

# 10

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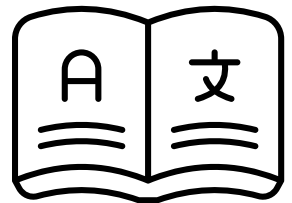
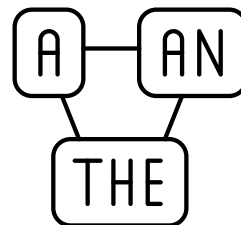


# CLASS 10TH ENGLISH GUESS PAPERS

Prepared by:  
**Teachers with  
Experience of  
10+ YEARS**



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## Class X – English Language and Literature

Session 2025–26

Sample Question Paper – 1

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

### General Instructions

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. The paper comprises three sections:
  - a. Section A – Reading Skills (20 Marks)
  - b. Section B – Grammar and Creative Writing (20 Marks)
  - c. Section C – Literature (40 Marks)
3. Attempt questions based on the instructions for each part.

### SECTION A – Reading Skills (20 Marks)

#### Q1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

1. The world's freshwater resources are under unprecedented stress. Though three-quarters of the planet is covered with water, only about 2.5 percent is fresh, and most of that is locked in glaciers. Climate change, industrial waste, and population growth are shrinking accessible supplies even further.
2. According to a 2024 UN report, more than 2 billion people currently face water scarcity at least once a month. Rapid urbanisation has intensified competition for this limited resource. Major cities such as Cape Town, Chennai, and São Paulo have already approached “Day Zero” — the day when taps run dry.
3. The crisis is not only environmental but social. Women and children in developing countries often walk kilometres daily to fetch water, losing opportunities for education and work. At the same time, the affluent continue to waste thousands of litres in golf courses, swimming pools, and car washes.
4. Experts suggest that sustainable water management requires both technology and behavioural change. Solutions include recycling wastewater, harvesting rainwater, pricing water realistically, and reducing personal consumption. Ultimately, conserving water demands a global shift from entitlement to responsibility.

#### Answer the following questions:

- (i) What percentage of the Earth's water is fresh and accessible for use? (1)
- (ii) Name any two factors responsible for reducing freshwater resources. (2)
- (iii) Explain the meaning of “Day Zero” in your own words. (1)
- (iv) Mention two social impacts of the water crisis described in paragraph 3. (2)
- (v) Choose the correct option: The tone of the passage is —
  - (a) Sarcastic
  - (b) Informative
  - (c) Humorous
  - (d) Romantic(1)
- (vi) Complete the sentence appropriately:  
Sustainable water management requires both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (1)
- (vii) Find a word in the passage which means “a lack or shortage of something.” (1)
- (viii) Suggest one personal action you can take to reduce water wastage. (1)

## Q2. Read the following case-based passage and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

The table below shows **average daily screen-time (in hours) for Indian adolescents** from 2019 to 2024.

| Year | Study / Online Learning | Entertainment / Social Media | Total Average |
|------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 2019 | 1.5                     | 2.0                          | 3.5           |
| 2020 | 2.8                     | 3.7                          | 6.5           |
| 2021 | 3.1                     | 4.2                          | 7.3           |
| 2022 | 2.6                     | 4.0                          | 6.6           |
| 2023 | 2.4                     | 4.3                          | 6.7           |
| 2024 | 2.3                     | 4.5                          | 6.8           |

### Passage:

A 2024 survey conducted by the National Institute of Youth Health reveals a sharp rise in the average screen-time among teenagers. Though online learning initially justified this increase during the pandemic, excessive exposure to digital devices now raises concerns. Experts link prolonged screen-time to sleep deprivation, obesity, poor posture, and anxiety disorders.

Interestingly, while educational screen-time has slightly declined since 2021, entertainment usage continues to soar. Psychologists attribute this to algorithmic content and the need for instant stimulation. They recommend a “digital-diet” approach—limiting recreational use and prioritising offline hobbies.

### Based on the passage and data above, answer the following:

- Between 2019 and 2024, by how many hours did total screen-time increase on average? (1)
- Which category (study / entertainment) contributes more to the 2024 total? (1)
- List any two health effects associated with excessive screen-time. (2)
- What is meant by a “digital-diet”? (2)
- State whether the following statement is true or false and justify:  
“Educational screen-time has continued to increase since 2021.” (2)
- Suggest one practical step schools can take to reduce students’ entertainment screen-time. (2)

## SECTION B – Grammar and Creative Writing Skills (20 Marks)

### Q3. Grammar (10 Marks)

Attempt ANY TEN out of TWELVE questions. Each carries 1 mark.

- Fill in the blank with the correct form of the verb:  
If she \_\_\_\_\_ (know) the truth, she would have acted differently.
- Identify and correct the error:  
The committee have decided to postpone the event.

(c) Complete the sentence with a suitable determiner:

There are \_\_\_\_\_ students who failed to submit the project.

(d) Change into passive voice:

The teacher will distribute the certificates tomorrow.

(e) Reported speech:

He said to me, "Do you like watching documentaries?"

(f) Fill in the blank using an appropriate modal:

You \_\_\_\_\_ (must / might / can) finish your homework before dinner.

(g) Choose the correct option:

Either of the routes \_\_\_\_\_ safe for travellers.

(a) are (b) is (c) were (d) be

(h) Identify the type of clause underlined:

He left early **because he was feeling unwell.**

(i) Combine the sentences using a relative pronoun:

The boy won the medal. He is my neighbour.

(j) Fill in with correct preposition:

He has been absent \_\_\_\_\_ Monday.

(k) Correct the error:

The news are not encouraging today.

(l) Rewrite using the correct tense:

I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (be) taller.

#### Q4. Creative Writing Skills (10 Marks)

##### (a) Letter Writing (5 Marks)

You are **Ananya Verma**, Head Girl of Bloom Public School, Lucknow. Your school has decided to introduce an *AI and Robotics Club* for Classes 8–10. Write a letter to the Director, TechEdge Robotics Solutions, requesting demonstration sessions and sponsorship support for your club. (100–120 words)

**OR**

You are **Rohit Sharma**, a resident of 72, Mohan Garden, New Delhi. You are disturbed by the growing menace of noise pollution in your locality caused by loudspeakers, traffic, and construction. Write a letter to the Editor of *The National Voice* expressing concern and suggesting measures. (100–120 words)

##### (b) Analytical Paragraph (5 Marks)

Study the chart given below showing **preferred leisure activities of Class 10 students (2025)** and write an analytical paragraph in 100–120 words.

| Activity | Percentage |
|----------|------------|
|----------|------------|

|                               |      |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Watching Reels / Short Videos | 40 % |
| Reading Books / Comics        | 15 % |
| Playing Outdoor Games         | 25 % |
| Listening to Music            | 12 % |
| Volunteering / Community Work | 8 %  |

Analyse the trends, reasons, and implications for student well-being.

## SECTION C – Literature (40 Marks)

### Q5. Read the given extracts and answer ANY ONE set of questions. (5 Marks)

(a) “The young seagull uttered a joyful scream. He soared gradually downwards and up into the sky, calling shrilly. His parents circled around him with loud cries.”

- What prompted the young seagull to finally take flight?
- How do his parents react to his success?
- What emotion dominates this scene?
- Mention one theme highlighted through this event.
- Find a synonym of “screamed loudly” from the extract.

OR

(b) “They seemed to think they had been through something tremendous, that’s why they made such a fuss about it.”

- Who are “they”?
- What had they been through?
- What kind of tone does the speaker use—admiring or mocking?
- Name the lesson this line is taken from.
- What human trait is being ridiculed here?

### Q6. Read the following poetic extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)

(a) “If this be error and upon me proved, I never writ, nor no man ever loved.”

- Who is the poet?
- What does the poet mean by “If this be error”?
- What quality of true love is emphasised here?
- Explain the hyperbole in the second line.
- State one moral the poem conveys.

OR

(b) “He hears the last voice at night, The patrolling cars, And stares with his brilliant eyes At the brilliant stars.”

- Name the poem and the poet.
- Where is “he” and what does he do at night?

- (iii) What does the repetition of the word “brilliant” suggest?
- (iv) What is the central idea of the poem?
- (v) Find one example of alliteration.

**Q7. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions in 40–50 words each. (12 Marks)**

- (i) Why was Lencho’s faith in God both admirable and naïve? (*A Letter to God*)
- (ii) How does “Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom” portray the struggle for human equality?
- (iii) What made the author in “From the Diary of Anne Frank” feel that paper had more patience than people?
- (iv) How did Tricky’s stay at the hospital transform him? (*A Triumph of Surgery*)
- (v) Describe the humour and irony in the ending of “The Hack Driver.”

**Q8. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40–50 words each. (6 Marks)**

- (i) What lesson does “The Book That Saved the Earth” convey about intelligence and communication?
- (ii) How did Bholi’s education help her gain confidence and self-respect?
- (iii) What is the significance of the title “Footprints Without Feet”?

**Q9. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- (a) Compare how the theme of fear is depicted in “His First Flight” and “The Thief’s Story.”
- OR**
- (b) “Education is the key to empowerment.” Discuss this statement with reference to Bholi’s transformation.

**Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- (a) Imagine you are Valli after her adventurous bus ride. Write a letter to your friend sharing what you learnt about independence and responsibility.

**OR**

- (b) In “A Tiger in the Zoo,” the poet contrasts confinement with freedom. Explain how the poem deepens our understanding of captivity.

**Q11. Value-Based / Extrapolatory Question ANY ONE (6 Marks)**

- (a) Many characters in your literature syllabus display remarkable personal growth such as Anne Frank, Valli, Mandela, the seagull, and Bholi.  
Choose **any two** and explain how their growth teaches students important lessons about resilience and self-belief.  
(100–120 words)

**OR**

- (b) Several poems and stories highlight how human actions harm nature or other living beings such as “A Tiger in the Zoo,” “Dust of Snow,” “Fog,” and various prose chapters.  
Using **any two** texts, discuss how literature encourages empathy and environmental responsibility.  
(100–120 words)

## Class X – English Language and Literature

Session 2025–26

Sample Question Paper – 2

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

### General Instructions

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper comprises three sections:
  - a. Section A – Reading Skills (20 marks)
  - b. Section B – Grammar and Creative Writing Skills (20 marks)
  - c. Section C – Literature (40 marks)
3. Attempt questions based on the specific instructions for each part.

### SECTION A – Reading Skills (20 Marks)

#### Q1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (10 Marks)

1. Sleep, often considered a passive state, is one of the most active and complex processes of the human brain. During sleep, the body undergoes repair, memory consolidation, and hormonal regulation. Yet, modern lifestyles have reduced average sleep duration dramatically. In India, surveys show that over 60% of working adults sleep less than six hours a night—far below the recommended seven to nine.
2. Researchers warn that chronic sleep deprivation can cause decreased cognitive ability, mood swings, weakened immunity, and even heart disease. More alarming is its effect on teenagers, who are biologically wired to sleep late but are forced to wake early for school. The combination of late-night screen use and early schedules leads to “social jet lag,” where the body’s internal clock constantly struggles to keep up.
3. To address this growing concern, scientists suggest a twofold approach: restructuring school and work timings to align with natural sleep patterns and promoting sleep hygiene habits such as reduced screen exposure, meditation, and fixed bedtime routines. In the long run, valuing rest might become as vital as valuing work.

#### Answer the following questions:

- (i) What happens to the body during sleep? (1)
- (ii) Mention two negative impacts of sleep deprivation. (2)
- (iii) Explain the term “social jet lag.” (1)
- (iv) Suggest any two steps that can help improve sleep quality. (2)
- (v) Choose the correct option: The author’s attitude toward modern sleep habits is —  
(a) Indifferent (b) Critical (c) Optimistic (d) Amused (1)
- (vi) Fill in the blanks appropriately:  
Valuing rest is as important as \_\_\_\_\_ in modern society. (1)
- (vii) Find a word in the passage that means “the body’s natural timing system.” (1)
- (viii) What makes teenagers especially vulnerable to sleep loss? (2)

#### Q2. Read the following case-based passage and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

The table below shows the percentage of renewable energy use in India’s total power generation (2018–2024):

| Year | Solar | Wind | Hydro | Biomass | Total Renewable Share |
|------|-------|------|-------|---------|-----------------------|
| 2018 | 6%    | 9%   | 10%   | 2%      | 27%                   |
| 2019 | 7%    | 10%  | 10%   | 3%      | 30%                   |
| 2020 | 8%    | 10%  | 11%   | 3%      | 32%                   |
| 2021 | 9%    | 11%  | 11%   | 3%      | 34%                   |
| 2022 | 11%   | 12%  | 11%   | 3%      | 37%                   |
| 2023 | 13%   | 13%  | 12%   | 3%      | 41%                   |
| 2024 | 15%   | 14%  | 12%   | 4%      | 45%                   |

**Passage:**

India has emerged as a global leader in renewable energy transition. Between 2018 and 2024, the country has nearly doubled the share of renewables in its total energy mix. The government's focus on solar parks, offshore wind farms, and green hydrogen has created millions of jobs and positioned India as a hub for sustainable development.

However, challenges remain. Energy storage technology, grid stability, and land acquisition issues often delay large-scale renewable projects. Experts also point out that while cities are switching to cleaner sources, rural electrification still depends on coal-based power. A balanced approach that includes innovation, investment, and inclusivity is the need of the hour.

**Answer the following:**

- (i) What overall trend is seen in renewable energy use between 2018–2024? (1)
- (ii) Which renewable source shows the highest growth rate? (1)
- (iii) List any two benefits of India's renewable energy expansion. (2)
- (iv) Mention one major challenge faced by renewable energy projects. (1)
- (v) Choose the correct inference:
  - (a) Renewable energy in India has stagnated.
  - (b) Renewable energy share has decreased.
  - (c) India's dependence on renewables is steadily rising.
  - (d) Rural electrification is entirely renewable-based. (1)
- (vi) Fill in the blanks: The success of renewable energy depends on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (1)
- (vii) What does the passage imply about rural–urban energy disparity? (2)
- (viii) Suggest one way to overcome the issue of grid instability. (1)

## SECTION B – Grammar and Creative Writing Skills (20 Marks)

### Q3. Grammar (10 Marks)

Attempt ANY TEN out of TWELVE questions. Each carries 1 mark.

- (a) Fill in the blank with the correct form of the verb:  
If you \_\_\_\_\_ (work) harder, you would have cleared the test.

(b) Identify and correct the error:

She is senior than me in experience.

(c) Complete the sentence with a suitable determiner:

There are hardly \_\_\_\_\_ tickets left for tonight's show.

(d) Change into passive voice:

The company launched a new smartphone yesterday.

(e) Reported speech:

The teacher said, "Please switch off your mobile phones."

(f) Fill in the blank with the correct modal:

You \_\_\_\_\_ (must / might / could) apologise for your behaviour.

(g) Choose the correct option:

Neither of the answers \_\_\_\_\_ correct.

(a) are (b) were (c) is (d) have been

(h) Identify the type of clause underlined:

I visited the museum **that was recently renovated.**

(i) Combine the sentences using a suitable connector:

She missed the train. She took a taxi instead.

(j) Fill in with the correct preposition:

We have been waiting \_\_\_\_\_ half an hour.

(k) Correct the error:

Each of the students have a pen.

(l) Complete the sentence meaningfully:

I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (study) more for the exam.

#### Q4. Creative Writing Skills (10 Marks)

##### (a) Letter Writing (5 Marks)

You are **Simran Kaur**, President of the Environment Club of St. Mary's School, Amritsar. Write a letter to the Head of *Eco-Warriors* NGO, requesting collaboration for a *Tree Plantation and Clean Campus Drive*. (100–120 words)

OR

You are **Aarav Sharma**, a resident of 12, Park View Colony, Jaipur. You are concerned about the frequent power cuts in your locality during exam season. Write a letter to the Editor of *The Daily Herald* highlighting the issue and urging authorities to act. (100–120 words)

##### (b) Analytical Paragraph (5 Marks)

Study the chart showing **factors influencing career choices among Class 10 students (2025)** and write an analytical paragraph in about 100–120 words.

| Factor             | Percentage |
|--------------------|------------|
| Parental Influence | 30%        |
| Personal Interest  | 25%        |
| Peer Pressure      | 20%        |
| Social Status      | 15%        |
| Financial Security | 10%        |

Your paragraph should analyse the data, explain patterns, and comment on implications for youth decision-making.

## SECTION C – Literature (40 Marks)

### Q5. Read the given extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)

(a) “The house – the only one in the entire valley – sat on the crest of a low hill. From this height one could see the river and the field of ripe corn dotted with flowers that always promised a good harvest.”

- Name the lesson and the author.
- How does this description set the mood for the story?
- What irony does the reader discover later about this scene?
- What does the cornfield symbolise?
- Find one adjective that best describes Lencho’s surroundings.

