, Antarctica holds importance because of

a. the carbon records trapped in its ice - cores .

b. its unlimited potential for fuel .

c. its function of feeding the currents.

d. its potential as real estate.

iv. '.. and therefore remains relatively pristine '. Give a reason for the same.

OR

8. B. I saw I was the only one seated and all the rest at the table remained standing. Just as I began to rise, looking shyly around to see how chairs were to be used, a second bell was sounded .All were seated at last and I had to go back into my chair again. I heard a man's voice at one end of the hall and I looked around to see him. But all the others hung their heads over their plates.

Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract:

i. The others were standing in the dining hall because.....

ii. What is the narrator feeling in the given extract?

iii. What does the narrator's action show?

a. that she was new at the university.

b. that she was unfamiliar with how things were done.

c. that she had no regard for laws

d. that she wanted to cling to her culture

iv. Complete the sentence suitably ...

The writer's description of the meal time shows that

9. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (A) or (B). 1x6 =6

A. Only the desks and benches had been worn smooth; the walnut-trees in the garden were taller, and the hopvine that he had planted himself twined about the windows to the roof. How it must have broken his heart to leave it all, poor man; to hear his sister moving about in the room above, packing their trunks! For they

must leave the country next day. But he had the courage to hear every lesson to the very last. After the writing, we had a lesson in history, and then the babies chanted their ba, be bi, bo, bu. Down there at the back of the room old Hauser had put on his spectacles and, holding his primer in both hands, spelled the letters with them. You could see that he, too, was crying; his voice trembled with emotion, and it was so funny to hear him that we all wanted to laugh and cry. Ah, how well I remember it, that last lesson!

(The Last Lesson)

- i. List any two sensory details present in this extract.
- ii. What qualities of M. Hamel have been reflected in this extract?
(A) patient, emotional
(B) impatient, insensitive
(C) proud, reproachful
(D) miserable, resigned
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
M. Hamel was making preparations ____.
- iv. Pick evidence from the extract that helps one infer that the atmosphere in the class was bitter sweet.
- v. What does 'courage to hear every lesson to the last' mean?
- vi. Select the most suitable option for the tone of the speaker in the given extract.
(A) Inquisitive (B) Alert
(C) Monotonous (D) Doleful

OR

B. Together they have imposed the baggage on the child that he cannot put down. Before he is aware, he accepts it as naturally as his father. To do anything else would mean to dare. And daring is not part of his growing up. When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh, I am cheered. "I want to be a motor mechanic," he repeats. He will go to a garage and learn. But the garage is a long way from his home.

(Lost Spring)

i. Complete the given sentence appropriately.

'They' in the given extract refers to ____.

ii. What is not a part of 'his' growing up?

iii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank.

The 'baggage' in the extract refers to ____.

(A) the blame of their crimes

(B) the job of bangle making

(C) the bag containing bangles

(D) the job of selling bangles

iv. Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is TRUE for 'them'.

(A) They are figures of authority. (B) They are scared of government.

(C) They are suppressive. (D) Both (A) and (C)

v. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that Mukesh's dream will require determination and sincerity.

vi. Why does the writer state that the boy accepts bangle making as naturally as his father?

10. Answer any five of the following six questions in 40-50 words each. 5x2=10

i. What does the title "Lost Spring" convey?

ii. Why was Gandhiji opposed to C.F. Andrews helping him in Champaran? (Indigo)

iii. How did the peddler react when he saw that the iron master had recognised him as Nils Olof, an old regimental comrade?(The Rattrap)

iv. In spite of 'drawbacks' the interview is 'a supremely serviceable medium of communication'. Justify the statement.(The Interview)

v. "It wasn't a Jansie kind of thing at all". Why did Sophie not want Jansie to know anything about her meeting with Danny Casey? (Going Places)

vi. What is the message communicated by the poem 'A Thing Of Beauty'?

11 Answer any two of the following three questions in 40-50 words each. 2x2=4

- i. Why did the booking clerk refuse to accept money from Charley?(The Third Level)
- ii. How did the Maharaja devote himself to realise his ambition ? How far did he succeed?(The Tiger King)
- iii .How can we say that the vadai packet incident reveals that the writer lacks the cognitive and emotional maturity required to understand the implications of untouchability?(Memories of Childhood)

12. Answer any one of the following two questions in 120-150 words each. 5

- i. The different portraits of women in the texts Aunt Jennifer's Tigers , Going Places and My Mother at sixty six offer insights into the experiences of women in society.

You have been asked to address your peers and share the ways these portayals highlight the diversity of the female experience, the importance of understanding each individual woman's challenges and experiences.

