

Marking Scheme link is given at every page.

SAMPLE PAPERS **CBSE EXAM 2025**



20 Sets

Class : 12th

Sub : English

How to see answers or marking scheme ?

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



Click above on Every page

If you are unable to click, please open this file using a PDF viewer in Google Drive.

Disclaimer: These papers are based on the SQP released by CBSE and published by a private organization just for the practice of the students. CBSE has not released these papers and CBSE is not related to these papers in any manner. Publisher of these papers clearly state that these papers are only for practice of students and questions may not be come in main exam.

SAMPLE PAPER 01

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The Thar Desert, also known as the Great Indian Desert, is a vast arid region in the northwestern part of India. It spans across the states of Rajasthan, Gujarat, and parts of Punjab and Haryana. The desert is characterized by its sandy terrain, extreme temperatures, and sparse vegetation. Despite the harsh conditions, the Thar Desert is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna, including camels, desert foxes, and several species of snakes. The survival of life in this region is a testament to the adaptability of both plants and animals to the desert's extreme environment.
2. The people living in and around the Thar Desert have also learned to adapt to the challenging conditions. The local communities depend on livestock farming and small-scale agriculture, often utilizing innovative techniques to conserve water. Traditional practices such as rainwater harvesting and the construction of stepwells have allowed people to thrive despite the limited water resources. In addition to these agricultural practices, the region has a rich cultural heritage, with vibrant festivals, music, and art that reflect the resilience of its people.
3. The monsoon season brings much-needed relief to the Thar Desert, though the rains are often unpredictable. The arrival of rain transforms the barren land, bringing a temporary burst of greenery and a brief window for agricultural activities. However, the monsoon can also lead to flash floods, which pose a threat to both the people and their livelihoods. The people of the Thar have developed unique ways to cope with these challenges, including the use of flood-resistant crops and constructing homes on higher ground.
4. The Thar Desert's ecosystem is fragile, with ongoing threats from human activity, such as overgrazing and deforestation. However, conservation efforts have been initiated to

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



protect this unique environment. Wildlife sanctuaries have been established to protect endangered species like the Great Indian Bustard, and efforts are being made to restore native vegetation. The delicate balance between human habitation and conservation in the Thar is a constant challenge, requiring sustainable solutions to ensure the survival of both the desert and its inhabitants.

5. Despite its arid conditions, the Thar Desert is a place of stunning beauty. The golden sands stretch for miles, punctuated by the occasional green oasis or ancient fort. The desert offers a unique landscape that has fascinated travelers for centuries. For those willing to brave the heat, the Thar Desert provides an experience of isolation and tranquility, where the vast open spaces create a sense of timelessness.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, how have plants and animals adapted to the extreme conditions of the Thar Desert? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the relationship between the people of the Thar Desert and their environment, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase “rainwater harvesting” in paragraph 2 refers to the practice of collecting and storing rainwater for future use.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
Rainwater harvesting is essential in the Thar Desert because _____.
(A) it ensures a steady water supply in the arid conditions
(B) it prevents flooding during the monsoon season
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
The arrival of the monsoon in the Thar Desert brings _____.
- v. Why does the writer emphasize the importance of conservation efforts in paragraph 4? 1
Because
(A) They help in maintaining the beauty of the desert.
(B) They protect endangered species and restore native vegetation.
(C) They ensure tourism continues to thrive.
(D) They encourage large-scale farming.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
Conservation efforts are being made to protect the Thar Desert and its ecosystem.
- vii. In the line, ‘The arrival of rain transforms the barren land’ (Paragraph 3), what does the word ‘transforms’ suggest about the effect of the monsoon on the desert? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 1 : 1
camels: animals :: stepwells: _____
(A) water (B) agriculture
(C) desert (D) people

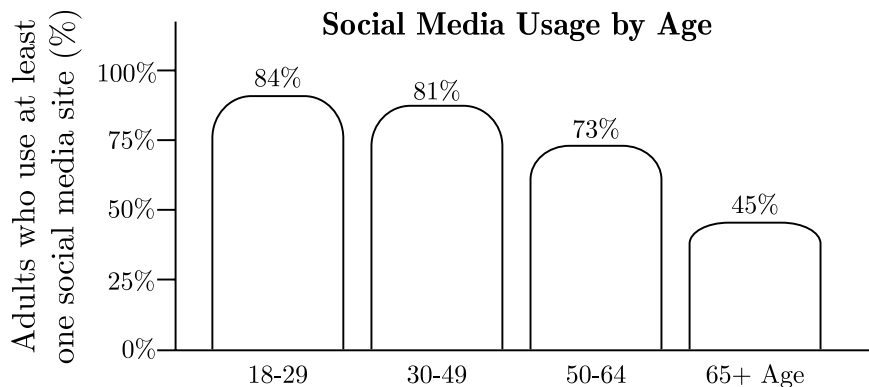


- ix.** Why is it fair to say that the statement ‘The Thar Desert provides an experience of isolation and tranquility’ in paragraph 5 uses descriptive language? 1
- (A) It highlights the isolation of the desert.
(B) It describes the harsh weather of the desert.
(C) It explains how the Thar Desert has little wildlife.
(D) It focuses on the culture of the people living there.
- x.** Assess the potential challenges or benefits of balancing conservation efforts with the needs of the local communities, as suggested in paragraph 4. 2

2. Read the following carefully. **10**

1. A recent study revealed that less than 20% of teenagers report reading a book, magazine, or newspaper daily for pleasure, while more than 80% say they use social media every day. This shift in media consumption patterns is part of a larger trend in the digital age, according to research published by the World Psychological Association.
2. Compared to previous generations, teens in the 2010s spend significantly more time online and less time with traditional media, such as books and magazines. According to the lead author of the book *yGen*, this displacement of traditional media by digital platforms has transformed how young people engage with content.
3. A study analyzed data from a nationally representative sample of approximately 50,000 eighth, tenth, and twelfth-grade students. The survey, conducted from 1976 to 2016, encompassed more than 1 million teenagers and examined their media consumption habits over time.
4. The use of digital media increased substantially from 2006 to 2016. Among twelfth-graders, internet use during leisure time doubled from one to two hours per day during that period. Similarly, the study found a 75% increase in digital media use for tenth-graders and a 68% increase for eighth-graders.
5. On average, twelfth-graders in the mid-2010s reported spending two hours a day texting, just over two hours on the internet, and under two hours on social media—a total of about six hours daily on digital media during their free time. This pattern was also reflected among younger age groups, with tenth-graders spending about five hours and eighth-graders about four hours per day on digital activities.
6. Time spent on digital media has significantly reduced the amount of time students spend on traditional media, such as print books and newspapers. In the early 1990s, 33% of tenth-graders read a newspaper almost daily. By 2016, this figure had dropped to 2%. Similarly, 60% of twelfth-graders in the late 1970s read books or magazines regularly, while only 16% did so by 2016.
7. Despite having the ability to access large amounts of information, today’s youth struggle with focusing on long-form content, which affects their ability to grasp complex issues and develop critical thinking skills. Their dependence on digital media often makes it challenging to concentrate for extended periods.





Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links the shift from traditional media to social media among teens to highlight _____.
 - ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To explore the decline in reading traditional media and the rise in digital media consumption among teenagers.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Secondary objective (B) Research outcome
(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective
 - iii. Give two points to support why the increased use of digital media among teenagers is seen as problematic. 2
 - iv. Paragraph 6 includes words – ‘traditional media’ and ‘digital media.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘traditional media’ or ‘digital media’:
Sentence 1: Twelfth-graders spend about six hours per day on digital activities, including texting and social media.
Sentence 2: In the early 1990s, a third of tenth-graders read a newspaper almost daily.
 - v. Read the following : 1
Arjun spends two hours each day texting and browsing the internet. Priya, his friend, rarely reads a book and spends about five hours on social media every day. Meanwhile, Manish, another friend, struggles to focus on complex issues due to his heavy reliance on digital platforms.
Select the option that identifies the correct digital media habits of Arjun, Priya, and Manish.
(A) Arjun – two hours texting; Priya – five hours on social media; Manish – difficulty focusing on complex issues
(B) Arjun – reading books; Priya – two hours on social media; Manish – no internet use
(C) Arjun – texting; Priya – no internet use; Manish – reading newspapers
(D) Arjun – social media; Priya – newspapers; Manish – difficulty with short texts



- vi. Why is the decline in reading traditional media considered a significant issue, even though teenagers are more informed than ever? 1
- vii. Analyse how the shift to digital media has impacted students' ability to focus and develop critical thinking skills. (Paragraph 7) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
- (A) Encourage more time spent on digital media
- (B) Promote a balance between digital and traditional media consumption
- (C) Limit social media usage to reduce screen time
- (D) Increase access to social media for younger students

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

- 3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words.** $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A. Your school is organising a Bal Mela on 'Children's Day' in the school. The primary wing of the school is going to put up various stalls in the mela. Draft a notice giving details of the mela as well as inviting the senior students to attend the same. Sign your name as Rajesh Roshan, Secretary, Cultural Society.

OR

- B. As the librarian of your school, write a notice in about 50 words informing the students of the penalty for losing or damaging the books issued to them.

- 4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words.** $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A. You are going to open a confectionery store at Sipri Road, Jhansi, and want to invite your friends and the people of your locality on its inaugural ceremony. Draft a suitable invitation in 50 words.

OR

- B. You are Anita/Rajnish. You have been invited to attend the wedding of your friend's sister during summer vacation. Respond to the invitation accepting the invitation.

- 5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words.** $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. Meera Ranjan is a resident of Kerala. She writes a letter to the editor of a local newspaper giving her strong views on the disadvantages of setting up a chemical factory in your area and makes an appeal to the central government to reconsider its decision, as it will worsen the environment of the city. Add your own ideas and write this letter in 120-150 words.

OR

- B. You saw an advertisement in a daily newspaper for the post of a Sales Executive in a reputable MNC. Write a letter with bio-data in 120-150 words to the HR Manager, Goel Sons Ltd, Vinod Nagar, Delhi, applying for the post advertised. You are Rani/Rajesh.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS

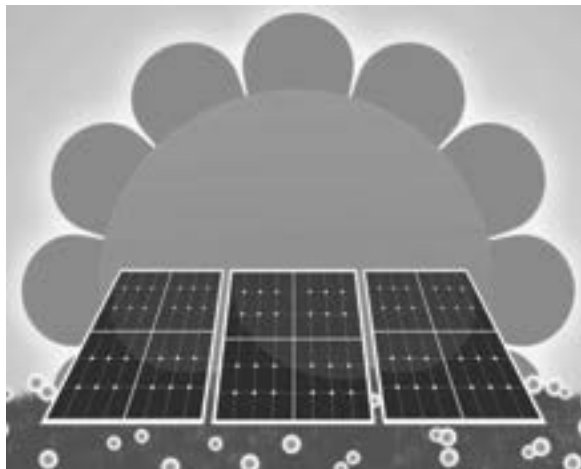
6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words.

1 × 5 = 5

- A.** Mohit Sen, the president of the youth forum of his colony, attends a seminar on rampant corruption in social and political life in India. He decides to write an article on the 'Role of Youth in Combating Corruption'. Write his article in 120-150 words.

OR

- B.** You are a TOI correspondent. Write a report in 120-150 words on the 'use of solar energy' for your newspaper.



SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A.** A thing of beauty is a joy forever
Its loveliness increases, it will never
Pass into nothingness, but
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep
Full of sweet dreams, and health and quiet
Breathing.
Therefore on every morrow are we wreathing
A flowery band to bind us to the earth:
Spite of despondence of the inhuman dearth
Of noble natures of the gloomy days
Of all the unhealthy and over darkened ways
Made for our searching.

(A Thing of Beauty)

- i.** Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?
- (A) Keats defines beauty as illusionary.
 - (B) Keats defines beauty as eternal.
 - (C) Keats defines beauty as transient.
 - (D) Keats defines beauty as short-lived.

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- ii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet believes that beauty provides eternal joy and helps us stay connected to life.
Reason : Beauty exists despite the challenges of life, but it cannot ease the despondence or gloom completely.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii. Complete the following suitably.
'will keep a bower quiet for us' means _____.
- iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The things that create _____ (unhappiness/happiness) are lack of noble nature.
- v. Based on the rhyming scheme of the poem, evident in lines 2-10, of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 1?

time

clock

clever

- vi. What does the poet say about the nature of beauty in the given lines?

OR

- B. 'Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand."

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

- i. Why does Aunt Jennifer find the needle hard to pull?
- ii. What does Aunt Jennifer want to express through the creation of the tigers?
- iii. What is the 'massive weight' a subtle reference to?
(A) Unwanted marriage
(B) The ring that makes her uncomfortable
(C) Her gold ring
(D) Suppression at the hands of her husband

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : Aunt Jennifer's struggles in life are symbolized by her difficulty in pulling the needle.
Reason : The weight of Uncle's wedding band represents the oppressive burden of her marriage, which restricts her freedom and independence.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

- v. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The ring around Aunt Jennifer's fingers indicate her _____ (status/marriage).

- vi. Complete the following suitably.
The fluttering fingers indicate the suppression and subjugation that _____.

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

$4 \times 1 = 4$

- A. "If we sheltered a white man in our house we should be arrested and if we turned him over as a prisoner, he would certainly die," Sadao said.
"The kindest thing would be to put him back into the sea," Hana said. But neither of them moved. They were staring with a curious repulsion upon the inert figure 'What is he?' Hana whispered.
"There is something about him that looks American," Sadao said. He took up the battered cap. Yes, there, almost gone, was the faint lettering. 'A sailor,' he said, "from an American warship." He spelled it out: 'US Navy.' The man was a prisoner of war!
(*The Enemy*)

- i. Why did Hana suggest putting the man back into the sea?
- ii. What conflicting ideas disturb the doctor's mind when they saw the bleeding American soldier?
(A) Patient's health and servants
(B) Duty of a doctor and the case of defamation
(C) Duty of a doctor and loyalty towards his nation
(D) Servant's behaviour
- iii. Why does Hana say 'The kindest thing would be to put him back into the sea'?
- iv. In what condition did Dr. Sadao find the American soldier at the seashore?



OR

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

(The Tiger King)

- i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The writer refers to the dreams of the Tiger King to highlight _____.
- ii. What does NOT lead to a 'fever pitch'?
- iii. Select the most suitable title for the given extract.
(A) The Selfish King
(B) On the Way of Killing a Hundred Tigers
(C) Maharaja's Determination
(D) Killing Other Creatures
- iv. 'By this time the tiger farms had run dry even in his father-in-law's kingdom.'
What does this line tell us about the Maharaja?

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A.** And in dark hutments, next to lines of flames of flickering oil lamps, sit boys and girls with their fathers and mothers, welding pieces of coloured glass into circles of bangles. Their eyes are more adjusted to the dark than to the light outside. That is why they often end up losing their eyesight before they become adults.
Savita, a young girl in a drab pink dress, sits alongside an elderly woman, soldering pieces of glass. As her hands move mechanically like the tongs of a machine, I wonder if she knows the sanctity of the bangles she helps make. It symbolizes an Indian woman's suhaag, auspiciousness in marriage. It will dawn on her suddenly one day when her head is draped with a red veil, her hands dyed red with henna, and red bangles rolled onto her wrists. She will then become a bride.

(Lost Spring)

- i. List any two details about the boys and girls of bangle making industries.
- ii. What does bangle symbolise?
(A) Indian woman's suhaag (B) Auspiciousness in marriage
(C) Both (A) and (B) (D) The tyranny of women
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
Savita sits alongside an elderly woman _____.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- iv. Pick evidence from the extract that helps one infer that Sabita, a young girl is also engaged in ancestral profession.
- v. What does 'their eyes' over here refer to?
- vi. Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract?
 - (A) The rigidity of bangle makers
 - (B) The importance of bangle makers
 - (C) The fears of bangle makers
 - (D) The miserable condition of bangle makers

OR

- B.** "Even in the matter of education, especially formal education, Subbu couldn't have had an appreciable lead over the boy. But by virtue of being born a Brahmin-a virtue indeed!-he must have had exposure to more affluent situations and people."
(Poets and Pancakes)

- i. If Subbu was not educated, what made him superior to the office boy?
- ii. Why was office boy always angry with Subbu?
 - (A) Office boy was at par with Subbu in education.
 - (B) Subbu had insulted the office boy.
 - (C) Subbu had attained No. 2 position.
 - (D) Thought Subbu to be very clever
- iii. What do you think is the office boy feeling in the extract?
- iv. Rationalise to support the given opinion.
According to the office boy being a Brahmin is a virtue.
- v. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct statement.
 - (A) Subbu was the chief make-up man.
 - (B) The narrator agrees with the office boy.
 - (C) The office boy seems to be jealous of Subbu.
 - (D) All of the above
- vi. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The narrator and the office boy highlight ____.

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

- i. Is the title of the story 'The Rattrap' justified?
- ii. Describe the symbols that have been used to relate the beauties of nature.
(A Thing of Beauty)



iii. What symbol does the poet invoke in 'Keeping Quiet' to convey the idea of life under apparent stillness?

iv. What did M. Hamel tell his students about French language? What was his suggestion to them.

(The Last Lesson)

v. What are the hazards of working in the bangle-making industry?

(Lost Spring)

vi. What was Kamala Das' fear as a child? Why does it surface when she is going to airport?

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

i. What happened to the narrator's psychiatrist friend Sam Weiner? What do you deduce from it?

(The Third Level)

ii. What qualities of Mr. Lamb drew Derry toward him?

(On the Face of It)

iii. When did the author start her journey to Antarctica and what had she to pass through?

(Journey to the end of the earth)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

A. Sophie lives in her fantasies. She hopes to make it big. You realize that the modern day youth are also like that. You decide to write an article about the need to dream and how can it prove to be harmful sometimes.

(Going Places)

OR

B. Imagine a child from the farmer's family migrates to the city for their education. As the child, write back to your family telling them whether you would or would not want to turn into a city person.

Use the context of the poem "A Roadside Stand" in mind to pen down this letter.

You may begin this way :

12, Davidson County

23 January xx

Dear mom

I have been thinking about the roadside stall lately. Now that I find myself surrounded by city-people all the time, I think.....

With love

Jennifer

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Recall the story 'We too are Human Beings' from the text 'Memories of Childhood'. Imagine that Bama stops the elderly man who was carrying the packet of vadais, and strikes up a conversation with him. She asks him a couple of questions. As the man, responds to Bama's questions. You may follow the given format and include the two questions in your conversation.

Bama : Hi sir, I noticed that you were carrying that packet in a funny manner. Why were you doing so?

Elderly man : ...

Bama : But that's terrible. How does that make you feel?

OR

- B.** Mr. Lamb had many qualities that attract Derry. Mr. Lamb has positive attitude towards life. His qualities attracted Derry towards him. What are the qualities of Mr. Lamb that drew Derry towards him? You wish to include a cameo for the above statement's explanation in your upcoming blog post.

(A short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something)

As a part of the research, discuss the statement in relation to qualities of Mr. Lamb in about 120-150 words.

(On the Face of It)

□□□□□□



SAMPLE PAPER 02

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The human brain is one of the most intricate and powerful organs in the body, containing approximately 86 billion neurons. These neurons form complex networks through which they communicate using electrical impulses. The cerebral cortex is responsible for higher cognitive functions such as memory, reasoning, and problem-solving. Meanwhile, the cerebellum coordinates voluntary movement and balance, while the brainstem controls essential functions like breathing and heart rate. Each region of the brain plays a distinct role, allowing the body to function properly.
2. The brain, despite being well-protected by the skull and cerebrospinal fluid, is still susceptible to injuries and diseases. Traumatic brain injuries (TBIs) can result from accidents, leading to anything from mild concussions to life-threatening damage. Stroke, caused by interrupted blood flow to the brain, can result in permanent impairments, depending on the area affected. Neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's further complicate the brain's health by causing gradual loss of neurons, which results in cognitive decline and motor dysfunction.
3. One of the brain's most fascinating characteristics is its plasticity, or the ability to change and adapt. Neuroplasticity refers to the brain's capacity to reorganize itself in response to new experiences, learning, or injury. For example, after a stroke, some parts of the brain can take over functions that were lost due to damage. This capacity for adaptation allows humans to learn new skills, retain memories, and recover from injuries.
4. Advances in neuroscience have been pivotal in understanding how the brain works. Techniques such as functional MRI (fMRI) and PET scans allow researchers to visualize brain activity and understand how different areas are involved in tasks like language, emotion, and movement. Additionally, researchers are exploring ways to enhance brain

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



health through diet, exercise, and mental stimulation, with the goal of preventing cognitive decline and promoting recovery after injuries.

5. As research continues, the mysteries of the brain, such as how consciousness arises or how memory is stored, remain largely unsolved. However, ongoing studies in neuroscience offer hope for developing new treatments for brain-related diseases and injuries. The future of brain research holds great promise for improving our understanding of this remarkable organ.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, what role does the cerebral cortex play in brain function? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the brain's vulnerability to injury, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "neuroplasticity" in paragraph 3 refers to the brain's ability to change and adapt.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
Neuroplasticity is important because _____.
(A) it allows the brain to recover from injury and adapt to new experiences.
(B) it prevents all neurodegenerative diseases from progressing.
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
Neuroplasticity is demonstrated when _____.
- v. Why does the writer emphasize brain imaging techniques in paragraph 4? 1
Because
(A) They allow researchers to observe brain activity in real-time.
(B) They help cure diseases like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.
(C) They provide immediate treatments for traumatic brain injuries.
(D) They make surgery safer.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
Brain imaging techniques have significantly advanced our understanding of brain functions.
- vii. In the line, 'The brain's plasticity allows it to reorganize itself' (Paragraph 3), what does the word 'reorganize' suggest about the brain's response to injury? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 1 : 1
neurons: brain :: cells: _____
(A) blood (B) muscles
(C) tissues (D) organs
- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement 'The future of brain research holds great promise' in paragraph 5 uses descriptive language? 1
(A) It highlights the potential breakthroughs in neuroscience.
(B) It explains the limitations of current brain research.

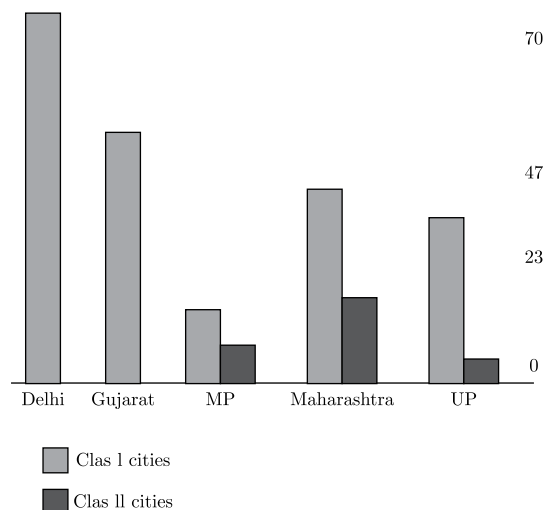


- (C) It describes the complexity of brain diseases.
 (D) It focuses on the brain's vulnerability to injury.

- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of enhancing brain health through diet, exercise, and mental stimulation, as suggested in paragraph 4. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. The Municipal Corporation of Gurugram recently admitted to the National Green Tribunal that untreated sewage mixes with treated wastewater as it flows into the Yamuna. This is not unique to Delhi, as 80% of India's surface water is estimated to be contaminated, largely from untreated sewage.
2. The onset of the monsoon worsens water contamination. Reports of water-borne diseases such as diarrhoea and cholera increase during this time as broken pipes and flooding allow sewage to mix with drinking water in cities like Delhi, Pune, Varanasi, and Chennai.
3. According to a 2009 Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report, India's major cities and towns generate more than 38 billion litres of sewage daily, yet only 30% is collected and less than 20% treated due to limited treatment capacity. The rest is discharged into water bodies untreated.
4. A forthcoming report from WaterAid India reveals that 17 million urban households lack sanitation facilities. Of those with sanitation, only 32% are connected to a sewage system. Additionally, more than 9 lakh toilets directly drain into open water bodies, and over 12% of urban households practice open defecation.
5. Many septic tanks are left uncleaned for years, causing fecal sludge to leak into groundwater. When these tanks are finally cleaned, the waste is dumped into fields and water bodies, worsening water contamination.
6. The WaterAid report details how much wastewater is left untreated in cities. Delhi treats only 61% of the 4,346 million litres of wastewater it generates. In Maharashtra, class I cities treat less than half of their total wastewater, with statistics for class II cities being far worse, as shown in the accompanying chart.



7. Despite the introduction of the National Urban Sanitation Policy (2008) and substantial government investment in sewage infrastructure, the problem has only worsened in the past five years. WaterAid recommends decentralized sewage treatment plants and public promotion campaigns to address the crisis.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links untreated sewage in urban areas with water contamination to highlight ____.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To investigate the impact of untreated sewage on water bodies in India.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Secondary objective (B) Research outcome
(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why decentralized sewage treatment is considered an important solution, based on the passage. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘sewage’ and ‘treatment capacity.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘sewage’ or ‘treatment capacity’:
Sentence 1: India’s major cities produce over 38 billion litres of wastewater every day.
Sentence 2: Limited infrastructure means only 20% of this sewage is treated.
- v. Read the following : 1
Ravi lives in Delhi, where only 61% of wastewater is treated, while Priya, who lives in Maharashtra, faces worse conditions as less than half of the wastewater in her city is treated. Arjun, in Uttar Pradesh, is impacted by untreated wastewater mixing with surface water.
Select the option that identifies the correct wastewater management issues faced by Ravi, Priya, and Arjun.
(A) Ravi – 61% treated; Priya – less than half treated; Arjun – untreated wastewater
(B) Ravi – less than half treated; Priya – 61% treated; Arjun – fully treated wastewater
(C) Ravi – fully treated wastewater; Priya – untreated wastewater; Arjun – 61% treated
(D) Ravi – untreated wastewater; Priya – fully treated; Arjun – 61% treated
- vi. Although sewage treatment infrastructure exists, why is untreated sewage still a major problem in urban areas? 1
- vii. Analyse how broken sewage systems contribute to groundwater contamination. (Paragraph 5) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Promote the use of septic tanks
(B) Increase water consumption to clean surface water
(C) Implement decentralized sewage treatment plants
(D) Encourage the construction of more dams



SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** Your school is going to organize a blood donation camp next week. Write a notice in about 50 words to invite volunteers for this camp. You are the Head Boy of Prakriti International School, Delhi.

OR

- B.** As the Principal, write a notice in about 50 words informing the prefects, monitors and other discipline in-charge students of a Leadership Training Camp being organised by the school.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** Your Father, Mr O P Agarwal, residing at C-4/116, Mission Compound, Jhansi, wants to celebrate the success of your sister Snigdha's clearing the CLAT Entrance Examination and securing admission in one of the best colleges of the country. He wants you to draft a formal invitation for him on his behalf. Draft the invitation in not more than 50 words.