OR

(b) “It is at the time of emergency that you come to know who your true friends are. We must always help others.”

- Who is the speaker of these lines?
- What incident prompted this reflection?
- What moral does this statement convey?
- Name the chapter it is taken from.
- Find a synonym of “crisis” from the extract.

### Q6. Read the following poetic extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)

(a) “Let them be left, O let them be left,  
Wildness and wet;  
Long live the weeds and the wilderness yet.”

- Identify the poem and the poet.
- What does the poet mean by “wildness and wet”?
- What emotion is the poet expressing here?
- Mention one poetic device used in the stanza.
- What message does the poet wish to convey?

OR

(b) “She has a golden heart, A mind that questions why, But her freedom’s still a dream, Beneath society’s eye.”

- (i) What theme does the poem reflect?
- (ii) How is the girl described here?
- (iii) What does “beneath society’s eye” imply?
- (iv) Identify one figure of speech used.
- (v) Suggest an appropriate title for this extract.

**Q7. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions in 40–50 words each. (12 Marks)**

- (i) How did the postmaster and his employees react to Lencho’s faith in God? (*A Letter to God*)
- (ii) What were Mandela’s ideals for which he dedicated his life? (*Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*)
- (iii) Describe Valli’s character as seen in “Madam Rides the Bus.”
- (iv) How did the doctor in *A Triumph of Surgery* help Tricki recover?
- (v) What was the turning point in the life of the thief in *The Thief’s Story*?

**Q8. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40–50 words each. (6 Marks)**

- (i) How does the story *Bholi* highlight the importance of education for girls?
- (ii) What happens when Griffin misuses his discovery in *Footprints Without Feet*?
- (iii) What message does *The Book That Saved the Earth* deliver?

**Q9. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- (a) Compare how the theme of innocence is portrayed in *Madam Rides the Bus* and *Bholi*.

**OR**

- (b) “Hope sustains life even in despair.” Justify this statement with reference to *A Letter to God*.

**Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- (a) Imagine Anne Frank writes a note to modern teenagers about optimism and resilience. Write the message she would share.

**OR**

- (b) The poem *A Tiger in the Zoo* contrasts confinement with freedom. How does this poem serve as a commentary on human cruelty?

**Q11. Value-Based ANY ONE (6 Marks)**

- (a) In many chapters of your literature course, characters show extraordinary courage in difficult situations such as Valli, Bholi, Mandela, and Lencho.

Using examples from ANY TWO characters, explain how courage shapes their lives and influences their decisions. (100–120 words)

**OR**

- (b) Several poems in your syllabus highlight the contrast between reality and expectation whether it is the caged tiger, the polluted environment, or human insensitivity.

Discuss how poets use imagery and emotion to make readers rethink their attitudes. Use ANY TWO poems. (100–120 words)

## Class X – English Language and Literature

Session: 2025–26

Sample Question Paper – 3

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

### General Instructions:

1. Read the instructions carefully.
2. This question paper contains **11 questions** divided into **three sections**:
  - a. **Section A – Reading Skills (20 Marks)**
  - b. **Section B – Grammar & Creative Writing Skills (20 Marks)**
  - c. **Section C – Literature Textbook and Supplementary Reader (40 Marks)**
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

### SECTION – A (READING SKILLS) (20 Marks)

**Q1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (10 Marks)**

1. Success is often perceived as the end of a race — a finish line where one can finally rest. However, history and psychology show otherwise. True success is not about reaching an end but about continually improving, learning, and adapting. The most accomplished individuals are those who treat success as a journey rather than a destination.
2. Researchers at Stanford University conducted a study on “growth mindset,” which revealed that people who believe intelligence and skill can be developed tend to outperform those who think abilities are fixed. Failure, for them, becomes feedback — a stepping stone instead of a stumbling block.
3. The concept of lifelong learning has gained importance in today’s dynamic world. Skills once considered valuable may become obsolete within years. Hence, adaptability has become the new measure of intelligence.
4. The passage reminds us that success is not an event but a habit — a consistent pursuit of excellence rooted in resilience, humility, and curiosity.

### Answer the following questions:

- (i) What is the difference between the traditional and modern view of success? (1)
- (ii) What is meant by “growth mindset”? (2)
- (iii) According to the passage, how does failure help in achieving success? (2)
- (iv) Which quality has become the “new measure of intelligence”? (1)
- (v) Choose the correct meaning of “resilience”:  
(a) Strength to recover (b) Desire for fame (c) Laziness (d) Perfectionism (1)
- (vi) Fill in the blanks:  
Success should be viewed as a \_\_\_\_\_ rather than a \_\_\_\_\_. (1)
- (vii) Find a synonym for “changing” from paragraph 3. (1)
- (viii) State one lesson this passage conveys for students. (2)

**Q2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (10 Marks)**

The table below shows **the percentage of major waste sources in India (2018–2024)**:

| Year | Plastic Waste | Electronic Waste | Food Waste | Paper Waste | Total Urban Waste (million tonnes) |
|------|---------------|------------------|------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| 2018 | 12%           | 6%               | 48%        | 10%         | 62                                 |
| 2019 | 14%           | 7%               | 45%        | 11%         | 67                                 |
| 2020 | 17%           | 8%               | 42%        | 12%         | 71                                 |
| 2021 | 18%           | 9%               | 41%        | 11%         | 74                                 |
| 2022 | 20%           | 10%              | 40%        | 12%         | 79                                 |
| 2023 | 21%           | 12%              | 39%        | 12%         | 83                                 |
| 2024 | 23%           | 13%              | 37%        | 13%         | 88                                 |

**Passage:**

India's growing urbanisation has led to an unprecedented rise in waste generation. Plastic and electronic waste are increasing rapidly, even as food waste continues to dominate total urban garbage. Experts believe that ineffective waste segregation and poor recycling infrastructure worsen the problem.

The government has initiated "Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0," encouraging local bodies to promote composting and extended producer responsibility (EPR) for plastic manufacturers. However, public participation remains weak. Without community involvement, policies alone cannot reverse the trend.

**Answer the following:**

- What trend do you observe in the table above? (1)
- Name two waste categories that are increasing the fastest. (2)
- What is meant by "extended producer responsibility"? (1)
- Mention two challenges India faces in managing waste. (2)
- Choose the correct option:
  - Food waste is the least contributor.
  - Plastic waste has been declining since 2018.
  - Urban waste is steadily rising every year.
  - E-waste has remained constant. (1)
- Suggest one effective measure for reducing waste. (1)
- What is the author's tone in the passage? (Critical/Optimistic/Playful/Indifferent) (1)
- Complete the sentence:  
Policies alone cannot succeed unless \_\_\_\_\_. (1)

## SECTION – B (GRAMMAR & CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS) (20 Marks)

### Q3. Grammar (10 Marks)

Attempt ANY TEN out of TWELVE. Each question carries 1 mark.

(a) Fill in the blank with the correct verb form:

If I \_\_\_\_\_ (know) earlier, I would have joined you.

(b) Identify and correct the error:

She did not knew that the meeting was postponed.

(c) Choose the correct determiner:

There isn't \_\_\_\_\_ water left in the bottle.

(a) many (b) much (c) few (d) a few

(d) Convert into passive voice:

The principal will announce the results tomorrow.

(e) Reported speech:

He said, "I am waiting for my friend."

(f) Fill in the blank with the correct modal:

You \_\_\_\_\_ (must / might / could) consult a doctor immediately.

(g) Choose the correct option:

Neither of the two answers \_\_\_\_\_ correct.

(a) are (b) was (c) is (d) were

(h) Identify the type of clause underlined:

I will call you when I reach home.

(i) Combine using a relative pronoun:

The scientist discovered a new element. He won the Nobel Prize.

(j) Fill in with the correct preposition:

They have been living here \_\_\_\_\_ 2012.

(k) Correct the error:

The furniture are made of teak wood.

(l) Complete the sentence meaningfully:

I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (study) harder for the test.

#### Q4. Letter Writing (5 Marks)

You are **Karan Mehta**, School Captain of Greenfield Public School, Bhopal. Your school is organising an *Inter-School Debate Competition on “AI: Boon or Bane?”* Write a letter to the Manager of “Voice & Vision Pvt. Ltd.” requesting sponsorship and sound system arrangements. (100–120 words)

OR

You are **Nisha Verma**, a resident of 112, Park Enclave, Pune. You are concerned about rising cases of cyberbullying among teenagers. Write a letter to the Editor of *The National Herald* highlighting the issue and suggesting preventive measures. (100–120 words)

#### Q5. Analytical Paragraph (5 Marks)

Study the data below showing **the preferred social causes supported by students of Class 10 (2025)** and write an analytical paragraph (100–120 words).

| Cause            | Percentage |
|------------------|------------|
| Animal Welfare   | 28%        |
| Climate Action   | 24%        |
| Child Education  | 20%        |
| Gender Equality  | 15%        |
| Health Awareness | 13%        |

Analyse trends, reasons, and the role of youth in social change.

#### SECTION – C (LITERATURE) (40 Marks)

##### Q6. Read the following extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)

(a) “The postmaster – a fat, amiable fellow – also broke out laughing, but almost immediately he turned serious and tapping the letter on his desk, commented, ‘What faith! I wish I had the faith of the man who wrote this letter.’”

- (i) What made the postmaster laugh initially?
- (ii) Why did he suddenly turn serious?
- (iii) What does this moment reveal about Lencho?
- (iv) Name the story from which this extract is taken.
- (v) Find a synonym for “friendly” from the passage.

OR

(b) “He was slim, neither too tall nor too short, with a clear and pleasant face. His manners were refined, and he spoke gently and sensibly.”

- (i) Who is being described here?
- (ii) What impression do you form of his character?
- (iii) How does this description contrast with the narrator's expectations?
- (iv) Name the story this extract is taken from.
- (v) Find a word from the extract that means "well-behaved."

**Q7. Read the following poem extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)**

**(a)** "Some say the world will end in fire, Some say in ice. From what I've tasted of desire, I hold with those who favor fire."

- (i) Name the poem and the poet.
- (ii) What does 'fire' symbolise in the poem?
- (iii) What does the poet mean by "I hold with those"?
- (iv) What universal truth does the poem express?
- (v) Identify the rhyme scheme.

**OR**

**(b)** "The fog comes on little cat feet. It sits looking over harbor and city."

- (i) Identify the poetic device used in "on little cat feet."
- (ii) What image of the fog does the poet create?
- (iii) How does the fog behave like a cat?
- (iv) Who is the poet?
- (v) What feeling is conveyed through this imagery?

**Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following in about 40–50 words each. (12 Marks)**

- (i) How does Nelson Mandela describe the meaning of freedom for himself and for his people? (*Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*)
- (ii) Why did Valli plan her bus ride secretly? (*Madam Rides the Bus*)
- (iii) What does Anne Frank's diary tell us about her inner strength? (*From the Diary of Anne Frank*)
- (iv) What lesson does the story *Bholi* teach society about self-respect and marriage?
- (v) Why did Griffin's invisibility become a curse for him? (*Footprints Without Feet*)

**Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40–50 words each. (6 Marks)**

- (i) How does *The Thief's Story* show that trust can reform a person?
- (ii) What does the title *A Triumph of Surgery* suggest about the story's theme?
- (iii) How does *The Book That Saved the Earth* criticise overdependence on technology?

**Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

**(a)** Compare and contrast the characters of Lencho and the pilot in *A Letter to God* and *The Black Aeroplane* in terms of faith and hope.

**OR**

(b) Imagine Mandela writes a speech to students today about courage and unity. Write that speech in 100–120 words.

**Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

(a) Imagine Bholi writes a diary entry after refusing to marry Bishamber Nath. Describe her emotions, thoughts, and sense of self-worth.

**OR**

(b) “The Necklace” ends with a cruel twist of irony. Describe the ending and discuss what moral lesson the story conveys about honesty and pride.



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## Class X – English Language and Literature

Session: 2025–26

Sample Question Paper – 4

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

### General Instructions:

1. Read the instructions carefully.
2. The paper consists of **11 questions** divided into **three sections**:
  - a. **Section A – Reading Skills (20 Marks)**
  - b. **Section B – Grammar & Creative Writing Skills (20 Marks)**
  - c. **Section C – Literature (40 Marks)**
3. Attempt questions according to the instructions in each part.

### SECTION – A: READING SKILLS (20 Marks)

#### Q1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

1. The concept of minimalism has evolved from being an art movement to becoming a lifestyle choice. In an age of consumerism, where people equate success with possessions, minimalism encourages “living with less.” The idea is to own only what truly adds value to one’s life.
2. Psychologists link minimalism with mental clarity. By reducing clutter, one not only frees up physical space but also mental energy. Research suggests that individuals who adopt minimalist habits report lower stress levels, higher productivity, and improved relationships.
3. However, critics argue that minimalism is a privilege — easier for those who already have financial stability. For many, “living with less” is not a choice but a circumstance of poverty. Therefore, balance is essential; the goal is mindful consumption, not deprivation.

#### Answer the following questions:

- (i) What does minimalism encourage people to do? (1)
- (ii) Mention two psychological benefits of minimalism. (2)
- (iii) What criticism is associated with the minimalist lifestyle? (2)
- (iv) What distinction does the author draw between minimalism and poverty? (1)
- (v) Choose the correct option:  
The tone of the passage is —  
(a) sarcastic (b) balanced (c) humorous (d) pessimistic (1)
- (vi) Fill in the blank: Minimalism is described as a \_\_\_\_\_ choice in modern life. (1)
- (vii) Find a synonym of “reduce” from the passage. (1)
- (viii) Suggest one practical step you can take to practice minimalism. (2)

#### Q2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

The table below shows the **percentage of smartphone users engaging in different online activities (2020–2025)**:

| Year | Social Media | Online Learning | E-Commerce | Gaming | Total Users (in million) |
|------|--------------|-----------------|------------|--------|--------------------------|
| 2020 | 65%          | 20%             | 35%        | 25%    | 350                      |
| 2021 | 68%          | 30%             | 40%        | 27%    | 420                      |
| 2022 | 70%          | 35%             | 45%        | 28%    | 460                      |
| 2023 | 72%          | 38%             | 48%        | 30%    | 510                      |
| 2024 | 73%          | 40%             | 50%        | 31%    | 560                      |
| 2025 | 74%          | 42%             | 52%        | 33%    | 600                      |

**Passage:**

Smartphone penetration has revolutionised how people connect, learn, and shop. The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated online learning and e-commerce, while social media remains dominant. Experts warn, however, that excessive screen use may affect attention span and interpersonal skills. They advocate “digital discipline” — scheduling screen breaks and practising offline hobbies.

**Answer the following:**

- (i) What trend is evident among smartphone users from 2020–2025? (1)
- (ii) Which two activities show the most consistent rise? (2)
- (iii) Define “digital discipline” in your own words. (1)
- (iv) What warning do experts give about smartphone overuse? (2)
- (v) Choose the correct inference:
  - (a) Gaming is the most popular activity.
  - (b) Social media usage has dropped.
  - (c) Online learning has doubled in five years.
  - (d) E-commerce has become less relevant. (1)
- (vi) Find a synonym of “spread widely” from the passage. (1)
- (vii) Complete the sentence:  
Excessive screen use may harm \_\_\_\_\_. (1)
- (viii) Suggest one way schools can promote digital balance. (1)

**SECTION – B: GRAMMAR & CREATIVE WRITING (20 Marks)**

**Q3. Grammar (10 Marks)**

**Attempt ANY TEN out of TWELVE questions. Each carries 1 mark.**

- (a) Fill in the blank:  
If I \_\_\_\_\_ (know) his plan, I would have joined earlier.
- (b) Identify and correct the error:  
He don't like reading novels.

(c) Fill in the blank with a suitable determiner:

There were \_\_\_\_\_ people present at the meeting.

(d) Change into passive voice:

The students are painting the classroom walls.

(e) Reported speech:

He said to me, "Where have you been?"

(f) Fill in with a modal:

You \_\_\_\_\_ (must / should / could) wear a helmet while riding.

(g) Choose the correct form:

One of the girls \_\_\_\_\_ late.

(a) were (b) is (c) are (d) have been

(h) Identify the type of clause underlined:

The man **who lives next door** is a doctor.

(i) Combine using a conjunction:

He was tired. He continued working.

(j) Fill in with the correct preposition:

She has been working here \_\_\_\_\_ 2019.

(k) Correct the error:

The cattle is grazing in the field.

(l) Rewrite correctly:

It's high time we \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) for the station.