Compose the draft with reference to the prescribed texts.

You may begin this way:

Good morning, everyone

As I analyse the allotted texts...

You may end this way:

To conclude I would like to say..

OR

12.B Desire determination and diligence lead to success as demonstrated by William Douglas. Using ideas from the text and your own thoughts write a paragraph on how a positive attitude and courage will help you to achieve success in life (Deep Water)

13. Answer any one of the following two questions in 120-150 words each. 5

- A. Mr Lamb and Derry are two different sides of the same coin. Do you agree? Justify your answer with evidence from the text. (On The Face Of It)

OR

13B Dr Sadao faced a dilemma. Should he use his surgical skills to save the life of a wounded person or hand an escaped American P OW over to the Japanese police. How did he resolve this clash of values? (The Enemy).

Time allowed: 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

i. This question paper has 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.

ii. This question paper contains three sections:

Section A: Reading Skills,

Section B: Creative Writing Skills

Section C: Literature.

iii. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.

iv. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.

v. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

.....
SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully: 12

1. The coastal town of Clearwater was famous for its peaceful beaches and calm atmosphere.

The ocean stretched far into the distance, glittering under the warm sunlight. Gentle waves rolled onto the shore, and the sound of the sea created a soothing rhythm. By the docks, fishermen quietly mended their nets, getting ready for the next day's work. The fresh, salty breeze reminded everyone of the ocean's ever-present influence on the town's way of life. Tourists often came to Clearwater to enjoy its beauty, but for the locals, the sea was not just a scenic view—it was a part of their everyday life and livelihood.

2. Clearwater was not just known for its natural beauty; it also had a rich history. One of the most famous landmarks was the old lighthouse, standing proudly at the edge of the town. Built more than a hundred years ago, it had once guided ships safely to the harbour when sailors depended on its light to avoid dangerous rocks. Over time, modern technology replaced the lighthouse's role, but it remained a symbol of the town's resilience. The lighthouse represented the community's ability to adapt while still holding on to their past. Today, it served as a historical site, attracting visitors who marvelled at its enduring presence.

3. The heart of Clearwater was its bustling marketplace, where the energy of the town came alive. Fishermen sold their daily catch, while farmers offered fresh produce, and artisans displayed handmade goods. The marketplace wasn't just about commerce; it was a social hub where townspeople gathered, exchanged stories, and celebrated their

shared way of life. The people's lives were deeply connected to the sea, and there was a strong sense of pride in maintaining traditions that had been passed down through generations.

4. As evening approached, the town began to slow down. The setting sun cast a golden glow over the ocean, and families gathered by the beach to watch it sink below the horizon. In those quiet hours, the bond between the town, its people, and the sea felt strongest, as if time itself slowed down to match the rhythm of the waves.

5. Though Clearwater had changed with the times, its connection to the sea remained unbroken. The town's identity had been shaped by the ocean for generations, and it continued to be a source of life, beauty, and inspiration for all who lived there.

answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i. According to paragraph 1, what does the ocean's salty breeze symbolize for the people of Clearwater? 1

ii. How does the author describe the role of the lighthouse in Clearwater's history, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1

iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1

The phrase "a sense of pride in maintaining their traditions" in paragraph 3 suggests that the people of Clearwater feel connected to their past and are proud to keep their customs alive.

Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.

The phrase 'a sense of pride' refers to _____.

(A) the modern changes in the town

(B) the traditions shaped by the sea

iv. Complete the following with ONE reason, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1

The marketplace in Clearwater is important to the town because _____.

v. Why does the writer refer to the lighthouse as a "symbol of resilience" in paragraph 2? 1

Because

(A) It has stood tall for over a century.

(B) It represents the town's strength in keeping its history alive.

(C) It still guides ships today.

(D) It is a landmark that tourists come to see.

vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to prove the following : 1

The bond between the people of Clearwater and the sea grows stronger during the evening.

vii. In the line, 'As evening approached, the town began to slow down...' (Paragraph 4),

what does the phrase 'slow down' mean in this context? 2

viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 4: 1

dusk: night :: golden light: _____

(A) sunset (B) lighthouse

(C) dawn (D) marketplace

ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement 'the town's identity had been shaped by the ocean' in paragraph 5, uses figurative language? 1

(A) It is comparing the town's development to the ocean's physical influence.

(B) It exaggerates the importance of the ocean to the town.

(C) The town has literally changed its shape due to the ocean.

(D) It is a symbolic way to show how deeply the town depends on the sea.

x. Evaluate the potential benefits or challenges of preserving Clearwater's traditional way of life, as suggested in paragraph 5.