OR

- B.** You are Seema Singh. The wedding of your elder brother Jivitesh Singh is going to be held on 17th December 20XX at Hotel Lake View, Udaipur. Write out an informal invitation to your friend Rohini requesting her to attend the function.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** You are Archana/Ashish living at C-16/714 Saraswati Lane, Gwalior. You came across an advertisement for the post of Trainee Accountant in S.R. Medical Labs, Gwalior. Write a letter to the advertiser applying for the job. Also give your detailed resume.

OR

- B.** You are Sunanda of 7, South Extension, New Delhi. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your concern over the rising exodus of people from neighbouring states. Express your apprehensions and give a few suggestions about the issue.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** As Shreya/Shrey, write an article on 'Junk the Junk Food' to create an awareness among children that junk food is unhealthy and unhygienic.

OR

- B.** A new indoor gymnasium has recently been constructed and inaugurated at St. John's School, Bengaluru. As a special correspondent of 'The Hindu', draft a report in 120-150 words on the gymnasium and the inauguration ceremony.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two - (A) or (B). $1 \times 6 = 6$

- A. Now we will count to twelve
And we will all keep still.
For once on the face of the Earth
Let's not speak in any language
Let's stop for one second
And not move our arms so much.

(Keeping Quiet)

- i. Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?
(A) Sustaining peace and silence (B) War and violence
(C) War (D) Introspection of others
- ii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet urges humanity to remain silent and still to promote unity and peace.
Reason : The poet suggests that by stopping all movement and speech, people can reflect on their differences and resolve conflicts.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii. Complete the following suitably.
The poet asks us to stop for one second because the moment of quietness will give us the time to meditate and introspect upon the kind of turmoil _____.
iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The poet asks the readers to 'count till twelve' in the extract. This symbolizes the way to _____ (calm/ uneasy) our minds and focus on the present moment.
v. Based on the rhyme scheme of the poem, evident in the extract, which word would you rhyme with 'second'?

reckoned

section

pun

- vi. What is the significance of "the face of the Earth" in the extract?

OR

- B. "Sometimes I feel myself I can hardly bear
The thought of so much childish longing in vain,
The sadness that lurks near the open window there,
That waits all day in almost open prayer
For the squeal of brakes, the sound of a stopping car,"

(A Roadside Stand)

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- i. What will the rural folk feel at the sound of stopping cars?
- ii. What can't the poet tolerate?
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The word 'squeal' is an example of _____ (oxymoron/onomatopoeia).
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet expresses deep sorrow for the unfulfilled hopes of the people at the roadside stand.
Reason : The people wait all day in anticipation, hoping that a passing car will stop, but their hopes are often met with disappointment.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. Select the phrase that suggests the following :
The rural folk are innocent people hoping for someone to give them money.
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
The squeal of brakes and the stopping of the cars indicate _____.

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

$4 \times 1 = 4$

- A. MR LAMB : You could lock yourself up in a room and never leave it. There was a man who did that. He was afraid, you see. Of everything. Everything in this world. A bus might run him over, or a man might breathe deadly germs onto him, or a donkey might kick him to death, or lightning might strike him down, or he might love a girl and the girl would leave him, and he might slip on a banana skin and fall and people who saw him would laugh their heads off. So he went into this room, and locked the door, and got into his bed, and stayed there.

(On the Face of It)

- i. Why does the speaker refer to the uncertainty of life?
- ii. Which intolerable situation is best described in the given extract?
(A) The situation when people passed sarcastic remarks on him.
(B) The situation when people abused him.
(C) The situation when people laughed at him.
(D) None of these
- iii. Why does the speaker refer to the example of a man who locked himself in the room?
- iv. What was Mr Lamb doing by giving such example to him?

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



OR

- B.** They saw when they came toward him that indeed it was so. The sand on one side of him had already a stain of red soaking through. "He is wounded," Sadao exclaimed. He made haste to the man, who lay motionless, his face in the sand. An old cap stuck to his head soaked with sea water. He was in wet rags of garments. Sadao stopped, Hana at his side, and turned the man's head. They saw the face. 'A white man!' Hana whispered. Yes, it was a white man. The wet cap fell away and there was his wet yellow hair, long, as though for many weeks it had not been cut, and upon his young and tortured face was a rough yellow beard.
- He was unconscious and knew nothing that they did for him.

(The Enemy)

- i.** Complete the sentence appropriately.
The white man's face is described as 'tortured' because apparently ____.
- ii.** In the given extract, which option best suits the theme of the story?
(A) Honesty (B) Punctuality
(C) Dedication (D) Humanity
- iii.** What is the tone in the given extract?
- iv.** The author's description of the stranger uses the word 'yellow'. What does this show about the stranger?

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A.** As soon as they got up from the table he went around to each one present and said thank you and good night, but when he came to the young girl she gave him to understand that it was her father's intention that the suit which he wore was to be a Christmas present-he did not have to return it; and if he wanted to spend next Christmas Eve in a place where he could rest in peace and be sure that no evil would befall him, he would be welcomed back again.

(The Rattrap)

- i.** What did Edla tell the peddler?
- ii.** What did the girl want to convey to the guest?
(A) She wanted to thank him
(B) She wanted him to wear the suit
(C) Her father wanted him to wear the suit
(D) She liked him
- iii.** Complete the sentence with reference to the extract.
The guest was asked not to _____ the suit.
- iv.** What did Edla also invited the peddler for?



- v. How does Edla's gesture affect the peddler?
- vi. What does the given extract show about Edla?
- (A) That she was cheerful (B) That she was charitable
(C) That she was benevolent (D) That she was haughty

OR

- B. "I won't scold you, little Franz; you must feel bad enough. See how it is! Every day we have said to ourselves, 'Bah! I've plenty of time. I'll learn it tomorrow.' And now you see where we've come out. Ah, that's the great trouble with Alsace; she puts off learning till tomorrow. Now those fellows out there will have the right to say to you, 'How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language?' But you are not the worst, poor little Franz. We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with."

(The Last Lesson)

- i. Who are 'those fellows' as mentioned in the extract?
- ii. Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately.
'We' in the given extract refers to _____.
(A) himself (B) children
(C) parents (D) Both (A) and (C)
- iii. Why was Franz to be scolded?
- iv. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that the people of Alsace did not give an importance to their native language.
- v. Select the correct option to fill in the blank.
Franz was able to understand the grammar lesson easily because he was _____.
(A) competitive (B) appreciative
(C) introspective (D) receptive
- vi. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.
The speech given by M. Hamel to Franz, is crucial for the villagers because _____.

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

- i. How did the author become a swimmer finally? *(Deep Wather)*
- ii. What did the publisher think of 'The Name of the Rose'? *(The Interview)*
- iii. Why do you think servants thought Gandhi to be another peasant? *(Indigo)*
- iv. What are the items that Aunt Jennifer is embroidering? What do they signify?
(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)



v. What does the poet's mother look like? What kind of images has the poet used to signify her ageing decay?
(*My Mother at Sixty-Six*)

vi. Why is 'grandeur' associated with the "mighty dead"?
(*A Thing of Beauty*)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

i. Who was Annan? How did he justify the behaviour of the elder?
(*Memories of Childhood*)

ii. How, according to the author, has mankind etched its dominance over nature?
(*Journey to the End of the Earth*)

iii. What was the dilemma that Dr. Sadao faced?
(*The Enemy*)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

A. The prose sections, 'The Last Lesson' and 'Poets and Pancakes', bring out situational irony and gentle humour as well as satire to point out human foibles. Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this in about 120-150 words elaborating on occurrences from the two texts to inspire your audience and to convince them about the importance of humour in life.

OR

B. Bring out the poetic devices used in the poem.
(*My Mother at Sixty-Six*)

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

A. How would you describe the behavior of the Maharaja's minions towards him? Do you find them truly sincere towards him or are they driven by fear when they obey him? Do we find a similarity in today's political order?
(*The Tiger King*)

OR

B. Both Sam and Charley experienced the presence of the third level at Grand Central Station. Instead of coming out from this illusion, Sam, being a psychiatrist got trapped in this illusion. It is a story about time travel. Imagine yourself to be Sam, and express your thoughts whether the third level exists or not.
(*The Third Level*)

□□□□□□



SAMPLE PAPER 03

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The Rann of Kutch, located in Gujarat, is one of the largest salt deserts in the world. It stretches over thousands of square kilometers, its flat, white expanse shimmering under the intense sunlight during the day. As far as the eye can see, the barren land appears almost otherworldly, with the horizon blending into the sky. Despite the harsh environment, the Rann of Kutch is a place of quiet beauty, where the vast emptiness holds a certain allure. Walking across the cracked earth, visitors feel a sense of isolation, as if they have stepped into another world.
2. During the winter months, the Rann comes alive with the Rann Utsav, a vibrant festival celebrating the rich culture and heritage of the Kutch region. Colorful tents dot the landscape, offering visitors a taste of traditional crafts, music, and dance. The sound of folk instruments fills the air, and local artisans display their handmade goods, from intricate embroidery to pottery. The festival, held under the full moon, attracts tourists from all over India and the world, who come to experience the magic of the salt desert under the moonlight.
3. The Rann is not only known for its cultural significance but also for its unique wildlife. Flamingos, wild asses, and other migratory birds flock to the region during the cooler months, taking refuge in the wetlands that form on the edges of the desert. The nearby Kutch Desert Wildlife Sanctuary protects these animals, offering visitors a chance to see rare species that thrive in this harsh landscape. The presence of wildlife in such an extreme environment adds to the mystique of the Rann.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



4. As dusk falls, the Rann undergoes a transformation. The sun sets, casting a warm orange glow over the salt flats, and the cool evening breeze begins to blow. The desert, which was once scorching hot, now feels pleasantly cool. The sky changes color, from bright blue to deep purple, and the first stars begin to appear, creating a breathtaking view that feels almost surreal.
5. The Rann of Kutch is not just a desert—it is a place of contrasts, where extreme heat meets cold nights, and silence is broken by the vibrant celebrations of the local people. For those who visit, it offers a rare glimpse into a world where nature and culture exist in perfect harmony.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, what is unique about the Rann of Kutch's appearance during the day? 1
- ii. How does the Rann Utsav bring the salt desert to life, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "the Rann of Kutch is a place of contrasts" in paragraph 5 suggests that the desert is full of opposing features.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
The Rann is described as a place of contrasts because _____.
(A) it shifts from intense heat during the day to cool nights
(B) the wildlife disappears during the Utsav
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
The Rann is home to unique wildlife, including _____.
- v. Why does the writer mention the change in temperature as dusk falls in paragraph 4? 1
Because
(A) It highlights the extreme conditions that make the Rann an unusual desert.
(B) It shows how the desert is uninhabitable.
(C) It explains why people visit the Rann only in the evening.
(D) It highlights the difficulty of travel during the day.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 3, to support the following : 1
The Rann of Kutch supports a diverse range of wildlife despite its harsh environment.
- vii. In the line, 'the sky changes color, from bright blue to deep purple' (Paragraph 4), what does the changing color of the sky suggest about the mood of the evening? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 2 : 1
artisans: crafts :: musicians: _____
(A) pottery (B) instruments
(C) embroidery (D) dance



- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement ‘the Rann of Kutch offers a rare glimpse into a world where nature and culture exist in perfect harmony’ in paragraph 5 uses descriptive language? 1
- (A) It emphasizes the peaceful coexistence of wildlife and local culture.
(B) It explains why people visit the Rann during the festival.
(C) It compares the cultural aspects of the Rann to the weather.
(D) It describes the climate and landscape of the Rann.
- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of preserving the Rann of Kutch, as suggested in paragraph 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. Deforestation is one of the leading causes of environmental degradation, affecting both biodiversity and climate change. As forests are cleared for agriculture, urban development, and logging, the world faces severe consequences, including the loss of species and the disruption of ecosystems. Over 3.1 million square kilometers of forest have been lost since 1990.
2. Data from the World Resources Institute shows that over 18 million hectares of forests are lost each year, contributing to approximately 15% of global CO₂ emissions. Tropical deforestation, especially in the Amazon, results in the extinction of 13% of species. Forests act as crucial carbon sinks, absorbing 2.6 billion metric tons of CO₂ annually, helping to mitigate global warming.
3. The study also reveals that 80% of global deforestation is driven by agricultural expansion. This includes crops like soy, palm oil, and areas for livestock grazing. The deforestation rate in the Amazon alone has surged by 9.5% annually in recent years. In addition, logging and infrastructure contribute to the remaining 20% of forest loss. These activities increase CO₂ emissions and affect rainfall patterns, leading to unpredictable climate changes.
4. Deforestation also leads to soil erosion, reducing the fertility of the land. The study highlights that 24 billion tons of fertile soil are lost annually due to deforestation and unsustainable farming practices. This contributes to desertification, which affects 40% of the world’s land area, particularly in Africa and Asia. As more forests are cleared, the likelihood of land degradation increases.
5. Efforts to combat deforestation include reforestation, sustainable farming, and stricter laws. Reforestation can sequester up to 10% of global CO₂ emissions annually. Brazil’s plan to restore 12 million hectares of land by 2030 aims to reverse some of the damage caused by deforestation.
6. This study emphasizes the urgent need for global cooperation to combat deforestation. By addressing the root causes—agriculture, illegal logging, and poor land management—the world can reduce deforestation, preserve biodiversity, and mitigate the effects of climate change.



Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links deforestation with environmental degradation to highlight _____. 1
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To explore the causes of deforestation and its global environmental impacts.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Secondary objective (B) Research outcome
(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why agriculture was included as a focus in the study on deforestation. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘carbon sinks’ and ‘soil erosion.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘carbon sinks’ or ‘soil erosion’:
Sentence 1: Forests absorb CO₂, helping to regulate atmospheric carbon levels.
Sentence 2: When trees are removed, the soil is exposed to wind and water, which removes topsoil and decreases land fertility.
- v. Read the following : 1
Ravi works on a palm oil plantation where forests have been cleared to make room for crops. Meanwhile, Mohan lives in a mountainous region where heavy rains have caused soil erosion due to deforestation.
Select the option that identifies the correct environmental challenges faced by Ravi and Mohan.
(A) Ravi – agriculture-driven deforestation; Mohan – soil erosion
(B) Ravi – biodiversity loss; Mohan – carbon emissions
(C) Ravi – desertification; Mohan – water shortage
(D) Ravi – soil erosion; Mohan – deforestation
- vi. Although both agriculture and logging contribute to deforestation, why is agriculture the largest driver? 1
- vii. Analyse how reforestation efforts can help reduce CO₂ emissions and support soil fertility. (Paragraph 5) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Promote agricultural expansion to increase food production
(B) Preserve biodiversity and mitigate climate change through sustainable practices
(C) Prioritize industrial development over environmental concerns
(D) Reduce soil erosion without addressing other factors



SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You are, Aditi Mohan, School Prefect. Draft a notice for the noticeboard about a trekking holiday that your school is organising, giving all necessary details in about 50 words and asking the interested students to give their names.

OR

- B.** You are Niti Singhal, studying at Bright Future High School, Mysuru and an active member of the school sports club. Recently, your school had organized an Inter-School Cricket Championship. After the final match was over, you found an unclaimed cricket kit on your school playground and have been asked to draft a notice to locate its owner.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You are David/Disha, the Secretary of the English Literary and Cultural Society of St. Joseph's Academy, Agra. You have to organize an Inter-zonal extempore competition at the +2 level. You wish to invite Dr. Hansa Bhogle, an eminent educationist, to preside over the function to be held on 15 October at 9:30 a.m. at Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Agra. Draft an invitation in about 50 words requesting her to come and grace the occasion.

OR

- B.** Your friend Antriksh is staying in the school hostel. You wish to invite him at your house for Diwali celebration. Invite him in not more than 50 words. Invent necessary details.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** You are Srikhant, living at 7C-189, 1st floor, Ramjas Colony, Muzzafarpur. Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper about the burden of heavy bags the young children carry to school.

OR

- B.** Draft an application for the post of an accountant in Gurukul Public School that was advertised in the Times of India. Also, include your biodata. You are Anil/Anita.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Deepak/Deepa has been involved as a student volunteer in the 'Adult Literacy Drive' and has been working in the slums for the last six months. He/She has to write an article in about 120-150 words on the 'Need for a Literate Nation'.

OR

- B.** You recently attended a seminar on "Tiger Reserve: Economic and Environmental Win-Win" at India International Centre, New Delhi. Write a report on the same in about 120-150 words for your school magazine. You are Rohan Pandey, Secretary, Cultural Club, Doon School, Dehradun.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

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

A. Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing
A flowery band to bind us to the Earth,
Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth
Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,
Of all the unhealthy and o'er darkened ways
Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all,
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall
From our dark spirits.

(*A Thing of Beauty*)

- i. Pick the option that enumerates what 'noble natures' would include.
(A) Selflessness (B) Judiciousness
(C) Enthusiasm (D) All of these
- ii. Select the phrase that suggests the following:
Human life in full of hardships.
- iii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet believes that beauty helps us stay connected to life and lifts the gloom from our spirits.
Reason : Despite the hardships and challenges of life, beauty has the power to ease our sorrows and bring us hope.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iv. Complete the following suitably.
Poetic devices used in 'of noble natures' is _____.
- v. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The poet says that we wreath a flowery band that binds us to Earth. He means to state that nature's beauty fills man with a _____ (depression/spirit) of living.
- vi. What makes our life full of inhuman dearth?

OR

B. Driving from my parent's
home to Cochin last Friday
morning, I saw my mother
beside me
doze, open mouthed, her face

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



ashen like that
of a corpse and realized with
pain
that she thought away, and
looked but soon...

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

- i. What is the speaker's emotional state when looking at her mother?
(A) Empathetic and understanding (B) Fearful and apprehensive
(C) Nostalgic and longing (D) Confused and disoriented
- ii. Where is the poetess going when she said, "home to Cochin last Friday"?
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The theme of the given extract is _____ (stolen childhood/fear of loss).
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet feels a deep sense of fear and sorrow as she notices her mother's aging and frail condition.
Reason : The mother's ashen, corpse-like appearance makes the poet painfully aware of her mother's mortality, prompting her to momentarily look away.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. What message do these lines highlight, in the context of familial relationships, and the speaker's sense of anxiety and fear at the prospect of losing her mother?
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
The phrase 'that of a corpse' means that she has lost her _____ .

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

4 × 1 = 4

- A.** MR LAMB : Rubbish? Look, boy, look.... what do you see?
DERRY : Just....grass and stuff Weeds.
MR LAMB : Some call them weeds. If you like, then.... a weed garden, that. There's fruit and there are flowers, and trees and herbs. All sorts. But over there.... weeds. I grow weeds there. Why is one green, growing plant called a weed and another 'flower'? Where's the difference? It's all life.... growing. Same as you and me.
DERRY : We're not the same.
MR LAMB : I'm old. You're young. You've got a burned face, I've got a tin leg. Not important. You're standing there.... I'm sitting here. Where's the difference?

(On The Face of It)

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- i. Why does Mr Lamb draw Derry's attention and stress on 'looking'?
- ii. What are the fundamental differences between Derry's and Mr Lamb's understanding of the world and life? These are:
 - (A) Derry: introvert; Mr Lamb: extrovert
 - (B) Derry: nervous; Mr Lamb: domineering
 - (C) Derry: self-pity; Mr Lamb: accepting
 - (D) Derry: unseeing; Mr Lamb: appreciative
- iii. How is Derry's tone when he says, "We're not the same?"
- iv. Why does Mr Lamb emphasise the importance of weeds? What is the idea behind it?

OR

- B.** Sadao knew that his education was his father's chief concern. For this reason he had been sent at twenty-two to America to learn all that could be learned of surgery and medicine. He had come back at thirty and before his father died he had seen Sadao become famous not only as a surgeon but as a scientist. Because he was perfecting a discovery which would render wounds entirely clean, he had not been sent abroad with the troops. Also, he knew, there was some slight danger that the old General might need an operation for a condition for which he was now being treated medically and for this possibility Sadao was being kept in Japan.

(The Enemy)

- i. What role does Sadao's father in Sadao's life?
- ii. Choose the correct option that best describes Sadao as a perfect son.
 - (A) Sadao went to America as desired by his father.
 - (B) Sadao returned to Japan before his father's death.
 - (C) Sadao gained fame as a doctor as well as scientist while his father was alive.
 - (D) Sadao stayed with his father and did not go abroad with the troops.
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
Sadao was a famous surgeon and _____.
- iv. For how many years did Sadao study in America?

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A.** Listening to them, I see two distinct worlds-one of the family, caught in a web of poverty, burdened by the stigma of caste in which they are born; The other a vicious circle of the sahu-kars, the middleman, the policemen the keepers of law, the bureaucrats and the politicians. Together they have imposed the baggage on the child that he cannot put down. Before he is aware, he accepts it as naturally as his father. To do anything else would mean to dare. And daring is not part of his growing up.

(Lost Spring)



- i. List any two details about two distinct worlds.
- ii. "...The other vicious circle of Sahukars..." In this line 'vicious circle' refers to _____.
(A) passing the occupation to next generation
(B) trap made by moneylenders for workers
(C) carrying the tradition of family
(D) none of these
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
Ironically, millions of children have lost _____.
- iv. Pick evidence from the extract that helps one infer that the baggage has been imposed on the children.
- v. How does the child accept the burden?
- vi. Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract?
(A) The passion of children (B) The web of poverty
(C) The desire of adults (D) The happiness of children

OR

- B.** This settlement was adopted unanimously by the commission. Gandhi explained that the amount of the refund was less important than the fact that the landlords had been obliged to surrender part of the money and, with it, part of their prestige. Therefore, as far as the peasants were concerned, the planters had behaved as lords above the law. Now the peasant saw that he had rights and defenders. He learned courage.
- (Indigo)*
- i. Why is it that the big planters agreed to pay the refund to small farmers?
 - ii. Replace the underlined word with its antonym from the extract.
The party has now abandoned its policy of free trade.
(A) Adopted (B) Obligated
(C) Defenders (D) Concerned
 - iii. What did the peasants learn from this incident?
 - iv. As per the settlement, how much was to be refunded.
(A) 50% (B) 75%
(C) 25% (D) 20%
 - v. Why does Gandhiji accept only that per cent of settlement?
 - vi. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The phrase 'lords above the law' in the extract means _____.



10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. Why are the bangle makers unable to organize themselves into a cooperative?
(*Lost Spring*)
- ii. Describe the boy who had thrown Douglas in water. What was his reaction later?
(*Deep Water*)
- iii. Why do country people ask for money?
(*A Roadside Stand*)
- iv. Why is Aunt Jennifer terrified?
(*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)
- v. What three things in school surprised Franz the most that day?
(*The Last Lesson*)
- vi. Why are the young trees described as sprinting?
(*My Mother at Sixty-Six*)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. Did the servants support Dr. Sadao in his mission to save the American? Why/Why not?
(*The Enemy*)
- ii. Why was Zitkala-Sa in tears on the first day in the land of apples?
(*Memories of Childhood*)
- iii. In what way does Mr Lamb inspire Derry to overcome his physical disability?
(*On the Face of It*)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. "Now I have become sad, she thought. And it is a hard burden to carry, this sadness. Sitting here waiting and knowing he will not come I can see the future and how I will have to live with this burden." Sadness is really difficult to carry. And more difficult is to carry unfulfilled desires. After reading the above statement with reference to 'Going Places', how far do you feel that sadness and unfulfilled desires can't be carried for a long time? Write a paragraph in about 120-150 words.

OR

- B. The world has become a global village, and people across boundaries, nationalities and communities are now connected to one another. With the advancement of technology, and the advent of social media, do you think that the task of keeping quiet, as envisaged by Neruda, has become easier or more complicated? Justify your stance.
(*Keeping Quiet*)

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. Imagine you are an ardent environmentalist who is involved in the Save the Tiger campaign. You have been asked to deliver a speech in a seminar related to your campaign and the need for the youth to be involved in such campaigns. Draft your speech.
(*The Tiger King*)

OR

- B. There is an intersection of time and space in the story 'The Third Level'. Imagine yourself to be Douglas, and express your thoughts in about 120-150 words.



SAMPLE PAPER 04

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The vast Sundarbans, a sprawling delta region in the southern part of West Bengal, is one of the most unique and biodiverse areas in the world. Known for its dense mangrove forests, the Sundarbans is home to the endangered Bengal tiger and a wide variety of wildlife, including spotted deer, crocodiles, and rare bird species. The intricate network of tidal waterways, islands, and mudflats creates an ecosystem that is both fragile and resilient. The air is thick with humidity, and the salty smell of the ocean mixes with the earthy scent of the mangroves, creating a distinctive atmosphere that reflects the raw beauty of the region.
2. The Sundarbans is not only a haven for wildlife but also a lifeline for the communities that live along its edges. The people of the Sundarbans rely on the forest for their livelihoods, collecting honey, fishing, and gathering wood to meet their daily needs. Life in the Sundarbans is tough, with unpredictable weather patterns, rising sea levels, and the constant threat of cyclones. Despite these challenges, the people have adapted to their environment, learning to live in harmony with the forest and its wildlife.
3. Every year, during the monsoon season, the rivers swell, and large portions of the land become submerged. The sound of the rain hitting the leaves of the mangroves is a steady rhythm that echoes through the forest. Boats become the primary mode of transport, navigating the narrow, waterlogged paths that crisscross the forest. The monsoon brings with it both blessings and challenges: while the rains nourish the mangroves and support the ecosystem, they also cause flooding that threatens homes and crops.
4. The Sundarbans is not just a natural wonder, but a reminder of the delicate balance between man and nature. The mangroves act as a natural buffer, protecting the inland

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



from storms and cyclones. Without the forest, the communities would be far more vulnerable to the ravages of nature. Conservation efforts are underway to protect this vital region, ensuring that both the environment and the people who depend on it can continue to thrive.