#### Q4. Letter Writing (5 Marks)

You are **Riya Gupta**, Secretary of the Cultural Club, Sunrise Public School, Chandigarh. Your school plans to host an *Inter-School Art and Literature Fest*. Write a letter to the *Director, Rainbow Arts Foundation*, seeking sponsorship and inviting their artists for workshops. (100–120 words)

**OR**

You are **Amit Khanna**, resident of 45, Rajendra Nagar, Ghaziabad. You are concerned about the reckless driving of school buses in your area. Write a letter to the Editor of *The Daily Observer* highlighting the issue and suggesting measures to ensure student safety. (100–120 words)

#### Q5. Analytical Paragraph (5 Marks)

The chart below shows **the preferred news sources among Class 10 students (2025)**:

| Source              | Percentage |
|---------------------|------------|
| Online News Portals | 40%        |
| Social Media        | 30%        |

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Television       | 15% |
| Newspapers       | 10% |
| Radio / Podcasts | 5%  |

Write an analytical paragraph (100–120 words) interpreting the data and commenting on changing trends in information consumption among students.

## SECTION – C: LITERATURE (40 Marks)

### Q6. Read the given extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)

(a) “The young seagull was alone on his ledge. His two brothers and sister had already flown away. He had been afraid to fly with them.”

- (i) Why was the seagull afraid to fly?
- (ii) What does his fear symbolise?
- (iii) How did his family help him overcome it?
- (iv) Name the lesson and author.
- (v) Find a synonym of “ledge.”

**OR**

(b) “I am not greedy but I was shocked when I saw the list of things you wanted to buy.”

- (i) Who is the speaker?
- (ii) To whom is the speaker talking?
- (iii) What is the context of this remark?
- (iv) Which trait of the listener is being criticised?
- (v) Name the story.

### Q7. Read the following poem extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)

(a) “The way a crow Shook down on me The dust of snow From a hemlock tree.”

- (i) What effect does the crow’s action have on the poet?
- (ii) What does “dust of snow” symbolise?
- (iii) Identify one poetic device used.
- (iv) Who is the poet?
- (v) What message does the poem convey?

**OR**

(b) “He stalks in his vivid stripes, The few steps of his cage, On pads of velvet quiet, In his quiet rage.”

- (i) Name the poem and poet.
- (ii) What does the tiger’s movement reflect?
- (iii) What poetic device is used in “velvet quiet”?

- (iv) How does the poet create contrast between freedom and captivity?
- (v) What emotion dominates the stanza?

**Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following in about 40–50 words each. (12 Marks)**

- (i) How does Lencho's deep faith in God shape the events of the story *A Letter to God*?
- (ii) Why did the postmaster help Lencho despite laughing at his letter?
- (iii) How did Anne Frank use her diary to cope with loneliness?
- (iv) What was the turning point in Tricky's life in *A Triumph of Surgery*?
- (v) What made the narrator admire Lutkins in *The Hack Driver*?

**Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40–50 words each. (6 Marks)**

- (i) What moral does *Bholi* convey about self-confidence and dignity?
- (ii) How does *Footprints Without Feet* highlight the misuse of science?
- (iii) What lesson does *The Book That Saved the Earth* teach about communication?

**Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- (a) Compare how courage is portrayed in *Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom* and *His First Flight*.

**OR**

- (b) "Empathy and compassion make the world a better place." Discuss this idea through the story *A Triumph of Surgery*.

**Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- (a) Imagine you are Valli after her bus ride. Write a diary entry expressing your thoughts about growing up and independence.

**OR**

- (b) The story *The Necklace* ends with irony. How does this ending deepen the reader's understanding of human pride and honesty?

## Class X – English Language and Literature

**Session: 2025–26**

**Sample Question Paper – 5**

**Time Allowed: 3 Hours**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

### General Instructions:

1. Read the instructions carefully.
2. The question paper consists of **11 questions** divided into three sections:
  - a. **Section A – Reading Skills (20 Marks)**
  - b. **Section B – Grammar & Creative Writing Skills (20 Marks)**
  - c. **Section C – Literature (40 Marks)**
3. Attempt all questions.

### SECTION – A: READING SKILLS (20 Marks)

#### Q1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (10 Marks)

1. In a world increasingly dominated by artificial intelligence, emotional intelligence (EI) has become more valuable than ever. While machines can process data faster than humans, they cannot empathise, motivate, or connect emotionally. Emotional intelligence — the ability to understand and manage one’s emotions and those of others — is a defining human strength.
2. Psychologists Daniel Goleman and Peter Salovey identify five key components of EI: self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy, and social skills. Studies show that employees with high emotional intelligence outperform those with higher IQs, especially in leadership roles.
3. However, developing EI requires conscious effort. It involves reflecting on behaviour, controlling impulses, and listening actively. Schools and workplaces worldwide are now introducing EI training to create more compassionate and collaborative communities.

#### Answer the following:

- (i) Define emotional intelligence in your own words. (1)
- (ii) Who introduced the concept of emotional intelligence? (1)
- (iii) Mention any two key components of EI. (2)
- (iv) Why is EI important in leadership roles? (2)
- (v) Choose the correct option: The passage mainly emphasises —
  - (a) Artificial intelligence is superior to human intelligence.
  - (b) Emotional intelligence is essential for success.
  - (c) Data analysis requires empathy.
  - (d) Leadership depends only on IQ. (1)
- (vi) Fill in the blank: Emotional intelligence helps in building \_\_\_\_\_ communities. (1)
- (vii) Find a word in the passage that means “control or manage.” (1)
- (viii) Suggest one way schools can help students improve emotional intelligence. (2)

## Q2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

The table below shows the **average weekly time (in hours) spent on physical activity by urban teenagers in India (2019–2024)**:

| Year | Sports / Outdoor Games | Gym / Fitness | Yoga / Meditation | Total Physical Activity |
|------|------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 2019 | 3.5                    | 1.0           | 0.5               | 5.0                     |
| 2020 | 2.0                    | 0.8           | 0.6               | 3.4                     |
| 2021 | 2.3                    | 1.1           | 0.7               | 4.1                     |
| 2022 | 2.8                    | 1.5           | 0.8               | 5.1                     |
| 2023 | 3.1                    | 1.6           | 0.9               | 5.6                     |
| 2024 | 3.3                    | 1.8           | 1.0               | 6.1                     |

### Passage:

Experts from the Indian Health Council have observed a gradual revival of physical activity among youth after the pandemic. Though lockdown years (2020–2021) saw a sharp decline in outdoor sports, 2023–2024 shows a strong recovery trend. Fitness apps, school wellness clubs, and social media campaigns promoting body positivity have motivated teenagers to re-engage with fitness.

However, experts caution that screen dependency still limits consistent participation. True fitness, they say, comes from balance — physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

### Answer the following:

- What trend can be observed from 2019 to 2024? (1)
- Which year saw the lowest physical activity? (1)
- Mention any two reasons for the renewed interest in fitness. (2)
- What warning do experts give about youth fitness? (1)
- Choose the correct inference:
  - Fitness levels have remained stagnant.
  - Teenagers have reduced outdoor activities.
  - There is an overall improvement in activity levels.
  - Social media has reduced fitness awareness. (1)
- Find the synonym of “rebuild” from the passage. (1)
- Complete the sentence: True fitness involves \_\_\_\_\_. (1)
- Suggest one way schools can encourage regular physical activity. (2)

## SECTION – B: GRAMMAR & CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (20 Marks)

### Q3. Grammar (10 Marks)

Attempt ANY TEN out of TWELVE questions. Each carries 1 mark.

(a) Fill in the blank:

If she \_\_\_\_\_ (study) harder, she would have passed the exam.

(b) Identify and correct the error:

He don't knows how to swim.

(c) Choose the correct determiner:

There are \_\_\_\_\_ people waiting outside.

(a) much (b) little (c) several (d) some

(d) Change into passive voice:

The chef is preparing a new dish.

(e) Reported speech:

She said, "I have finished my work."

(f) Fill in the blank with a suitable modal:

You \_\_\_\_\_ (must / may / can) not park your vehicle here.

(g) Choose the correct form:

Each of the players \_\_\_\_\_ awarded a certificate.

(a) are (b) were (c) is (d) have been

(h) Identify the type of clause underlined:

I know that he is honest.

(i) Combine the sentences using a relative pronoun:

I met a girl. She is an excellent dancer.

(j) Fill in with the correct preposition:

He has been absent \_\_\_\_\_ Monday.

(k) Correct the error:

The sceneries of Kashmir is beautiful.

(l) Complete meaningfully:

It's time we \_\_\_\_\_ (start) our project seriously.

### Q4. Letter Writing (5 Marks)

You are **Arjun Patel**, Head Boy of Starlight High School, Ahmedabad. Your school is introducing a *Digital Detox Week* to reduce students' screen time. Write a letter to the Director, *TechCare Foundation*, requesting

collaboration for workshops and awareness sessions. (100–120 words)

**OR**

You are **Meera Sharma**, resident of 82, Civil Lines, Kanpur. You are disturbed by the increasing littering and lack of dustbins in your locality. Write a letter to the Editor of *The City Times* complaining about the problem and suggesting practical measures. (100–120 words)

### Q5. Analytical Paragraph (5 Marks)

The chart below shows **the favourite school subjects among Class 10 students (2025)**:

| Subject        | Percentage |
|----------------|------------|
| English        | 25%        |
| Mathematics    | 30%        |
| Science        | 20%        |
| Social Science | 15%        |
| Art / Music    | 10%        |

Write an analytical paragraph in about 100–120 words interpreting the data and suggesting reasons for these preferences.

### SECTION – C: LITERATURE (40 Marks)

#### Q6. Read the following extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)

(a) “She still counted on me to save her, and I couldn’t let her down. It was the first time anyone had trusted me completely.”

- (i) Who is the speaker and who is ‘she’?
- (ii) Why did she trust the speaker?
- (iii) What transformation did this trust bring in the speaker?
- (iv) Name the story.
- (v) What emotion does the extract highlight?

**OR**

(b) “Some are born to sweet delight,  
Some are born to endless night.”

- (i) Identify the poet and the poem.
- (ii) What contrast does the poet draw here?
- (iii) Explain the symbolic meaning of “sweet delight” and “endless night.”
- (iv) Which emotion dominates these lines?
- (v) Find one figure of speech used here.

**Q7. Read the following poem extract and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)**

**(a)** “And not one is demented with the mania  
Of owning things. Of killing. There is  
No one who thinks of himself alone.”

- (i) Name the poem and the poet.
- (ii) What does the poet admire about animals?
- (iii) What human flaw is criticised here?
- (iv) Explain the phrase “mania of owning things.”
- (v) What message does the poet convey?

**OR**

**(b)** “The fog comes on little cat feet.  
It sits looking over harbor and city  
And then moves on.”

- (i) How does the poet describe the fog?
- (ii) What imagery does the poet use?
- (iii) Identify one poetic device in “on little cat feet.”
- (iv) What does the fog symbolise?
- (v) Who is the poet?

**Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following in 40–50 words each. (12 Marks)**

- (i) What is the central theme of *A Letter to God*?
- (ii) How did Mandela’s perception of freedom change over time?
- (iii) How did Valli’s journey in *Madam Rides the Bus* teach her about maturity?
- (iv) What did Anne Frank mean by “paper has more patience than people”?
- (v) How does *The Hack Driver* show the theme of deception and innocence?

**Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40–50 words each. (6 Marks)**

- (i) What message does *Bholi* convey about education and self-respect?
- (ii) How did Griffin misuse his discovery in *Footprints Without Feet*?
- (iii) What lesson does *The Book That Saved the Earth* teach modern readers?

**Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

**(a)** Compare how hope and resilience are depicted in *Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom* and *A Letter to God*.

**OR**

**(b)** “Science without humanity can destroy.” Discuss with reference to *Footprints Without Feet*.

**Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

**(a)** Imagine you are Anne Frank in 2025. Write a diary entry about how you would feel witnessing modern conflicts and intolerance.

**OR**

**(b)** The ending of *The Necklace* teaches a timeless lesson. Discuss how honesty and humility could have changed Matilda's life.



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## Class X – English Language and Literature

Session 2025–26

Sample Question Paper – 6

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

### General Instructions

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. The paper comprises three sections:
  - a. Section A – Reading Skills (20 Marks)
  - b. Section B – Grammar and Creative Writing (20 Marks)
  - c. Section C – Literature (40 Marks)
3. Attempt questions based on the instructions for each part.

### SECTION A – Reading Skills (20 Marks)

#### Q1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

1. As a high school student, studying poetry can be a rollercoaster ride. This journey is punctuated by moments of profound appreciation for simpler pieces and intermittent frustration with more complex works. Let's be real here — some poems are just plain confusing and no amount of re-reading seems to help decipher the intended meaning. The puzzlement that results from such instances can be both vexing and demotivating. If solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing Sudoku is a better option. One is led to ponder if obscurity was the goal.
2. Conversely, some pieces resonate with the reader's soul, stirring feelings of warmth, happiness, and connection to the world. Often, these compositions centre on themes that are universally understood, such as love, nature, or faith. Being able to actually understand what the poet is trying to say can feel like a little victory and is a welcome relief after grappling with more perplexing poetry.
3. Then there are poems that are emotionally charged; the ones that make the reader curl up in a ball and cry or jump up and down with joy. One is left in awe of the poet's ability to convey emotion through words. Let's not forget the downright weird poems. These are the ones that defy categorization and leave the reader to their own devices in attempting to interpret meaning. The author's use of figurative language and unconventional imagery can create a sense of bewilderment that is either intriguing or off-putting. Regardless, the reader can appreciate the uniqueness of the work.
4. Despite the wide range of emotions and reactions that come with studying poetry, it can be a rewarding pursuit. Not only does reading poetry allow one to appreciate the artistic beauty of the written word but also enables one to develop crucial critical thinking and analytical skills. The process of unlocking a poem's meaning can feel like cracking a code or solving a puzzle but the sense of accomplishment derived from mastering a challenging piece can be deeply gratifying. Finally, impressing an English teacher with a well-analysed poem can be a source of pride and validation.
5. Overall, studying poetry is like a box of mixed chocolates, you never know what you're going to get. But whether it's complex, emotional, simple, or just downright weird, there's always something to be gained from

the experience. So, let's applaud all the poets out there, for making us laugh, cry, scratch our heads, and occasionally feel like a genius. Created for academic us

**Answer the following questions:**

- i. What do you make out about the author's attitude towards studying poetry? (1)
- ii. what is the message conveyed by a reader's experience in the following case? A reader spends hours trying to analyze a poem for her assignment and finally feels a sense of accomplishment and pride, once she understands it. It means that
  - a. only those with a natural talent for poetry should engage with it.
  - b. the efforts of studying poetry are directly proportional to the rewards gained.. (2)
- iii. What do you make of the tone of the writer in the given lines?
  - a. If solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing Sudoku is a better option. One is led to ponder if obscurity was the goal.
- iv. What is the secret behind the popularity of some poets or their poetry that are considered such 'a welcome relief as compared to perplexing ones?
- v. Say whether the following statement is True or False: The author's tone becomes more neutral and objective when discussing weird poems, compared to other types of poetry.
- vi. Select the option that best reflects the concept of 'cracking a code' in the same context as used by the author.
  - a. The locksmith unlocked the door with a duplicate key.
  - b. The archaeologists hypothesized about the rituals from the artefacts.
  - c. Understanding the implied meaning of the words makes fiction beautiful.
  - d. The programmer opened the files that had a passkey to them.
- vii. Based on the reading of the passage, examine how studying poetry can be like exploring a new city. Answer in two points.
- viii. Fill in the blank with the correct option from those given.

*In the expression 'This journey is punctuated,' the word 'punctuated' refers to*

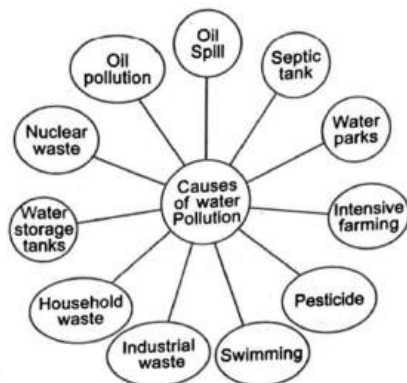
  - a. the way a mode of transport moves on a road or elsewhere.
  - b. the peculiar way an author uses punctuation.
  - c. the itinerary of a traveller.
  - d. the interspersing of extreme experiences.

**Q2. Read the following case-based passage and answer the questions. (10 Marks)**

1. Unsafe water kills more people each year than do war and all other forms of violence combined. Meanwhile, our drinkable water sources are finite : less than 1 per cent of the Earth's freshwater is actually accessible to us. Without action, the challenges will only increase by 2050, when global demand for freshwater is expected to be one-third greater than it is now.
2. Water is uniquely vulnerable to pollution. Known as a "universal solvent", water is able to dissolve more substances than any other liquid on Earth. Water pollution is the release of substances into subsurface groundwater or into lakes, streams, rivers, estuaries, and oceans to the point where the substances interfere with beneficial use of the water or with the natural functioning of ecosystems. In addition to the release of substances, such as chemicals, trash, or microorganisms, water pollution may also include the release of

energy, in the form of radioactivity or heat, into bodies of water. The key causatives of water pollution in India are urbanization, deforestation, industrial effluents and agricultural run-offs with the use of insecticides and pesticides. The other causes are social and religious offerings in water bodies and the use of detergents and fertilizers.