2. Read the following carefully.

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. Introduction :

In modern urban areas, waste management has become a crucial aspect of maintaining public health and environmental sustainability. This case study explores the waste disposal habits among various residential communities and evaluates the effectiveness of recycling programs in reducing landfill waste.

2. Methodology :

A survey was conducted in multiple urban residential communities to assess their waste disposal practices. Participants were asked to provide information on how they segregate and dispose of waste and their participation in local recycling programs. Data was collected and analysed to identify trends in waste management habits across different demographics.

3. Survey Examination :

The survey delved into waste management habits, focusing on key aspects such as the frequency of waste disposal, participation in recycling programs, and the reasons for adopting or not adopting sustainable waste practices. The study examined factors that influenced people's decision to recycle, such as convenience, environmental concerns, and economic incentives.

4. Results :

The survey results highlighted the following trends in waste management practices:

Demographic % participation in recycling programs

reasons for participation

Young Adults 50% Environmental awareness,

Accessibility of programs

Middle-aged 70% Economic benefits, Environmental concern

Elderly 80% Health concerns, Government

incentives, Ease of disposal

5. Implications for Interventions :

The survey results indicate that waste management programs need to be tailored to address the specific needs of different demographic groups. For example, increasing economic incentives for young adults may encourage more participation in recycling. Similarly, enhancing accessibility to recycling programs for middle-aged individuals could improve participation rates further. For the elderly, ensuring ease of waste segregation and disposal may increase engagement in sustainable practices.

6. Conclusion :

This study provides important insights into urban waste management practices and highlights the need for targeted interventions to promote recycling. By addressing the unique concerns of each demographic, communities can work towards more effective waste management strategies that protect public health and the environment for future generations.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

i. Complete the following suitably. 1

In the introduction, the researcher links waste management with public health and environmental sustainability to highlight _____.

ii. What would the following be classified as? 1

To assess waste disposal habits in residential communities and evaluate the effectiveness of recycling programs.

Select the appropriate response.

(A) Method of analysis (B) Primary objective

(C) Research outcome (D) Secondary objective

iii. Give two points to support why recycling programs were included as a focus in the survey on waste management practices. 2

iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘factors’ and ‘influences.’ 1

Classify the following sentences as ‘factor’ or ‘influence’:

Sentence 1 : Economic benefits drive middle-aged individuals to participate in recycling programs.

Sentence 2 : Government incentives increase recycling participation among the elderly.

v. Read the following : 1

Ravi disposes of his household waste regularly but rarely participates in recycling programs. His neighbour, Anjali, diligently recycles every week, and Arjun, who lives nearby, segregates his waste but struggles to find time to recycle.

Select the option that identifies the correct demographic Ravi, Anjali, and Arjun belong to.

(A) Ravi – young adult; Anjali – elderly; Arjun – middle-aged

(B) Ravi – middle-aged; Anjali – elderly; Arjun – young adult

(C) Ravi – young adult; Anjali – middle-aged; Arjun – elderly

(D) Ravi – elderly; Anjali – young adult; Arjun – middle-aged

vi. Although the elderly and middle-aged groups both show high participation in recycling programs, why is the percentage highest among the elderly? 1

vii. Analyse how tailored interventions can improve recycling participation rates across different demographic groups. (Paragraph 5) 2

viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1

(A) Increase economic benefits for recyclers

(B) Build a comprehensive urban waste management strategy

(C) Encourage more frequent waste disposal

(D) Promote a reduction in government incentives

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS 18

3. Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (B), in about 50 words

a. As librarian of Crescent International School, Gwalior, draft a notice in not more than 50 4 words asking all students and teachers to return the library books they have borrowed, two days before the commencement of the examination.

or

B. Your school is organizing a SPICMACAY programme on the occasion of the World Dance Day wherein the renowned Bharatanatyam dancer, Geeta Chandran would be giving a lecture demonstration. As the President, Cultural Society of your school, draft a notice in about 50 words, informing the students about the same. You are Rakhsita/Rohit of MVN Public School.

4. Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (B), in about 50 words. 4

a. You are Nitin/Nitya. As Secretary of the Sports Club of Carmel High School, Arani, draft a formal invitation in not more than 50 words for the inauguration of the Sports Complex in your school.

or

B. You are Amit /Amita, an English Lecturer in one of the reputed colleges of Bhilai. You have received an invitation from the HOD, Department of Hindi, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Khursipar, Bhilai to be the judge of an elocution competition on 25 January, 2025 at 9 a.m. in their school. Draft a reply to the invitation in 50 words.

5. Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (B), in 120-150 words. 5

a. You have seen an advertisement in a national newspaper for the post of Headmistress in the primary wing at Sunrise Global School, Noida. You are Karuna, M-114, Mall Road, Delhi.

You are M.A. (English), B.Ed. from Delhi University and have many years of teaching experience. Write a job application in 120-150 words to the principal.

or

B. Write a letter to the Editor, 'The Hindu' about the mosquito menace due to stagnant water in your locality. Give suggestions to improve the situation. You are Raman/Renu, living

in Rajaji Nagar, Tirunelveli.

6. Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (B) in 120-150 words. 5

a. It is very important to take significant actions to save our planet. Write an article in about 120-150 words for your school magazine on how we can save and protect our planet. You are Akshay/Akshita of Graham Public School, Indore.

or

B. As part of an Entrepreneurship project the commerce students of your school recently launched a product called oatlicious. They not only set up a company to produce the product but also designed its advertising and marketing strategy. Write a report in about 120-150 words for your school magazine giving details of the enterprise and its launch. You are Akshay/Akshita of Graham Public School, Indore.

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two - (a) or (B).

6

a. "The hurt to the scenery wouldn't be my complaint

So much as the trusting sorrow of what is unsaid:

Here far from the city we make our roadside stand

And ask for some city money to feel in hand

To try if it will not make our being expand,

And give us the life of the moving-pictures' promise

That the party in power is said to be keeping from us."

(A Roadside Stand)

i. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.

The roadside stand was made by the poor people and it was _____ (near/far from) the city.

ii. Select the phrase that suggests the following.

The poet does not want to accuse the rustics of spoiling the beauty of the landscape.

iii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.

Assertion : The poet is more concerned with the emotional pain of unfulfilled promises to rural people than with the damage to the landscape.

Reason : The rural people believe that money from the city will improve their lives and fulfill the promises made by the party in power.

Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:

(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.

(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.

(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.

(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

iv. Complete the following suitably.

The promise made by the government was to give _____.

v. Do you think that the promise made by the government was fulfilled?

vi. What wouldn't be the poet's complaint?

(A) The hurt to the scenery (B) The beauty of people

(C) The beauty of nature (D) The hurt to the buildings

or

B. Perhaps the Earth can teach us

as when everything seems dead

and later proves to be alive.

Now I'll count up to twelve

and you keep quiet and I will go.

(Keeping Quiet)

i. Which poetic device has been used in the second line of the extract?

(A) Metaphor (B) Transferred epithet

(C) Alliteration (D) Paradox

ii. Identify the tone of the poem in the first line of the extract.

iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.

The poet uses a conversational style and personal pronouns 'you', 'we' and 'I' because he wants us to be _____ (friendly/cruel) with the whole mankind.

iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.

Assertion : The poet believes that silence and stillness can help us understand the cycles of life.

Reason : The Earth teaches us that even when everything seems dead, it can later prove to be alive, symbolizing renewal and continuity.

Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:

(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.

(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.

(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.

(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

v. Select the phrase that suggests the following:

The poet thinks that he has said what he intended to say.

vi. Complete the following suitably.

The poet wants to convey the message that there is life even in the moment of total inactivity. This moment of total inactivity leads one to _____.

8. read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (a) or (B).

a. DERRY : How could I? You pass people in the street and you might even speak to them, but you never see them again. It doesn't mean they're friends.

MR LAMB : Doesn't mean they're enemies, either does it?

DERRY : No, they're just... nothing. People. That's all.

MR LAMB : People are never just nothing. Never.

DERRY There are some people I hate.

MR LAMB : That'd do you more harm than any bottle of acid. Acid only burns your face.

(On the Face of It)

i. Complete the sentence appropriately.

The author's purpose in using contractions, is to _____.

ii. In the given extract, select the option that best summarises Derry's attitude towards others.

(A) His pessimism was hurting him more than acid.

(B) His optimism was hurting him more than acid.

(C) His acid was hurting him more than his optimism.

(D) His acid was hurting him more than his pessimism.

iii. Derry says, 'I won't change'. Why does Derry say so?

iv. How is the line, "DERRY : No, they're just...nothing. People. That's all." How would you describe Derry and Mr Lamb in the extract?

or

B. My elder brother was there. I told him the story in all its comic detail. I fell about with laughter at the memory of a big man, and an elder at that, making such a game out of carrying the parcel. But Annan was not amused. Annan told me the man wasn't being funny when he carried the package like that. He said everybody believed that they were upper caste and therefore must not touch us.

(Memories of Childhood)

i. Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract.

The story referred in the extract is about _____.

ii. Why was Annan not amused?

iii. Select the most suitable title for the given extract.