5. To visit the Sundarbans is to step into a world where nature reigns supreme. The interplay of water, land, and forest creates a landscape unlike any other, where survival depends on respecting the delicate balance of the ecosystem. For those who make the journey, the Sundarbans offers a glimpse of a world that is both beautiful and unforgiving.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, what makes the Sundarbans ecosystem both fragile and resilient? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the relationship between the people of the Sundarbans and the forest, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase “a lifeline for the communities” in paragraph 2 suggests that the forest is essential for the survival of the people living nearby.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
The Sundarbans is a lifeline because _____.
(A) it provides resources like honey, fish, and wood for the local people
(B) it is a tourist destination that supports the local economy
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
The monsoon season in the Sundarbans brings _____.
- v. Why does the writer emphasize the importance of mangroves in paragraph 4? 1
Because
(A) Mangroves help prevent the spread of diseases in the region.
(B) They act as a buffer, protecting communities from storms and cyclones.
(C) Mangroves are used as a resource for building materials.
(D) They support the tourism industry in the region.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
Conservation efforts are being made to protect the Sundarbans and its ecosystem.
- vii. In the line, ‘The sound of the rain hitting the leaves of the mangroves is a steady rhythm’ (Paragraph 3), what does the phrase ‘steady rhythm’ suggest about the atmosphere during the monsoon season? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 1 : 1
tigers: wildlife :: mangroves: _____
(A) sea (B) rivers
(C) forest (D) storms



- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement 'The Sundarbans offers a glimpse of a world that is both beautiful and unforgiving' in paragraph 5 uses descriptive language? 1
(A) It highlights the importance of tourism in the region.
(B) It describes the harsh yet stunning natural environment of the Sundarbans.
(C) It explains how the Sundarbans is easy to navigate.
(D) It focuses on the weather patterns in the Sundarbans.
- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of balancing conservation efforts with the needs of the local communities, as suggested in paragraph 4. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. A large number of citizens suffer from diseases linked to tobacco addiction. In a recent check-up camp organized by the Cancer Patients Aid Association (CPAA), 830 street children were examined, revealing a troubling picture:
All boys, young and old, smoked ganja.
Girls consumed supari or burnt tobacco powder.
Children also inhaled white ink or erasing fluids to get a 'high'.
These substances are legal and cost only ₹2. This trend is seen across all sections of society, with tobacco use rampant among higher-income children as well.
2. According to CPAA officials, the consumption of gutkha has increased significantly in recent years. The absence of restrictions on advertising allows gutkha companies to sponsor festivals and display large ads.
3. Over 50% of the people screened in the camp were addicted to tobacco. The most common forms of use were gutkha and chewing tobacco, with some people consuming tobacco up to 22 times a day. Worldwide, 4 million people die each year from tobacco-related causes. By 2030, this figure is projected to rise to 10 million annually due to aggressive tobacco promotion.
4. Despite the knowledge that tobacco harms both health and economies, many governments are reluctant or unable to introduce strong legislation to control its use.
5. More young people are being drawn into tobacco use through deceptive advertising. Although the tobacco industry claims individuals make informed choices, the reality is that most youths make uninformed decisions when it comes to consuming tobacco.
6. The tobacco industry masks the harmful effects of tobacco by promoting it as key to a happy, social life.
7. According to a CPAA survey:
Children as young as 7-8 smoke bidis, and the youngest smoker was 6 years old.
87 children had already developed pre-cancerous lesions.
Over 50% of people screened were addicted to tobacco.
4 million people die annually from tobacco-related causes, a figure expected to reach 10 million by 2030.





Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links tobacco addiction with its widespread use across different income groups to highlight _____. 1
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To investigate the rise in tobacco consumption among children and its long-term effects. Select the appropriate response.
(A) Secondary objective (B) Research outcome
(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why advertising is a focus in the study on tobacco use. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘tobacco addiction’ and ‘deceptive advertising.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘tobacco addiction’ or ‘deceptive advertising’:
Sentence 1: People consume gutkha up to 22 times a day, leading to severe addiction.
Sentence 2: Tobacco companies sponsor large festivals to promote their products.
- v. Read the following : 1
Ravi regularly consumes gutkha, even though he is aware of its harmful effects. Priya, his friend, started smoking bidis to fit in with her peers. Anil, another friend, developed pre-cancerous lesions due to his long-term tobacco use.
Select the option that identifies the correct situations Ravi, Priya, and Anil face.
(A) Ravi – gutkha; Priya – bidis; Anil – pre-cancerous lesions
(B) Ravi – erasing fluids; Priya – gutkha; Anil – social pressure
(C) Ravi – bidis; Priya – white ink; Anil – tobacco advertising
(D) Ravi – gutkha; Priya – erasing fluids; Anil – tobacco addiction
- vi. Why is the projected rise in deaths from tobacco-related causes considered alarming, even though governments are aware of the risks? 1
- vii. Analyse how misleading advertising contributes to the increasing number of young tobacco users. (Paragraph 5) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Strengthen tobacco control through legislation
(B) Increase tobacco production to meet demand
(C) Promote traditional tobacco use in rural areas
(D) Support the tobacco industry through advertising



SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You, as the School Secretary of the Social Service Club, have to write a notice to be put up on the school noticeboard regarding the need to raise funds for lepers in your city. Funds collected will be sent to the Red Cross, New Delhi. Each donor will be issued a formal receipt for the donation. The Red Cross will award a Red Cross to the donor donating more than ₹500.

OR

- B.** You are Jairam Reddy, the Head of the English Club. On the occasion of the International Day of English Language, your school has decided to organize English Week. You are required to call a meeting of the officer bearers of the English Language Club to plan arrangements for the event. Draft a notice for the same.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** Your parents have completed 25 years of happy married life. Invite your uncle, living in Surat, to join you in the silver jubilee celebrations of their marriage at your residence C-4/Sector 9, Kumar Enclave, Sagar.

OR

- B.** You are Sunil/Sunita Bhasin, a celebrated illustrator. You have been invited by the literacy club, S.K. School, Jaipur, to deliver a lecture on 'Life Skills'. Draft a letter of formal acceptance of the invitation in about 50 words. Address it to the Director of the school.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** You are Anushka/Amit staying at A-23/1, Ashok Nagar, Delhi. You find it disturbing that despite a ban on smoking in public places, people are seen smoking in cities. It shows a lack of civic sense in the people. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your concern about indifference of people to their own as well as others' health. It is harmful to the environment too. Suggest some ways to sensitize city dwellers about the safe environment.

OR

- B.** You see a classified advertisement in a leading daily inviting application for the post of an accountant. Write a letter along with resume in 120-150 words to the Manager, Rockfield Pvt. Ltd., Bhopal, offering your candidature.
You are Raman Mehta/Reshma Mehta.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** You are Priya/ Piyush. You find illiteracy as the biggest impediment to the development of a nation. You strongly believe that education can play a very important role in the progress of a country. Write an article in 120-150 words on 'Education—The Biggest Tool of Progress'.

OR

- B.** Vidya Bhawan Senior Secondary School, Noida, recently organised a 3-day environment awareness camp for the students to be prefects/monitors. Write a report about the same in 120-150 words for the school magazine.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two - (A) or (B). $1 \times 6 = 6$

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

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

- i. What is the tone of the poet in the given lines?
(A) Sarcastic and tolerant (B) Sympathetic
(C) Wondrous (D) None of these
- ii. Select the phrase that suggests the following :
The tigers are fearless, graceful and beautiful.
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
Qualities of Aunt Jennifer that can be inferred from the given lines are meek and _____ (artistic/timid).
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : Aunt Jennifer's tigers symbolize confidence and freedom, in contrast to her own life, which is weighed down by struggles.
Reason : The tigers prance fearlessly, while Aunt Jennifer's fingers struggle to pull the needle due to the burden of her marriage, represented by Uncle's heavy wedding band.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. What do Aunt Jennifer's tigers not fear?
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
'Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand' implies that Aunt Jennifer was _____.

OR

B. For once on the face of the Earth
let's not speak in any language,
let's stop for one second,
and not move our arms so much.
It would be an exotic moment

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



without rush, without engines,
we would all be together
in a sudden strangeness.

(Keeping Quiet)

- i. Why does the poet use the word 'let's'?
 - ii. Why is there a reference to language in the given extract?
(A) To mention propaganda (B) To mention miscommunication
(C) To mention verbal violence (D) Both (A) and (C)
 - iii. Why do you think the poet employs words like 'exotic' and 'strangeness'?
 - iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet advocates for a moment of global stillness and silence to experience unity and peace.
Reason : By pausing all activity and refraining from speaking, people would experience a shared moment of "sudden strangeness" that could bring them closer together.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
 - v. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The poet is propagating the need for peace and _____ (brotherhood/childhood).
 - vi. Complete the following suitably.
By 'arms', we mean _____.
- 8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (A) or (B).** $4 \times 1 = 4$

A. DERRY : Things.

MR LAMB : It's all relative. Beauty and the beast.

DERRY : What's that supposed to mean?

MR LAMB : You tell me.

DERRY : You needn't think they haven't all told me that fair), story before. 'It's not what you look like, it's what you are inside. Handsome is as handsome does. Beauty loved the monstrous beast for himself and when she kissed him, he changed into a handsome prince.' Only he wouldn't, he'd have stayed a monstrous beast. I won't change.

MR LAMB : In that way? No, you won't.

(On the Face of It)

- i. What is the playwright's purpose of using contractions in the extract?
- ii. What is Derry's attitude towards other people?
(A) This is his acid was hurting him more than his optimism.
(B) This is his optimism was hurting him more than acid.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- (C) This is his pessimism was hurting him more than acid.
(D) This is his acid was hurting him more than his pessimism.

- iii. The phrase 'handsome is as handsome does' means that _____.
iv. Give one reason why does the narrator use various symbols and imageries borrowed from nature.

OR

- B. Students on Ice, the programme I was working with on the Shokalskiy, aims to do exactly this by taking high school students to the ends of the world and providing them with inspiring educational opportunities which will help them foster a new understanding and respect for our planet. It's been in operation for six years now, headed by Canadian Geoff Green, who got tired of carting celebrities and retired, rich, curiosity-seekers who could only 'give' back in a limited way. With Students on Ice, he offers the future generation of policy-makers a life-changing experience at an age when they're ready to absorb, learn, and most importantly, act.

(Journey to the End of the Earth)

- i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
'Students on Ice' is an award winning programme offering unique learning expeditions in the _____.
- ii. In the given extract, which is NOT an indication for the future of humankind, as per the extract?
(A) Depletion of ozone layer (B) Emission of CO₂ and other poisonous gases
(C) Global warming (D) Decreased temperature
- iii. What is the aim of the students on ice programme? Discuss.
iv. Why is a visit to Antarctica important to realize the effect of global warming?

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A. "Why aren't you wearing chappals?" I ask one.
"My mother did not bring them down from the shelf," he answers simply.
"Even if she did he will throw them off," adds another who is wearing shoes that do not match. When I comment on it, he shuffles his feet and says nothing. "I want shoes", says a third boy who has never owned a pair all his life. Travelling across the country I have seen children walking barefoot, in cities, on village roads. It is not lack of money but a tradition to stay barefoot, is one explanation. I wonder if this is only an excuse to explain away a perpetual state of poverty.

(Lost Spring)

- i. What is an excuse to explain away a perpetual state of poverty?
ii. Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately.
In the statement 'I want shoes', the boy is _____.
(A) sorrowful (B) wishful
(C) hopeful (D) perplexed



- iii. Complete the sentence with appropriately.
We as readers can sympathise with the boys because _____.
- iv. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that narrator knows the reality behind the boys not wearing any chappals.
- v. How would you judge the act of shuffling by the boy?
- vi. Select the correct option to fill in the blank.
When the narrator comments on unmatched shoes, he _____
(A) shuffles his shoes without responding
(B) hides behind the other boys
(C) changes his shoes
(D) rebukes the narrator and mocks her dress

OR

- B. They had merely heard that a Mahatma who wanted to help them was in trouble with the authorities. Their spontaneous demonstration, in thousands, around the courthouse was the beginning of their liberation from fear of the British. The officials felt powerless without Gandhi's cooperation. He helped them regulate the crowd. He was polite and friendly. He was giving concrete proof that their might, hitherto dreaded and unquestioned, could be challenged by Indians. The government was baffled. The prosecutor requested the judge to postpone the trial. Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors.

(Indigo)

- i. List details about Gandhi's protest in this extract.
- ii. Why did the officials feel powerless?
(A) Because the crowd was listening only to Gandhi.
(B) Because of Gandhi's polite and friendly behaviour.
(C) Because of Gandhi's refusal to cooperate with them.
(D) The crowd was getting violent.
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
Gandhi's protest in Champaran is most appropriately a great model of _____.
- iv. What style is being used by the author when he says, "Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors"?
- v. What was the beginning of the liberation of Indians from the British rule?
- vi. Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract?
(A) The tyranny of the British officials
(B) Gandhi's leadership quality
(C) Postponement of trial
(D) The friendly behaviour of Gandhiji

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. Describe the events of the last lesson that M. Hamel conducted with his class.
(*The Last Lesson*)
- ii. Why did the poet think of young trees and merry children? How did it connect with her childhood fear?
(*My Mother at Sixty-Six*)
- iii. What are the different kinds of war mentioned in the poem that the poet is against?
(*Keeping Quiet*)
- iv. What made the peddler think that he had indeed fallen into a rattrap? (*The Rattrap*)
- v. Why did Gandhi agree to the settlement of 25% per cent refund to the farmers?
(*Indigo*)
- vi. What is the poet's complaint in the poem "A Roadside Stand"?

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. How does Mr. Lamb keep himself busy when it is bit cool? (*On the Face of It*)
- ii. In what context Hana remembers the cruel nature of General Takima? (*The Enemy*)
- iii. What do you infer from Sam's letter to Charley? (*The Third Level*)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. M. Hamel was dressed formally as a mark of honour to his last lesson. He had served the institution for forty years wholeheartedly. The villagers had come to display their respect for the country which was another's from now onwards.
After reading 'The Last Lesson', can you compare any of your teachers with M Hamel? What values did she/he possess that every teacher should be endowed with? Are you a true patriot? Can you be one of those villagers?

OR

- B. 'A Thing of beauty is a joy forever.' This is what John Keats says in the poem. Do you think in the present times of acute stress and violence, proximity to beautiful things can lead man to everlasting happiness? Discuss.
(*A Thing of Beauty*)

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. 'Being human is the greatest virtue and treating an enemy is not a sin.'
As a part of the research, discuss the statement in relation to the lesson 'The Enemy' in about 120-150 words.

OR

- B. How did the prediction of chief astrologer come true, though The Tiger King had killed the hundred tigers? Write a short paragraph in about 120-150 words with reference to the lesson "The Tiger King".

□□□□□□

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



SAMPLE PAPER 05

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The coastal town of Clearwater was famous for its peaceful beaches and calm atmosphere. The ocean stretched far into the distance, glittering under the warm sunlight. Gentle waves rolled onto the shore, and the sound of the sea created a soothing rhythm. By the docks, fishermen quietly mended their nets, getting ready for the next day's work. The fresh, salty breeze reminded everyone of the ocean's ever-present influence on the town's way of life. Tourists often came to Clearwater to enjoy its beauty, but for the locals, the sea was not just a scenic view—it was a part of their everyday life and livelihood.
2. Clearwater was not just known for its natural beauty; it also had a rich history. One of the most famous landmarks was the old lighthouse, standing proudly at the edge of the town. Built more than a hundred years ago, it had once guided ships safely to the harbor when sailors depended on its light to avoid dangerous rocks. Over time, modern technology replaced the lighthouse's role, but it remained a symbol of the town's resilience. The lighthouse represented the community's ability to adapt while still holding on to their past. Today, it served as a historical site, attracting visitors who marveled at its enduring presence.
3. The heart of Clearwater was its bustling marketplace, where the energy of the town came alive. Fishermen sold their daily catch, while farmers offered fresh produce, and artisans displayed handmade goods. The marketplace wasn't just about commerce; it was a social hub where townspeople gathered, exchanged stories, and celebrated their shared way of life. The people's lives were deeply connected to the sea, and there was a strong sense of pride in maintaining traditions that had been passed down through generations.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



4. As evening approached, the town began to slow down. The setting sun cast a golden glow over the ocean, and families gathered by the beach to watch it sink below the horizon. In those quiet hours, the bond between the town, its people, and the sea felt strongest, as if time itself slowed down to match the rhythm of the waves.
5. Though Clearwater had changed with the times, its connection to the sea remained unbroken. The town's identity had been shaped by the ocean for generations, and it continued to be a source of life, beauty, and inspiration for all who lived there.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, what does the ocean's salty breeze symbolize for the people of Clearwater? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the role of the lighthouse in Clearwater's history, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "a sense of pride in maintaining their traditions" in paragraph 3 suggests that the people of Clearwater feel connected to their past and are proud to keep their customs alive.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
The phrase 'a sense of pride' refers to _____.
(A) the modern changes in the town
(B) the traditions shaped by the sea
- iv. Complete the following with ONE reason, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
The marketplace in Clearwater is important to the town because _____.
- v. Why does the writer refer to the lighthouse as a "symbol of resilience" in paragraph 2? 1
Because
(A) It has stood tall for over a century.
(B) It represents the town's strength in keeping its history alive.
(C) It still guides ships today.
(D) It is a landmark that tourists come to see.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to prove the following : 1
The bond between the people of Clearwater and the sea grows stronger during the evening.
- vii. In the line, 'As evening approached, the town began to slow down...' (Paragraph 4), what does the phrase 'slow down' mean in this context? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 4: 1
dusk: night :: golden light: _____
(A) sunset (B) lighthouse
(C) dawn (D) marketplace



- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement ‘the town’s identity had been shaped by the ocean’ in paragraph 5, uses figurative language? 1
- (A) It is comparing the town’s development to the ocean’s physical influence.
(B) It exaggerates the importance of the ocean to the town.
(C) The town has literally changed its shape due to the ocean.
(D) It is a symbolic way to show how deeply the town depends on the sea.
- x. Evaluate the potential benefits or challenges of preserving Clearwater’s traditional way of life, as suggested in paragraph 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. Introduction :
In modern urban areas, waste management has become a crucial aspect of maintaining public health and environmental sustainability. This case study explores the waste disposal habits among various residential communities and evaluates the effectiveness of recycling programs in reducing landfill waste.
2. Methodology :
A survey was conducted in multiple urban residential communities to assess their waste disposal practices. Participants were asked to provide information on how they segregate and dispose of waste and their participation in local recycling programs. Data was collected and analysed to identify trends in waste management habits across different demographics.
3. Survey Examination :
The survey delved into waste management habits, focusing on key aspects such as the frequency of waste disposal, participation in recycling programs, and the reasons for adopting or not adopting sustainable waste practices. The study examined factors that influenced people’s decision to recycle, such as convenience, environmental concerns, and economic incentives.

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

Demographic	% Participation in Recycling Programs	Reasons for Participation
Young Adults	50%	Environmental awareness, Accessibility of programs
Middle-aged	70%	Economic benefits, Environmental concern
Elderly	80%	Health concerns, Government incentives, Ease of disposal

5. Implications for Interventions :
The survey results indicate that waste management programs need to be tailored to address the specific needs of different demographic groups. For example, increasing economic incentives for young adults may encourage more participation in recycling.



Similarly, enhancing accessibility to recycling programs for middle-aged individuals could improve participation rates further. For the elderly, ensuring ease of waste segregation and disposal may increase engagement in sustainable practices.

6. Conclusion :

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

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links waste management with public health and environmental sustainability to highlight _____.
_____.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To assess waste disposal habits in residential communities and evaluate the effectiveness of recycling programs.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Method of analysis (B) Primary objective
(C) Research outcome (D) Secondary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why recycling programs were included as a focus in the survey on waste management practices. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘factors’ and ‘influences.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘factor’ or ‘influence’:
Sentence 1 : Economic benefits drive middle-aged individuals to participate in recycling programs.
Sentence 2 : Government incentives increase recycling participation among the elderly.
- v. Read the following : 1
Ravi disposes of his household waste regularly but rarely participates in recycling programs. His neighbor, Anjali, diligently recycles every week, and Arjun, who lives nearby, segregates his waste but struggles to find time to recycle.
Select the option that identifies the correct demographic Ravi, Anjali, and Arjun belong to.
(A) Ravi – young adult; Anjali – elderly; Arjun – middle-aged
(B) Ravi – middle-aged; Anjali – elderly; Arjun – young adult
(C) Ravi – young adult; Anjali – middle-aged; Arjun – elderly
(D) Ravi – elderly; Anjali – young adult; Arjun – middle-aged
- vi. Although the elderly and middle-aged groups both show high participation in recycling programs, why is the percentage highest among the elderly? 1



- vii. Analyse how tailored interventions can improve recycling participation rates across different demographic groups. (Paragraph 5) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
- (A) Increase economic benefits for recyclers
 - (B) Build a comprehensive urban waste management strategy
 - (C) Encourage more frequent waste disposal
 - (D) Promote a reduction in government incentives

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

- 3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words** $1 \times 4 = 4$
- A.** As librarian of Crescent International School, Gwalior, draft a notice in not more than 50 words asking all students and teachers to return the library books they have borrowed, two days before the commencement of the examination.

OR

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

- 4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words.** $1 \times 4 = 4$
- A.** As Secretary of the Literary Club of St. Anne's School, Ahmedabad, draft a formal invitation in not more than 50 words for the inauguration of the club in your school.

OR

- B.** You are Amit Dubey. You have received an invitation from the Director, Health Services, Punjab who has invited leading medical practitioners of the state to attend a workshop on 'child care' on 25 July, 20x x at 9 a.m. in New Hope Hospital, Ambala. Draft a reply to the invitation in 50 words.

- 5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words.** $1 \times 5 = 5$
- A.** You have seen an advertisement in a national newspaper for the post of Senior Teacher in English at Sunrise Global School, Noida. You are Karuna, M-114, Mall Road, Delhi. You are MA (English), B.Ed. from Delhi University and yet to have any teaching experience. Write a job application in 120-150 words to the principal.

OR

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

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words.**1 × 5 = 5**

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

OR

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

SECTION C- LITERATURE**40**

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

1 × 6 = 6

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

(Keeping Quiet)

- i.** Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?
(A) Power of war (B) Power of violence
(C) Power of silence and thought (D) Power of disputes
- ii.** Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet wants people to pause and reflect, but not confuse this with complete inactivity or death.
Reason : The poet believes that constant movement and activity prevent us from truly understanding ourselves and lead to sadness.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP

- iii. Complete the following suitably.
The poet asks to _____ in the whole extract of the poem.
- iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The literary device used in the line, “what I want should not be confused with total inactivity” is _____ (enjambment/Alliteration).
- v. Based on the poem rhyme scheme, evident in lines 3 to 7, of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 2?

Captivity

naste

haste

- vi. Select the option that is NOT true about the punctuation mark used in the line 3 of the given extract.
- (A) Creates a sense of anticipation and expectation for the reader.
(B) Encourages the reader to continue reading seamlessly without any pause.
(C) Creates a sense of continuity and flow that connects the line with the second one.
(D) Encourages a revisit to the ideas in the preceding line.

OR

- B. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.
They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

- i. Why are the tigers called 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'?
- ii. Match the following correctly :

(i)	Prance	(a)	to walk with long steps in a direction.
(ii)	Pace	(b)	move about in a predatory manner.
(iii)	Stride	(c)	to move quickly with exaggerated steps.
(iv)	Prowl	(d)	to walk up and down in a small area many times.

- (A) (i)-c, (ii)-d, (iii)-a, (iv)-b
(B) (i)-d, (ii)-a, (iii)-b, (iv)-c
(C) (i)-b, (ii)-a, (iii)-d, (iv)-c
(D) (i)-a, (ii)-c, (iii)-b, (iv)-d



- iii. Why are Aunt Jennifer's tigers prancing across the screen?
- iv. Complete the following suitably.
Name of the poet of the given extract is _____.
- v. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The tigers created by Aunt Jennifer represent strength and confidence.
Reason : The tigers move with certainty and do not fear the men beneath the tree.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- vi. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
A person, an animal or a plant that lives & grows in a particular place is known as _____ (denizen/citizen).

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

- A. She crouched close to the sleeping face of the young American. It was a piteously thin face she thought, and the lips were twisted. The man was suffering whether he knew it or not. Watching him, she wondered if the stories they heard sometimes of the sufferings of prisoners were true. They came like flickers of rumour, told by word of mouth and always contradicted.

(The Enemy)

- i. The above extract has been taken from _____
- ii. Which word in the above extract is the synonym of 'confute'?
- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| (A) Flicker | (B) contradict |
| (C) Twisted | (D) Rumour |
- iii. The young American was wounded because he had been _____.
- iv. The wounded person who came to the house belonged to _____.



OR

- B. Now, I don't know why this should have happened to me. I'm just an ordinary guy named Charley, thirty-one years old, and I was wearing a tan gabardine suit and a straw hat with a fancy band; I passed a dozen men who looked just like me. And I wasn't trying to escape from anything; I just wanted to get home to Louisa, my wife.
(*The Third Level*)

i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
This incident took place while he was _____.

- ii. What did Charley want?
(A) He wanted to lead a stressfree life.
(B) He wanted to lead a normal life with his wife.
(C) He wanted to live in the third world.
(D) He did not want anything.

iii. Why did Charley not want to escape anything?

iv. What is the writing style of the narrator?

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

- A. Listening to them, I see two distinct worlds—one of the family, caught in a web of poverty, burdened by the stigma of caste in which they are born; the other a vicious circle of the sahu-kars, the middlemen, the policemen, the keepers of law, the bureaucrats and the politicians. Together they have imposed the baggage on the child that he cannot put down. Before he is aware, he accepts it as naturally as his father. ... a flash of it in Mukesh I am cheered. "I want to be a motor mechanic" he repeats.
(*Lost Spring*)

i. Who is being burdened under the baggage of two worlds?

- ii. The phrase 'stigma of caste' here refers to the _____.
(A) poor families living in the slums
(B) the untouchables living in Firozabad
(C) grief stricken life of the bangle makers
(D) children unable to get proper food and clothes

iii. Pick out the word from the given extract that means the same as 'Brutal'.

- iv. Mukesh's dream that he wanted to be a motor mechanic, suggest that _____.
(A) he is completely different from all the members of his family
(B) he is just like other boys of his place
(C) he is passionate about driving
(D) he has to work to earn his livelihood.



- v. Who is the narrator of the given extract?
- vi. What is meant by the word 'baggage' here?

OR

- B.** As he walked along with the money in his pocket he felt quite pleased with his smartness. He realised, of course that at first he dared not continue on the public highway, but must turn off the road, into the woods. During the first hours this caused him no difficulty. Later in the day it became worse, for it was a big and confusing forest which he had gotten into. He tried, to be sure, to walk in a definite direction, but the paths twisted back and forth so strangely! He walked and walked without coming to the end of the wood and finally he realised that he had only been walking around in the same part of the forest. All at once he recalled his thoughts about the world and the rattrap. Now his own turn had come.

(The Rattrap)

- i. Why is the peddler's decision to avoid the highway good for him?
- ii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank.
_____ caused him no difficulty during the early hours.
(A) Finding the food to eat
(B) Looting the wealth of the rich
(C) Carrying the money he had
(D) Walking in the woods
- iii. How had the peddler fallen prey to a rattrap?
- iv. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that the protagonist had fallen prey to the rattrap.
- v. Based on the above extract, choose the option which states the state of the mind of 'he' in the extract?
(A) Confident and happy
(B) Exhausted and hopeless
(C) Fearful and strange
(D) Proud and arrogant
- vi. Complete the given sentence appropriately.
The 'smartness' in the given extract refers to _____.