3. Water pollution can have disastrous consequences on the ecosystem. Furthermore, toxic chemicals can travel through the food chain and get into our bodies, causing diseases and death.



**Major Causes of Water Pollution**

4. There is no single or simple answer to stop the water pollution crisis. However, there are many solutions to prevent water pollution, both in our daily lives and within industries. They are wastewater treatment, reducing plastic waste and water conservation. In addition to this, we must have water-efficient toilets, stormwater management and ozone wastewater treatment.

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**

- i. Select the correct option to complete the following sentence:

*Water pollution can have disastrous consequences on*

- a. the chain of chemicals in food.
- b. weather conditions and flash floods.
- c. the functioning of the earth's ecosystems.
- d. unexpected outbreak of diseases.

- ii. Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below.

**Assertion:** Energy is released in the subterranean water bodies.

**Reason:** The natural functioning of ecosystems in the water bodies is affected due to heat or radioactivity caused by harmful substances that get dissolved in water.

- a. Both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
- b. Both the assertion and 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. Substitute the words 'main contributors' with words similar in meaning from the passage in the following sentence:

*The main contributors to water pollution in India must be addressed and resolved.*

- iv. Infer one reason for the following, based on information in the passage.

Less than 1 per cent of the Earth's freshwater is actually accessible to us.

- v. Read the given prompt and fill in the blank by selecting the correct option:

One of the solutions which does not prevent water pollution is. \_\_\_\_\_

- a. building industries near water bodies.
- b. controlling oil spills and plastic waste.

- c. not dumping nuclear waste.
- d. reducing intensive farming.
- vi. What do these key factors like urbanization, deforestation, industrial effluents and agricultural run-offs with the use of insecticides and pesticides tell us about India?
- vii. Complete the following sentence suitably: (g) The author suggests water-efficient toilets and storm-water management to\_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION B – Grammar and Creative Writing Skills (20 Marks)

### Q3. Grammar (10 Marks)

Attempt ANY TEN out of TWELVE questions. Each carries 1 mark.

- a) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter: Dear Sir  
This is with reference to committee's letter of recommendation that \_\_\_\_\_ (highlight) the nominations for 'Safe Residential Area' award for this current year.
- b) Read the given sentence from a recipe review article. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence. This delightful recipe must keep your hunger pangs at bay with its balanced spices and oriental flavour.

Use the given format for your response.

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

- c) Abhilash and Neha had a conversation about the inauguration of Neha's Dance Academy. Report Abhilash's question. Is your best friend helping you in this venture?
- d) Read the dialogue between Shabnam and her mentor, Sara, regarding her summer internship programme.  
**Sara:** Why did you choose to participate in this internship programme?  
**Shabnam:** Ah! I am convinced this programme has the potential to enhance my abilities.  
Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue. Sara asked Shabnam\_\_\_\_\_ in that internship programme. Shabnam sighed and exclaimed that she was convinced that programme had the potential to enhance her abilities.
  - a. why to choose to participate
  - b. to choose participation
  - c. about her choice to participate
  - d. with her choice in participating
- e) Fill the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the concluding line of an issued circular by an Organisation, to its Managers. A copy of the plan is enclosed and \_\_\_\_\_ to all Team Leaders for compliance. (that/then/this) may be communicated
- f) Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from a commercial company's current marketing strategy.

The company aimed at increasing authority in areas frequently visited by the clients.

Use the given format for your response.

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

- g) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the closing line, from an analytical report.

In conclusion, this study explores the association among short-sleep pattern and overweight youngsters.

| Option No. | Error    | Correction |
|------------|----------|------------|
| (i)        | explores | explore    |
| (ii)       | and      | or         |
| (iii)      | among    | between    |
| (iv)       | In       | For        |

- h) Complete the given narrative, by filling the blank with the correct option. The experience of nursing an injured bird left me grateful for knowing the importance of being kind and compassionate to all creatures.  
(i) feeling (iii) felt (ii) having felt (iv) feels

- i) Report the dialogue between a vendor and his customer, by completing the sentence:

**Vendor:** It is nice to see you, Sir!

**Customer:** Yes, indeed! Unlike last month, I have been away for quite some time this month.

The vendor greeted his customer respectfully and mentioned that he was pleased to see him. The customer answered in the affirmative and explained that \_\_\_\_\_

- j) Fill the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the live feed on a school news channel.

Congratulations Change Makers! The regional competition awards have been announced and our school music club \_\_\_\_\_ the first prize.

(i) had been won (iii) was winning (i) will win (iv) has won

- k) Complete the line from a self- awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option.

The river runs through your veins

The trees and mountains \_\_\_\_\_ your name

The moon and stars watch over

You're guiding your way back home

To dream the night away.

(i) will call (iii) had called (ii) call (iv) calls

- l) Identify the error and supply correction for the following note in a passengers' flight instruction manual:

Note- Passengers will not reach the airport late in order to avoid a fine equivalent to 5% of the basic fare.

Use the given format for your response.

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

## Creative Writing Skills (10 Marks)

### Q4 (a) Letter Writing (5 Marks)

You are Reema/Rajesh living at Mayur Colony, Mumbai. Write a letter of enquiry in about 120 words to the Director of National Science Centre, Mumbai, to gather relevant information as you are interested in joining their Astronomy Club. Inquire about eligibility, activities, frequency of meetings and other details.

OR

(b) As Armaan Khan, the School Literary Captain of Uljwal Academy, Old City, Kiladerabad, you believe that languages can help bridge regional divides and promote unity. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, suggesting the introduction of an online regional language learning programme managed and run by student councils and language clubs in the city. The programme aims to help residents who have recently relocated to

a new region in picking up the local language organically. Share the importance and credibility of such a programme and suggest a feasible way to execute it along with possible activities.

### Q5 Analytical Paragraph (5 Marks)

The table given below contains data related to the annual increase in the number of vehicles in major Indian cities (percentage data has been given). Write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words interpreting the data.

*Annual Increase in the Number of Vehicles in Major Indian Cities (Percentage)*

| City (in descending order of population) | Passengers   |                |              |                |
|------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|                                          | Private      |                | Intermediate |                |
|                                          | Two Wheelers | Cars and Jeeps | Taxis        | Three Wheelers |
| Mumbai                                   | 12.7         | 6.9            | –            | –              |
| Kolkata                                  | 18.2         | 17.2           | 10.8         | 32.7           |
| Delhi                                    | 18.7         | 19.4           | 3.6          | 18.2           |
| Chennai                                  | 42.5         | 31.3           | 36.8         | 1.3            |

## SECTION C – Literature (40 Marks)

### Q6. Read the given extracts and answer ANY ONE set of questions. (5 Marks)

(a)

“To the assembled guests and the watching world, I said: Today, all of us do, by our presence here ... confer glory and hope to newborn liberty. Out of the experience of an extraordinary human disaster that lasted too long, must be born a society of which all humanity will be proud. We who were outlaws not so long ago, have today been given the rare privilege to be host to the nations of the world on our own soil. We thank all our distinguished international guests for having come to take possession with the people of our country of what is after all, a common victory for justice, for peace, for human dignity.

a. A society that .... was born out of human disaster.

- i. all humanity would be proud of
- ii. was full of extraordinary human disaster
- iii. was full of outlaws and fighters
- iv. hosts nations on their soil

b) What is the privilege given to the former outlaws?

c) Fill in the blank with one word.

The speaker was overwhelmed with the sense of \_\_\_\_\_.

d) State whether the following statement is True or False :

*The common victory was when South Africa did not become an independent nation.*

OR

(b)“**Think-Tank:** That's better Noodle, I wish to be placed in communication with our manned space probe to that ridiculous little planet we are going to put under our generous rulership. What do they call it, again?

**Noodle :** Earth, your Intelligence.

**Think-Tank:** Earth - of course. You see how insignificant the place is? But first something important. My mirror. I wish to consult my mirror."

a) Think-Tank wants to communicate with the

- a. People of Earth
- b. Scientists on Earth
- c. Environmentalists on Earth
- d. Martians on Earth

b) Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the bracket.

The word 'manned space probe' in the line 'communication with our manned space probe \_\_\_\_ indicates \_\_\_\_ (an aeroplane with passengers/a spacecraft with astronauts).

c) What does Think-Tank want to do?

d) Fill in the blank with ONE word only.

Think-Tank is a \_\_\_\_\_ of the Martian team.

**Q7. Read the following poetic extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)**

(a) "If this be error and upon me proved, I never writ, nor no man ever loved."

(i) Who is the poet?

(ii) What does the poet mean by "If this be error"?

(iii) What quality of true love is emphasised here?

(iv) Explain the hyperbole in the second line.

(v) State one moral the poem conveys.

**OR**

(b) "He hears the last voice at night, The patrolling cars, And stares with his brilliant eyes At the brilliant stars."

(i) Name the poem and the poet.

(ii) Where is "he" and what does he do at night?

(iii) What does the repetition of the word "brilliant" suggest?

(iv) What is the central idea of the poem?

(v) Find one example of alliteration.

**Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions in 40–50 words each. (12 Marks)**

- i. Family played a vital role in the first flight of the young seagull. Give examples to substantiate the above statement. (Two Stories about Flying-I: His First Flight)
- ii. Why did Pranjol not share Rajvir's excitement at seeing the tea gardens? (Glimpses of India-III: Tea from Assam)
- iii. What stopped Valli from going to the stall to have a drink? What do we learn about Valli from this? (Madam Rides the Bus)
- iv. How would the tiger behave in the forest? (A Tiger in the Zoo)
- v. What is the colour of the woman's hair? Why will she change the colour of her hair? (For Anne Gregory)

**Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40–50 words each. (6 Marks)**

- i. The story, A Triumph of Surgery is a powerful example of the importance of saying "no". Explain.

- ii. How does education play a transformative role in Bholi's life?
- iii. The various elements of Robert Arthur's writing style work together to create a sense of tension, uncertainty, and suspense, well-suited to the mystery and suspense genre of the story, The Midnight Visitor. Comment, with reference to any one element

**Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

(A) Amanda and Anne Frank both are teenage girls: whereas, Amanda chooses to be silent and remains lost in her own world, Anne Frank talks her way through every school day without fail and even gets punished for it. They both show the opposite sides of teenage behaviour. Do you agree? Support your answer with evidence from the poem 'Amanda!' and the chapter 'From the Diary of Anne Frank'.

**OR**

(B) Read the given quote by Buddha from 'The Sermon at Benares': "Death is an indispensable truth of life. It comes to one and all." Prepare a speech with reference to the given quote and compare it with Amanda's desire to wish for an orphan's life. How does the Buddha differ in his perspective about death from Amanda? The Sermon at Benaras and Amanda!

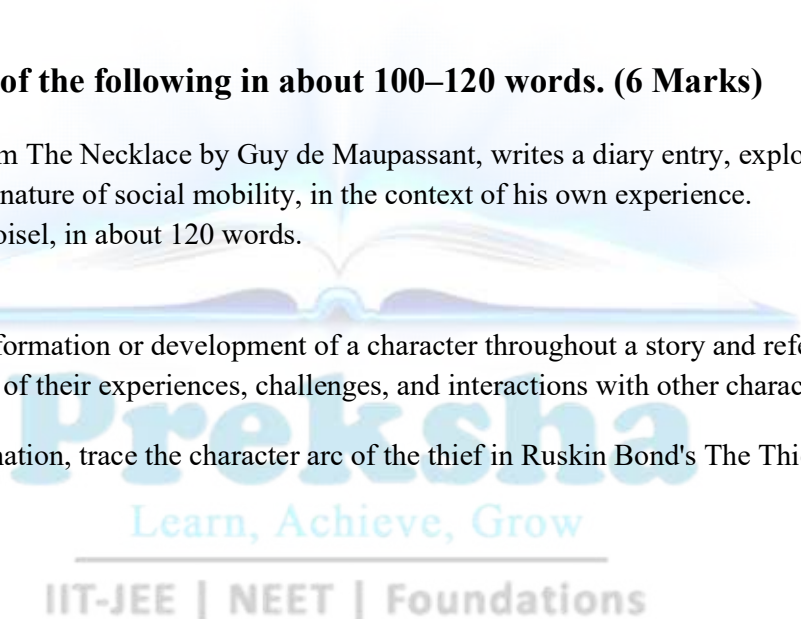
**Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

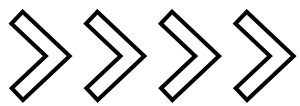
(a) Imagine that M. Loisel, from The Necklace by Guy de Maupassant, writes a diary entry, exploring the theme of class and social status, and the nature of social mobility, in the context of his own experience. Write this diary entry, as M. Loisel, in about 120 words.

**OR**

(b) A character arc is the transformation or development of a character throughout a story and refers to the changes a character undergoes as a result of their experiences, challenges, and interactions with other characters.

In the light of the above information, trace the character arc of the thief in Ruskin Bond's The Thief's Story, in about 120 words.





# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Dear Students and Parents,

A Warm Welcome to Preksha Institute!

I am delighted to introduce Preksha Institute, a premier coaching institute in India, dedicated to empowering young minds to achieve their dreams!

As the Managing Director, I assure you that our institution is committed to providing a transformative educational experience that fosters academic excellence, creativity, and character development.

Our vision is to become the most trusted and respected coaching institute in the region, known for producing confident, knowledgeable, and successful individuals.

At Preksha Institute, we offer:

- Expert faculty with proven track records
- Comprehensive study materials and resources
- Personalized attention and guidance
- State-of-the-art infrastructure and facilities

Our programs include:

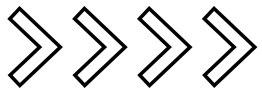
IIT-JEE/NEET/NDA/Olympiads/Boards (CBSE/ICSE/State Boards)

To our students, I pledge that we will provide a supportive and inclusive environment that encourages you to push beyond your limits and achieve your goals.

To our parents, I assure you that we will work in partnership with you to ensure your child receives the best possible education and support. Let's join hands to shape the future of our young generation!

Rajat Saini  
Managing Director, Preksha Institute





## LEADERSHIP TALKS & STUDENT SEMINARS

At Preksha Institute, learning goes beyond classrooms and textbooks. Our Managing Director regularly conducts motivational and guidance seminars for students and parents, helping them gain clarity, confidence, and direction in their academic journey.

These seminars are designed to inspire students preparing for IIT-JEE, NEET, NDA, Sainik School, JNV, RMS, RIMC, and Olympiads, while also guiding parents on how to support their children effectively during competitive exam preparation.



Seminars led by the Managing Director, Preksha Institute

## Class X – English Language and Literature

Session: 2025–26

Sample Question Paper – 7

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

### General Instructions:

1. Read the instructions carefully.
2. The question paper consists of **11 questions** divided into three sections:
  - a. **Section A – Reading Skills (20 Marks)**
  - b. **Section B – Grammar & Creative Writing Skills (20 Marks)**
  - c. **Section C – Literature (40 Marks)**
3. Attempt all questions.

### SECTION – A: READING SKILLS (20 Marks)

#### Q1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (10 Marks)

1. Remote, icy and mostly pristine, Greenland plays an outsized role in the daily weather experienced by billions of people and in the climate changes taking shape all over the planet. Think of Greenland as an open refrigerator door or thermostat for a warming world, and it's in a region that is warming four times faster than the rest of the globe, said New York University climate scientist David Holland.
2. Locked inside are valuable rare earth minerals needed for telecommunications, as well as uranium, billions of untapped barrels of oil and a vast supply of natural gas that used to be inaccessible but is becoming less so. Many of the same minerals are currently being supplied mostly by an Asian country, so other countries are interested. But more than the oil, gas or minerals, there's ice — a "ridiculous" amount, said climate scientist Eric Rignot. If that ice melts, it would reshape coastlines across the globe and potentially shift weather patterns in a dramatic manner. Greenland holds enough ice that if it all melts, the world's seas would rise by 24 feet
3. Since 1992, Greenland has lost about 182 billion tons of ice each year, with losses hitting 489 billion tons a year in 2019. Greenland will be 'a key focus point' through the 21st century because of the effect its melting ice sheet will have on sea levels, said Mark Serreze, director of the National Snow and Ice Data Center. "It will likely become a bigger contributor in the future." That impact is perhaps unstoppable. Greenland is also changing colour as it melts from the white of ice, which reflects sunlight, heat and energy away from the planet, to the blue and green of the ocean and land, which absorb much more energy.
4. Greenland also serves as the engine and on/off switch for a key ocean current that influences Earth's climate in many ways, including hurricane and winter storm activity. It's called the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation, or AMOC, and it's slowing down because more fresh water is being dumped into the ocean by melting ice in Greenland. A shutdown of the AMOC conveyor belt is a much-feared climate tipping point that could plunge Europe and parts of North America into prolonged freezes. "If this global current system were to slow substantially or even collapse altogether — as we know it has done in the past — normal temperature and precipitation patterns around the globe would change drastically," said climate scientist Jennifer Francis of the Woodwell Climate Research Center.