(A) The Wise Brother (B) The Unsuspecting Girl

(C) The Caste System (D) The Reality of Castes

iv. Bama's innocence was lost when she came face to face with the ugly truth of racial discrimination. Do you agree?

9. read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (A) or (B).

6

A. I swam the crawl, breast stroke, side stroke, and back stroke. Only once did the terror return. When I was in the middle of the lake, I put my face under and saw nothing but bottomless

water. The old sensation returned in miniature. I laughed and said, “Well, Mr Terror, what do you think you can do to me?” It fled and I swam on. Yet I had residual doubts. At my first opportunity I hurried west, went up the Tieton to Conrad Meadows, up the Conrad Creek Trail to Meade Glacier, and camped in the high meadow by the side of Warm Lake. The next morning I stripped, dived into the lake, and swam across to the other shore and back – just as Doug Corpron used to do. I shouted with joy, and Gilbert Peak returned the echo. I had conquered my fear of water.

(Deep Water)

- i. What theme is followed in the given extract?
- ii. What do you think the given extract dealt with?
(A) Doug Corpron (B) Deep Water
(C) Conquering over fear (D) Gilbert Peak
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.

The lesson focused on the fact that _____ must never be treated lightly.

- iv. Pick out an evidence from the text that helps one infer that the protagonist has overcome his fear.
- v. What does the term ‘Mr Terror’ refer to?
- vi. Which of the following best suggests the appropriateness of the title?
(A) He even took the services of an instructor.
(B) The author’s fear was a deep-rooted one.
(C) To overcome his fear, he visited oceans.
(D) He was once nearly drowned.

or

B. “The official inquiry assembled a crushing mountain of evidence against the big planters, and when they saw this they agreed, in principle, to make refunds to the peasants.

“But how much must we pay?” They asked Gandhi. They thought he would demand repayment in full of the money which they had illegally and deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers. He asked only 50 per cent. “There he seemed adamant,” writes Reverend J.Z. Hodge, a British missionary in Champaran who observed the entire episode at close range. “Thinking probably that he would not give way, the representative of the planters offered to refund to the extent of 25 per cent, and to his amazement Mr. Gandhi took him at his word, thus, breaking the deadlock”

(Indigo)

- i. Why did the servants consider Gandhiji to be another peasant?
- ii. The line, “They thought he would demand repayment in full of the money which they had illegally and deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers,” can be classified as:
(A) a research (B) an opinion (C) a fact (D) a theme
- iii. Explain any one inference that can be drawn from the line, “The official inquiry assembled plenty of traces against the big planters, and when they saw this they agreed, in principle, to make refunds to the peasants.”

iv. Rationalize to support the given opinion, "There he seemed adamant," writes Reverend J. Z. Hodge, a British missionary in Champaran who observed the entire episode at close range.

v. What did the officials think about the refunds to the peasants?

(A) Gandhiji would demand repayment in full of money.

(B) Gandhiji would demand nothing.

(C) Gandhiji would demand repayment in 25%.

(D) Gandhiji would take strict action.

vi. Complete the sentence with a phrase.

The big planters had agreed to refund _____ share.

10. Answer any FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : 5X2=10

i. What, according to M. Hamel, was the outcome of the neglect of the French language in the region? (The Last Lesson)

ii. What are the differences in the ambitions of Saheb and Mukesh? (Lost Spring)

iii. What are the beauties of nature that the poet mentions in 'A Thing of Beauty'? Why are they an everlasting source of joy?

iv. Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool find even the ivory needle hard to pull. Why? (Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

v. Why is Rajkumar Shukla described as being 'resolute'? (Indigo)

vi. How would the innocent be soothed out of their wits? (A Roadside Stand)

11. Answer any TWOf the following three questions in 40-50 words each : 2X2=4

i. What kind of relationship did Dr. Sadao Hoki share with his father? (The Enemy)

ii. Why did the Maharaja order the Dewan to double the land tax? (The Tiger King)

iii. What happened to the narrator's psychiatrist friend Sam Weiner? What do you deduce from it? (The Third Level)

12. Answer any one of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. 1X5=5

a. What does the poet want to convey through the poem, 'My Mother at Sixty-six'?

or

B. "The Rattrap" is a lesson which shows that basic human goodness can be brought out by understanding and love. Do you think this is practical in approach? Why/Why not?

13. Answer any one of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. 1X5=5

Dr. Sadao was compelled by duty as a doctor to help the enemy soldier. What made Hana, his wife, remain sympathetic to him in the face of open defiance from the domestic staff?

(The Enemy)

or

B. Justify the title "The Third Level" .

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