10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. How and why was M. Hamel dressed differently that day? *(The Last Lesson)*
- ii. Mention any two long term consequences of the drowning incident on Douglas. *(Deep Water)*
- iii. According to Keats what moves away the pain and suffering from human life? *(A Thing of Beauty)*
- iv. What does the poet realise with pain? Why does the poet 'put that thought away' and look outside? *(My Mother at Sixty-Six)*
- v. What is the 'childish longing' of the folk who had put up the roadside stand? Why is it 'in vain'? *(A Roadside Stand)*
- vi. Sophie was dreaming of so many things in her life. What were they? *(Going Places)*

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. Why are the youngsters called the future policy makers of the earth? *(Journey to the end of the Earth)*
- ii. Which actions of the people would Bama watch keenly in the bazaar? *(Memories of Childhood)*
- iii. Would it be proper to call the Maharaja 'penny-wise, pound foolish'? Give reasons for your answer. *(The Tiger King)*

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. What did the French teacher tell his students in his last French lesson? What impact did it have on them? Why? *(The Last Lesson)*

OR

- B. Why did Gandhiji consider freedom from fear more important than legal justice for the poor peasants of Champaran? *(Indigo)*

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

A. What efforts were made by Dr. Sadao and Hana to save the life of the injured man?
(*The Enemy*)

OR

B. Discuss the qualities of Mr. Lamb which made him overlook the deformity of Derry.
(*On The Face of It*)

□□□□□□□



SAMPLE PAPER 06

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. On the outskirts of the bustling city of Jaipur, in a quiet village, stands an old banyan tree that has been there for centuries. The tree's thick roots run deep into the earth, and its wide branches stretch across the sky, casting a cool shadow on the ground below. Locals say the tree has witnessed countless generations, standing as a silent guardian over the village. During the hottest summer days, villagers gather beneath the tree to escape the scorching sun, and in the evenings, the air is filled with the sounds of children laughing and playing around its base.
2. The banyan tree is more than just a tree; it has become a part of the village's daily life and traditions. Every year, during the festival of Makar Sankranti, the villagers tie colorful ribbons and small paper wishes to the tree's branches, believing that the banyan will carry their hopes and dreams to the gods. The tree has become a sacred place where villagers come to offer their prayers, share stories, and seek peace. It stands as a symbol of resilience and faith, connecting the people to their roots and their ancestors.
3. In the early mornings, when the village is still wrapped in mist, the tree appears almost mystical. The dew-covered leaves glisten as the first rays of sunlight touch them, and the soft rustle of the leaves in the breeze seems to whisper forgotten tales. Birds find refuge in the tree's vast branches, singing their morning songs, while the villagers begin their day with quiet devotion at the tree's base. Farmers often start their workday by bowing their heads in respect before the tree, believing it will bring them good fortune.
4. As the seasons change, so does the appearance of the banyan tree. In spring, new leaves sprout, and the tree is full of life and activity, with birds building nests and children

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



playing in its shade. In the monsoon, the tree's roots absorb the nourishing rains, making it look even more vibrant and strong. Even in winter, when the air is cool and dry, the tree stands tall, a reminder of the cycles of nature and life.

5. The banyan tree is not just a part of the landscape; it is woven into the fabric of the village's identity. It is a symbol of endurance, a place of gathering, and a witness to the joys and sorrows of the people who live beneath its branches. The villagers believe that as long as the banyan tree stands, their community will continue to thrive, rooted in tradition and connected to the natural world.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, why do the villagers gather under the banyan tree during the day? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the significance of the banyan tree during the festival of Makar Sankranti, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "woven into the fabric of the village's identity" in paragraph 5 suggests that the banyan tree is deeply connected to the daily lives and traditions of the villagers. Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
The banyan tree is important to the village because _____.
(A) it provides shade during the day
(B) it represents the village's resilience and connection to their ancestors
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
The banyan tree appears mystical in the morning because _____.
- v. Why does the writer describe the banyan tree as a "symbol of resilience and faith" in paragraph 2? 1
Because
(A) The tree has been standing for generations and plays a significant role in village traditions.
(B) The tree provides shelter to the villagers and protects them from the weather.
(C) It is the oldest tree in the village, and people believe it grants wishes.
(D) It is the place where villagers gather to offer sacrifices to their gods.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
The banyan tree changes with the seasons but remains strong and resilient throughout the year.
- vii. In the line, 'the banyan tree is not just a part of the landscape; it is woven into the fabric of the village's identity' (Paragraph 5), what does the phrase 'woven into the fabric' suggest about the tree's role in the village? 2



- viii.** Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 4 : 1
spring: new leaves :: monsoon: _____
(A) dry air (B) strong roots
(C) colorful ribbons (D) changing appearance
- ix.** Why is it fair to say that the statement ‘the banyan tree stands as a symbol of endurance’ in paragraph 5 uses figurative language? 1
(A) It highlights the tree’s long-lasting presence in the village’s history.
(B) It compares the tree to a protector of the villagers.
(C) It describes the physical strength of the banyan tree.
(D) It exaggerates the importance of the tree in the village.
- x.** Assess the potential challenges or benefits of preserving the banyan tree, as suggested in paragraph 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully. **10**

1. Global water scarcity has become a critical issue, with 47% of the global population expected to live in areas of high water stress by 2030. This case study examines water consumption across various regions, focusing on disparities between developed and developing countries, and the factors contributing to water shortages.
2. Data from the World Bank shows that water consumption in developed regions, such as North America and Europe, averages 350 liters per person per day. However, in developing regions like sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East, water consumption is much lower, averaging just 50 liters per person per day. The global average is 200 liters per person per day.
3. A breakdown of water usage shows that 70% of the world’s fresh water is used for agriculture, 20% for industry, and 10% for domestic use. In water-scarce regions, the demand for agricultural water is even higher, with 85% of available water being used for farming. This heavy reliance on agriculture contributes significantly to water stress in these areas.
4. The study also reveals that groundwater provides 40% of the world’s fresh water. However, in many regions, over-extraction has led to significant depletion. Some regions report water tables dropping by as much as 3 meters per year, raising concerns about the long-term sustainability of groundwater reserves.
5. In areas of high water stress, it is estimated that 1 in 4 people live under conditions where more than 80% of available water is used annually. These regions are at increased risk of facing acute water shortages, particularly in the context of climate change.
6. The data highlights the importance of implementing effective water management strategies. Efficient irrigation practices could reduce agricultural water consumption by as much as 30% in water-stressed regions, offering a path toward sustainable water use in the future.



Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links global water demand with water scarcity to highlight _____.
_____.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To explore the factors contributing to water consumption disparities between developed and developing countries.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Method of analysis (B) Research outcome
(C) Primary objective (D) Secondary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why agriculture was included as a focus in the study on water consumption. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘over-reliance’ and ‘over-extraction.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘over-reliance’ or ‘over-extraction’:
Sentence 1: The extensive use of groundwater for farming in dry regions leads to rapid depletion of water sources.
Sentence 2: Many regions depend on water-intensive crops, such as rice and cotton, further straining limited water resources.
- v. Read the following : 1
Nina lives in a rural area where water scarcity is a daily challenge. Her family consumes only 50 liters of water per day, most of which is used for farming. Her friend Alex, who lives in an urban area, consumes 250 liters per day, with most of it used for domestic purposes.
Select the option that identifies the correct water consumption patterns for Nina and Alex.
(A) Nina – 350 liters; Alex – 50 liters
(B) Nina – 50 liters; Alex – 250 liters
(C) Nina – 100 liters; Alex – 350 liters
(D) Nina – 250 liters; Alex – 100 liters
- vi. Although rural and urban areas both face water challenges, why is the per capita water consumption lower in rural areas? 1
- vii. Analyse how targeted water management interventions, such as improving irrigation techniques, can significantly reduce water consumption in agriculture-heavy regions. 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Promote increased water usage in industrial regions
(B) Reduce global water stress and ensure sustainable water usage
(C) Limit the use of groundwater to urban areas
(D) Focus only on domestic water use



SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You are Amit/Amita, Head Boy/Girl of your school (Zenith Public School). Write a notice for your school notice board requesting for entries from students for Britannia Quiz Contest to be held in your school.

OR

- B.** Gandhi Education Society, a charitable organization, is coming to your school to distribute books for the needy students. As Head Boy/Head Girl, write a notice asking such students to drop the list of books they need in the box kept outside the Principal's office. You are Akhilesh/Abhilasha of Modern Public School, Ghaziabad. Give all necessary details.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You are Radhika Sinha, D/O Dinesh Sinha of Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi. Your father wants you to draft a formal invitation to be sent on the occasion of your brother, Akshat Sinha's marriage. Prepare the invitation with all necessary details.

OR

- B.** You are Rahul/Radhika of Krishna Nagar, Chennai. You have been invited to attend the wedding of your uncle's daughter/your cousin. Send a reply confirming your acceptance to the invitation in not more than 50 words.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** You are Akhilesh/Abhilasha of Amar Colony, Ghaziabad. The road near your house was washed away in the previous monsoon rains and has not been repaired since then. As a result, people living in the colony are facing a lot of problems. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the editor of a national daily drawing the attention of the authorities concerned to the grave situation in the colony.



CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



OR

- B.** You are Prem/Parul, 16, TT Nagar, Bhopal. You would like to apply for the post of the Marketing Manager in a reputable firm in Mumbai. Write a letter to the Public Relations Officer, Chaitanya Enterprises, Mumbai, applying for the job. Write the letter in 120-150 words giving your biodata.

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

 $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Healthy environment is the utmost necessity of our life and use of plastic bags certainly affects the quality of our life. Write an article on 'Plastic Bags as Curse of Modern Life' in 120-150 words to be published in a magazine. You may use the cues given below along with your own ideas. You are Raghav/Rekha.

Plastic bags-a threat to environment
Most adverse effect on our health
Cause of diseases/asthma/cancer, etc.
Suggestions to remove plastic bags from our life

OR

- B.** You witnessed a ghastly train accident of Punjab Mail near Bhusawal in the early morning hours. As a press reporter, write a report in 120-150 words to be published in a local daily. You are Ashit/Ashima. You can use the cues given below along with your own ideas.

Horrible train accident-heavy fog
Train crossing the bridge-derailed all of a sudden
Injured and wounded passengers seen all around
Help by local people/ambulances/medical staff
Visit by local minister/financial help announced

SECTION C- LITERATURE**40**

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

 $1 \times 6 = 6$

- A.** Perhaps the Earth can teach us
As when everything seems dead
And later proves to be alive
Now I'll count up to twelve
And you keep quiet and I will go.

(Keeping Quiet)

- i.** Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?
- (A) politics (B) violence
(C) anti-war (D) religion

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- ii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet believes that Earth teaches us the cyclical nature of life and renewal.
Reason : The poet suggests that, just like the Earth appears dead but later comes back to life, moments of silence and stillness can lead to renewal and growth.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii. Complete the following suitably.
The poet wishes to leave the readers and go away because _____.
- iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The irony in 'everything seems dead' is the Earth, the biggest creator, regenerates _____ (silently/loudly).
- v. Based on the poem rhyme scheme, evident in lines 1-5, of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 4?

roar

talk

shelve

- vi. Why does the poet wish to leave the readers and go away?

OR

- B. Yes, in spite of all,
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall
From our dark spirits. Such the Sun, the Moon,
Trees old and young, sprouting a shady boon
For simple sheep; and such are daffodils.
With the green world they live in; and clear rills
That for themselves a cooling covert make
Gainst the hot season; the mid forest brake,
- (A Thing of Beauty)*
- i. Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in 'Some shape of beauty'.
- (A) Does it dry up like a raisin in the Sun?
(B) They can only shriek, shriek.
(C) What tale of terror, now, their turbulency tells!
(D) Mine is a long and a sad tale!
- ii. What does 'all' in line one refer to?

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
Our spirits are dark because of suffering and _____ (disappointments/expectations).
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet believes that beauty in nature has the power to lift the gloom from our spirits.
Reason : Elements of nature like the sun, moon, trees, and daffodils provide relief from the hardships of life, bringing peace and joy.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. Give an apt title for the above extract.
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
When the poet says that “Some shape of beauty moves away the pall away from our dark spirits”, he refers to _____.

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

A. DERRY: Things.

MR LAMB: It's all relative. Beauty and the beast.

DERRY: What's that supposed to mean?

MR LAMB: You tell me.

DERRY You needn't think they haven't all told me that fair), story before. 'It's not what you look like, it's what you are inside. Handsome is as handsome does. Beauty loved the monstrous beast for himself and when she kissed him, he changed into a handsome prince.' Only he wouldn't, he'd have stayed a monstrous beast. I won't change.

MR LAMB: In that way? No, you won't.

(On the Face of It)

- i. What is the playwright's purpose of using contractions in the extract?
- ii. What is Derry's attitude towards other people? This is _____.
(A) his acid was hurting him more than his optimism.
(B) his optimism was hurting him more than acid.
(C) his pessimism was hurting him more than acid.
(D) his acid was hurting him more than his pessimism.
- iii. The phrase 'handsome is as handsome does' means that _____.
iv. Give one reason why does the narrator use various symbols and imageries borrowed from nature.



OR

- B.** With Students on Ice, he offers the future generation of policy-makers a life-changing experience at an age when they're ready to absorb, learn and most importantly, act. The reason the programme has been so successful is because it's impossible to go anywhere near the South Pole and not be affected by it.

(Journey to the End of the Earth)

- i. Complete the sentence appropriately with reference to the extract.
The life changing experience referred to here is _____.

- ii. The "future generation of policy-makers" refers to _____.

- iii. The aim of the journey towards Antarctica is
(A) to sensitise the young minds towards climatic change
(B) to travel the world
(C) to witness the geological conditions more closely
(D) to see the beauty of the Earth

- iv. Why has the programme become so successful?

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A.** Listening to them, I see two distinct worlds—one of the family, caught in a web of poverty, burdened by the stigma of caste in which they are born in; the other a vicious circle of the sahkars, the middlemen, the policemen, the keepers of law, the bureaucrats and the politicians. Together they have imposed the baggage on the child that he cannot put down. Before he is aware, he accepts it as naturally as his father. To do anything else would mean to dare. And daring is not part of his growing up. When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh I am cheered. "I want to be a motor mechanic," he repeats. He will go to a garage and learn. But the garage is a long way from his home. "I will walk," he insists. "Do you also dream of flying a plane?" He is suddenly silent. "No," he says, staring at the ground.

(Lost Spring)

- i. How is Firozabad divided into two distinct worlds?

- ii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank.
The role of Sahukars is _____.
(A) to share the burden of the working class
(B) to lend money at low rate of interest
(C) to establish the bangle industry
(D) to lend money at higher rate of interest

- iii. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation.
The writer finds _____.

- iv. What do the given lines tell us about Mukesh?

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- v. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that children in Firozabad are bound to accept their family tradition.
- vi. Based on the extract, choose the statement that is TRUE.
- (A) Mukesh does not want to become a pilot.
 - (B) The writer become sad when Mukesh tells her about his dream.
 - (C) The politicians and middlemen are helpful towards the people of Firozabad.
 - (D) Parents encourage their children to dare.

OR

- B. Then, from one thing to another; M Hamel went on to talk of the French language, saying that it was the most beautiful language in the world – the clearest, the most logical; that we must guard it among us and never forget it, because when a people are enslaved, as long as they hold fast to their language it is as if they had the key to their prison. Then he opened a grammar book and read us our lesson. I was amazed to see how well I understood it. All he said seemed so easy, so easy! I think too, that I had never listened so carefully, and that he had never explained everything with so much patience. It seemed as if the poor man wanted to give us all he knew before going away, and to put it all into our heads at one stroke.

(The Last Lesson)

- i. What advice of M. Hamel shows that he was a patriot indulging in sentimental exaggeration?
- ii. The line, ‘The French language is the most logical and the most logical language in the world,’ can be classified as:
- (A) a perception
 - (B) an opinion
 - (C) a fact
 - (D) a theme
- iii. Explain any one possible inference that can be drawn from the line, “M. Hamel went on to talk of the French language, saying that it was the most beautiful language in the world the clearest, the most logical; and we must guard it among us and never forget it.”
- iv. Identify the lines from the given extract which tell us that it is the last time M. Hamel was teaching his students French.
- v. Franz, who had been quite slow in learning his own native language, suddenly finds it ‘so easy’. Which of these options does not corroborate and match the explanation of the given statement?
- (A) Franz also realized the value of learning his native Language.
 - (B) M. Hamel was more patient in explaining the concepts.
 - (C) M. Hamel had put all the knowledge into their heads at one stroke.
 - (D) Franz was more attentive and receptive that day.
- vi. Complete the sentence with ONE word.
A language gives a cultural and national _____ to the people and moulds their perceptions.



10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. What impression does the character of M. Hamel leave on you?
(*The Last Lesson*)
- ii. What is Saheb looking for in the garbage dumps? Where is he and where has he come from?
(*Lost Spring*)
- iii. How did the fear of water stop Douglas to enjoy life?
(*Deep Water*)
- iv. What is the untold sorrow of the owners of the roadside stand?
(*A Roadside Stand*)
- v. What is the central idea of the poem 'A Thing of Beauty'?
- vi. What is suggested by the image 'massive weight of uncle's wedding band'?
(*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. Why does Charley say that Grand Station is growing like a tree, in the story, 'The Third Level'?
- ii. How do the servants react to the presence of an American in the house?
(*The Enemy*)
- iii. What is ironical about the Tiger King's death?
(*The Tiger King*)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. Roosevelt said, 'All we have to fear is fear itself.' Douglas had fear and he overcame it. Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in about 120-150 words elaborating the given quotation with reference to the occurrences from the two texts, i.e. 'Deep Water' and 'Lost Spring' to inspire your audience and to convince them about it.

OR

- B. The man selling ratttraps is referred to by many terms such as "peddler, stranger" etc. Pick out all such references to him. What does each of these labels indicate of the context or the attitude of the people around him.

(*The Rattrap*)

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** The two accounts that you read in *Memories of Childhood* are based on two distant cultures. However, there lies the commonality of theme in both of them. Instead of letting it pull them down, they both found a way to overcome it in their own way. You wish to include a cameo of both in your upcoming blog post. (A cameo is a short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something)

As a part of the research, compare and contrast the experiences faced by the two and their responses to these experiences, in about 120-150 words. (Clue: include similarities and differences in the discrimination they faced-their feelings-determination to overcome-success)

(Memories of Childhood)

OR

- B.** “The Maharaja’s servants were obedient and adoring.” Do you find them truly sincere towards him or are they driven by fear when they obey him? Do we find a similarity in today’s political order? Elucidate in about 120-150 words.

(The Tiger King)

□□□□□□□



SAMPLE PAPER 07

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The Himalayas, the world's tallest mountain range, stretch across northern India and serve as a natural barrier between the Indian subcontinent and Central Asia. These towering peaks, some rising above 8,000 meters, include Mount Everest, the highest point on Earth. The Himalayas are home to diverse ecosystems, from snow-covered summits to dense forests in the lower regions. The variation in altitude results in a wide range of climates and habitats, supporting a rich variety of flora and fauna, including endangered species like the snow leopard and the red panda.
2. The people living in the Himalayan region have adapted to its rugged terrain and harsh climatic conditions. Most rely on agriculture, though the short growing season at high altitudes limits the crops they can cultivate. Terrace farming is commonly practiced to make the most of the limited arable land. In addition, many communities depend on livestock, and some have turned to tourism, offering trekking and mountaineering services to adventurers from around the world.
3. The monsoon rains are crucial for life in the Himalayas, though they also bring risks. The heavy rainfall during the monsoon season replenishes the rivers that flow from the mountains, providing water for agriculture and daily needs. However, the rains can also cause landslides and floods, devastating villages and infrastructure. The local population has developed early warning systems and adapted their building methods to mitigate these risks, but the unpredictable nature of the monsoon remains a challenge.
4. The Himalayan glaciers are a critical source of freshwater, not only for the people of the region but for millions across South Asia. These glaciers feed the major rivers, including the Ganges, Indus, and Brahmaputra. However, climate change poses a serious threat to

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



the glaciers, which are melting at an alarming rate. If this trend continues, it could lead to water shortages and increased flooding downstream. Efforts are being made to study and protect the glaciers, but the magnitude of the problem requires global cooperation.

5. For those who visit the Himalayas, the experience is one of awe and inspiration. The sheer scale of the mountains, the crisp, thin air, and the breathtaking views make the Himalayas one of the most popular destinations for nature lovers and adventure seekers. Beyond its natural beauty, the Himalayas are also a spiritual haven, attracting pilgrims to its sacred sites, which are often located in remote, hard-to-reach areas.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

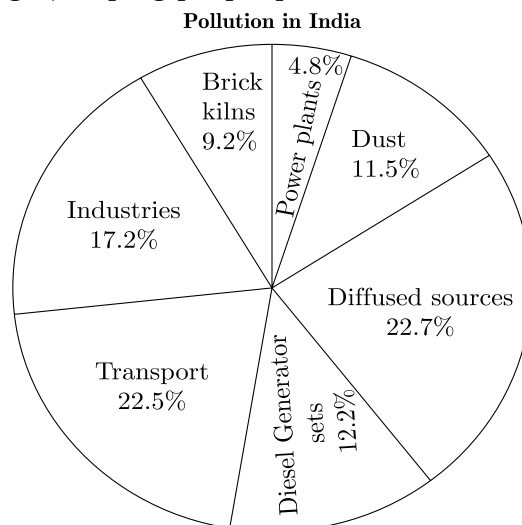
- i. According to paragraph 1, how does the variation in altitude affect the ecosystems of the Himalayas? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the relationship between the people of the Himalayas and their environment, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase “terrace farming” in paragraph 2 refers to the agricultural practice of creating steps on the slopes of hills to grow crops.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
Terrace farming is essential in the Himalayas because _____.
(A) it prevents soil erosion and makes arable land available on the steep slopes
(B) it allows the cultivation of a wide variety of crops
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
The monsoon season in the Himalayas brings _____.
- v. Why does the writer emphasize the importance of the glaciers in paragraph 4? 1
Because
(A) They provide a habitat for endangered species.
(B) They are a major source of freshwater for the region and beyond.
(C) They help control the climate of the region.
(D) They are popular tourist attractions.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
Climate change is seriously affecting the Himalayan glaciers.
- vii. In the line, ‘The sheer scale of the mountains’ (Paragraph 5), what does the phrase ‘sheer scale’ suggest about the Himalayas? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 1 : 1
snow leopard: fauna :: dense forests: _____
(A) land (B) climate
(C) flora (D) altitude



- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement 'the Himalayas are also a spiritual haven' in paragraph 5 uses descriptive language? 1
- (A) It highlights the cultural significance of the Himalayas.
- (B) It explains how the Himalayas are a popular adventure destination.
- (C) It describes the physical challenges of reaching sacred sites.
- (D) It focuses on the importance of spirituality in the region.
- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of balancing conservation efforts with the needs of the local communities, as suggested in paragraph 4. 2

2. Read the following carefully. **10**

- Air pollution poses a significant threat to human health, with 1.1 billion people globally breathing unhealthy air. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), urban air pollution leads to approximately 800,000 deaths worldwide each year, and 4.6 million people lose their lives due to pollution-related causes annually.
- Several factors contribute to the aggravation of air pollution, including traffic, inadequate drainage facilities, lack of open spaces, carbon emissions, and waste accumulation. In developing countries, air pollution is linked with an increased risk of Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI), which is a leading cause of child mortality.
- Urban air quality in mega cities such as Kolkata is particularly concerning. An Exceedance Factor (EF) analysis of ambient air quality in Kolkata found that out of 17 monitoring stations, five fell under the "critical" category, while 12 were classified as having high pollution levels. The pollutants identified include RPM, SPM, NO, and SO₂, with major sources being vehicular emissions (51.4%), industrial sources (24.5%), and dust particles (21.1%).
- A health assessment conducted near highly polluted areas revealed that 85.1% of respondents had respiratory diseases, compared to 14.9% who suffered from waterborne diseases. Common respiratory ailments included Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI) (60%), Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) (7.8%), and Influenza (12.7%).
- In order to promote well-being, it is essential for individuals to adopt pollution-avoiding practices in their daily lives. Public awareness campaigns about the dangers of polluted air can encourage these changes, helping people protect themselves and their communities.



CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links urban air pollution with the global death toll to highlight _____.
_____.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To examine the contribution of various sources, such as vehicular emissions and industrial sources, to air pollution in Kolkata.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Secondary objective (B) Research outcome
(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why awareness about air pollution is critical, based on the passage. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘vehicular emissions’ and ‘dust particles.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘vehicular emissions’ or ‘dust particles’:
Sentence 1: The majority of pollutants in Kolkata come from cars and other motor vehicles.
Sentence 2: Air quality deteriorates significantly due to dust from construction sites.
- v. Read the following : 1
Ravi works in an industry that is a major contributor to air pollution. Priya lives in an area where dust particles are the primary source of pollution. Meanwhile, Arvind, who drives a truck, contributes to vehicular emissions.
Select the option that identifies the correct sources of pollution associated with Ravi, Priya, and Arvind.
(A) Ravi – industrial pollution; Priya – dust particles; Arvind – vehicular emissions
(B) Ravi – vehicular emissions; Priya – industrial pollution; Arvind – dust particles
(C) Ravi – dust particles; Priya – vehicular emissions; Arvind – industrial pollution
(D) Ravi – industrial pollution; Priya – vehicular emissions; Arvind – dust particles
- vi. Why is the increased incidence of respiratory diseases in polluted areas considered a major health concern? 1
- vii. Analyse how the major sources of pollution in Kolkata contribute to deteriorating air quality. (Paragraph 3) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Encourage more use of industrial resources
(B) Increase awareness of pollution-avoiding practices
(C) Promote the use of diesel generators for energy
(D) Limit the availability of medical assessments in polluted areas



SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You are planing a four-week course for the children of your housing society complex for developing their soft skills as part of school project. Prepare a notice to be put up on the society's noticeboard stating the purpose of the course and giving all necessary details asking the children to join the course. You are Yashika/ Yasu, studying in Class XII in a reputable public school.

OR

- B.** You are Joseph Mathew, Vice Principal of Sr. Aloysius Higher Secondary School. Write a notice for the school noticeboard informing the students about the audition schedule for the Annual Play Festival to be organised soon.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You have opened up a new coaching centre catering to all subjects for Class XII. Based on the inputs given below, prepare a draft of formal invitation letter for the purpose.

Shyam Coaching Centre - All subjects - Experts - morning, evening classes - inaugural discount small batch..

OR

- B.** You are Roshan/Roshni, a resident of Rajasthan. Invite your friend Ritika Agarwal who lives in Delhi to spend a part of her winter vacation with you at your farm house near outskirts of Udaipur.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** As a citizen of Delhi, you find that the Government's odd-even formula did not reduce the pollution to the extent that it helped in the de-congestion of the traffic on the roads. It was a laudable effort nevertheless. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily expressing your views on the initiative. Also give suggestions on how vehicular pollution on Delhi roads can be reduced. You are Tina/Tarun Gautam of 14, Barakhamba Road. New Delhi.