“Agriculture would be derailed, ecosystems would crash, and ‘normal’ weather would be a thing of the past.”

5. None of that takes into consideration the unique look of the ice-covered island that has some of the Earth’s oldest rocks. “I see it as insanely beautiful. It’s eye-watering to be there,” said Holland, who has conducted research on the ice more than 30 times since 2007. “Pieces of ice the size of the Empire State Building are just crumbling off cliffs and crashing into the ocean. And also, the beautiful wildlife, all the seals and the killer whales. It’s just breathtaking.”

**Answer the following:**

- i. Why is Greenland referred to as ‘an open refrigerator door or thermostat for a warming world’?
  - a. It controls global temperatures directly like a thermostat.
  - b. It is warming at the same rate as the rest of the globe.
  - c. It plays a critical role in influencing global weather and climate patterns.
  - d. It experiences warming but has limited influence on global weather patterns.
- ii. Complete the following with the correct option from those given in the brackets.  
In the line 'Greenland plays an outsized role...', the word 'outsized' indicates \_\_\_\_ (an unusually large impact or importance / a role that exceeds expectations or norms / a disproportionate influence compared to its size).
- iii. Give two reasons why ‘other countries’ might be interested in Greenland’s rare earth minerals and resources. Answer in 30-40 words.
- iv. What does Eric Rignot mean by ‘ridiculous’ in the phrase ‘a ridiculous amount’?  
Select the correct option to complete the answer.  
It means that the ice is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. unnecessary and excessive
  - b. vast and overwhelming in quantity.
  - c. beyond what scientists can measure.
  - d. challenging to fully comprehend.
- v. Complete the following with the appropriate option  
The phrase 'Locked inside' brings up the imagery of a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. vault, emphasising security and value
  - b. box, symbolising concealment and mystery.
  - c. room, highlighting stored abundance.
  - d. warehouse, showcasing accessibility and volume.
- vi. What would be the most suitable title for paragraph 3?
  - a. Greenland’s Changing Climate and Ecosystem
  - b. The Rising Sea Levels and Climate Impact of Greenland
  - c. Greenland’s Ice Melt: A Threat to Global Energy Balance
  - d. Greenland’s Melting Ice: A Growing Concern for the 21st Century
- vii. Which phrase from paragraph 4 bears evidence to the fact that Greenland plays a critical role in controlling the AMOC?
- viii. Fill in the blank by choosing the appropriate option from those given in the brackets. Paragraph 4 includes a \_\_\_\_\_ (viewpoint / warning / speculation) by Jennifer Francis.
- ix. Why does Holland describe Greenland as ‘eye-watering’? Answer in 30-40 words

## Q2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

### FAIRS

#### NAGOUR FAIR – 2025

3 – 6 Feb

The Nagaur Fair is the second biggest fair in India. Held every year between the months of January and February, it is popularly known as the Cattle Fair of Nagaur as this is where owners gather to trade animals. Approximately 70,000 bullocks, camels and horses are traded every year at this fair. The animals are lavishly decorated and even their owners dress up with colourful turbans. Besides cattle, sheep, horses and even spices are traded. Other attractions include the Mirchi Bazaar (largest red chilli market of India).

### FESTIVALS

#### ABHANERI FESTIVAL – 2025

26 – 27 Sep

‘Abhaneri festival’ is named after the village Abhaneri in the Dausa district which is around 90 km from Jaipur on the Agra road. This two-day festival has gained immense popularity amongst the tourists around the globe. It commences with various Rajasthani & local folk performances like Kachhi Ghodi, Kalbeliya, Ghoomar, and Bhawai. The village of Abhaneri was originally named Abha Nagri, meaning ‘city of brightness’. The place is popular for the Chand Baori-step well, one of the largest step wells built over a thousand years ago.

Answer the following, based on your reading of the above information.

- i. Why is the tag 'A Hub for Livestock Trading' suitable for the Nagaur fair instead of 'Colourful Celebrations'?
- ii. Complete the following with the correct option.  
The Nagaur Fair is held \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) quarterly      (b) once in two years      (c) annually      (d) twice in a year
- iii. State which of the following is True.
  - a. Chand Baori is referred to as 'Abha Nagri'.
  - b. Chand Baori is a recent construction.
  - c. Chand Baori is an ancient stepwell.
- iv. What does the writer wish to convey by stating that the Abhaneri Festival 'has gained immense popularity among tourists'?
- v. What might be the most likely reason for the lavish decorations of animals at the Nagaur Fair?
  - a. To celebrate the cultural heritage of Rajasthan.
  - b. To attract buyers and showcase the animals for trading.
  - c. To compete for the best-decorated animal.
  - d. To honour the animals as part of a religious ritual.
- vi. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option from those given in the brackets.  
The Mirchi Bazaar is most likely an attraction at the Nagaur Fair because it provides a platform for \_\_\_\_  
(tourists and organisers / farmers and traders) to display an essential spice.

- vii. If the Nagaur Fair highlights trading as its primary focus, what does the Abhaneri Festival most likely focus on?
- Promoting local agriculture
  - Encouraging community interaction
  - Celebrating historical heritage
  - Showcasing regional culture
- viii. What might be the most likely reason why the Nagaur Fair spans across four days while the Abhaneri Festival ends in two days?

## SECTION – B: GRAMMAR & CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (20 Marks)

### Q3. Grammar

- i. Therapeutic gardens are a public health measure and key to Singapore's aim of (i) \_\_\_\_\_ (become/ becoming/ will becoming) one of the world's top wellness destinations. In a tourism sense, wellness often (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (had referred / refers / referring) merely to spa treatments but Singapore's approach is more scientific. Singapore now (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ (have view/ has viewed / views) Therapeutic gardens as a forward-thinking tourism strategy. **(3 Marks)**
- ii. In the following paragraph, one word has been omitted in each line. In your answer sheets, remember to write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, as shown below. The first one has been done as an example **(4X1=4 Marks)**

| S No. | Text                                                | Word Before | Omission | Word After |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|------------|
| e.g.  | The environment is most precious resource.          | is          | our      | most       |
| i     | We reduce waste, conserve energy, and plant         |             |          |            |
| ii    | more trees to combat pollution. This planet is only |             |          |            |
| iii   | home we have. Each action, big or small, make a     |             |          |            |
| iv    | significant difference. We act now to safeguard     |             |          |            |

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ations

- iii. **Do as directed.**

**(A)** Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence. (1 Marks)

**RAVI:** Priya! Tell me about Orissa. I've always been curious about your state's culture and traditions.

**PRIYA:** (i) for our / in the eastern / is a beautiful / state / temple architecture/ rich heritage, part of India / and we are known / vibrant festivals / Orissa / and exquisite

**(B)** Report the conversation given below by filling in the blanks to complete the following paragraph. (2 Marks)

**Aanya:** Hey, Rohan! Did you hear about the new discovery in space announcement yesterday?

**Rohan:** I heard about finding a planet with water vapour in its atmosphere!

Anya asked Rohan (i) \_\_\_\_\_. Rohan exclaimed (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ in its atmosphere. Then, Anya added that the new planet was in the 'habitable zone' with life-supporting conditions.

#### Q4. Letter Writing (5 Marks)

Write an application, in not more than 50 words, requesting permission to use the school transport to attend a tree plantation volunteering event. You are Lakshit Pandey, Class X-C, Vice-President, Ecology Club.

OR

You are **Meera Sharma**, resident of 82, Civil Lines, Kanpur. You are disturbed by the increasing littering and lack of dustbins in your locality. Write a letter to the Editor of *The City Times* complaining about the problem and suggesting practical measures. (100–120 words)

#### Q5. Analytical Paragraph (5 Marks)

Study the chart given below showing **preferred leisure activities of Class 10 students (2025)** and write an analytical paragraph in 100–120 words.

| Activity                      | Percentage |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Watching Reels / Short Videos | 40 %       |
| Reading Books / Comics        | 15 %       |
| Playing Outdoor Games         | 25 %       |
| Listening to Music            | 12 %       |
| Volunteering / Community Work | 8 %        |

Analyse the trends, reasons, and implications for student well-being.

### SECTION – C: LITERATURE (40 Marks)

#### Q6. Read the following poem extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)

(a) “Some say the world will end in fire,  
Some say in ice.  
From what I’ve tasted of desire,  
I hold with those who favor fire.”

- (i) Name the poem and the poet.
- (ii) What does ‘fire’ symbolise in the poem?
- (iii) What does the poet mean by “I hold with those”?
- (iv) What universal truth does the poem express?
- (v) Identify the rhyme scheme.

**OR**

**(b)** “The fog comes  
on little cat feet.  
It sits looking  
over harbor and city.”

- (i) Identify the poetic device used in “on little cat feet.”
- (ii) What image of the fog does the poet create?
- (iii) How does the fog behave like a cat?
- (iv) Who is the poet?
- (v) What feeling is conveyed through this imagery?

**Q7. Read the given extracts and answer ANY ONE set of questions. (5 Marks)**

**(a)**

“The young seagull uttered a joyful scream. He soared gradually downwards and up into the sky, calling shrilly. His parents circled around him with loud cries.”

- (i) What prompted the young seagull to finally take flight?
- (ii) How do his parents react to his success?
- (iii) What emotion dominates this scene?
- (iv) Mention one theme highlighted through this event.
- (v) Find a synonym of “screamed loudly” from the extract.

**OR**

**(b)**

“They seemed to think they had been through something tremendous, that’s why they made such a fuss about it.”

- (i) Who are “they”?
- (ii) What had they been through?
- (iii) What kind of tone does the speaker use—admiring or mocking?
- (iv) Name the lesson this line is taken from.
- (v) What human trait is being ridiculed here?

**Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following in 40–50 words each. (12 Marks)**

- i. What is the central theme of *A Letter to God*?
- ii. How did Mandela’s perception of freedom change over time?
- iii. How did Valli’s journey in *Madam Rides the Bus* teach her about maturity?
- iv. What did Anne Frank mean by “paper has more patience than people”?
- v. How does *The Hack Driver* show the theme of deception and innocence?

**Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40–50 words each. (6 Marks)**

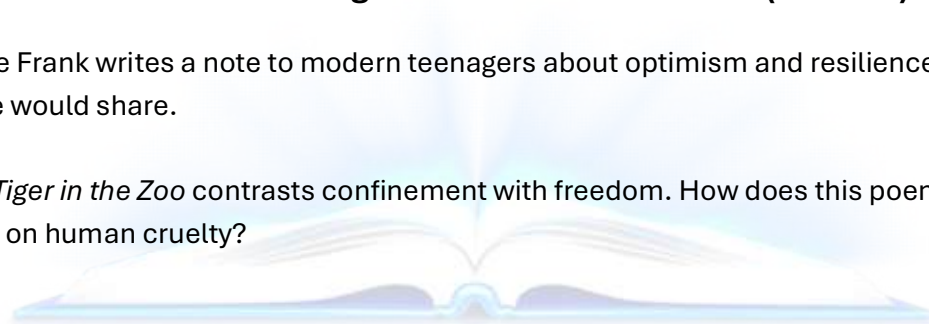
- i. How does *The Thief's Story* show that trust can reform a person?
- ii. What does the title *A Triumph of Surgery* suggest about the story's theme?
- iii. How does *The Book That Saved the Earth* criticise overdependence on technology?

**Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- i. Compare how courage is portrayed in *Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom* and *His First Flight*.  
**OR**
- ii. "Empathy and compassion make the world a better place." Discuss this idea through the story *A Triumph of Surgery*.

**Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- i. Imagine Anne Frank writes a note to modern teenagers about optimism and resilience. Write the message she would share.  
**OR**
- ii. The poem *A Tiger in the Zoo* contrasts confinement with freedom. How does this poem serve as a commentary on human cruelty?



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## Class X – English Language and Literature

Session: 2025–26

Sample Question Paper – 8

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

### General Instructions:

1. Read the instructions carefully.
2. The paper consists of **11 questions** divided into **three sections**:
  - a. **Section A – Reading Skills (20 Marks)**
  - b. **Section B – Grammar & Creative Writing Skills (20 Marks)**
  - c. **Section C – Literature (40 Marks)**
3. Attempt questions according to the instructions in each part.

### SECTION – A: READING SKILLS (20 Marks)

#### Q1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

1. The growing appeal of mindful living is gaining traction across the globe, offering a refreshing contrast to the fast-paced, often overwhelming demands of modern life. This practice encourages individuals to pay deliberate attention to the present moment, observing their thoughts, feelings, and surroundings without judgment. It represents a conscious choice to cultivate inner peace and a deeper connection with one's experiences, leading to improved well-being.
2. Central to mindfulness is the concept of non-judgmental awareness. Rather than getting caught up in worries about the past or anxieties about the future, mindful living teaches one to simply observe what is happening right now. This includes noticing sensations, emotions, and external stimuli without labeling them as 'good' or 'bad.' Such a practice helps individuals to react more thoughtfully rather than impulsively.
3. Furthermore, regular mindfulness practice offers a wealth of mental and physical health benefits. Studies indicate it can significantly reduce stress and anxiety levels by calming the nervous system. It often leads to improved focus and concentration, making daily tasks more manageable and productive. For many, it also enhances sleep quality and contributes to better emotional regulation, fostering a more positive outlook on life.
4. Integrating mindfulness into daily routines doesn't require drastic changes; even small practices can be impactful. Simple exercises like mindful breathing, where one focuses on the sensation of breath, or taking a few minutes to mindfully eat a meal, can be highly effective. Engaging in mindful walking, noticing each step and sensory detail, helps bring awareness to mundane activities, transforming them into opportunities for presence.
5. Cultivating a mindful approach to life can greatly enhance personal relationships. By being fully present during conversations, individuals can listen more attentively and communicate more effectively, fostering deeper connections. Mindfulness reduces reactivity, allowing for more

compassionate responses during conflicts and promoting understanding. It encourages patience and a greater appreciation for others.

6. Ultimately, embracing mindful living provides a powerful antidote to the distractions and pressures of contemporary society. It empowers individuals to regain control over their internal experiences, fostering resilience and a profound sense of calm. This deliberate way of being not only enriches personal lives but also contributes to a more compassionate and understanding collective human experience, building a foundation for greater well-being.

**Answer the following questions:**

- i. Why is the growing appeal of mindful living gaining 'traction' across the globe in paragraph 1?
- ii. According to paragraph 1, mindful living encourages individuals to do all of the following EXCEPT: (A) pay deliberate attention to the present  
(B) observe thoughts and feelings without judgment  
(C) cultivate inner peace  
(D) react impulsively to situations
- iii. Complete the following by selecting the correct option from those given in the brackets. Mindful living teaches one to observe what is happening \_\_\_\_\_ (right now/in the future). (Paragraph 2)
- iv. Select the option that is True from (A)-(C) given for what the phrase, 'wealth of mental and physical health benefits' suggests in paragraph 3.  
(A) Mindfulness provides very few health advantages.  
(B) Mindfulness offers a wide variety of positive impacts on both mind and body.  
(C) Mindfulness primarily focuses on financial gains.
- v. Complete the analogy by selecting one of the two correct options (A), (B) mindful breathing : sensation of breath :: \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ (Paragraph 4)  
(A) mindful eating: food preparation  
(B) mindful walking: each step and sensory detail
- vi. What are the various mental and physical health benefits that regular mindfulness practice offers, as mentioned in paragraph 3?
- vii. What are the main ideas of paragraph 4 and paragraph 5?  
(i) Small mindfulness practices can be impactful.  
(ii) Mindful living has no effect on personal relationships.  
(iii) Being fully present enhances communication.  
(iv) Integrating mindfulness requires drastic changes.  
(v) Mindfulness increases reactivity during conflicts.  
Select the correct option.

| Options | Main idea of paragraph 4 | Main idea of paragraph 5 |
|---------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| (A)     | ii                       | iv                       |
| (B)     | v                        | i                        |
| (C)     | iii                      | v                        |
| (D)     | i                        | iii                      |

- viii. How does embracing mindful living provide a powerful antidote to the distractions and pressures of contemporary society? (Paragraph 6)

## Q2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

1. India's healthcare sector has been growing rapidly, with an estimated market value of 27.5 lakh crore in 2022, up from 11.8 lakh crore in 2017. This growth is driven by factors such as rising income levels, expanding middle-class populations, and increased access to healthcare services. However, India's healthcare system faces several challenges, including limited access to rural healthcare, high out-of-pocket expenses, and a shortage of healthcare professionals.
2. In rural areas, where nearly 65% of India's population resides, access to quality healthcare remains a significant issue. The doctor-to-patient ratio in rural India is as low as 1 :10,000, compared to 1 :1,500 in urban areas. Additionally, over 62% of healthcare expenses are paid out of pocket by individuals, placing a substantial financial burden on households.
3. To address these issues, the Indian government has launched initiatives such as Ayushman Bharat, which aims to provide health insurance to over 50 crore individuals, covering up to 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care. The Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), part of the Ayushman Bharat scheme, is one of the largest healthcare schemes in the world.
4. Despite these efforts, the shortage of healthcare workers continues to be a major problem. As of 2022, India had only 1 doctor for every 1,445 people, below the World Health Organization's recommended ratio of 1 :1,000. The government has been investing in the expansion of medical education to produce more healthcare professionals and bridge this gap.
5. Experts believe that with continued investments in healthcare infrastructure, technology, and workforce development, India's healthcare sector could reach a market value of 40 lakh crore by 2030, providing better access to quality care for all citizens.