OR

- B.** You are Ram/Raman of 17, TT Nagar Bhopal. You would like to apply for the post of Marketing Manager in an MNC in Delhi. Write a litter to the Director, Chipmuk Enterprises, D-7 Vikas Marg, Delhi, applying for the job. Write the letter in 120-150 words giving your bio-data

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Nowadays children are becoming prey to many lifestyle diseases. Write an article in 120-150 words putting stress on the need to maintain a healthy lifestyle. You are Sharan/Shilpa.

OR

- B.** You are Sapna Gupta, a news reporter. Write a report in 120-150 words on 'child marriage' to be published in a local newspaper.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

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

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

(Keeping Quiet)

- i. Which of the following qualities is best represented in the given extract?
(A) Ambitious (B) Futuristic
(C) Concerned (D) Hypocritical
- ii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet wants to embrace total inactivity as a way to connect with death.
Reason : The poet believes that if people pause their hectic lives and embrace silence, they may find peace and understanding.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii. Complete the following suitably.
People should not misunderstand the poet's suggestion of _____.
- iv. Select the phrase that suggests the following:
The poet does not talk about 'total inactivity' related to no action in life which means end of life.
- v. If this poem is not written in free verse, which word would rhyme with line 5.

head

treat

breath

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- vi. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The tone of the poet in the above lines is _____ (Aggressive/ Suggestive)

OR

- B. 'Aunt Jennifer's finger fluttering through her wool
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.
When Aunt is dead,
her terrified hands will lie.
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.'

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

- i. What makes the tigers proud and unafraid?
- ii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
On the basis of the given lines, Aunt Jennifer can be called to be _____ (persecuted/ oppressed).
- iii. These tigers indicate _____.
(A) their immortality
(B) permanency of their nature
(C) transience of human life
(D) change in Aunt's condition
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : Aunt Jennifer's tigers symbolize strength and fearlessness, which contrasts with Aunt Jennifer's oppressed life.
Reason : Despite Aunt Jennifer's death and the struggles she faced in life, her tigers will continue to prance proudly, representing the freedom she longed for but could never achieve.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. Pick the example of alliteration present in the extract.
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
The existence of the tigers even after Aunt Jennifer's death indicates the theme of _____.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



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

- A.** DERRY : And no one'll kiss me, ever. Only my mother, and she kisses me on the other side of my face, and I don't like my mother to kiss me, she does it because she has to. Why should I like that? I don't care if nobody ever kisses me.
MR LAMB : Ah, but do you care if you never kiss them.

(On the Face of It)

- i. What is the tone of the speaker in the first line?
- ii. Why does no one kiss Derry?
This is because of _____.
(A) his shabby appearance
(B) his haft-burnt leg
(C) his outdated clothes
(D) his half-burnt face
- iii. What kind of attitude Derry has towards life?
- iv. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The author's purpose in using contractions, is to _____.

OR

- B.** "He remembered his old teacher of anatomy, who had been so insistent on mercy with the knife, and then he remembered the face of his fat and slatternly landlady. He had great difficulty in finding a place to live in America because he was a Japanese. The Americans were full of prejudice and it had been bitter to live in it, knowing himself their superior. How he had despised the ignorant and dirty old woman who had at last consented to house him in her miserable home! He had once tried to be grateful to her because she had in his last year nursed him through but it was difficult, for she was no less repulsive to him in her kindness."

(The Enemy)

- i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
_____ had cared for Dr Sadao when he fell ill in America.
- ii. Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately.
The Americans were full of prejudice and it had been bitter to live in _____.
(A) Dr Sadao's place
(B) The General's place
(C) America
(D) The White Man's place
- iii. How were the Americans, according to Sadao?
- iv. What difficulty did Dr Sadao face in America?



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

- A.** They thought he would demand repayment in full of the money which they had illegally and deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers. He asked only 50 per cent. "There he seemed adamant," writes Reverend J. Z. Hodge, a British missionary in Champaran who observed the entire episode at close range. "Thinking probably that he would not give way, the representative of the planters offered to refund to the extent of 25 per cent, and to his amazement Mr. Gandhi took him at his word, thus breaking the deadlock" This settlement was adopted unanimously by the commission.

(Indigo)

- i. From the given extract, justify that the decision to agree for a 25% compensatory amount was not a unilateral decision.
- ii. Why was Gandhi adamant in asking for 50% in repayment of the money that the land-owners owed to the sharecropper?
 - (A) He knew that the planters had the means to repay.
 - (B) The sharecroppers would not settle for any less.
 - (C) His own team of lawyers did not allow him to agree to a lesser amount.
 - (D) Reverend Hodge had prevailed upon him.
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
Gandhi knew that he would not get an agreement on the demand for 50% repayment because _____.
- iv. Pick evidence from the extract that helps one infer that the claim regarding the compensation amount to be paid to the planters by the landlords cannot be corroborated.
- v. What does the expression 'take someone at his word' mean?
- vi. Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract?
 - (A) The importance of British rule
 - (B) The breaking of deadlock
 - (C) The rigidity of British rule
 - (D) The anxiety of Gandhiji

OR

- B.** The stranger must have seemed incredulous, for the old man got up and went to the window, took down a leather pouch which hung on a nail in the very window frame and picked out three wrinkled ten-kronor bills. These he held up before the eyes of his guest, nodding knowingly and then stuffed them back into the pouch.

(The Rattrap)

- i. Why did the old man show him his ten-kronor bills?
 - (A) To give to the stranger
 - (B) To make him believe in his statement
 - (C) To let him know where he has kept it
 - (D) To make the stranger jealous

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- ii. Rewrite the sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with its inference.
The stranger must have seemed incredulous for the old man.
- iii. Which of the following is an antonym of the word 'knowingly' in the above extract?
(A) Apparently
(B) Unknowingly
(C) Purposefully
(D) Deliberately
- iv. Rationalise, to support the given opinion.
The old man trusted the stranger enough to share his secrets.
- v. How did the stranger behave with the old man?
- vi. Complete the sentence with one word.
The old man got the money by selling the milk given by his _____.
- 10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$**
- i. "Ah how well I remembered it, that last lesson!" Why did Franz remember it well?
(*The Last Lesson*)
- ii. When did the narrator develop his fear of water in 'Deep Water'?
- iii. What impression do the things of beauty make on us? Is it temporary or permanent?
(*A Thing of Beauty*)
- iv. Aunt Jennifer's efforts to get rid of her fear proved to be futile. Comment.
(*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)
- v. How would the innocent be soothed out of their wits?
(*A Roadside Stand*)
- vi. "The battle of Champaran is won." When and why did Gandhiji utter these words?
(*Indigo*)
- 11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$**
- i. What convinced Charley that he had reached the third level at Grand Central Station and not the second level?
(*The Third Level*)
- ii. Why was the old general not in favour of Dr. Sadao's being arrested?
(*The Enemy*)
- iii. Why is Antarctica the place to go to if we want to study the earth's past, present and future?
(*Journey to the end of the earth*)



12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** The prose sections 'Going Places' and 'Lost Spring', describe the aspirations and dreams of the youth and the pain of unfilled promises and shattered dreams. Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school children. Write this address in about 120-150 words elaborating on occurrences from the two texts to inspire your audience and to convince them about the importance of realistic dreams over unrealistic ones.

OR

- B.** 'The poem elaborates upon the qualities of the beautiful creations of nature.' Imagine yourself as the poet. Summarise the message of the poem 'A Thing of Beauty'.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** If we affect the dumb creatures, they do affect us in return. In the prose, 'The Tiger King', the hundredth tiger take its revenge on the king. Imagine yourself to be the hundredth tiger, and write down in about 120-150 words the revenge you take from the king. You wish to include a cameo for the above statement's explanation in your upcoming blog post. (A short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something) As a part of the research, discuss the statement in relation to Antarctica.

OR

- B.** Both Bama and Zitkala Sa experienced discrimination in their childhood. Both of them respond to their respective situations differently and overcome it. You wish to include a cameo for the above statement's explanation in your upcoming blog post. (A cameo is a short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something) As a part of the research, compare and contrast the experiences as well as responses faced by the two.

(Memories of Childhood)

□□□□□□



SAMPLE PAPER 08

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The old library stood at the end of a quiet street, its walls showing signs of age. Inside, the air smelled of old books, a reminder of the knowledge stored here over the years. Tall wooden shelves were filled with books that seemed to hold endless stories. The only sound was the gentle rustling of pages, creating a peaceful atmosphere for anyone who visited. The library had stood for over a century, a silent witness to the countless people who had come in search of knowledge, solace, or simply an escape from the rush of everyday life.
2. Sunlight shone through the large, stained-glass windows, creating colorful patterns on the floor. The light was a quiet reminder of how time was passing by, even though the library itself seemed to stay the same. For many, the library was a place of escape, where the busy world outside didn't matter. Some visitors found comfort in its stillness, while others appreciated the opportunity to disconnect from the constant barrage of notifications and demands of modern life. Others, however, felt that the library was becoming outdated in a world where everything was available online at the click of a button.
3. In the quietest corners of the library, where dust gathered on untouched books, there was still something special. It wasn't just about reading; it was about discovering forgotten wisdom and stories. Holding a book, feeling its weight, and turning its pages was a connection to the past—a time when stories were shared through paper, not screens. For some, this act of reading provided a sense of nostalgia, while for others, it was a reminder of the simple pleasures that technology could never replace.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



4. Despite the rise of technology, the library remained a symbol of human curiosity and the desire for knowledge. In today's fast-paced world, the library encouraged visitors to slow down and take their time. It wasn't about how much information they could get, but about enjoying the experience of reading and thinking. Libraries represented a rare space where reflection and deep thinking were valued over speed.
5. In this space, time was measured not by the ticking of clocks but by how deeply one could lose themselves in a story. While the modern world seemed obsessed with speed, the library offered a different kind of richness—the kind that could only be found in the pages of a book, in the quiet moments of reflection. For those who appreciated it, the library was not just a place, but an experience, a pause from the relentless pace of life.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, what does the scent of old books in the library symbolize? 1
- ii. How does the author use the sunlight coming through the stained-glass windows to show the passage of time in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase 'something special' in paragraph 3 suggests that beyond the dust and forgotten books, there is still an element of magic in the act of choosing and reading a book, connecting readers to the past.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
The 'something special' refers to _____.
(A) a collection of rare and valuable artifacts
(B) untold stories and knowledge waiting to be discovered
- iv. Complete the following with ONE reason, with reference to paragraph 2 : 1
The library is considered a place of escape because _____.
- v. Why does the author describe reading physical books in the library as a 'connection to the past' in paragraph 3? 1
Because
(A) It brings readers closer to an old way of learning and storytelling.
(B) It offers a sense of nostalgia for those who miss the past.
(C) It provides a more authentic experience than reading on screens.
(D) It preserves books that have been forgotten by time.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 3, to support the following : 1
The act of reading a book is more than just gathering information.



- vii.** In the line, 'In today's fast-paced world, the library encouraged visitors to slow down...' (Paragraph 4), what does the phrase 'slow down' mean in this context? 2
- viii.** Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 4 : 1
rest: relax :: library: _____
(A) read (B) discover
(C) think (D) slow
- ix.** Why is it fair to say that the statement 'In this space, time was measured not by the ticking of clocks but by how deeply one could lose themselves in a story' in paragraph 5, uses contrast? 1
(A) It shows the difference between regular time and the emotional experience of losing oneself in a book.
(B) The author is pointing out the slow pace of the library compared to the busy modern world.
(C) The writer contrasts how people experience time in the library versus the outside world.
(D) The statement highlights the difference between time spent reading and time spent on other activities.
- x.** Evaluate the potential benefits or challenges of keeping libraries relevant in the digital age, as suggested in paragraph 4. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. Introduction :
In the fast-paced environment of urban living, transportation choices play a significant role in daily life. This case study aims to analyse the preference for public transport compared to private vehicles among different age groups and the implications for environmental sustainability.
2. Methodology :
A survey was conducted among individuals of various age groups, from teenagers to the elderly, to identify their preferred mode of transport. Participants were asked to choose between public transport and private vehicles and explain the reasons behind their choice. The collected data was analysed to observe trends in transportation preferences across age demographics.
3. Survey Examination :
The survey provided a detailed examination of transportation habits, focusing not only on the preferred modes of transport but also exploring the reasons behind these choices. Participants were asked to elaborate on their decisions, revealing the complexities of their transportation choices, such as convenience, environmental concerns, and cost.



4. Results :

The survey yielded the following results regarding transportation preferences:

Age-group	% Preferred Mode	Reasons for Preference
Teenagers	60% Private	Independence, Convenience, Parental influence
Young adults	45% Mixed	Flexibility, Time management, Financial considerations
Middle-aged	70% Public	Cost efficiency, Environmental concerns, Traffic stress
Elderly	85% Public	Safety, Comfort, Lack of need for frequent travel

5. Implications for Interventions :

Understanding the preferences of different age groups can help policymakers design targeted interventions. For instance, promoting sustainable transport options for young adults through flexible and affordable plans may encourage more eco-friendly choices. Similarly, improving public transport accessibility for the elderly and middle-aged groups could address safety and convenience concerns while promoting environmental sustainability. Initiatives like these can result in broader support for public transport systems and reduced reliance on private vehicles.

6. Conclusion :

The survey findings provide a basis for developing interventions that cater to the diverse needs of different age demographics, fostering a more sustainable and efficient transportation system. By addressing the underlying reasons behind transportation preferences, stakeholders can collaborate on building an eco-friendly and accessible urban transport network for future generations.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links fast-paced urban living with transportation choices in the study to highlight _____.
 - ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To examine transportation preferences across various age groups in detail, and assess environmental implications.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Primary purpose (B) Secondary objective
(C) Method of analysis (D) Research outcome
- iii. Give two points to support why public transport was given as an option to the survey participants to choose from in the study on transportation preferences. 2



- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘reasons’ and ‘decisions.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘reason’ or ‘decision’:
Sentence 1 : Traffic congestion leads middle-aged individuals to prefer public transport over private vehicles.
Sentence 2 : The desire to save money drives young adults to opt for a mix of public and private transportation.
- v. Read the following : 1
Ravi regularly commutes by bus and train, preferring the convenience of public transport. Sneha, his colleague, mostly drives her car to work for comfort and independence. Anirudh, who lives nearby, switches between using his bike and car based on the weather. Select the option that identifies the correct demographic Ravi, Sneha, and Anirudh belong to.
(A) Ravi – elderly; Sneha – young adult; Anirudh – middle-aged
(B) Ravi – middle-aged; Sneha – young adult; Anirudh – teenager
(C) Ravi – young adult; Sneha – teenager; Anirudh – middle-aged
(D) Ravi – elderly; Sneha – middle-aged; Anirudh – young adult
- vi. Although teenagers and middle-aged groups both prefer public transport, why is the preference percentage highest among the elderly? 1
- vii. Analyse how targeted interventions based on the diverse transportation preferences of different age groups can lead to a more sustainable urban transport system. (Paragraph 5) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Encourage widespread adoption of electric vehicles
(B) Build a sustainable and efficient public transport network
(C) Reduce individual commuting time
(D) Increase affordability of private transport options

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$
- A. You are the Secretary of your School Literary Association. Write a notice in not more than 50 words for your school notice board, giving details of the proposed inauguration of the Literary Association of your school. You are ‘XYZ’ of Jain Vidyashram, Cuddalore.
- OR**
- B. You lost your wristwatch in your school auditorium. Write a notice in not more than 50 words for your school notice board giving a detailed description of the watch. You are Anirudh/Arundhati of class XII of Springfield School, Pune.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You are the President, Literary Society of Sunshine International School. Draft an invitation to author, Ms Manjul Bajaj requesting her to conduct a workshop on creative writing in your school. You are Romi/Rohit of Zenith Public School.

OR

- B.** Write a formal reply accepting an invitation to be present in the birthday celebrations of your friend, Suresh's daughter, who lives at 1231, Chattarpur, Delhi. You are Abhishek Khanna.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Write a letter in about 120-150 words for the post of the Librarian in Vision Senior Secondary School, Calicut. Also, enclose your Bio-data with it. You are Radhika/Rajeev from 21, Cherry Road, Madurai.

OR

- B.** Write a letter to the Editor, Deccan Times, Bangalore about the inadequate parking facilities in the Commercial Street, M.G. Road, which is causing a lot of inconvenience to the people. Offer your suggestions. You are Anoop/Ritu, 24 Hennus Road, Bangalore.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** On the occasion of Teacher's Day, the Honourable PM of India had an interactive session with students from all over the country through satellite link. Your school also made special arrangements for the students to view the telecast. Write an article in about 120-150 words for your school magazine giving details of the talk and its impact on you. You are Akshay/ Akshita of Brightland Public School.

OR

- B.** You are Mridul/Mridula, an HT correspondent. You witnessed a protest rally by a youth organisation. Mentioning the purpose of rally, places covered and reaction of public, write a report in 120-150 words for your newspaper.

SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two - (A) or (B). $1 \times 6 = 6$

- A.** ...I looked again at her, wan,
pale
as a late winter's moon and felt that
old
familiar ache, my childhood's fear,
but all I said was, see you soon,
Amma,
all I did was smile and smile and
smile

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- i. What is the speaker's emotional state when looking at her mother?
(A) Empathetic and understanding
(B) Nostalgic and longing
(C) Confused and disoriented
(D) Fearful and apprehensive
- ii. What does the use of the word "but" at the beginning of the line, 'but all I said..', suggest ?
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The description of the mother as "wan, pale / as a late winter's moon" creates a vivid image of _____ (sensitivity/vulnerability).
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion (A) : The speaker feels an "old familiar ache" when looking at her mother, who appears pale and wan.
Reason (R) : The speaker is reminded of her childhood fear of losing her mother due to her mother's frail appearance, like a late winter's moon.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
(A) Both assertion and reason are true, and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.
(B) Both assertion and reason are true, but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.
(C) assertion is true, but reason is false.
(D) assertion is false, but reason is true
- v. What message do these lines highlight, in the context of familial relationships, and the speaker's sense of anxiety and fear at the prospect of losing her mother?
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
The repetition of the word, 'smile' suggests that _____.

OR

- B. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.
They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.
- (Aunt's Jennifer's Tiger)*
- i. State in one sentence, how are Aunt Jennifer's tigers described?



- ii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : Aunt Jennifer's tigers symbolize fearlessness and freedom in a world of confinement.
Reason : The tigers prance across a screen, unaffected by the men beneath the tree, embodying confidence and independence.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship :
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii. Fill in the blank with reference to the extract.
The word from the extract which means 'to move or leap about' is _____.
- iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The fact that Aunt Jennifer is creating the tigers shows her _____ (artistic inclination/ anxiousness).
- v. Select the phrase that suggests the following:
Aunt Jennifer's tigers are not real.
- vi. Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the last line of the extract.
(A) Life is a ride
(B) Tiger tiger burning bright
(C) As cunning as a fox
(D) Accurate estimate of the work
- 8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (A) or (B)** $4 \times 1 = 4$
- A.** He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it and that I just want to escape. Well, who doesn't? Everybody I know wants to escape, but they don't wander down into any third level at Grand Central Station. But that's the reason, he said, and my friends all agreed. Everything points to it, they claimed. My stamp collecting, for example; that's a 'temporary refuge from reality.' Well, maybe, but my grandfather didn't need any refuge from reality.
- (The Third Level)*
- i. Why didn't Charley's grandfather need refuge from reality?
- ii. Why did Sam's verdict make Charley's wife 'mad'?



- iii. Select the option that signifies the condition of people of the 'modern world' mentioned in the extract.
- (A) afraid (B) anxious
(C) unsure (D) All of these

- iv. Complete the sentence appropriately.
Sam's explanation to the reaction of Charley's wife was _____ in nature.

OR

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

(On the Face of It)

- i. What does the phrase 'May be. May be not' in the extract indicate?
- (A) Uncertainty (B) Foretelling
(C) Suspicion (D) Despair

- ii. Find a word in the extract which is a synonym of 'perfect'.

- iii. Why does Antarctica holds importance?

- iv. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The questions asked by the narrator signify _____.

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A. Poor man! It was in the honour of this last lesson that he had out on his fine Sunday clothes, and now I understood why the old men of the village were sitting there in the back of the room. It was because they were sorry, too, that they had not gone to school more. It was their way of thanking our master for his forty years of faithful service and of showering their respect for the country that was theirs no more. While I was thinking of all this, I heard my name called. It was my turn to recite. What would I not have given to be able to say that dreadful rule for the participle all through, very loud and clear, and without one mistake? But I got mixed up on the first words and stood there, holding on to my desk, my heart beating, and not daring to look up.

(The Last Lesson)

- i. List any two details M. Hamel discussed in the given extract.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- ii. How did M. Hamel react to this show of 'non-performance'?
- (A) He let the iron ruler talk.
(B) He ignored his pupil's lack of commitment.
(C) He didn't utter a harsh word in response.
(D) He let Franz be free and sent him out.
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The old men of the village on the back benches were _____.
- iv. Pick out an evidence from the extract given that helps one infer his way of showing patriotic love for his land and language.
- v. Who is the 'Poor man'?
- vi. Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the given extract?
- (A) Honour to the village people
(B) Respect for human beings
(C) Faithful services of M. Hamel
(D) Too late for school

OR

- B.** Unaware of what his name represents, he roams the streets with his friends, an army of barefoot boys who appear like the morning birds and disappear at noon. Over the months, I have come to recognise each of them.
"Why aren't you wearing chappals?" I ask one.
"My mother did not bring them down from the shelf," he answers simply.
"Even if she did, he will throw them off," adds another who is wearing shoes that do not match.
When I comment on it, he shuffles his feet and says nothing. "I want shoes," says a third boy who has never owned a pair all his life. Travelling across the country I have seen children walking barefoot, in cities, on village roads. It is not lack of money but a tradition to stay barefoot, is one explanation.
- (Lost Spring)*
- i. What is the writer's purpose in allowing the boys to speak for themselves via dialogue, as opposed to only a writer's commentary ?
- ii. The line, "It is not lack of money but a tradition to stay barefoot" can be best classified as :
- (A) A theme (B) An opinion
(C) A fact (D) A plot point
- iii. Explain any one possible inference that can be drawn from the line, "an army of barefoot boys who appear like the morning birds and disappear at noon".



- iv. Identify the line from the text that bears evidence to the fact that the writer's association with the boys is not a recent one.
- v. Based on the context provided in the extract, select the most likely comment that the writer would have made, based on the boy's reaction to the mismatched shoes.
- (A) "I like your shoes. What matters is that they protect your feet?"
- (B) "Don't worry about your shoes, you can wear a matching pair later."
- (C) "Why are your shoes mismatched? That's not a good look"
- (D) "Have you chosen to mismatch your shoes?"
- vi. Complete the sentence with ONE word.
The phrase "he answers simply", suggests that the boy's response to the writer's question about why he wasn't wearing chappals was _____.

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. How is the bangle industry of Firozabad a curse for the bangle makers? (*Lost Spring*)
- ii. What did the gift of the rattrap signify? (*The Rattrap*)
- iii. The poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' is replete with symbols. Interpret any two symbols used in the poem. (*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)
- iv. What different images does the poet use to convey the idea of her mother's old age? (*My Mother at Sixty-Six*)
- v. What tempted Franz to stay away from school? (*The Last Lesson*)
- vi. Why did Gandhiji feel that taking the Champaran case to the court was useless? (*Indigo*)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. "But Sadao searching the spot of black in the twilight sea that night, had his reward". What was the reward? (*The Enemy*)
- ii. How did 'The World' help Charley to confirm his doubts regarding the existence of a third level? (*The Third Level*)
- iii. What considerations influenced the Tiger King to get married? (*The Tiger King*)



12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. Why do you think Gandhiji considered the Champaran episode to be a turning-point in his life?

(Indigo)

OR

- B. The story 'The Rattrap' is both entertaining and philosophical. Discuss. *(The Rattrap)*

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. What is the bond that unites old Mr. Lamb and Derry, the boy? How does the old man inspire the boy?

(On the Face of It)

OR

- B. 'We too are Human Beings' highlights high caste - low caste discrimination in society. How do low caste people suffer on account of this? What advice is given to Bama to overcome this problem?

(Memories of Childhood)

□□□□□□



SAMPLE PAPER 09

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. India's handloom industry is one of the oldest and most important cottage industries in the country. It plays a vital role in preserving traditional textile art and providing employment to millions of weavers across rural and semi-urban areas. Each region of India has its unique weaving techniques, patterns, and fabrics that reflect the local culture and heritage. For instance, the bright, intricate designs of Kanjeevaram silk sarees from Tamil Nadu are distinct from the geometric patterns of the Assamese Mekhela Chador.
2. The handloom industry is largely decentralized, with weavers working out of their homes or in small cooperative societies. This gives the industry a flexible structure, allowing artisans to work independently and create personalized, handcrafted textiles. Many families have passed down their weaving skills for generations, preserving the cultural identity of their communities. The connection between the weavers and their craft is deeply personal, with each piece of fabric representing a blend of tradition and creativity.
3. Despite its cultural significance, the handloom sector faces several challenges. With the rise of mechanized textile mills and mass-produced clothing, handwoven fabrics have become more expensive and less accessible to the average consumer. This has led to a decline in demand, leaving many weavers struggling to make a sustainable living. Additionally, competition from cheaper synthetic fabrics and the lack of market access for rural weavers have further impacted the industry's growth.
4. In recent years, there has been a growing movement to revive the handloom industry through government initiatives, fashion collaborations, and consumer awareness campaigns. By promoting the use of handloom products and supporting sustainable fashion, many organizations hope to create a new market for handwoven fabrics. This

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



shift towards conscious consumption has the potential to preserve traditional weaving techniques while providing fair wages and better working conditions for weavers.

5. The future of India's handloom industry depends on balancing the preservation of its cultural heritage with the modernization of its production methods. Sustainable practices, coupled with innovative marketing strategies, can help the industry thrive in a competitive market, ensuring that the art of handloom weaving continues to flourish for generations to come.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

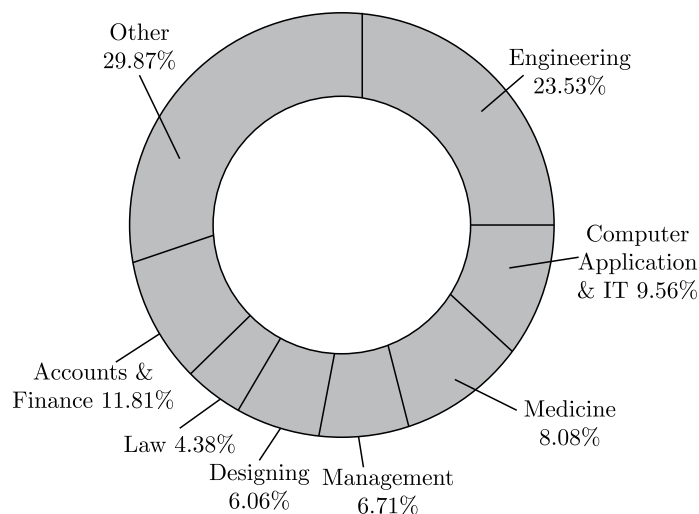
- i. According to paragraph 1, how does India's handloom industry contribute to preserving culture? 1
- ii. How does the decentralized nature of the handloom industry benefit weavers, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "a flexible structure" in paragraph 2 suggests that the handloom industry allows weavers to work independently and craft unique products.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
The handloom industry has a flexible structure because _____.
(A) it enables weavers to work from home and follow traditional methods
(B) it allows consumers to access mass-produced textiles
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
The decline in demand for handwoven fabrics is caused by _____. 1
- v. Why does the writer mention government initiatives in paragraph 4? 1
Because
(A) It highlights efforts to revive the handloom industry by creating a new market.
(B) It explains how handloom weavers benefit from modern textile mills.
(C) It describes how mass production has improved the handloom sector.
(D) It shows how mechanized factories are outcompeting weavers.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 3, to support the following : 1
Weavers face difficulties in competing with synthetic fabrics. 1
- vii. In the line, 'The future of India's handloom industry depends on balancing the preservation of its cultural heritage with the modernization of its production methods' (Paragraph 5), what does the phrase 'balancing the preservation of its cultural heritage' suggest about the challenges the industry faces? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 4 : 1
weaving: craftsmanship :: handlooms: _____.
(A) flexibility (B) tradition
(C) production (D) sustainability



- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement ‘the handloom industry is essential to preserving India’s cultural heritage’ in paragraph 1 uses factual language? 1
(A) It refers to the historical importance of handwoven textiles in Indian culture.
(B) It explains how mechanized textile mills are improving the industry.
(C) It compares the handloom industry to mass-produced clothing.
(D) It describes the impact of handloom products on rural areas.
- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of modernizing India’s handloom industry, as suggested in paragraph 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. India’s demographic advantage is evident with an average age of just 27 in 2020, meaning that the country is predominantly youthful. However, despite this, the unemployment crisis persists. The primary cause is the lack of alignment between the skills that the youth possess and the demands of new industries, despite the rapidly expanding range of career options and job roles.
2. One of the key reasons for this skill gap is that many Indian students are only aware of a limited set of career options, even though 250 career paths exist across the country. A recent survey conducted by Mindler, an online career-counseling platform, revealed that students are only familiar with seven career options, leaving them unaware of the diverse opportunities that could better suit their skills.
3. The survey was conducted among 10,000 participants aged 14-20 and revealed that 93% of students were aware of only seven career paths: law, engineering, medicine, accounts and finance, design, computer applications and IT, and management. The figure included highlights the common career options considered by students, with engineering as the most preferred at 23.53%, followed by accounts and finance (11.81%), computer applications and IT (9.56%), and medicine (8.08%).



4. Despite 250 available career paths in 40 domains covering 5,000 job types, Indian students are largely unaware of the options beyond the most common careers. This lack of awareness could jeopardize the potential benefits of India’s youthful demographic, preventing the country from reaping the rewards of its demographic dividend.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



5. Parents and teachers can play a critical role in expanding their children's awareness of new career options. By staying informed and making use of available tools, parents can provide guidance that aligns with their child's strengths, rather than pushing them toward the most familiar career choices.
6. If parents utilize career counseling and technology effectively, they can make better-informed decisions regarding their children's future careers, helping them achieve personal and professional growth.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links India's youthful population with the unemployment crisis to highlight _____.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To investigate the limited career awareness among Indian students and its effects on their professional prospects.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Secondary objective (B) Research outcome
(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why career counseling is critical in the context of India's youth, as described in the passage. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – 'career options' and 'skill gap.' 1
Classify the following sentences as 'career options' or 'skill gap':
Sentence 1: Students are aware of only a limited number of career choices, even though more options exist.
Sentence 2: Employers are looking for skills that students do not possess, leading to unemployment.
- v. Read the following : 1
Seema prefers to pursue engineering, which is a popular career option among students. Her neighbor Mohan is interested in accounts and finance, but struggles with deciding on a career. Arindam, who lives across the street, is unsure of his choices and feels pressured to choose management as it seems safer.
Select the option that identifies the correct career paths Seema, Mohan, and Arindam are considering.
(A) Seema – engineering; Mohan – accounts and finance; Arindam – management
(B) Seema – medicine; Mohan – law; Arindam – engineering
(C) Seema – law; Mohan – design; Arindam – IT
(D) Seema – design; Mohan – engineering; Arindam – medicine
- vi. Why is the lack of career awareness among Indian students considered a major issue, despite having access to 250 career options? 1
- vii. Analyse how parental involvement and career counseling can help bridge the skill gap among Indian students. (Paragraph 5) 2



- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
- (A) Increase the number of available job roles
 - (B) Improve career awareness and counseling for students
 - (C) Reduce the number of common career choices available
 - (D) Promote traditional career paths like medicine and law

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

- 3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words.** $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A. You are Sapna Singh, the Secretary of Cultural Committee of your school. Write a notice in about 50 words inviting students to participate in the Annual Day of the school to be organized next month.

OR

- B. You are Man/Mani, secretary of the History Club of K.V. Sr. Sec. School, Badodhra. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words informing the students of class XI and XII about a proposed tour to Rajasthan during the coming summer vacations.

- 4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words.** $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A. Your school is going to hold its Annual Day celebrations on 18th August at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi. You want Mr. Arjun Singh, a noted playback singer to be the chief guest on this occasion. Write a formal invitation in about 50 words requesting him to preside over the function. You are Raman/Rani, Headmistress, Don Bosco School, New Delhi.

OR

- B. You are opening a coaching institute for students of classes IX-XII. Write an informal invitation, inviting your best friend for its inauguration. Do not exceed more than 50 words. Invent necessary details.

- 5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words.** $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. You are Pushpit/Pushpa Pandey of 62 B, Mayur Vihar, Delhi. Write a letter to the editor of the Hindustan Times about 'Misuse of Computers, TV and Mobile Phones by Children'.

OR

- B. You are Rohini/Rohit. You have seen an advertisement for the post of an English Teacher in Khetan Public School, Raipur. Write a letter in response to the advertisement applying for the post. Give your detailed resume. Invent necessary details.

- 6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words.** $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. You are extremely disturbed by the growing crime against the elderly people in your city. Write an article commenting upon the reasons for such crimes and how one can prevent them. Sign yourself as Khoshali Bhardwaj.

OR

- B. Write a report in 120-150 words for your school magazine describing the prize distribution ceremony that was held to honour the academic achievers of class XII of the previous year.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS

SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

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

- A. "The hurt to the scenery wouldn't be my complaint
So much as the trusting sorrow of what is unsaid:
Here far from the city we make our roadside stand
And ask for some city money to feel in hand
To try if it will not make our being expand,
And give us the life of the moving-pictures' promise
That the party in power is said to be keeping from us."

(*A Roadside Stand*)

- i. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The roadside stand was made by the poor people and it was _____ (near/far) from the city.
- ii. Select the phrase that suggests the following.
The poet does not want to accuse the rustics of spoiling the beauty of the landscape.
- iii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet is more concerned with the emotional pain of unfulfilled promises to rural people than with the damage to the landscape.
Reason : The rural people believe that money from the city will improve their lives and fulfill the promises made by the party in power.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iv. Complete the following suitably.
The promise made by the government was that to give _____.
- v. Do you think that the promise made by the government was fulfilled?
- vi. What wouldn't be the poet's complaint?
(A) The hurt to the scenery (B) The beauty of people
(C) The beauty of nature (D) The hurt to the buildings

OR

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

(*Keeping Quiet*)

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- i. Which poetic device has been used in the second line of the extract?
(A) Metaphor (B) Transferred epithet
(C) Alliteration (D) Paradox
- ii. Identify the tone of the poem in the first line of the extract.
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The poet uses a conversational style and personal pronouns 'you', 'we' and 'I' because he wants us to be _____ (friendly/cruel) with the whole mankind.
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet believes that silence and stillness can help us understand the cycles of life.
Reason : The Earth teaches us that even when everything seems dead, it can later prove to be alive, symbolizing renewal and continuity.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. Select the phrase that suggests the following:
The poet thinks that he has said what he intended to say.
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
The poet wants to convey the message that there is life even in the moment of total inactivity. This moment of total inactivity leads one to _____.
- 8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (A) or (B).** $4 \times 1 = 4$
- A.** DERRY : How could I? You pass people in the street and you might even speak to them, but you never see them again. It doesn't mean they're friends.
MR LAMB : Doesn't mean they're enemies, either does it?
DERRY : No, they're just... nothing. People. That's all.
MR LAMB : People are never just nothing. Never.
DERRY There are some people I hate.
MR LAMB : That'd do you more harm than any bottle of acid. Acid only burns your face.
- (On the Face of It)*
- i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The author's purpose in using contractions, is to _____.
- ii. In the given extract, select the option that best summarises Derry's attitude towards others.
(A) His pessimism was hurting him more than acid.
(B) His optimism was hurting him more than acid.



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

- iii. Derry says, 'I won't change'. Why does Derry say so?
- iv. How is the line, "DERRY : No, they're just...nothing. People. That's all." How would you describe Derry and Mr Lamb in the extract?

OR

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

(Memories of Childhood)

- i. Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract.
The story referred in the extract is about ____.
- ii. Why was Annan not amused?
- iii. Select the most suitable title for the given extract.
(A) The Wise Brother (B) The Unsuspecting Girl
(C) The Caste System (D) The Reality of Castes
- iv. Bama's innocence was lost when she came face to face with the ugly truth of racial discrimination. Do you agree?

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A. I swam the crawl, breast stroke, side stroke, and back stroke. Only once did the terror return. When I was in the middle of the lake, I put my face under and saw nothing but bottomless water. The old sensation returned in miniature. I laughed and said, "Well, Mr Terror, what do you think you can do to me?" It fled and I swam on. Yet I had residual doubts. At my first opportunity I hurried west, went up the Tieton to Conrad Meadows, up the Conrad Creek Trail to Meade Glacier, and camped in the high meadow by the side of Warm Lake. The next morning I stripped, dived into the lake, and swam across to the other shore and back – just as Doug Corpron used to do. I shouted with joy, and Gilbert Peak returned the echo. I had conquered my fear of water.

(Deep Water)

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



- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The lesson focused on the fact that _____ must never be treated lightly.
- iv. Pick out an evidence from the text that helps one infer that the protagonist has overcome his fear.
- v. What does the term 'Mr Terror' refer to?
- vi. Which of the following best suggests the appropriateness of the title?
(A) He even took the services of an instructor.
(B) The author's fear was a deep-rooted one.
(C) To overcome his fear, he visited oceans.
(D) He was once nearly drowned.

OR

- B. "The official inquiry assembled a crushing mountain of evidence against the big planters, and when they saw this they agreed, in principle, to make refunds to the peasants. "But how much must we pay?" They asked Gandhi. They thought he would demand repayment in full of the money which they had illegally and deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers. He asked only 50 per cent. "There he seemed adamant," writes Reverend JZ Hodge, a British missionary in Champaran who observed the entire episode at close range. "Thinking probably that he would not give way, the representative of the planters offered to refund to the extent of 25 per cent, and to his amazement Mr. Gandhi took him at his word, thus, breaking the deadlock"
- (Indigo)*
- i. Why did the servants consider Gandhiji to be another peasant?
- ii. The line, "They thought he would demand repayment in full of the money which they had illegally and deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers," can be classified as:
(A) a research (B) an opinion
(C) a fact (D) a theme
- iii. Explain any one inference that can be drawn from the line, "The official inquiry assembled plenty of traces against the big planters, and when they saw this they agreed, in principle, to make refunds to the peasants."
- iv. Rationalize to support the given opinion, "There he seemed adamant," writes Reverend J. Z. Hodge, a British missionary in Champaran who observed the entire episode at close range.
- v. What did the officials think about the refunds to the peasants?
(A) Gandhiji would demand repayment in full of money.
(B) Gandhiji would demand nothing.
(C) Gandhiji would demand repayment in 25%.
(D) Gandhiji would take strict action.
- vi. Complete the sentence with ONE word.
The big planters were agreed to refund _____ share.



10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. What, according to M. Hamel, was the outcome of the neglect of the French language in the region? *(The Last Lesson)*
- ii. What are the differences in the ambitions of Saheb and Mukesh? *(Lost Spring)*
- iii. What are the beauties of nature that the poet mentions in 'A Thing of Beauty'? Why are they an everlasting source of joy?
- iv. Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool find even the ivory needle hard to pull. Why? *(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)*
- v. Why is Rajkumar Shukla described as being 'resolute'? *(Indigo)*
- vi. How would the innocent be soothed out of their wits? *(A Roadside Stand)*

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. What kind of relationship did Dr. Sadao Hoki share with his father? *(The Enemy)*
- ii. Why did the Maharaja order the Dewan to double the land tax? *(The Tiger King)*
- iii. What happened to the narrator's psychiatrist friend Sam Weiner? What do you deduce from it? *(The Third Level)*

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

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

OR

- B. "The Rattrap" is a lesson which shows that basic human goodness can be brought out by understanding and love. Do you think this is practical in approach? Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in about 120-150 words.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. Dr. Sadao was compelled by duty as a doctor to help the enemy soldier. What made Hana, his wife, sympathetic to him in the face of open defiance from the domestic staff? You wish to include a cameo for the above statement's explanation in your upcoming blog post. (A short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something) As a part of the research, discuss the statement in relation to 'The Enemy' in about 120-150 words.

(The Enemy)

OR

- B. The title "Journey to the End of the Earth" is quite justified. Imagine yourself Tishani Doshi, and express your thoughts about its justification.

□□□□□□

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



SAMPLE PAPER 10

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The ancient oak tree stood proudly in the center of the village square, its wide branches spreading out like open arms. Its trunk was thick and covered in rough, weathered bark that told tales of time long gone. Over the years, storms and seasons had left their marks, making the tree look even more majestic. In spring, its leaves were fresh and green, but now, with autumn arriving, the leaves had turned shades of gold and red. A few had already fallen, leaving a colorful carpet on the cobblestone path beneath it, gently rustling with the wind.
2. Underneath the oak tree was a stone bench that wrapped around its base, worn smooth by generations of villagers. This bench had become a favorite resting place for the townspeople, who enjoyed the tree's shade during the day. Elderly villagers often gathered there to share stories of the past, while children played nearby. It wasn't uncommon to find travelers sitting there as well, taking a break from their journey. The soft sound of leaves fluttering in the wind added to the calming atmosphere.
3. Surrounding the square were small shops with brightly colored awnings. The scent of freshly baked bread from the nearby bakery often mixed with the smell of the earth and the crisp autumn air. The marketplace was always busy, with people coming to buy local produce and crafts. Villagers walked slowly, greeting one another with smiles, enjoying the warmth of the afternoon sun as they moved through the square. The oak tree, standing tall in the middle, was like a silent guardian, watching over them.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



4. As the sun began to set, casting long shadows across the square, the village seemed to slow down. The golden light of the setting sun made the tree appear even grander, with its shadow stretching far across the cobblestones. Families often gathered near the tree in the evening, taking a moment to enjoy the last light of the day. The air was filled with a sense of peace as the day came to a close.
5. For the villagers, the oak tree was more than just a part of the landscape. It was a symbol of strength and continuity. No matter how much the village changed over time, the tree remained a constant. It had witnessed the passing of countless seasons and generations, becoming a part of the village's identity. The tree was a living reminder of the past and a connection to the present, standing firm in the heart of the village.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, what do the scars on the oak tree's trunk symbolize? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the role of the stone bench under the oak tree in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "a living reminder of the past" in paragraph 5 suggests that the oak tree represents the village's history and connection to its past.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
The oak tree symbolizes _____.
(A) the village's continuity and strength
(B) the changing seasons and landscape
- iv. Complete the following with ONE reason, with reference to paragraph 3: 1
The marketplace in the village is important because _____.
- v. Why does the writer refer to the oak tree as a "silent guardian" in paragraph 3? 1
Because
(A) It has stood for many years, watching over the villagers.
(B) It protects the village from harsh weather.
(C) It represents the village's wisdom and strength.
(D) It provides a central gathering place for the community.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to prove the following : 1
The oak tree creates a peaceful atmosphere in the village square.
- vii. In the line, 'the village seemed to slow down...' (Paragraph 4), what does the phrase 'slow down' suggest about the mood in the evening? 2



- viii.** Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 3 : 1
 sunlight: warmth :: oak tree: -----
 (A) shade (B) wisdom
 (C) beauty (D) peace
- ix.** Why is it fair to say that the statement ‘the oak tree had witnessed the passing of countless seasons’ in paragraph 5, uses figurative language? 1
 (A) It personifies the tree as if it could witness time.
 (B) It compares the tree to a human observer.
 (C) It exaggerates the impact of the tree on the villagers.
 (D) It gives the tree a symbolic meaning in the village.
- x.** Assess the potential challenges OR benefits of preserving the oak tree, as suggested in paragraph 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully. **10**

1. Introduction :

In modern agriculture, water management is a critical factor affecting crop productivity and environmental sustainability. This case study examines the water usage patterns of different farming communities and evaluates the impact of irrigation techniques on water conservation.

2. Methodology :

A survey was conducted among various farming communities, ranging from small-scale to large-scale farmers, to assess their water usage practices. Participants were asked to share information about their irrigation techniques, water sources, and any challenges they face regarding water conservation. The data was then analysed to identify trends and patterns in water usage across different farming practices.

3. Survey Examination :

The survey explored in-depth water management practices, focusing on the types of irrigation systems used, the frequency of irrigation, and the challenges related to water availability. Farmers were also asked to provide reasons for their choice of irrigation methods, offering insights into the factors that influence their decisions, such as cost, efficiency, and water scarcity.

4. Results :

The survey findings revealed the following trends in water usage:

Farming Group	% Using Advanced Irrigation Systems	Reasons for Choosing Irrigation Systems
Small-scale	40%	Cost constraints, Simplicity, Limited access to resources
Medium-scale	60%	Efficiency, Cost management, Water availability
Large-scale	80%	High efficiency, Water conservation, Long-term sustainability



5. Implications for Interventions :

The survey results indicate that more support is needed for small- and medium-scale farmers to adopt advanced irrigation systems. Providing subsidies or low-interest loans for purchasing modern irrigation equipment could improve water conservation efforts. Large-scale farmers can benefit from continued research into even more efficient systems to maximize water use and maintain environmental sustainability.

6. Conclusion :

This study highlights the need for targeted interventions to promote efficient water use in agriculture. By addressing the specific needs of different farming communities, stakeholders can help ensure sustainable agricultural practices and protect vital water resources for future generations.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links water management with crop productivity and environmental sustainability to highlight ____.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To assess water usage practices among different farming communities and evaluate the effectiveness of irrigation techniques.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Method of analysis (B) Research outcome
(C) Primary objective (D) Secondary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why irrigation techniques were included as a focus in the survey on water usage patterns. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘factors’ and ‘decisions.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘factor’ or ‘decision’:
Sentence 1: Water scarcity pushes farmers to adopt more efficient irrigation systems.
Sentence 2: The cost of advanced systems leads small-scale farmers to stick with traditional irrigation methods.
- v. Read the following : 1
Suresh uses a basic irrigation system for his small farm, citing cost as the main reason. Ramesh, who manages a medium-sized farm, recently upgraded to a drip irrigation system due to water scarcity in his area. Meanwhile, Kiran, a large-scale farmer, has implemented advanced automated irrigation systems to conserve water.
Select the option that identifies the correct farming group for Suresh, Ramesh, and Kiran.
(A) Suresh – small-scale; Ramesh – medium-scale; Kiran – large-scale
(B) Suresh – large-scale; Ramesh – small-scale; Kiran – medium-scale
(C) Suresh – medium-scale; Ramesh – large-scale; Kiran – small-scale
(D) Suresh – small-scale; Ramesh – large-scale; Kiran – medium-scale



- vi. Although both medium- and large-scale farmers have adopted advanced irrigation systems, why is the percentage highest among large-scale farmers? 1
- vii. Analyse how targeted interventions, such as subsidies or loans, can promote better water management practices in small- and medium-scale farms. (Paragraph 5) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
- (A) Increase crop yields across all farms
- (B) Promote sustainable agricultural practices
- (C) Reduce water scarcity in large-scale farms
- (D) Enhance traditional irrigation methods

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

- 3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words.** $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A. You lost your wallet in the school playground. Write a notice for your school notice board giving all the necessary details.

OR

- B. As Teacher Co-ordinator of the Quiz Club of AMM School, Pune, draft a notice in not more than 50 words informing students of the inter-class quiz contest asking them to register their names with the Secretary of the Club within a week.

- 4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words.** $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A. You are Riya/Ryan living at 40, Krishna Colony, Manali. You decided to hold a lunch party to congratulate your grandparents on their golden wedding anniversary. Draft a formal invitation in not more than 50 words to all family members to attend a grand lunch at home.

OR

- B. Draft a formal reply accepting an invitation to be present on the occasion of the wedding of Ankush S/o Mr & Mrs Shankar of 24, Green Park Road, Kanpur. You are Vikram Gaur of Raja Ki Mandi, Agra.

- 5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words.** $1 \times 5 = 5$

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

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS

OR

- B.** You are Anand/Arti of 14, Model Town, Delhi. You have seen an advertisement in The Hindu for the post of Chief Chef in a 5-Star Hotel. Apply for the job with complete bio-data. Write in 120-150 words.

- 6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words.**

 $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** You are Jay/Jaya, studying in Shyamala Memorial Hall, Trichy. Some students of our school attend a first aid training camp for a week at Red Cross Headquarter of our state. Write a report for your school magazine in 120-150 words on the events of the campo and your participation and performance.

OR

- B.** Visiting new places and meeting new people enhance our understanding and knowledge besides being a source of great pleasure. Write an article in 120-150 words on 'Travel, a Source of Knowledge and Pleasure. You are Gopal/Govindi.

SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

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

 $1 \times 6 = 6$

- A.** I looked again at her, wan, pale as a late
winter's moon and felt that old familiar ache,
my childhood's fear, but all I said was, see you soon, Amma,
all I did was smile and smile and smile...

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

- i.** Name the poet of the above stanza.
- ii.** Complete the following suitably.
Poet's mother is likened to a 'late winter's moon' because _____.
- iii.** Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet feels a deep sense of fear when she looks at her aging mother.
Reason : The mother's frail and pale appearance reminds the poet of the fear of losing her mother, a fear she has carried since childhood.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship :
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- iv. Identify the figure of speech used in the given lines, “pale as a late winter’s moon.”
- v. What is the “old familiar ache” of the poet?
- (A) Ageing and decaying of her mother
(B) Seeing happy children
(C) Leaving the country
(D) Leaving her mother alone
- vi. Do you think that the poet was hopeful of seeing her mother again?

OR

- B. “When Aunt is dead,
her terrified hands will lie.
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.”
- (Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers)*
- i. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
Tigers represent Aunt’s repressed desires for freedom and _____ (weakness/power).
- ii. Select the phrase that suggests the following:
Aunt Jennifer was entrapped in her marriage.
- iii. Which of the following CAN NOT be inferred from the given extract?
- (A) Even in death, Aunt Jennifer cannot escape patriarchal subjugation.
(B) Aunt Jennifer feels oppressed and constricted in her marriage.
(C) Aunt Jennifer’s tigers will keep her alive in everyone’s memory.
(D) Aunt Jennifer’s tigers prance as a lasting symbol of her desires.
- iv. Complete the following suitably.
The theme associated with the extract is _____.
- v. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : Even after Aunt Jennifer’s death, her tigers will continue to symbolize freedom and fearlessness.
Reason : The tigers represent Aunt Jennifer’s inner strength, which will remain untouched by the ordeals that oppressed her in life.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
- (A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



vi. Will Aunt Jennifer ever be able to escape the oppressive society?

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

A. Derry : [Panic] I've got to go.

Mr. Lamb : Not on my account. I don't mind who comes into the garden. The gate's always open. Only you climbed the garden wall.

Derry : [Angry] You were watching me.

Mr Lamb : I saw you. But the gate's open. All welcome. You're welcome. I sit here. I like sitting.

(On the Face of It)

i. "Mr Lamb : Not on my account." Based on this line, do you think Mr. Lamb was angry with Derry?

ii. What does the statement "Only you climbed the garden wall." mean?

(A) Mr. Lamb wanted Derry to be punished.

(B) Everyone got permission before entering into the garden.

(C) Derry was the only person to sneak in through the wall.

(D) Derry doesn't know the location of the gate.

iii. How did Derry enter the garden?

iv. Do you think Derry has the right to be angry at Mr. Lamb?

OR

B. His father had taken him often to the islands of those seas, and never had he failed to say to the little brave boy at his side, "Those islands yonder, they are the stepping stones to the future for Japan."

"Where shall we step from them?" Sadao had asked seriously.

"Who knows?" his father had answered. "Who can limit our future? It depends on what we make it"

(The Enemy)

i. Who did 'the little boy' refer to?

ii. What does the speaker mean by 'stepping stone'?

1. Means of advancement

2. Means of progression

3. Means of disorganization

4. Means of paucity

(A) only 1

(B) 1 and 2

(C) only 3

(D) 3 and 4



iii. Pick out the word/s that best describe/s the word 'yonder' as used in the passage.

1. Distant
2. Accessible
3. Proximate
4. Non-adjacent
5. Adjoining
6. Far-flung

iv. "Where shall we step from them?" Sadao had asked seriously.

Replace the word 'seriously' as given in the above line with an appropriate word.

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

1 × 6 = 6

A. ... But Gandhi was vehemently opposed. He said, "You think that in this unequal fight it would be helpful if we have an Englishman on our side. This shows the weakness of your heart. The cause is just and you must rely upon yourselves to win the battle....

"He had read our minds correctly:' Rajendra Prasad comments, "and we had no reply ... Gandhi in this way taught us a lesson in self-reliance':

Self-reliance, Indian independence and help to sharecroppers were all bound together.

(Indigo)

i. Gandhi taught the sharecroppers a lesson of self-reliance so that

- (A) they could believe in themselves and be self-dependant.
- (B) they learn and follow civil disobedience
- (C) they understand that British could not be trusted
- (D) they get to know to fight amongst themselves only.

ii. Pick out the word from the given extract which means same as 'fiercely'.

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.

Rajendra Prasad who was a lawyer later on became _____.

iv. Why did Gandhiji vehemently opposed the idea of taking help from Charles freer Andrews?

v. Assertion (A) : Gandhi was vehemently opposed to letting Andrews help him in Champaran.