### Answer the following:

- i. What does the use of the phrase "growing rapidly" by the writer, in paragraph 1, suggest about India's healthcare sector?  
(A) The writer believes the healthcare sector is stagnant.  
(B) The writer is emphasizing the fast expansion of the healthcare sector.  
(C) The writer is indifferent to the growth of the healthcare sector.  
(D) The writer believes the healthcare sector is shrinking.
- ii. Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below :  
**Assertion :** India's rural population faces significant healthcare challenges.  
**Reason :** Rural areas in India have a much lower doctor-to-patient ratio compared to urban areas.  
(A) Both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.  
(B) Both the assertion and 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. Identify the percentage of healthcare expenses paid out of pocket by individuals in India, as mentioned in the passage.
- iv. According to the passage, what are two major government initiatives aimed at improving healthcare access in India?
- v. Read the given prompt and select the correct option in the brackets to fill in the blank: The Ayushman Bharat scheme aims to provide health insurance coverage for millions of Indian citizens, reducing their

out-of-pocket healthcare expenses. Ayushman Bharat covers up to (1 lakh / 3 lakh / 5 lakh) per family per year for secondary and tertiary care.

- vi. What are some of the strategies mentioned in the passage that the Indian government is using to address healthcare challenges?
- vii. Complete the sentence suitably.  
The shortage of healthcare workers remains a critical issue in India, with only \_\_\_\_\_
- viii. Complete the following with a suitable reason :  
Experts believe that continued investment in healthcare infrastructure is necessary because \_\_\_\_\_
- ix. In the context of paragraph 5, why is investing in healthcare workforce development crucial for the future of India's healthcare system?

## SECTION – B: GRAMMAR & CREATIVE WRITING (20 Marks)

### Q3. Grammar (10 Marks)

Attempt ANY TEN out of TWELVE questions. Each carries 1 mark.

- i. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence. If only he \_\_\_\_\_ us truth in the first place, things would not have gone wrong.  
(A) has told (B) would have told (C) had told (D) should have told
- ii. Read the conversation between Prateek and Raghav. and complete the narration that follows. **Prateek:** I don't feel well today.  
**Raghav:** What can I help you, Sir?  
**Prateek:** Can you take me to the doctor?  
**Raghav:** Yes, Sir.  
Prateek told Raghav that he did not feel well that day. Raghav asked respectfully what he could help him. Prateek asked Raghav \_\_\_\_\_. Prateek replied in the affirmative.
- iii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line. If I dyed my hair green, everybody \_\_\_\_\_ laugh at me.  
(A) would (B) should (C) may (D) can
- iv. Select the option identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line: As far as climate change is concerned, South Asia is one of a world's most sensitive areas

| Option No. | Error  | Correction |
|------------|--------|------------|
| (A)        | change | changes    |
| (B)        | is     | was        |
| (C)        | most   | many       |
| (D)        | a      | the        |

- v. Complete the given sentence, by filling in the blank with the correct option : As he was crossing the road, a car \_\_\_\_\_ him down.  
(A) was knocking (B) had knocked (C) knocked (D) would have knocked
- vi. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket. The woman in the pool \_\_\_\_\_ (swim) well.
- vii. Report the dialogue between Mannu and Annu, by completing the narration:  
**Mannu:** Where are you going to?

**Annu:** I am going to the market. Do you want anything?

Mannu asked Annu where she was going. Annu replied that she was going to the market and she further asked \_\_\_\_.

- viii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction. I met her by chance then I gone to get some Medicine which Sister Amy used to give.

Use the given format for your response.

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

- ix. Transform the following direct speech into reported speech: I said to him, “Where have you lost the pen I brought for you yesterday ?

- x. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction. I remember my promise. I would help you in the hour of your need.

Use the given format for your response.

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

- xi. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between a teacher and a student.

**Biology Teacher :** I instructed you to draw the diagram of bacteria. Why did you submit a blank sheet?

**Sameer :** Sir, I had drawn the diagram of bacteria, but you can't see it because it is not visible to the naked eye.

The biology teacher had instructed Sameer to draw the diagram of a bacterial cell and asked him why he had submitted a blank sheet. Sameer respectfully answered that he had drawn the diagram but \_\_\_\_\_

- (A) he can't see it because it is not visible to the naked eye.  
(B) he couldn't see it because it is not visible to the naked eye.  
(C) he could see it because it is visible to the naked eye.  
(D) he could not be seen it because it is not visible to the naked eye.

- xii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction. There are a little countries in the world where the population is not growing fast.

Use the given format for your response.

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

#### Q4. Letter Writing (5 Marks)

Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner bringing the problem of insanitary conditions in your colony to his notice and request him to take urgent action in the matter. (100–120 words)

**OR**

You are Apoorva/Arpit. You bought a refrigerator from Ganesh Electronics and Electricals, Gandhi Marg, Nagpur. It does not function properly. Write a letter to the Sales Manager of the shop, complaining about the defect and asking for immediate replacement or repair, as necessary. (100–120 words)

### Q5. Paragraph (5 Marks)

Given below is a newspaper report on the state of cancer prevailing in India. You have been asked to write an analytical paragraph on 'Cancer - a silent killer'. Taking information from the clipping given below together with your own ideas, write this paragraph in about 120 words.

"In India, cities are more cancer-prone than rural areas. In the early 1990's, we expected one out of 10-15 urban Indians to get cancer in their life-time, that is every second or third family would have to face this disease. This is partly due to high levels of benzene in the air and also that the metros are exposed to high levels of pesticides in their foods. In order to check the steady growth of cancer in the country, the Government shall have to give priority to preventive action. At the same time measures to undertake improvement in facilities for the treatment of cancer shall have to be adopted."

### SECTION – C: LITERATURE (40 Marks)

#### Q6. Read the given extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)

(A) But Horace found that the flowers were hindering him in his work. He buried his face in his handkerchief. Then he heard a voice say from the doorway, "What is it? A cold or hay fever?" Before he could think, Horace said, "Hay fever," and found himself sneezing again. The voice went on, "You can cure it with a special treatment, you know, if you find out just what plant gives you the disease. I think you'd better see a doctor, if you're serious about your work. I heard you from the top of the house just now."

- State any one inference about Danby from the given context. But Horace found that the flowers were hindering him in his work.
- What effect does the conversation, as described in the lines below, have on Horace? Before he could think, Horace said, "Hay fever," and found himself sneezing again. Choose the most suitable option.  
(A) embarrasses      (B) amuses      (C) confuses      (D) comforts
- What advice did the lady give Horace regarding his hay fever? Was she really interested in his health? Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract.
- Which phrase would correctly substitute 'buried' as given in the sentence? He buried his face in his handkerchief.

OR

(B) "Our elders are often heard reminiscing nostalgically about those good old Portuguese days, the Portuguese and their famous loaves of bread. Those eaters of loaves might have vanished, but the makers are still there. We still have amongst us the mixers, the moulders and those who bake the loaves. Those age-old, time-tested furnaces still exist. The fire in the furnaces has not yet been extinguished. The thud and jingle of the traditional baker's bamboo, heralding his arrival in the morning, can still be heard in some places. Maybe the father is not alive, but the son still carries on the family profession. These bakers are, even today, known as pader in Goa. What are elders often heard reminiscing nostalgically? "

- The narrator says that the furnaces were 'time-tested' because  
(A) they had been thoroughly tested each time before being used.  
(B) they had proved the test of time and were working well.

(C) they had been tested by modern-day experts.

(D) they had the power to withstand inexperienced usage.

- ii. What does the “fire in the furnaces has not yet been extinguished” imply?
- iii. In the line “Those eaters of loaves might have vanished, but the makers are still there”, What is the tone of narrator and why? Answer in about 40 words.
- iv. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket.  
The word ‘nostalgically’ in the line “Our elders are often heard reminiscing nostalgically about those good old Portuguese days” indicates that the elders remembered the past \_\_\_\_ (fondly/critically).

**Q7. Read the following poem extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)**

**(A)**

Now he senses first responsibility  
In a world of possessions. People will take  
Balls, balls will be lost always, little boy.  
And no one buys a ball back. Money is external

- i. Complete the following suitably.  
In the given lines, the phrase ‘money is external indicates that \_\_\_\_
- ii. The poet has used a poetic device in the given lines. What effect does she wish to create by its use?  
Balls, balls will be lost always  
(A) emphasis                      (B) comparison                      (C) rhyme                      (D) humour
- iii. ‘He senses first responsibility’. What ‘responsibility’ is referred here?
- iv. “Money is external”. What does the poet mean by this expression?

**OR**

**(B)**

“The fog comes  
on little cat feet.  
It sits looking over harbour and city  
on silent haunches  
and then moves on.”

- i. The fog arrives and departs \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) by announcing its arrival                      (B) silently  
(C) loudly                      (D) Both (A) and (C)
- ii. Which image does the poet give to the fog? What are the similarities between that image and fog?  
Answer in about 40 words.
- iii. Identify the figure of speech is prominent in the poem ‘Fog’.
- iv. What is fog doing?

**Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following in about 40–50 words each. (12 Marks)**

- i. Why did the postmaster want to help Lencho? And how did he do that?

- ii. What arguments did Anne give in her essay titled 'A Chatterbox'?
- iii. What was a source of unending joy for Valli? What was her strongest desire?
- iv. What is the theme of the poem 'How to Tell Wild Animals' ?
- v. What changes can be seen in the moon during the course of the poem 'The Trees'?

**Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40–50 words each. (6 Marks)**

- i. Why was it difficult for Hari Singh to rob Anil ?
- ii. What lesson did Ebright learn when in the seventh grade he entered a country science fair?
- iii. Why did Bishamber's marriage with Bholi not take place?

**Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- i. Water must be kept on the move and made to do things; when static it is wasted and provoking." Do you think this statement was true in case of Mijbil, the otter ?
- ii. Imagine Anne Gregory grows up to be a motivational speaker. As Anne Gregory, write a short speech on the importance of loving oneself.
- iii. You may begin this way:  
Dear friends  
The importance of believing in oneself can never be overstated. It becomes most important, therefore, to love oneself. I learnt this, as a young teen, the day a poet pointed out that (continue) .....

**Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- i. Readers believe that Griffin was a man without a conscience. You have a class discussion on why our conscience plays a vital role in shaping our character. Present a summary of your views on this.
- ii. Attempt character sketch of Great and Mighty Think-Tank.

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## Class X – English Language and Literature

Session: 2025–26

Sample Question Paper – 9

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

### General Instructions:

1. Read the instructions carefully.
2. The paper consists of **11 questions** divided into **three sections**:
  - a. **Section A – Reading Skills (20 Marks)**
  - b. **Section B – Grammar & Creative Writing Skills (20 Marks)**
  - c. **Section C – Literature (40 Marks)**
3. Attempt questions according to the instructions in each part.

### SECTION – A: READING SKILLS (20 Marks)

#### Q1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

1. The fascinating history of photography, from its humble beginnings to its omnipresence today, reflects a continuous human desire to capture and preserve moments in time. What started as complex chemical processes has evolved into an instant, ubiquitous art form and communication tool. Understanding its journey reveals how this invention has profoundly impacted art, science, and our everyday perception of the world.
2. Early photographic experiments in the 19th century laid the groundwork for this revolution. Pioneers like Nicéphore Niépce and Louis Daguerre developed methods to fix images, albeit with long exposure times and fragile results. These early daguerreotypes and calotypes were groundbreaking, offering the first permanent visual records, which forever changed how historical events and personal memories could be documented and shared.
3. Over the decades, photography's technical capabilities expanded dramatically. The introduction of flexible film by George Eastman's Kodak company made cameras portable and accessible to the public, moving photography out of specialized studios. Later innovations, including color photography, instant cameras, and eventually digital sensors, democratized the medium further, allowing millions to become photographers in their own right.
4. Beyond its technical evolution, photography has wielded immense cultural and social influence. It became a powerful tool for journalism, bringing distant realities and social issues into vivid focus for mass audiences. In art, it challenged traditional painting, creating new aesthetic possibilities and abstract forms. Family photographs became cherished keepsakes, shaping personal narratives and preserving lineages across generations.
5. The digital revolution of the late 20th and early 21st centuries transformed photography once more. Digital cameras eliminated the need for film, offering instant previews and easy sharing. The integration of cameras into smartphones made photography universally accessible, leading to an explosion of

visual content on social media platforms. This shift redefined photography's role, making it integral to daily communication and self-expression.

6. Ultimately, photography is far more than a simple recording device; it is a language, a form of memory, and a powerful medium for understanding our world. Its continuous evolution reflects human ingenuity and our innate need to observe, interpret, and share. From scientific documentation to artistic expression and casual selfies, photography continues to shape how we see, remember, and connect, making every captured image a tiny piece of history

**Answer the following questions:**

- i. Why does the history of photography reflect a 'continuous human desire' in paragraph 1?
- ii. According to paragraph 1, understanding photography's journey reveals its impact on all of the following EXCEPT  
(A) art (B) science (C) our everyday perception (D) ancient chemical processes
- iii. Complete the following by selecting the correct option from those in the brackets. Early daguerreotypes and calotypes were groundbreaking, offering the first \_\_\_\_\_ (temporary/permanent) visual records. (Paragraph 2)
- iv. Select the option that is True from (A)-(C) given for what the phrase, 'democratized the medium' suggests in paragraph 3.  
(A) Photography became more exclusive and less available to the general public.  
(B) Photography became more widely accessible and usable by ordinary people.  
(C) Photography became solely limited to professional artists and scientists.
- v. Complete the analogy by selecting one of the two correct options (A), (B) 1 journalism : social issues :: \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ (Paragraph 4)  
(A) art: abstract forms  
(B) family photographs: future planning
- vi. What were the key technical innovations that expanded photography's capabilities beyond its early experiments, as mentioned in paragraph 3?
- vii. What are the main ideas of paragraph 4 and paragraph 5?  
(i) Photography had immense cultural and social influence.  
(ii) Photography had no impact on journalism.  
(iii) The digital revolution transformed photography.  
(iv) Smartphone cameras made photography less accessible.  
(v) Photography is irrelevant to self-expression

Select the correct option.

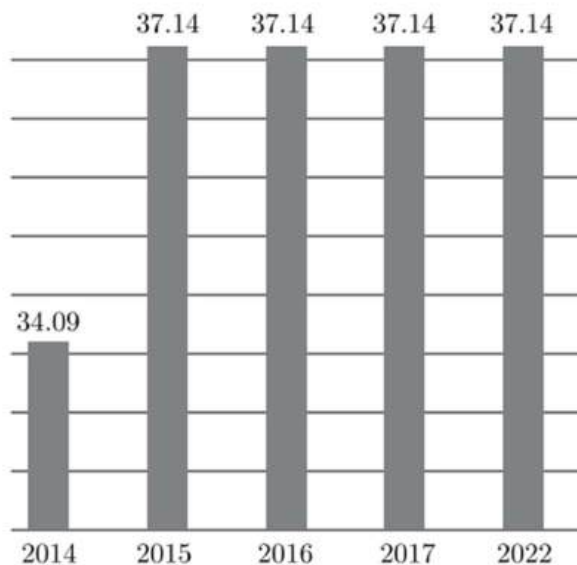
| Options | Main idea of paragraph 4 | Main idea of paragraph 5 |
|---------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| (A)     | ii                       | iv                       |
| (B)     | v                        | i                        |
| (C)     | iii                      | v                        |
| (D)     | i                        | iii                      |

- viii. How is photography described as more than a simple recording device, according to paragraph 6?