Reason (R) : Because Gandhi was always suspicious of new people who offered help.

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



- vi. “He had read our minds correctly:’ Rajendra Prasad commented. What is the sentiment exposed here?

OR

- B. Once upon a time there was a man who went around selling small rattraps of wire. He made them himself at odd moments, from the material he got by begging in the stores or at the big farms. But even so, the business was not especially profitable, so he had to resort to both begging and petty thievery to keep body and soul together. Even so his clothes were in rags, his cheeks were sunken, and hunger gleamed in his eyes.

(The Rattrap)

- i. The peddler had to resort to both begging and thievery.
What does the above sentence demonstrates?
- ii. Through peddler’s appearance it is signified that he was a/an (1)
(A) unfortunate man (B) thief
(C) beggar (D) crofter
- iii. Complete the sentence with one word.
The peddler’s rattraps were made of _____.
- iv. Who is the author of this chapter?
(A) Louis Fischer (B) Salman Rushdie
(C) Selma Lagerlof (D) Alphonse Daudet
- v. What does the idiom ‘keep body and soul together’ mean?
- vi. What does the word ‘rags’ indicate?
- 10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$**
- i. Franz reached school late. Yet, M. Hamel did not scold him. Why?
(The Last Lesson)
- ii. What is the childish longing that the poet refers to? Why is it vain?
(A Roadside Stand)
- iii. Explain Douglas’ statement, “The instructor was finished. But I was not finished:’
(Deep Water)
- iv. What do celebrities dislike most about interviews?
(The Interview)



v. What makes human beings love life in spite of all the troubles they face?
(*A Thing of Beauty*)

vi. How does the poet describe Aunt Jennifer's tigers?
(*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

i. Why is Antarctica the place to go to if we want to study the earth's past, present and future?
(*Journey to the end of the earth*)

ii. What did Annan say about his community to the narrator?
(*Memories of Childhood*)

iii. Why did Charley run away from the third level?
(*The Third Level*)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

A. Why should child labour be eliminated and how? Explain on the basis of Lost Spring.
(*Lost Spring*)

OR

B. Choose a quiet corner and keep still physically and mentally for about five minutes. Do you feel any change in your state of mind?
(*Keeping Quiet*)

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

A. The actual pain or inconvenience caused by a physical impairment is often much less than the sense of alienation felt by the person with disabilities. What is the kind of behaviour that the person expects from others?
(*On the Face of It*)

OR

B. How did the Tiger King manage to retain his kingdom?
(*The Tiger King*)

□□□□□□



SAMPLE PAPER 11

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. Renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric power, are becoming increasingly important in the global effort to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change. Solar power harnesses energy from the sun using photovoltaic cells, while wind power is generated by turbines that convert the kinetic energy of wind into electricity. Hydroelectric power, on the other hand, uses the flow of water to produce energy, typically from dams built on large rivers. These energy sources are not only sustainable but also produce little to no greenhouse gas emissions, making them essential for a greener future.
2. The growth of renewable energy has led to significant technological advancements. Solar panels, for instance, are now more efficient and affordable than ever before, allowing households and businesses to install them on rooftops and generate their own electricity. Wind turbines have also evolved, with larger and more efficient designs being implemented in wind farms around the world. Hydroelectric projects, while less common, provide consistent energy supply, particularly in regions with abundant water resources.
3. Despite the advantages, renewable energy also faces challenges. Solar and wind energy are intermittent, meaning they only produce power when the sun is shining or the wind is blowing. This variability requires the development of energy storage solutions, such as batteries, to ensure a constant energy supply. Additionally, large-scale renewable energy projects can have environmental impacts, such as habitat disruption or the displacement of local communities. However, advances in technology and planning are helping to mitigate these issues.
4. Governments around the world are investing in renewable energy to meet their climate goals. Many countries have implemented policies such as subsidies for renewable energy

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



projects, tax incentives for companies that use green energy, and mandates for reducing carbon emissions. These efforts are part of a global push to transition from fossil fuels to cleaner, more sustainable energy sources, ultimately aiming to reduce the impacts of climate change.

5. The future of energy lies in the continued development of renewable technologies. As costs decrease and efficiencies improve, renewable energy will play a central role in meeting the world's energy needs. The shift towards cleaner energy is not just a technological challenge, but a societal one, requiring collaboration between governments, industries, and communities to ensure a sustainable energy future for all.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, why are renewable energy sources considered important in combating climate change? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the technological advancements in renewable energy, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "intermittent energy" in paragraph 3 refers to the fact that renewable energy sources like solar and wind are not always available.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
Intermittent energy sources are challenging because _____.
(A) they require energy storage solutions to ensure a stable power supply
(B) they can only be used in certain parts of the world
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
One challenge faced by renewable energy sources is _____.
- v. Why does the writer emphasize government policies in paragraph 4? 1
Because
(A) They reduce the cost of fossil fuels.
(B) They help promote renewable energy development.
(C) They allow companies to continue using non-renewable energy.
(D) They increase competition in the energy market.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
Governments are actively investing in renewable energy to meet climate goals.
- vii. In the line, 'Renewable energy will play a central role in meeting the world's energy needs' (Paragraph 5), what does the phrase 'central role' suggest about the future of renewable energy? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 1 : 1
wind: turbines :: solar: _____
(A) panels (B) cells
(C) rays (D) energy

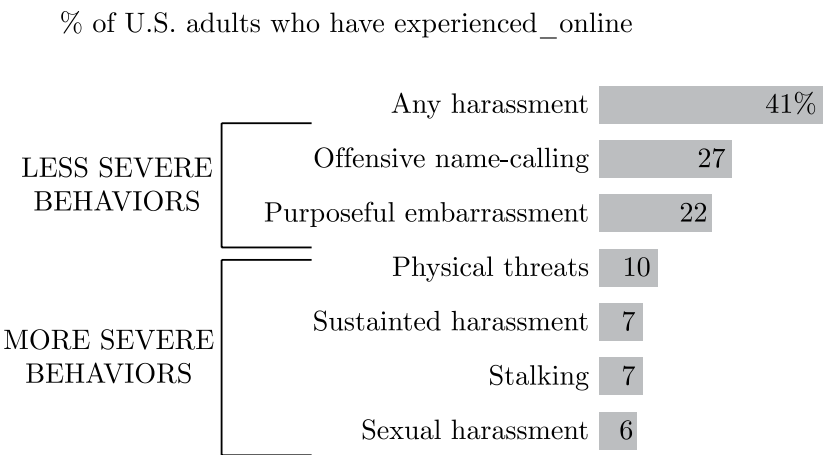


- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement ‘The future of energy lies in the continued development of renewable technologies’ in paragraph 5 uses descriptive language? 1
(A) It describes the current trends in the energy industry.
(B) It highlights the importance of renewable energy in the future.
(C) It explains the global energy market.
(D) It focuses on fossil fuels.
- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of increasing investment in renewable energy, as suggested in paragraph 4. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

- 1. The internet offers anonymity that makes it easier for bullies to target individuals. According to a 2021 Pew Research report, 41% of U.S. adults have personally experienced online harassment, with 75% reporting their most recent experience on social media. This abuse can often feel inescapable, much like rush-hour traffic.
- 2. Cyber attackers do not follow conventional behavior. Many victims attempt to reason with trolls, not understanding that the trolls’ motives are to attract attention, exercise control, and manipulate others. A 2019 study linked online harassment to traits like psychopathy, Machiavellianism, sadism, and narcissism—making it clear that trolls often have deeper psychological issues.

Roughly four-in-ten Americans have personally experienced online harassment



- 3. Online harassment feels particularly pervasive because it is difficult to avoid. Political discussions online are rated as 50% more negative than offline discussions. Trolls thrive in these spaces because they face minimal consequences and can easily overpower well-meaning individuals who exit the discussion, leaving trolls to dominate.
- 4. Even though social media is rife with abuse, many people cannot afford to leave these platforms due to professional or personal commitments. Allowing trolls to drive people away is akin to allowing bullies to control the playground. Despite this, individuals are not powerless in dealing with online abusers.

5. In cases of threats or hate speech, users can block or report the offending accounts, although social media platforms have been inconsistent in enforcing their policies. Ignoring trolls and refusing to engage with them denies them the attention they seek, whether online or in person. Meeting aggression with silence is often the most effective response.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links internet anonymity with the rise in online harassment to highlight ____.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To explore the psychological traits associated with online harassers and their behavior. Select the appropriate response.
(A) Secondary objective (B) Research outcome
(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why online harassment is difficult to address, based on the passage. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘trolls’ and ‘online harassment.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘trolls’ or ‘online harassment’:
Sentence 1: The majority of harassers online are motivated by the desire for control and manipulation.
Sentence 2: Many victims report that their most recent harassment occurred on social media platforms.
- v. Read the following : 1
Rina frequently deals with offensive name-calling on social media, while Anjali has experienced stalking from an unknown person online. Aman, their mutual friend, was recently a victim of physical threats through direct messages.
Select the option that identifies the correct forms of harassment Rina, Anjali, and Aman face.
(A) Rina – offensive name-calling; Anjali – stalking; Aman – physical threats
(B) Rina – stalking; Anjali – physical threats; Aman – sexual harassment
(C) Rina – sexual harassment; Anjali – offensive name-calling; Aman – stalking
(D) Rina – physical threats; Anjali – offensive name-calling; Aman – stalking
- vi. Although the anonymity provided by the internet enables harassers to act without fear of repercussions, why is it considered a major factor in the rise of online harassment? 1
- vii. Analyse how ignoring online trolls can reduce the impact of harassment. (Paragraph 5) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Improve social media engagement by allowing trolls to dominate spaces
(B) Increase users’ awareness of blocking and reporting tools
(C) Promote the use of anonymous accounts on social media
(D) Limit access to social media to reduce harassment



SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** Neelam/Neelesh is the head girl/boy of Surya Public School, Agra. She/He decides to call a meeting of all house appointments for prize distribution function on Annual Day. Draft a meeting notice on her/his behalf.

OR

- B.** You are Sukant Roy, the head of Ujjwal Bhavishya Educational Institution. You are moved by the condition of the destitute children near your area. You decide to uplift their lives by deciding to raise funds and ensuring that they have a better chance at life. Draft a notice to your fellow colleagues and students, making an appeal for monetary donations or any other assistance. You can also include additional details which you may be necessary for the purpose.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

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

OR

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

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** You saw a train accident last week when a train collided with another train while changing the track. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the editor of a national newspaper describing the accident. You are Nitin/Riya Chawla of Sewa Kutir, Pankha Road, Faridabad.

OR

- B.** Study the following advertisement and then write a suitable application for the post of a receptionist.

Wanted smart and dynamic female with good communication skills to serve as a receptionist in the front office of a five star Hotel. Fresh graduates with knowledge of foreign languages preferred. Apply with two passport sized photographs & complete biodata to The Times of India, P.B. No 73XX within 7 days from the date of the publication of this advertisement.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words.**1 × 5 = 5**

- A.** You visited Delhi Public School, Kanpur. You were impressed at seeing students participate in various co-curricular activities of the school such as debates, music and theatre workshops. Write a report on it in 120-150 words for your school magazine. You are Shalini/Sumiti, Editor of the magazine.

OR

- B.** Does getting more degrees really help in getting employment in this fast competitive scene of unemployment? Describe your views in an article in 120-150 words. You are Megha/Mayur.

SECTION C- LITERATURE**40****7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two - (A) or (B).****1 × 6 = 6**

- A.** ...and realised with pain
that she was as old as she
looked but soon
put that thought away, and
looked out at young
trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes, but after the airport's
security check, standing a few yards away,

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

- i.** What does the poet feel at the airport?
(A) Happy (B) Upset
(C) Sad (D) Resignation
- ii.** Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet experiences a painful realization about her mother's aging but quickly tries to distract herself.
Reason : The sight of young trees and children contrasts with the poet's thoughts of her mother's old age, symbolizing the ongoing cycle of life.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii.** Complete the following suitably.
'..that she was as old as she, implies that poet's mother ____.



- iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The use of the young and old is used to highlight the age of the _____ (daughter/mother).
- v. Select the phrase that suggests the following:
The poet did not relish the thought of her mother's death due to old age.
- vi. Which literary device is used in the given lines?

OR

- B. It is in the news that all these pitiful kin
Are to be bought out and mercifully gathered in
To live in villages, next to the theatre and the store,
Where they won't have to think for themselves anymore,
While greedy good-doers, beneficent beasts of prey,
Swarm over their lives enforcing benefits
That are calculated to soothe them out of their wits,
And by teaching them how to sleep they sleep all day,
Destroy their sleeping at night the ancient way.

(A Roadside Stand)

- i. Choose the option that displays the correct poetic device with the correct examples based on the given extract.
(A) greedy good-doers : metaphor
(B) soothe them out of their wits : metaphor
(C) beneficent beasts of prey : oxymoron
(D) all these pitiful kin : imagery
- ii. Mention three words used by the poet in the extract that make the reader question the motives of the benefactors and the good-doers.
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
These facilities have been provided by the _____ (government/opposition parties) with the real objective of not showing keen interest in the poor people.
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet criticizes the so-called 'benefits' imposed on the rural poor, as they strip away their independence.
Reason : The poet believes that by providing material comforts, the authorities help the rural poor to live more peaceful lives.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- v. What is the tone of the poet in the line, 'gathered in to live in villages, next to the theatre and the store' indicate?
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
The poor have been 'gathered into live in villages next to the theatre and the store.' This shows that _____.

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

- A.** The man moaned with pain in his stupor but he did not awaken.
"The best thing that we could do would be to put him back in the sea," Sadao said, answering himself. Now that the bleeding was stopped for the moment he stood up and dusted the sand from his hands.
"Yes, undoubtedly that would be best," Hana said steadily. But she continued to stare down at the motionless man.
"If we sheltered a white man in our house we should be arrested and if we turned him over as a prisoner, he would certainly die," Sadao said.
"The kindest thing would be to put him back into the sea," Hana said. But neither of them moved. They were staring with curious repulsion upon the inert figure.
(The Enemy)

- i. Why did Sadao suggest to put the man back into the sea?
- ii. In the given extract, Hana was apprehensive that if she would help the prisoner, she would be _____.
(A) rewarded (B) rebuked
(C) arrested (D) none of these
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
Hana and Dr Sadao stared at the prisoner with _____.
- iv. According to the passage, how would you describe Sadao and Hana.

OR

- B.** Now, I don't know why this should have happened to me. I'm just an ordinary guy named Charley, thirty-one years old and I was wearing a tan gabardine suit and a straw hat with a fancy band; I passed a dozen men who looked just like me. And I wasn't trying to escape from anything; I just wanted to get home to Louisa, my wife.
(The Third Level)
- i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The given lines show that the narrator, Charley _____.



- ii. When did 'this' incident take place?
(A) While he was going to visit his father
(B) While he was going to work
(C) While he was going to his psychiatrist friend
(D) While he was returning late from work
- iii. Why does the narrator say that he was not trying to escape from anything?
- iv. What does 'this' refer to?

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

- A.** She still has bangles on her wrist, but no light in her eyes. "Ek waqt ser bhar khana bhi nahin khaya." she says, in a voice drained of joy. She has not enjoyed even one full meal in her entire lifetime-that's what she has reaped! Her husband, an old man with a flowing beard says, "I know nothing except bangles. All I have done is make a house for the family to live in."

Hearing him one wonders if he has achieved what many have failed in their lifetime. He has a roof over his head!

The cry of not having money to do anything except carry on the business of making bangles, not even enough to eat, rings in every home. The young men echo the lament of the elders. Little has moved with time, it seems in Firozabad, years of mind-numbing toil have killed all initiative and the ability to dream.

(Lost Spring)

- i. List the details shown in the first line of the given extract.
- ii. What is the attitude of the author towards the old man's words? The author finds it _____.
(A) admirable (B) pessimistic
(C) modest (D) boastful
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The author's take on the lives of the bangle-makers as reflected in the words 'that's what she has reaped!' is _____.
- iv. Pick evidence from the text that helps one interpret the phrase 'rings in every home'.
- v. What does the line 'the young men echo the lament of their elders' refer to?
- vi. Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract.
(A) To put an end to child exploitation
(B) To show the importance of labour
(C) To show the importance of punctuality
(D) The rigidity of the school system



OR

- B.** It offered riches and joys, shelter and food, heat and clothing, exactly as the rattrap offered cheese and pork, and as soon as anyone let himself be tempted to touch the bait, it closed in on him, and then everything came to an end.
The world had, of course, never been very kind to him, so it gave him unwonted joy to think ill of it in this way. It became a cherished pastime of his, during many dreary ploddings, to think of people he knew who had let themselves be caught in the dangerous snare, and of others who were still circling around the bait.

(The Rattrap)

- i. What philosophical thought is given in the extract about the world?
- ii. The line, "...it closed in on him, and then everything came to an end" can be classified as:

(A) a fact	(B) an opinion
(C) a plot point	(D) a theme
- iii. Explain any one possible inference that can be drawn from the line, "It became a cherished pastime of his, during many dreary ploddings, to think of people he knew who had let themselves be caught in the dangerous snare, and of others who were still circling around the bait".
- iv. Identify the line from the text that bears evidence to the fact that the rattrap seller is a pessimistic man.
- v. The peddler's views about the world, in the extract, can be best described as:

(A) unjust and fair	(B) unkind and unjust
(C) unkind and fair	(D) just and fair
- vi. Complete the sentence with ONE word.
Stealing had been his hobby since _____.

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

- i. What was distinctive about Eco's academic writing style?
(The Interview)
- ii. How did the author discover who the English visitor to the studios was?
(Poets and Paneakes)
- iii. What does the ring on Aunt Jennifer's fingers signify?
(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)
- iv. What kind of thought the poet wishes to put away in 'My Mother at Sixty-Six'? Why?
- v. What image does the poet use to describe the beautiful bounty of the earth?
(A Thing of Beauty)
- vi. What had been put on the bulletin board?
(The Last Lesson)

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. How did Zitkala-Sa try to avoid the loss of her long hair?
(*Memories of Childhood*)
- ii. Comment on the ending of the play "On the Face of It".
- iii. Why was the general not interested in sending Dr. Sadao with the troops?
(*The Enemy*)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. Obstacles determine the quality of life. Hermits feel convinced that sweet are the uses of adversity. Problems are opportunities. Elucidate the saying taking ideas from the given lines: "Events justified Gandhi's position. Within a few years, the British planters abandoned their estates, which reverted to the peasants. Indigo sharecropping disappeared."

(*Indigo*)

OR

- B. "It is his karma, his destiny." The prose section Lost Spring includes this telling comment said by Mukesh's grandmother. In Aunt Jennifer's Tigers, destiny of common housewife is discussed.

Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in about 120-150 words elaborating on occurrences from the two texts to inspire your audience and to convince them about the importance of creating their own destiny through hard work.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. Take care of small things and the big things will take care of themselves. Instead of ignoring things whether big or small, do care of things to make them more sustainable. You wish to include a cameo for the above statement's explanation in your upcoming blog post. (A cameo is a short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something) As a part of the research, discuss the statement in relation to Antarctica in about 120-150 words.

(*Journey to the End of The Earth*)

OR

- B. 'Flattery is eating into roots of our society and polity.' The Tiger King or the Maharaja pursue the same. Discuss with reference to the lesson in about 120-150 words.

(*The Tiger King*)

□□□□□□



SAMPLE PAPER 12

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. In a quiet village in the heart of India, there stood an old house with walls made of mud and a roof of red clay tiles. The house had seen many seasons come and go, but it remained strong, standing tall under the shade of a giant peepal tree. Every morning, as the first rays of the sun touched the village, the house glowed softly in the golden light. The fragrance of jasmine flowers filled the air, carried by the gentle breeze from the garden where they bloomed next to marigolds and hibiscus.
2. The house belonged to the Verma family, who had lived there for generations. Grandfather Verma, now old and wise, often sat in the front courtyard under the shade of the peepal tree, telling stories to the village children. The stories were about brave kings, ancient battles, and forgotten legends of the land. His voice was slow and steady, and the children sat in a circle around him, listening with wide eyes. Even the adults would sometimes pause in their daily work to hear a story they had known since their childhood, yet never tired of.
3. The courtyard was always alive with activity. In the mornings, birds chirped from the tree branches, and the soft mooing of cows could be heard from the nearby fields. Grandmother Verma would be busy in the kitchen, preparing food for the family—chapatis on the clay stove, dal bubbling in a brass pot, and vegetables freshly plucked from the garden. The smell of spices, ginger, and coriander filled the air, and it seemed to mix with the earthiness of the mud walls.
4. As the sun began to set, casting a warm orange glow over the village, the quietness settled in. The sky turned from blue to pink, and the only sounds were the distant laughter of children and the low hum of crickets. The Verma house, with its familiar rhythms of life, stood quietly, a symbol of simplicity, tradition, and the passage of time.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



5. For the villagers, the house was more than just a structure—it was a reminder of their roots. It was a place where stories were passed down, where life slowed down, and where the traditions of their ancestors lived on. Even as the world outside changed, the Verma house remained, standing strong in the heart of the village, untouched by time.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, what natural feature provides shade to the old Verma house? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the role of Grandfather Verma in the village, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase “a symbol of simplicity, tradition, and the passage of time” in paragraph 4 suggests that the Verma house is more than just a building; it represents the village’s connection to its past and a simple way of life.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
The Verma house symbolizes _____.
(A) the traditions and history of the village
(B) the changing times and modern life
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
The Verma family kitchen was filled with the aroma of _____.
- v. Why does the writer describe the courtyard as “alive with activity” in paragraph 3? 1
Because
(A) The village children gather to listen to stories.
(B) Birds, cows, and the preparation of food make the courtyard lively.
(C) It is where the family gathers for important discussions.
(D) It represents the heart of the village’s social life.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
The Verma house stands as a reminder of the village’s traditions.
- vii. In the line, ‘the quietness settled in...’ (Paragraph 4), what does the phrase ‘quietness settled in’ suggest about the mood as the evening approaches? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 3 : 1
chapatis: stove :: dal: _____
(A) brass pot (B) garden
(C) mud walls (D) courtyard
- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement ‘the Verma house was more than just a structure’ in paragraph 5 uses figurative language? 1
(A) It emphasizes the symbolic importance of the house.
(B) It compares the house to a living entity.
(C) It reflects the emotional connection of the villagers to the house.
(D) It personifies the house as something alive and active.



- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of maintaining the old Verma house, as suggested in paragraph 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. Introduction :

Climate change has significantly impacted global weather patterns, resulting in more frequent and severe natural disasters. This case study explores the frequency of various natural disasters over the last two decades and examines their geographical distribution. The study aims to understand how regions are affected differently and what measures can be taken to mitigate the impacts of such disasters.

2. Methodology :

Data was collected from multiple international agencies, tracking the occurrence of natural disasters such as floods, cyclones, droughts, and earthquakes. The data was analysed to observe trends in disaster frequency and geographical distribution over the years. A detailed comparison of regions most affected by each type of disaster was conducted, leading to actionable insights for disaster preparedness.

3. Survey Examination :

The data from the survey focused on natural disasters that have occurred globally between 2000 and 2020. The disasters were classified by type, and their frequency in various regions was compared. The study aimed to identify which regions are more vulnerable to specific disasters and why. Factors like climate, geography, and human activities were examined to understand their roles in increasing disaster risk.

4. Results: The chart below illustrates the frequency of major natural disasters in different regions of the world over the last 20 years.

Region	Floods (%)	Cyclones (%)	Droughts (%)	Earthquakes (%)
North America	30%	15%	10%	45%
South America	40%	5%	35%	20%
Africa	25%	10%	60%	5%
Asia	35%	40%	15%	10%
Europe	50%	5%	5%	40%

5. Implications for Interventions :

Understanding regional vulnerability to different natural disasters is critical for devising effective disaster management strategies. Regions like Africa, where droughts dominate, need to focus on water conservation and sustainable agriculture. In contrast, Asia, which is prone to cyclones, should invest in early warning systems and coastal defenses. International collaboration is essential to build resilience and reduce the loss of life and property from future disasters.

6. Conclusion :

This study highlights the need for targeted interventions based on the types of natural disasters each region faces. By addressing specific vulnerabilities, regions can improve their disaster preparedness and reduce the impact of future catastrophic events.



Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links climate change with natural disasters to highlight _____.
-----.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To examine the frequency and geographical distribution of natural disasters.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Research outcome
(B) Primary objective
(C) Secondary objective
(D) Method of analysis
- iii. Give two points to support why geographical distribution was included as a focus in the study on natural disasters. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘climate’ and ‘geography.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘climate’ or ‘geography’:
Sentence 1: The high frequency of droughts in Africa is due to prolonged dry seasons.
Sentence 2: The occurrence of earthquakes in North America is due to tectonic plate movement.
- v. Read the following : 1
Sarah lives in North America, where earthquakes are frequent, while her friend Carlos lives in South America, which is more prone to floods. Meanwhile, Fatima in Africa struggles with droughts that affect her community’s livelihood.
Select the option that identifies the correct disaster vulnerability for Sarah, Carlos, and Fatima.
(A) Sarah – cyclones; Carlos – droughts; Fatima – floods
(B) Sarah – floods; Carlos – cyclones; Fatima – earthquakes
(C) Sarah – earthquakes; Carlos – floods; Fatima – droughts
(D) Sarah – droughts; Carlos – earthquakes; Fatima – cyclones
- vi. Although Asia and Europe experience different natural disasters, why does Europe have a higher percentage of floods? 1
- vii. Analyse how targeted disaster preparedness interventions can reduce the impact of natural disasters in regions like Africa and Asia. (Paragraph 5) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) To predict future natural disasters with certainty
(B) To build international cooperation for disaster relief
(C) To reduce the loss of life and property from natural disasters
(D) To focus on preventing only specific types of disasters



SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You lost your wristwatch in your school auditorium. Write a notice in not more than 50 words for your school notice board giving a detailed description of the watch. You are Anirudh/Arundhati of class XII of Springfield School, Pune.

OR

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

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** Modern Public School, Delhi is organising an inter school music competition. You have decided to invite noted classical musician. Mohan Gandhi as the judge and guest of honour. Draft a formal invitation for him in 50 words. You are Neeraj/Neetu, Cultural Secretary.

OR

- B.** As the principal of a reputed college, you have been invited to inaugurate a Book Exhibition in your neighbourhood. Draft a reply to the invitation in not more than 50 words, expressing your inability to attend the function. You are Tarun/Tanvi.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** You are Raj/Rati, 115, Ram Nagar, Noida. Read the advertisement given below and write a letter to the advertiser, applying for the job. Also give your detailed resume, which you would send along with your letter of application for the job. (120-150 words)
Wanted experienced Post Graduate Teacher in Chemistry to teach Classes XI and XII in a reputed ICSE affiliated residential school. Fluency in English is a must. Working knowledge of computers is preferable; salary commensurate with experience and expertise. Please apply to : Box No. 205, C/O The Hindu, Noida.