## Q2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

1. Sports and energy drinks consumed by athletes and fitness enthusiasts are beverages rich in essential components like nutrients, vitamins, and carbohydrates. These drinks provide much-needed mental and physical stimulation, an instant energy boost, and help replenish electrolytes lost during workouts. Energy drinks keep the body hydrated, which is crucial for maintaining performance. In India, consumers drink 120 billion liters of beverages, of which 4% are ready-to-drink energy drinks, available in various flavors, including organic options
2. Aggressive promotion and marketing by major brands have significantly contributed to their market growth. Celebrity endorsements, the development of consumer-oriented products such as sugar-free or customizable drinks, and the availability of products across various platforms have increased the market size. Sponsoring sporting events and teams is expected to further fuel growth.

Energy Drinks Market Revenue (USD million),  
Convenience stores, India, 2014-2022



3. The market size of Indian sports and energy drinks reached US\$ 2.4 billion in 2022. At the current growth rate, projections estimate the market to reach US\$ 5.0 billion by 2027, with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 13.27% during the 2022-2027 period.
4. Many athletes confuse energy drinks with sports drinks. Energy drinks, containing more than 10% sugar, create an insulin spike followed by an energy crash, leaving athletes fatigued and lethargic. This is not ideal for athletes who need to maintain energy and focus for peak performance.
5. The energy drinks market in India has seen steady revenue growth in convenience stores, as shown in the chart. From 2014 to 2022, the revenue increased from USD 34.09 million to USD 37.14 million.

### Answer the following:

- i. What does the use of the phrase “much-needed mental and physical stimulation” by the writer, in paragraph 1, suggest about energy drinks?  
(A) The writer believes energy drinks have no impact on mental and physical health.  
(B) The writer is emphasizing the benefits of energy drinks in enhancing mental and physical performance.

- (C) The writer feels energy drinks only affect mental performance.  
(D) The writer is indifferent to the effects of energy drinks on health.
- ii. Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below :  
**Assertion** : The energy drink market in India has grown significantly.  
**Reason** : Aggressive marketing, celebrity endorsements, and product customization have driven the growth of the energy drink market.  
(A) Both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.  
(B) Both the assertion and 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. Identify the percentage of healthcare expenses paid out of pocket by individuals in India, as mentioned in the passage.
- iv. Based on the figure, what was the revenue of the energy drinks market in Indian convenience stores in 2014?
- v. Read the given prompt and select the correct option in the brackets to fill in the blank:  
Energy drinks containing more than 10% sugar cause a rapid insulin spike, followed by an energy crash. Energy drinks, according to the passage, can leave athletes \_\_\_\_\_. (energetic/ lethargic/hydrated)
- vi. What are some of the challenges associated with consuming energy drinks for athletes, as mentioned in the passage?
- vii. Complete the sentence suitably.  
The Indian energy drink market is expected to reach US\$ 5.0 billion by 2027, showing \_\_\_\_\_.
- viii. Complete the following with a suitable reason :  
Experts believe that the continued growth of the energy drinks market is due to \_\_\_\_\_.
- ix. In the context of paragraph 4, why is it problematic for athletes to consume energy drinks?

## SECTION – B: GRAMMAR & CREATIVE WRITING (20 Marks)

### Q3. Grammar (10 Marks)

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Attempt ANY TEN out of TWELVE questions. Each carries 1 mark.

- i. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence. If only he \_\_\_\_\_ us truth  
Jasprit Bumrah \_\_\_\_\_ two wickets before rain \_\_\_\_\_ the play  
(A) took, interrupted (B) had taken, spoiled  
(C) was taking, interrupted (D) will take, disrupts
- ii. Read the conversation between Prateek and Raghav. and complete the narration that follows.  
**Mother** : Where did you go around noon?  
**Son** : I was with Ajay at his house watching a movie.  
Mother asked Rahul \_\_\_\_\_ around noon. Rahul replied that \_\_\_\_\_ with Ajay at his house watching a movie.
- iii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from a health magazine. Rue herb benefits are varied and plentiful- it \_\_\_\_\_ with nutrients like antioxidants, minerals, and vitamins that are beneficial to humans.  
(A) has many (B) is full (C) is encumbered (D) is loaded

- iv. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from an academic report.

It is quite clear that those students who are research for a Ph.D. read more articles than either junior lecturers or other students.

| Option No. | Error    | Correction  |
|------------|----------|-------------|
| (A)        | quite    | quiet       |
| (B)        | those    | these       |
| (C)        | research | researching |
| (D)        | than     | then        |

- v. Complete the given narrative, by filling in the blank with the correct option. The modern agricultural practices, excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides \_\_\_\_\_ adversely \_\_\_\_\_ the soil.

(A) has affected (B) have affected (C) has effected (D) have been effecting

- vi. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the concluding portion of a letter. It is high time that the concerned authorities should wake up to this social problem and try to rein in the rising prices so that the middle class \_\_\_\_\_ (do) suffer.

- vii. Report the dialogue between Mannu and Annu, by completing the narration:

**Manorama** : Where are you going to?

**Anu** : I am going to the market. Do you want anything?

Manorama asked Anu \_\_\_\_\_. Anu replied that she was going to the market and further asked \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) where she was going, if/whether she wanted anything.  
 (B) where was she going, if/whether she wanted anything.  
 (C) where was she going? if/whether she had wanted anything.  
 (D) where was she going, if/whether she had wanted anything.

- viii. Identify the error in the given sentence, from a newspaper report and supply the correction.

There have also been several films, television and theatrical productions, and even an opera, based over the novel.

Use the given format for your response.

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

- ix. Faiz shared some information with Tariq about his long holiday. Report Tariq's question.

Tariq : \_\_\_\_\_?

Friend : I have been travelling for a month so, I am tired.

- x. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

The company couldn't be able to sell as many products if they don't find the right marketing professionals quickly

Use the given format for your response.

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

- xi. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between a teacher and a student.

**Children** : We all pledge to save our trees because they are the lungs of the city.

**Teacher** : Let us start today by planting a sapling each.

The children pledged to save trees as \_\_\_\_ Then the teacher said that \_\_\_\_.

xii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

This colon will last the entire day. Available @ 15% off!

Use the given format for your response.

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

#### Q4. Letter Writing (5 Marks)

Your grandfather is very upset about the rising prices and keeps thinking of his olden times when things were very cheap. You are convinced that inflation has made life difficult for common man. Write a letter in about 120 words to the Editor of a national daily describing the difficulties faced by poor families. You are Prabhat/Prerna of 679, Lajpat Nagar-I, New Delhi.



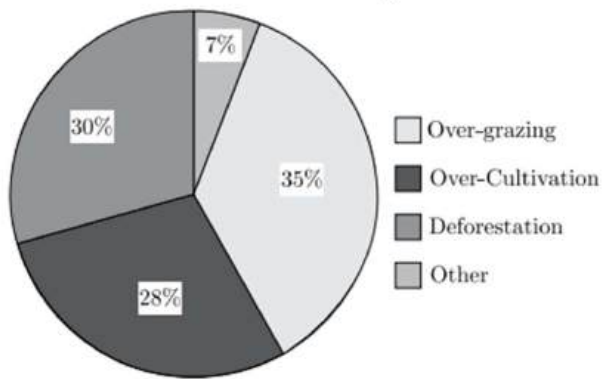
OR

Write a letter to a national daily, expressing your opinion and views on the increased human dependence on technology. Right from a small child to an adult, or even an old man, everyone wants gadgets only—cell phone, I-pod, laptop, etc. This also has a negative effect on social relationships. Using your own ideas write the letter in about 120 words. You are Sambhav/Sunayna of 230, Lajpat Nagar-II, New Delhi.

#### Q5. Paragraph (5 Marks)

The pie chart below shows the main reasons why agricultural land becomes less productive. The table shows how these causes affected three regions of the world during the 1990's. On the basis of the pie chart, write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words on 'Causes of Worldwide Land Degradation'

Causes of Worldwide Land degradation



## SECTION – C: LITERATURE (40 Marks)

### Q6. Read the given extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)

(A) Our entire class is quaking in its boots. The reason, of course, is the forthcoming meeting in which the teachers decide who'll move up to the next form and who'll be kept back. Half the class is making bets. G.N. and I laugh ourselves silly at the two boys behind us, C.N. and Jacques, who have staked their entire holiday savings on their bet. From morning to night, it's "You're going to pass", "No, I'm not", "Yes, you are", "No, I'm not". Even G.'s pleading glances and my angry outbursts can't calm them down. If you ask me, there are so many dummies that about a quarter of the class should be kept back, but teachers are the most unpredictable creatures on earth. State any one inference about Danby from the given context. But Horace found that the flowers were hindering him in his work.

- Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket.  
The word 'quaking' in the line "Our entire class is quaking in its boots." indicates that the class was feeling \_\_\_\_ (nervous/excited) about the forthcoming meeting
- Anne says that there were so many dummies in the class that about a quarter of them shouldn't be promoted. Is she being rude or brutally honest? Evaluate in about 40 words.
- What effect does the upcoming meeting, as described in the lines below, have on the class? Our entire class is quaking in its boots. The reason, of course, is the forthcoming meeting in which the teachers decide who'll move up to the next form and who'll be kept back.  
Choose the most suitable option  
(A) excites                      (B) frightens                      (C) amuses                      (D) reassures
- Which emotion is portrayed in the expression 'quaking in their boots'?

**OR**

(B) She was not convinced. 'No', she replied, "there is nothing more humiliating than to have a shabby air in the midst of rich women." Then her husband cried out, "How stupid we are! Go and find your friend Madame Forestier and ask her to lend you her jewels." She uttered a cry of joy. 'It is true!' she said. "I had not thought of that."

- Why did she need the jewels?  
(A) To go to a party of rich people

- (B) For a photoshoot
- (C) To get a replica made
- (D) For wearing them at home
- ii. What did Matilda's husband suggest her?
- iii. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket.  
The word 'humiliating' in the line "there is nothing more humiliating than to have a shabby air in the midst of rich women" indicates that the woman felt \_\_\_\_ (ashamed/confident) about her appearance.
- iv. What kind of a person is Mme Loisel and why is she always unhappy? Answer in about 40 words.

**Q7. Read the following poem extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)**

**(A)** "Ink trickled down to the bottom of the household, And little mouse Blink strategically mouseholed. But up jumped Custard, snorting like an engine, Clashed his tail like irons in a dungeon, With a clatter and a clank and a jangling squirm, He went at the pirate like a robin at a worm." Complete the following suitably.

- i. Fill the blank with ONE word  
The outcome of the clash between Custard and the pirate was that the \_\_\_\_ was gobbled up by Custard.
- ii. What is the significance of the use of the words - 'trickled down' and 'mouseholed' to describe the reactions of Belinda's pets and how does this word choice contribute to the overall situation in the poem? Answer in about 40 words.
- iii. Match the figures of speech with their correct definitions (in the box given below) that have been used by the poet in the given extract.

|     | Column A     |    | Column B                                                  |
|-----|--------------|----|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| (a) | alliteration | 1. | words like 'and' like' used repetitively                  |
| (b) | repetition   | 2. | repetition of the sounds 'k' and 's'                      |
| (c) | onomatopoeia | 3. | repetition of the sounds 'n' and 'el'                     |
| (d) | consonance   | 4. | use of sound words like clatter, snorting, jangling, etc. |

- (A) (A)-2, (B)-1, (C)-4, (D)-3
- (B) (A)-1, (B)-2, (C)-4, (D)-3
- (C) (A)-4, (B)-2, (C)-1, (D)-3
- (D) (A)-3, (B)-1, (C)-4, (D)-2

- iv. How did Custard the dragon react to the pirate?

**OR**

**(B)** In a world of possessions. People will take Balls, balls will be lost always, little boy. And no one buys a ball back. Money is external. He is learning, well behind his desperate eyes, The epistemology of loss, how to stand up Knowing what every man must one day know And most know many days, how to stand up

- i. Complete the following suitably.  
Money can bring just external happiness by buying us possessions but it cannot make the boy recover from his unhappiness \_\_\_\_.
- ii. What is the significance of the use of symbolism by the poet to describe loss, responsibility, and survival in the given extract and how does it contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem? Answer in about 40 words.

- iii. Complete the sentence with the appropriate option.  
If one were to choose an option that best fits the essence of the given extract, it would be \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Responsibility is self-taught.  
(B) Out of sight, out of mind  
(C) Time once lost, is forever.  
(D) Better safe, than sorry
- iv. What does the boy realize about possessions?

**Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following in about 40–50 words each. (12 Marks)**

- i. Why did the postmaster want to help Lencho? And how did he do that?  
ii. What does Valli tell the elderly man when he calls her a child?  
iii. How did Custard prove ‘the cowardly dragon’ try to be untrue?  
iv. Write the central idea of the poem ‘For Anne Gregory’  
v. How does Natalya react when she comes to know that Lomov had come to propose for her hand?

**Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40–50 words each. (6 Marks)**

- i. How did Loisel and Matilda arrange the money to buy the necklace?  
ii. How was Tricki treated in the first two days of his visit to the surgery?  
iii. Though Horace planned everything meticulously, why did he fail ?

**Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- i. Coorg and Assam both are known for plantation of Coffee and Tea respectively. Though India is known for its tea plantation yet coffee is considered to be the drink of the elite. Prepare a set of dialogues between a Coorgi and an Assamese based on the parts of the chapter ‘Glimpses of India’. You may begin like this :  
**Coorgi** : Hello, good morning! Are you from Assam, I am from Coorg.  
**Assamese** : Good morning! Yes I am from Assam, \_\_\_\_\_.  
ii. “The message conveyed in the chapter ‘Mijbil The Otter’, We should be good, and polite to our pets so that they will feel good and comfortable to live, was not followed by Belinda in the case of her pet Custard, The Dragon. If you had to use the message with reference to both the chapters how will you elaborate it? Also, how it is relevant to both.

**Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- i. “Education can change a person’s perspective towards life and takes care of all the deficiencies? Comment with reference to the chapter ‘Bholi’.  
ii. ‘Misunderstanding of Cultural differences between various races can cause confusion and conflict.’ Comment, based on the chapter ‘The Book that Saved the Earth’.

## Class X – English Language and Literature

Session: 2025–26

Sample Question Paper – 10

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

### General Instructions:

1. Read the instructions carefully.
2. The paper consists of **11 questions** divided into **three sections**:
  - a. **Section A – Reading Skills (20 Marks)**
  - b. **Section B – Grammar & Creative Writing Skills (20 Marks)**
  - c. **Section C – Literature (40 Marks)**
3. Attempt questions according to the instructions in each part.

### SECTION – A: READING SKILLS (20 Marks)

#### Q1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

1. The enduring appeal of hobbies in modern life offers individuals a vital avenue for personal growth, stress reduction, and skill development. Far from being mere pastimes, engaging in activities purely for enjoyment outside of work or study provides significant benefits for mental well-being and overall life satisfaction. Pursuing a hobby allows for creative expression and a much-needed break from daily routines.
2. Many find that hobbies provide a powerful antidote to stress. Immersing oneself in an enjoyable activity, whether it's painting, gardening, playing an instrument, or hiking, can divert attention from worries and anxieties. This focused engagement often induces a state of "flow," where time seems to disappear and the mind achieves a sense of calm and contentment. It offers a healthy way to unwind and recharge.
3. Furthermore, hobbies are excellent vehicles for developing new skills and discovering hidden talents. Learning to play a musical instrument hones dexterity and discipline. Photography improves observational skills and an understanding of composition. Cooking enhances creativity and practical knowledge. These acquired skills can boost self-confidence and may even open doors to new career paths or social opportunities, enriching one's life significantly.
4. Engaging in hobbies frequently leads to expanded social circles and stronger community ties. Many activities, such as joining a book club, a sports team, or a craft group, provide opportunities to meet like-minded individuals. Sharing a common interest creates a natural basis for friendship and collaboration, combating feelings of isolation and fostering a sense of belonging. These connections often extend beyond the hobby itself.
5. Hobbies also play a crucial role in fostering creativity and intellectual stimulation. They encourage innovative thinking as individuals experiment with new techniques, solve challenges inherent to their chosen activity, or express unique ideas. This mental exercise keeps the brain active and agile,

promoting cognitive health throughout life. It's a space where experimentation is encouraged and mistakes are part of the learning process.

6. Ultimately, embracing a hobby is an investment in one's personal happiness and overall well-being. It provides balance in life, allowing individuals to explore passions, challenge themselves, and connect with others outside of their professional or academic demands. Such dedicated pursuits not only bring joy and fulfillment but also contribute to a richer, more resilient, and more balanced individual life. The value of true leisure should not be overlooked.

**Answer the following questions:**

- i. Why does the enduring appeal of hobbies offer individuals a 'vital avenue' in paragraph 1?
- ii. According to paragraph 1, engaging in hobbies provides all of the following EXCEPT:  
 (A) personal growth (B) increased stress levels  
 (C) skill development (D) a break from daily routines
- iii. Complete the following by selecting the correct option from those given in the brackets. Immersing oneself in an enjoyable activity can divert attention from \_\_\_\_\_ (worries/ achievements). (Paragraph 2)
- iv. Select the option that is True from (A)-(C) given for what the phrase, 'hidden talents' suggests in paragraph 3.  
 (A) Skills that are already well-known to everyone.  
 (B) Abilities that one possesses but has not yet discovered or fully developed.  
 (C) Talents that are specifically related to academic subjects only
- v. Complete the analogy by selecting one of the two correct options (A), (B)  
 painting : creative expression :: \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ (Paragraph 1)  
 (A) gardening: stress reduction (B) reading: digital distraction
- vi. What are the various ways hobbies serve as excellent vehicles for developing new skills and discovering hidden talents, as explained in paragraph 3?
- vii. What are the main ideas of paragraph 4 and paragraph 5?  
 (i) Hobbies lead to expanded social circles.  
 (ii) Hobbies only promote isolation.  
 (iii) Hobbies foster creativity and intellectual stimulation.  
 (iv) Experimentation is discouraged in hobbies.  
 (v) Cognitive health is unaffected by hobbies.  
 Select the correct option.

| Options | Main idea of paragraph 4 | Main idea of paragraph 5 |
|---------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| (A)     | ii                       | iv                       |
| (B)     | v                        | i                        |
| (C)     | iii                      | v                        |
| (D)     | i                        | iii                      |

- viii. How does embracing a hobby contribute to one's personal happiness and overall wellbeing? (Paragraph 6)

## Q2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (10 Marks)

1. Obesity rates have been steadily increasing worldwide, becoming a significant public health issue. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), global obesity rates have nearly tripled since 1975. In 2023, approximately 13% of the world's adult population was classified as obese, compared to 4% in 1975.
2. Obesity is linked to numerous health complications, including heart disease, type 2 diabetes, stroke, and certain types of cancer. The condition is primarily caused by poor dietary habits, lack of physical activity, and genetic factors. The rise in consumption of processed foods high in sugars and fats, along with a more sedentary lifestyle, has greatly contributed to the obesity epidemic.
3. The economic impact of obesity is also considerable. In 2023, the estimated global cost of obesity-related health issues was \$2 trillion, equivalent to 2.8% of the global GDP. Countries with higher obesity rates often see increased healthcare expenditures and reduced workforce productivity.
4. Governments are implementing various strategies to combat obesity, including public health campaigns, promoting healthier diets, and encouraging regular physical activity. Some countries have introduced sugar taxes to reduce the consumption of sugary beverages and foods.
5. Experts predict that without effective intervention, global obesity rates could rise to 20% by 2035, further straining healthcare systems and economies

Chart : Global Obesity Rates from 1975 to 2023

| Year | Obesity Rate (%) |
|------|------------------|
| 1975 | 4%               |
| 1990 | 6%               |
| 2005 | 9%               |
| 2020 | 11%              |
| 2023 | 13%              |

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. What does the use of the phrase “significant public health issue” by the writer, in paragraph 1, tell us about the concern surrounding obesity?  
(A) The writer believes obesity is not a major concern.  
(B) The writer is emphasizing the seriousness of obesity as a global problem.  
(C) The writer is indifferent to obesity's impact.  
(D) The writer is downplaying the issue of obesity.
- ii. Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below :  
**Assertion** : Obesity is linked to several serious health complications.  
**Reason** : Obesity increases the risk of diseases like heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and certain cancers.  
(A) Both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.  
(B) Both the assertion and 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. Identify the percentage of the world's population classified as obese in 2023, according to the passage.
- iv. According to the passage, what are two major causes of the rise in obesity rates?
- v. Read the given prompt and select the correct option in the brackets to fill in the blank:  
Global obesity rates have nearly tripled since 1975, with the current percentage standing at.  
The obesity rate in 2023 is \_\_\_\_ (13% / 20% / 9%)
- vi. What are some of the strategies mentioned in the passage that governments are using to combat obesity?
- vii. Complete the sentence suitably.  
Obesity has a significant economic impact because.
- viii. Complete the following with a suitable reason :  
Experts predict that global obesity rates could rise to 20% by 2035 because \_\_\_\_
- ix. In the context of paragraph 5, why is addressing obesity critical for preventing future healthcare and economic burdens?

## SECTION – B: GRAMMAR & CREATIVE WRITING (20 Marks)

### Q3. Grammar (10 Marks)

Attempt ANY TEN out of TWELVE questions. Each carries 1 mark.

- i. The ACC \_\_\_\_ the date of examination to recruit soldiers and train them to become commissioned officers in the Indian Army.  
(A) will announce (B) has announced (C) to be announced (D) announcing
- ii. Read the conversation between Amit and Shlok. Complete the sentence by reporting Shlok's statement correctly.  
**Amit** : Are you going to Delhi today?  
**Shlok** : No, I am coming with Devendra. He will start day after tomorrow.  
Amit rang up Shlok and asked whether he was going to Delhi the following day. In response to this, Shlok replied \_\_\_\_.
- iii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from the speech of the school President.  
I \_\_\_\_ admit, the trek which we thought would be a boring and exhausting experience was one of the most enjoyable experiences we have had this term.  
(A) must (B) should (C) need (D) would
- iv. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report:  
Every inhabitant of planet Earth depend on water for their survival and their day-to-day activities.

| Option No. | Error  | Correction |
|------------|--------|------------|
| (A)        | their  | there      |
| (B)        | depend | depends    |
| (C)        | every  | each       |
| (D)        | and    | or         |

- v. Complete the given narrative, by filling in the blank with the correct option. If you move around hoping your problems \_\_\_\_, they won't.  
(A) will solve (B) will solved (C) will have solved (D) will be solved

- vi. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter:  
**Subject** : Electricity problem in the locality  
 Please \_\_\_\_ (publish) an article in your esteemed daily, so that the authorities should focus on that and take any action against the situation. So that we will be free from the current worst condition of the electricity breakdown.
- vii. Report the dialogue between Aman and a confectioner, by completing Aman's sentence: **Confectioner** : How may I help you, child?  
**Aman** : I am looking for an eggless cake for my granny's birthday.  
 The confectioner on noticing a small child Aman, asked him affectionately \_\_\_\_\_. In response to the question of the confectioner, Aman replied that he was looking for an eggless cake for his granny's birthday.
- viii. Identify the error in the given sentence, from an e-magazine report and supply the correction..  
 In the last decade, conservationists and academics have turned his attention to studying the best ways to install these natural features in the North.  
 Use the given format for your response.

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

- ix. The class teacher shared some information, with Prakriti, about the Open House. Report class teacher's question.  
 Why were your parents absent, yesterday?
- x. Read the slogan by the local counsellor of your ward. Identify the error and supply the correction. May we afford to survive without trees? Think twice.  
 Use the given format for your response.

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

- xi. Select the correct option to complete the conversation between Abhigyan and Anmol.  
**Abhigyan** : Anmol, why did you not attend the Biology class yesterday?  
**Anmol** : Actually, I was practising for my Physics test.  
 Abhigyan asked \_\_\_\_\_. Anmol replied that he had been practising for his Physics test, actually.  
 (A) Anmol why he has not attended the Biology class last day.  
 (B) Anmol that why he has not attended the Biology class last day.  
 (C) Anmol why he had not attended the Biology class last day.  
 (D) Anmol why he has not attended the Biology class yesterday.
- xii. Identify the error spotted from a local newspaper and supply the correction required : Save Wildlife  
 Its all part of an effort to find ways to protect coastal communities and make space for wildlife.  
 Use the given format for your response.

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

#### **Q4. Letter Writing (5 Marks)**

You are Arnav / Athiya, a resident of Surya Nagar Colony, Vadodara, Gujarat. You noticed that the curb on wearing masks has been lifted but even then, we, as sincere citizen need to be responsible and wear masks religiously. Write a letter to the editor of The Gujarat Times, drawing attention towards the same. Explain how such acts impact the health of the community and requesting immediate intervention and strict action against the violators.

**OR**

Whenever a child is restless, they are given to play a video on mobile phone. Children also use it as bait and they refuse to eat. In no time, your child becomes obsessed with screens. Mobile phones have become a common fad these days. Write a letter to the editor requesting to publish an article voicing your opinion and concern that the children are being physically inactive while sitting over time with a mobile phone. Assign yourself as Nidhi Kamat, Vasant Kunj Lane, Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh.

#### **Q5. Paragraph (5 Marks)**

Habits take time to develop. It doesn't happen overnight. When you find yourself engaging in an unhealthy habit, stop as quickly as possible as it leads to obesity. Analyse the given statement and write a paragraph with the help of points mentioned below

- Reinforce your new, healthy habits and be patient with yourself.
- Eat only when you're truly hungry.
- Plan meals ahead of time.

**OR**

Homelessness is not a condition unknown to children in India. Situations like natural disasters and conflicts render many homeless or force them to live in unsafe housing conditions. Living on the streets or in urban slum dwellings, lack of basic facilities and unhygienic living conditions become a way of life. In view of the above remarks, write a paragraph analysing the mentioned points given below.

- Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances
- Orphaned and Abandoned Child
- Migrant Children
- Child Labour
- Child Trafficking
- Child Suffering from Abuse

### **SECTION – C: LITERATURE (40 Marks)**

#### **Q6. Read the given extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)**

(A) "He knows that I am lost", I thought 'He's trying to help me.' He turned his aeroplane slowly to the north, in front of my Dakota, so that it would be easier for me to follow him. I was very happy to go behind the strange aeroplane like an obedient child. After half an hour the strange black aeroplane was still there in front of me in

the clouds. Now, there was only enough fuel in the old Dakota's last tank to fly for five or ten minutes more. I was starting to feel frightened again. But then he started to go down and I followed through the storm.  
(Two Stories about Flying-Black Aeroplane)

- i. What effect does the presence of the strange black aeroplane, as described in the lines below, have on the narrator? I was very happy to go behind the strange aeroplane like an obedient child. Choose the most suitable option.  
(A) reassures      (B) frightens      (C) confuses      (D) frustrates
- ii. The author says, "But then he started to go down and I followed through the storm." What happened after this? Answer in about 40 words.
- iii. Which figure of speech has been used in the given statement: "I was very happy to go behind the strange aeroplane like an obedient child"?
- iv. If this extract were to be filmed, what would be required to bring out the dramatic effect of this moment?

**OR**

**(B) NATALYA :** No you're simply joking, or making fun of me. What a surprise! We've had the land for nearly three hundred years, and then we're suddenly told that it isn't ours! Ivan Vassilevitch, I can hardly believe my own ears. These Meadows aren't worth much to me. They only come to five dessiatins, and are worth perhaps 300 roubles, but I can't stand unfairness. Say what you will, I can't stand unfairness. **LOMOV :** Hear me out, I implore you! The peasants of your father's grandfather, as I have already had the honour of explaining to you, used to make bricks for my aunt's grandmother, wishing to make them a pleasant ...

(The Proposal)

- i. Which of the facts given below is the most accurate explanation to complete the statement: Natalya told Lomov that he was simply joking or making fun of her because \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Chabukovs' land extended to Burnt Marsh which included Oxen Meadows.  
(B) he claimed that Oxen Meadows was his ancestral property.  
(C) he declared that his land extended to Burnt Marsh.  
(D) Oxen Meadows had belonged to Natalya's mother for generations.
- ii. Why were the Meadows not worth fighting or arguing over between the neighbours? Answer in about 40 words.
- iii. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket.  
The word 'unfairness' in the line "Say what you will, I can't stand unfairness." indicates that Natalya felt \_\_\_\_\_ (wronged/grateful).
- iv. On the basis of your understanding of the extract, which common character traits are exhibited by both Natalya and Lomov?

**Q7. Read the following poem extracts and answer ANY ONE set. (5 Marks)**

**(A)** "Where no bird could sit no insect hide no sun bury its feet in shadow the forest that was empty all these nights will be full of trees by morning."

(The Trees)

- i. Fill the blank with ONE word  
When the speaker rattles off her thoughts in a run-on manner, she is using this figure of speech \_\_\_\_\_.
- ii. What is the symbolism in the 'forest' and why is the forest empty?
- iii. Complete the statement with reference to the extract.  
The poet uses the trees as a symbol of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) the emancipation of women from their confinement.  
(B) the fight of people for their civil rights.  
(C) the emancipation of trees from the room.  
(D) the fight of people for their political rights
- iv. Comment on the poet's use of poetic devices in these lines.

**OR**

**(B)** "Never shall a young man, Thrown into despair By those great honey-coloured Ramparts at your my; Love you for yourself alone And not your yellow hair."

(For Anne Gregory)

- i. Complete the following suitably.  
Contextual meaning of the word 'rampart' is \_\_\_\_\_.
- ii. Why does Anne want to change the colour of her hair? Answer in about 40 words.
- iii. Choose the phrase that best represents, 'love you for yourself alone'.  
(A) one-sided love      (B) mutual love      (C) unconditional love      (D) blind love
- iv. What does the poet suggest about the young man's love in "For Anne Gregory"?

**Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following in about 40–50 words each. (12 Marks)**

- i. 'Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run.' How do you think this statement would work for the young seagull? (Two Stories About Flying)
- ii. Discuss what Frost wants to convey through the poem 'Fire and Ice'.
- iii. Valli's venture to the town brings an alarm to the parents. Elucidate. (Madam Rides the Bus)
- iv. Give the character sketch of the dragon. (The Tale of Custard the Dragon)
- v. Chubukov's attempt to appease Lomov is no strange in context with today's scenario where marriage of Indian daughters is concerned. Comment. (The Proposal)

**Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40–50 words each. (6 Marks)**

- i. Do you think Mrs Pumphrey's overindulgence would not let Tricky lead a healthy lifestyle? Give reason for your answer. (A Triumph of Surgery)
- ii. Fowler was disappointed to see Ausable. Validate the statement (The Midnight Visitor)
- iii. All might have been well, had Griffin woken up on time in the store. Elucidate the statement. (Footprints without Feet)

**Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

- i. Imagine that you met Rajvir and discussed with him more about tea plantation. Develop the conversation. (Glimpses of India)

- ii. One should understand that human beings are mortal and no one can escape death. Revelations made by Lord Buddha teach us so. Share two key opinions from what you learnt from the lesson 'The Sermon at Benares'. (The Sermon at Benares)

**Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100–120 words. (6 Marks)**

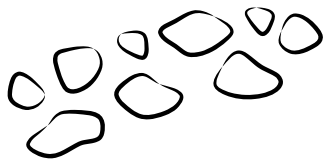
- i. Hari Singh's change of heart surprised everyone and a seasoned thief like Hari Singh was forced to change his ways. Show your acquaintance with the statement analysing the chapter 'A Question of Trust'.
- ii. Hari Singh (A Thief's Story) and the lady (A Question of Trust) in red were alike. Validate the statement by giving valid reasons.



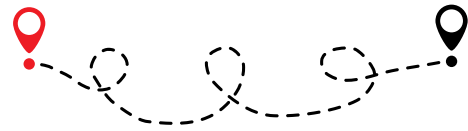
# Preksha

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# PATH



## PATH – Preksha's Talent Hunt & Entrance Examination

A Gateway to Academic Excellence

PATH (Preksha's Talent Hunt & Entrance Examination) is a prestigious scholarship cum admission test designed to identify and nurture young academic talent. Every year, thousands of students participate and compete for scholarships, fee waivers, and admission benefits.

### EXAM Pattern

- Total Questions: 60
- Total Marks: 240
- Duration: 60 Minutes
- Negative Marking: No Negative Marking
- Mode: Offline



### Who Can Apply?

- Students studying in Class 6th to 11th
- Open to students from all schools and boards
- Ideal for students aiming for academic excellence with financial support

### Scholarship Benefits

Students are awarded scholarships based on their Rank:

- Rank 1 – 100% Tuition Fee, Admission Fee & Registration Fee Waiver
- Top 2–10 Ranks – Up to 100% Tuition Fee Waiver
- Top 11–200 Ranks – Tuition Fee Waiver from 90% to 60%

### Subjects & Assessment

- Mental Ability
- Mathematics
- Science
- Logical & Analytical Thinking

(Syllabus aligned with respective class level)

### Growing Trust, Growing Participation

- 2025: 5117 students appeared
- 2024: 2000+ students appeared



*"More than an exam, PATH is a platform to recognize potential, reward merit, and shape future achievers."*

## Top 200 Scholarship Holders Up to 100% Fee Waiver



## Scholarship and Cash Price Distribution



## PATH Exam Day Glimpses



*"PATH – Preksha Talent Hunt & Entrance Examination Building Academic Excellence  
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## OLYMPIAD QUALIFIERS 2025-26



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### Class 10th Stars



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### Class 12<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Board Result 2025



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