OR

- B.** You have realised the necessity of education and financial independence of women for their family, society and in turn for the nation. Write a letter to the Editor, 'The National Times' highlighting your ideas on the importance of education of women leading to a better status for them. You are Tarun/Taruna, B-7/9, Mall Road, Delhi (120-150 words)



6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words.**1 × 5 = 5**

- A.** You are Anurag/Anjali, a reporter with a national daily. You have heard that a multistorey building near the main railway station has collapsed causing panic in the area. You rush to the site of the accident along with your team. Write a report in 120-150 words mentioning the time and place of the accident, number of casualties, the cause of the accident and the rescue operation conducted by the authorities.

OR

- B.** There is a vast pool of women talent in our country. Given encouragement and opportunities, women can excel in every field. They are contributing to the nation's progress as scientists, doctors, entrepreneurs, sports persons, etc. There is no limit to what they can achieve. Write an article in 120-150 words on "Women Empowerment". You are Ram/Roma.

SECTION C- LITERATURE**40****7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two - (A) or (B)****1 × 6 = 6**

- A.** Now we will count to twelve
And we will all keep still.
For once on the face of the Earth
Let's not speak in any language
Let's stop for one second
And not move our arms so much.

(Keeping Quiet)

- i.** Why is the poet asking the people not to speak?
- ii.** Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet urges people to pause and embrace silence and stillness for a moment.
Reason : The poet believes that by stopping all activity and speech, even for a short time, humanity can reflect on its actions.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii.** Complete the following suitably.
"Not move our arms" in the given extract refers to _____.



- iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
During counting to twelve, the poet wants us to remain _____ (noisy/quiet).
- v. Which poetic form has been used in the given extract?
- vi. Select the option that is NOT true.
(A) During this moment, we will forget our differences and experience a strength of togetherness.
(B) When we stop for a second, we get an opportunity to introspect our follies.
(C) We will realize the harm we are causing to the world with our words and actions.
(D) We should always remain lazy.

OR

- B.** When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.
- (Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)*
- i. Identify the figure of speech in 'terrified hands'.
(A) Transferred epithet (B) Imagery
(C) Hyperbole (D) Synecdoche
- ii. Which issue is the poet addressing through this poem?
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The rhyming scheme of the poem is _____ (aabb/aaab).
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : Even after Aunt Jennifer's death, the tigers she created will continue to symbolize freedom and fearlessness.
Reason : The tigers represent Aunt Jennifer's inner strength and confidence, which she displayed in her life through her actions.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. Aunt Jennifer's life is ringed with ordeals. 'Ringed' has a significant meaning here. What is it?
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
Aunt Jennifer faced ordeals from the oppressive male _____ society.



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

- A.** Friends everywhere. People come ineverybody knows me. The gate's always open. They come and sit here. And in front of the fire in winter. Kids come for the apples and pears. And for toffee. I make toffee with honey. Anybody comes. So have you.
(On the Face of It)
- i. Why Mr. Lamb always keeps gate of his garden open?
- ii. What does the phrase 'gate's always open' show about the speaker?
- iii. The extract shows the speaker to be _____.
(A) overthinker (B) genial
(C) pessimistic (D) None of these
- iv. Name the writer of the given extract.

OR

- B.** Yes, I've taken the obvious step: I talked to a psychiatrist friend of mine, among others. I told him about the third level at Grand Central Station and he said it was a waking dream wish fulfillment. He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it and that I just want to escape. Well, who doesn't? Everybody I know wants to escape, but they don't wander down into any third level at Grand Central Station.
(The Third Level)
- i. Why did the narrator go to a psychiatrist?
- ii. What is 'waking dream wish fulfillment' according to the psychiatrist in the lesson?
(A) Charley's finding, of a Third Level at Grand Central Station.
(B) Charley's realisation of his wish to visit Galesburg Illinois.
(C) Charley's escaping into his daydreaming everyday.
(D) Charley's post stamp collecting habit.
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The third level, according to Charley, was _____.
- iv. What does the psychiatrist explain to Charley?

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

- A.** It seemed a long way down. Those nine feet were more like ninety, and before I touched bottom my lungs were ready to burst. But when my feet hit bottom I summoned all my strength and made what I thought was a great spring upwards. I imagined I would bob to the surface like a cork. Instead, I came up slowly. I opened my eyes and saw nothing but water - water that had a dirty yellow tinge to it.
(Deep Water)



- i. Why did the nine feet deep pool seem ninety to Douglas?
- ii. The expression “I imagined I would bob to the surface like a cork” implies that
 - (A) Frightened, Douglas was not able to shout for help.
 - (B) Douglas accepted his failure and ultimate death.
 - (C) Though Douglas was frightened he was not out of his wits.
 - (D) Douglas was afraid to die.
- iii. Pick the word from the given extract which means to ‘make a quick, short movement up and down.
- iv. What does the speaker mean by I summoned all my strength?
 - (A) That he called up his strength.
 - (B) That he accumulated his strength.
 - (C) That he gathered his strength.
 - (D) All of these
- v. Where did the given event take place?
- vi. ‘It seemed a long way down. What was the author referring to?

OR

- B.** He was involved, he told the court, in a ‘conflict of duties’- on the one hand, not to set a bad example as a lawbreaker; on the other hand, to render the ‘humanitarian and national service’ for which he had come. He disregarded the order to leave, not ‘for want of respect for lawful authority, but in obedience to the higher law of our being, the voice of conscience.’ He asked the penalty due.
- (Indigo)*
- i. List any two details about Gandhiji discussed in the extract.
 - ii. Why did Gandhiji call fighting for the rights of the poor farmers ‘national service’?
 - (A) Because he wanted all sharecroppers throughout the country to unite against the landlords.
 - (B) Because the plight of the sharecroppers was the same throughout the country.
 - (C) Because the sharecroppers of Champaran were leading the fight.
 - (D) Because the sharecroppers refused to be convinced by the commission.
 - iii. What was the consequence of the court proceeding?
 - iv. Pick evidence from the extract that helps one infer that Gandhiji disobeyed the authority.
 - v. Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract?
 - (A) Gandhiji – an authoritarian
 - (B) Gandhiji – a humanitarian and nationalist
 - (C) Gandhiji – a lawbreaker
 - (D) Gandhiji – a political activist
 - vi. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The ‘conflict of duties’ refers to _____.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- 10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$**
- i. Why did the author appear to be doing nothing at the studios? (*Poets and Pancakes*)
 - ii. Why was Edla happy to see the gift left by the peddler? (*The Rattrap*)
 - iii. Why are the young trees described as 'sprinting'? (*My Mother at Sixty-Six*)
 - iv. Describe the endless fountain of immortal drink. (*A Thing of Beauty*)
 - v. Why did Aunt Jennifer choose to embroider tigers on the panel ? (*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)
 - vi. What does the title 'Lost Spring' convey? (*Lost Spring*)
- 11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$**
- i. Why did the Maharaja decide to get married? (*The Tiger King*)
 - ii. Why did Zitkala-Sa resist the cutting of her hair? (*Memories of Childhood*)
 - iii. What indicates that Dr. Sadao's father was a very traditional and conventional man? (*The Enemy*)
- 12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$**
- A. Describe the difficulties the bangle makers of Firozabad have to face in their lives. (*Lost Spring*)
- OR**
- B. Imagine a child from the farmer's family migrates to the city for their education. As the child, write back to your family telling them whether you would or would not want to turn into a city-person. Use the context of the poem "A Roadside Stand" in mind to pen down this letter.
- 13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$**
- A. In which section of the play does Mr Lamb display signs of loneliness and disappointment? What are the ways in which Mr Lamb tries to overcome these feelings? (*On the Face of It*)
- OR**
- B. How did the Tiger King stand in danger of losing his Kingdom? How was he able to avert the danger? (*The Tiger King*)

□□□□□□



SAMPLE PAPER 13

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The city park was a serene sanctuary nestled within the bustling urban landscape. Towering oak trees lined the pathways, their leaves gently swaying in the breeze. The afternoon sun filtered through the canopy, casting soft, dappled shadows on the ground below. In the distance, a large fountain gurgled steadily, its water glistening in the sunlight as it fell into a clear pool below. The air was filled with the fresh scent of grass and flowers, providing a refreshing contrast to the car fumes and city noise just beyond the park's edge.
2. The park was alive with people enjoying the peaceful surroundings. Some sat on benches, engrossed in books, while others strolled slowly along the winding paths, their conversations soft and relaxed. In the open lawn, children played freely, their laughter echoing through the trees. Joggers passed by, their rhythmic footsteps blending with the sound of birds chirping from the branches overhead. The park provided a temporary escape from the hustle and bustle of the city, a place where time seemed to move more slowly.
3. As the afternoon began to fade into evening, the light in the park changed, casting a golden hue over everything. The bright colors of the flowers seemed to intensify, the yellows and reds standing out vibrantly against the deep green grass. A light breeze swept through, carrying the scent of fresh water from the nearby pond, where ducks swam lazily, leaving ripples in their wake. The park's beauty was magnified in this light, and for a moment, it felt as though the city outside had disappeared entirely.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



4. By dusk, the park was enveloped in a calm stillness. The once busy pathways were now quieter, with only a few people lingering to enjoy the fading sunlight. The trees stood tall and silent, their leaves barely moving in the soft evening air. The fountain continued its steady rhythm, the water shimmering in the dimming light. Streetlamps flickered on, casting a warm glow along the paths and adding to the tranquil atmosphere. The city's noise faded into the background, leaving the park as a peaceful retreat for those who remained.
5. The transformation of the park from a bustling afternoon hub to a quiet evening retreat was one of its many charms. It was a place where people could find both energy and rest, a dynamic space that changed with the time of day. Whether filled with laughter or silence, the park was always a haven of peace in the heart of the city.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, how does the park contrast with the surrounding city? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the atmosphere in the park during the afternoon, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "dappled shadows" in paragraph 1 refers to the way sunlight filters through the trees.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
Dappled shadows are important because _____.
(A) they create a calming effect as the light filters onto the ground.
(B) they make the park feel cooler than the busy streets outside.
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 2 : 1
The sound of people talking quietly and children laughing shows _____. 1
- v. Why does the writer emphasize the park's beauty in the evening in paragraph 3? 1
Because
(A) It shows the park's ability to transform into a peaceful retreat.
(B) It highlights how the park becomes more vibrant in the evening.
(C) It describes how the city disappears at night.
(D) It emphasizes the fading sunlight and the movement of the ducks.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 3, to support the following : 1
The colors of the flowers became more vivid as the evening approached.
- vii. In the line, 'the park's beauty was magnified in this light' (Paragraph 3), what does the phrase 'magnified in this light' suggest about the park's appearance? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 1 : 1
oak trees: pathways :: streetlamps: _____
(A) benches (B) ducks
(C) shadows (D) evening paths



- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement 'The park was a haven of peace' in paragraph 5 uses descriptive language? 1
- (A) It highlights the contrast between the park and the busy city.
(B) It explains the types of plants growing in the park.
(C) It focuses on the physical layout of the park.
(D) It describes the noise of the park.
- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of visiting the park in the evening, as suggested in paragraphs 4 and 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. Climate change is increasingly recognized as one of the most critical issues of our time. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), global temperatures have risen by 1.2°C since pre-industrial times. This rise in temperatures is already leading to more frequent and severe extreme weather events, such as hurricanes, wildfires, and prolonged droughts. As temperatures continue to rise, the effects of climate change are expected to intensify.
2. The global increase in CO₂ emissions is one of the major drivers of this temperature rise. In 2023, the IPCC reported that global CO₂ emissions had reached 36.8 billion metric tons. The accompanying chart shows how different sectors contribute to global carbon emissions :
- Energy production: 40%
Transportation: 24%
Industry: 21%
Agriculture: 9%
Residential: 6%
3. One of the most alarming consequences of climate change is the melting of the polar ice caps. Over the past century, global sea levels have risen by approximately 20 cm due to this melting, with projections suggesting further rises in the coming decades. This sea level rise is already causing severe flooding in low-lying coastal areas, displacing millions of people and threatening biodiversity. Coastal ecosystems are particularly vulnerable, as rising saltwater levels disrupt both human settlements and natural habitats.
4. To mitigate these effects, governments and international organizations are increasingly focusing on renewable energy as a solution. In 2022, renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power, accounted for 28% of global electricity production. This is a significant improvement, but it still falls short of what is needed to meet international climate goals.
5. The IPCC has emphasized the need for immediate action to limit global warming to 1.5°C. To achieve this, global carbon emissions need to be reduced by 45% by 2030 and brought down to net-zero by 2050. Without these reductions, the world risks facing catastrophic environmental, economic, and social consequences.



Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links rising global temperatures to extreme weather events to highlight _____. 1
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To assess the contribution of different sectors to global carbon emissions.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Secondary objective (B) Research outcome
(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why renewable energy is essential in mitigating climate change, based on the passage. 2
- iv. Paragraph 2 includes words – ‘carbon emissions’ and ‘renewable energy.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘carbon emissions’ or ‘renewable energy’:
Sentence 1: Wind and solar power accounted for 28% of global electricity production in 2022.
Sentence 2: Global CO₂ emissions reached 36.8 billion metric tons in 2023.
- v. Read the following : 1
Meena is concerned about the impact of transportation on climate change, while Rohit lives in a coastal area and has been affected by rising sea levels. Kabir works in the energy sector, which is responsible for a large portion of carbon emissions.
Select the option that identifies the correct environmental challenges Meena, Rohit, and Kabir face.
(A) Meena – transportation emissions; Rohit – rising sea levels; Kabir – energy production emissions
(B) Meena – energy production emissions; Rohit – transportation emissions; Kabir – rising sea levels
(C) Meena – rising sea levels; Rohit – energy production emissions; Kabir – transportation emissions
(D) Meena – carbon emissions; Rohit – energy production emissions; Kabir – renewable energy
- vi. Although renewable energy use has increased, why is this still insufficient to curb climate change? 1
- vii. Analyse how the rise in sea levels, caused by global warming, affects coastal ecosystems. (Paragraph 3) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Increase global temperatures to reduce emissions
(B) Promote renewable energy to achieve net-zero emissions
(C) Continue using fossil fuels while reducing costs
(D) Halt efforts to limit climate change



SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

A. Recently there has been an increase in the cases of kidnappings, especially of children. On closer investigation it has been found that domestic helps or some persons familiar with the family were involved in most cases. You are the Secretary of the Residents' Welfare Association. Write a notice in about 50 words to be put up on the noticeboard of the colony informing the citizens about the following :

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

OR

B. You are the president of the Malviya Nagar Residents' Welfare Association, Block A and you are organising a "New Year Party" in your area. Draft a notice as Dharam Sethi informing the residents of your block of the same. Include details which you deem necessary for the purpose.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

A. You are a student of St. Anthony School, Gwalior. The school is holding its annual function. Write an invitation on behalf of the Principal inviting the parents and dignitaries of the town to attend the function to be held on September 18, 20xx at 5:00 p.m.

OR

B. Invite your class fellows and friends on the wedding of your elder sister. Invent necessary details. (50 words).

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

A. You are perturbed to read about the rising cases of road rage in the National Capital. People become so aggressive and violent that an argument results in injuries or, in some extreme cases, even death. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the Editor of a daily to make the public aware of the need to curb such behaviour to make roads safer for the people. You are Anvita/Anmol, a resident of Ashok Nagar, New Delhi.



CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



OR

- B.** You are Rajan/Rama, living in Ghaziabad. You have just completed your studies and are in search of a job. While browsing through the Times of India, you came across the following advertisement. Choose a post for which you think you are suitable. Send your application in response to this advertisement.

An Upcoming School in Ghaziabad Requires the Following Staff	
Lab Assistant :	Science graduates having 2-5 years of lab experience
Accountant :	B Com with minimum experience of 2 years in maintaining accounts
Receptionist :	Young female candidates fluent in English with good communication skills and proficiency in computer/Net surfing with 3 year experience
Please send your detailed updated resume within seven days to the Manager, Prayag International School, 674, Kavi Nagar, Ghaziabad, 20xx.	

- 6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words.**

1 × 5 = 5

- A.** After class 12, students are apprehensive about choosing the course and the college. The 'Mission Admissions' organized by the Times of India is a great platform for college aspirants. It would help them to get knowledge about emerging opportunities in various streams. Write an article in 120-150 words emphasizing the need of career counselling to help students with the admission process.

OR

- B.** You are a press reporter. Write a report in 120-150 words on the recent cattle catching drive launched by MCD to clear stray cattle from Delhi roads.

SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A.** Now we will count to twelve
And we will all keep still.
For once on the face of the Earth
Let's not speak in any language,
Let's stop for one second,
And not move our arms so much

(Keeping Quiet)

- i.** Why is the poet asking the people not to speak?
(A) It gives the people time to introspect their actions.
(B) It creates uproar.
(C) The poet does not like talkative people.
(D) All of these

[CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP](#)


- ii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet encourages everyone to count to twelve and stay still to promote peace and introspection.
Reason : The poet believes that by stopping all movement and communication, people can better reflect on their differences.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii. Complete the following suitably.
During counting to twelve the poet wants us to remain ____.
- iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The use of the words 'count up to twelve' is aptly contrasting with 'we will all keep still' and both are put together shows ____ (antithesis/counterpart).
- v. Based on the poem rhyme scheme, evident in lines 2-5, in the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 1?
- | | | |
|-------|-------|------|
| shelf | valve | help |
|-------|-------|------|
- vi. Why does the poet ask everyone to stop speaking and moving for a moment?

OR

- B. Driving from my parent's
home to Cochin last Friday
morning, I saw my mother,
beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face
ashen like that
of a corpse and realised with
pain
that she was as old as she
looked but soon
put that thought away, and
looked out at young trees sprinting,
- (My Mother at Sixty-Six)*
- i. What is the speaker's emotional state when she's looking at her mother?
(A) Anxiety for her loved ones
(B) Anger for her loved ones
(C) Feeling of indifference for her loved ones
(D) Anxiety and concern for her loved ones

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- ii. What does the phrase ‘young trees sprinting’ indicate?
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The theme of the poem is _____ (aging/aspiration), which is the law of nature.
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet is overcome with a painful realization about her mother’s aging and frailty.
Reason : The sight of her mother’s ashen, corpse-like face makes the poet painfully aware of her mother’s mortality, prompting her to shift her focus to the young trees outside.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship :
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. What message does the phrase ‘ashen like that of a corpse’ highlight?
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
The poem does not follow any rhyming scheme, thus, it has been written in _____.

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

- A.** It’s got nothing to do with my face and what I look like. I don’t care about that and it isn’t important. It’s what I think and feel and what I want to see and find out and hear. And I’m going back there.

(On the Face of it)

- i. Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract.
When Derry goes ‘back there’, he sees _____.
- ii. What kind of a person has Derry become?
- iii. What do Mr. Lamb and Derry suffer from?
(A) Burnt face (B) Burnt leg
(C) Tin leg (D) Both (A) and (C)
- iv. What was the reason due to which Derry wanted to return to that place?

OR

- B.** The reason the programme has been so successful is because it’s impossible to go anywhere near the South Pole and not be affected by it. It’s easy to be blasé about polar ice-caps melting while sitting in the comfort zone of our respective latitude and longitude, but when you can visibly see glaciers retreating and ice shelves collapsing, you begin to realise that the threat of global warming is very real.

(The Journey to the End of Earth)

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- i. Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract.
The reason behind the success of the programme 'Students on Ice' is the impossibility to _____.
- ii. Select the most suitable title of the give extract.
(A) Students of the future (B) Kalyuga power
(C) Global warming (D) Earth's End A Journey
- iii. Why is Antarctica and its understandings important for the survival of the world?
- iv. When is the threat of global warming?

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

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

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

(The Last Lesson)

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



OR

- B.** I went to the pool when no one else was there. The place was quiet. The water was still and tiled bottom was as white and clean as a bathtub. I was timid about going in alone, so I sat on the side of the pool to wait for others.

I had not been there long when in came a big bruiser of a boy, probably eighteen years old. He had thick hair on his chest. He was a beautiful physical specimen, with legs and arms that showed rippling, muscles. He yelled. "Hi, Skinny! How'd you like to be ducked?"

(Deep Water)

- i. What is the purpose of the description of the bully? Present your views.
- ii. Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately.
When the narrator went to the pool it was _____.
(A) pleasant and lively (B) thrilling and attractive
(C) dirty (D) still and clean
- iii. What did the big bruiser of a boy do?
- iv. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that the big boy was a bully.
- v. Why did the narrator sit on the side of the pool?
(A) To enjoy the beauty of the pool
(B) He was afraid of entering the pool alone
(C) To wait for the coach
(D) To prepare himself mentally to enter
- vi. Complete the sentence with one word.
The word 'bruiser' in the extract means _____.
- 10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$**
- i. Why did the girl close the door when the ironmaster opened the door for the peddler to go?
(The Rattrap)
- ii. Why did Gandhi agree to a settlement of 25 per cent refund to the farmers? *(Indigo)*
- iii. How did the poet prove that there can be life under apparent stillness in the poem 'Keeping Quiet'.
- iv. Why does the wedding band 'sit heavily' upon Aunt Jennifer's hand?
(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)
- v. How can 'mighty dead' be things of beauty?
(A thing of Beauty)
- vi. What caused the lack of communication between the Englishman and the people at Gemini Studios?
(Poets and Pancakes)



11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. What were the feelings of Dr. Sadao and his wife on seeing the wounded man? What did they finally decide to do? (The Enemy)
- ii. What arguments does Charley offer to show his disagreement with the psychiatrist's diagnosis? (The Third Level)
- iii. Do you think all this will change Derry's attitude towards Mr. Lamb? (On the Face of It)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. The characters in prose sections, Mukesh in The Lost Spring and Sophie in Going Places are two different kinds of daydreamers. One is who fulfilled his dreams in real and the other is one who always lives in imaginary dreams. The daydreaming can affect our lives positively as well as negatively. Imagine yourself as a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in about 120-150 words elaborating on occurrences from the two texts highlighting realistic and unrealistic types of day dreaming.

OR

- B. Imagine a child from the farmer's family migrates to the city for their education. As the child, write back to your family telling them whether you would or would not want to turn into a city person. Use the context of the poem "A Roadside Stand" in mind to pen down this letter. You may begin this way:
12, Davidson County
23 January 'XX
Dear mom
I have been thinking about the roadside stall lately. Now that I find myself surrounded by city-people all the time, I think.....
With love
Jennifer

(A Roadside Stand)

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. On returning home, Bama narrated the funny stories to her elder brother Annan. Her brother explained her that it is not funny in anything she told to him, instead all these incidents shows caste discrimination. As she understood the events, she felt disgusted and sad. Imagine yourself to be BAMA and discuss what the Constitution of India does for this. (Memories of Childhood)

OR

- B. Imagine you are an ardent environmentalist who is involved in the Save the Tiger campaign. You have been asked to deliver a speech in a seminar related to your campaign and the need for the youth to be involved in such campaigns. Draft your speech. (A Tiger King)

□□□□□□

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



SAMPLE PAPER 14

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The sun was setting over the hills, casting a golden glow on the small village nestled in the valley. As the evening breeze rustled through the trees, the villagers began to light their lanterns, filling the streets with a soft, warm light. Among them was Mira, a quiet young woman who often wandered the hills at dusk, seeking solace in the tranquil beauty of the landscape. The fading sunlight and the cool wind calmed her, offering a peaceful escape from the busyness of village life. Mira often felt disconnected from the daily routine, finding more comfort in nature than in the company of others.
2. Mira had always been different from the other villagers, preferring solitude over the lively gatherings that filled the village square every evening. While the others danced and shared stories around the fire, Mira would slip away unnoticed, climbing the steep path that led to her favorite spot on the hill. From there, she could see the entire village spread out below, the houses glowing faintly under the twilight sky. This was where she found peace, where the worries of the day seemed to fade away, and she could dream of a world beyond the hills.
3. Her family didn't understand her need for solitude. They worried that Mira spent too much time alone, lost in her thoughts. Her mother, in particular, often tried to coax her into joining the others in the village, fearing that Mira's quietness would isolate her from the community. But Mira didn't see it that way. She believed that her solitude gave her a deeper connection to the world around her, to the earth, the sky, and the wind. It was in these quiet moments, away from the noise of the village, that she felt most alive.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



4. One evening, as Mira sat on the hill watching the stars appear in the sky, she felt a sense of belonging she had never known before. It was as if the world had opened up to her, revealing its secrets in the silence of the night. The stars twinkled brightly above, and the village below was quiet, save for the occasional flicker of lantern light. For the first time, Mira didn't feel alone. She realized that she was part of something much larger than the village, something vast and infinite, and in that moment, she felt a profound sense of peace.
5. Days passed, and Mira's routine remained the same. Each evening, she ventured up the hill to find comfort in the solitude of the open sky. The villagers noticed her absence but did not ask. They knew her well enough to understand that she found something on those hills that they could not provide. While they celebrated their lives in the village square, Mira celebrated in her own way, under the stars, with the world as her companion. Over time, she realized that both ways of living were valid, and though her path was different, it was no less meaningful.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, how does the setting sun affect Mira's emotions? 1
- ii. How does the author describe Mira's relationship with the village, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "Mira's quietness" in paragraph 3 refers to her tendency to avoid the lively gatherings.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
Mira's quietness is important because _____.
(A) It allows her to connect with nature on a deeper level.
(B) It isolates her from the village completely.
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
Mira's family was concerned because _____.
- v. Why does the writer emphasize Mira's experience on the hill in paragraph 4? 1
Because
(A) It shows her discovery of a deeper connection to the world.
(B) It reveals her loneliness and sense of isolation.
(C) It describes how she feels about the villagers.
(D) It highlights her love for village life.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
Mira felt a sense of belonging she had never experienced before.
- vii. In the line, 'The world had opened up to her' (Paragraph 4), what does the phrase 'opened up to her' suggest about Mira's transformation? 2



- viii.** Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 1 : 1
sunlight: day :: lanterns: _____
(A) evening (B) light
(C) hills (D) peace
- ix.** Why is it fair to say that the statement ‘Mira didn’t feel alone’ in paragraph 4 uses descriptive language? 1
(A) It describes the peace she feels in nature.
(B) It focuses on her desire to escape the village.
(C) It highlights her fear of being disconnected from others.
(D) It explains her interactions with the villagers.
- x.** Assess the potential challenges or benefits of Mira’s preference for solitude, as suggested in paragraphs 3 and 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. The global consumption of single-use plastics has increased dramatically over the last few decades, leading to a mounting waste crisis. Every year, over 300 million tons of plastic are produced, with 50% designed for single-use purposes such as packaging, straws, and cutlery. Unfortunately, only 9% of all plastic waste has ever been recycled, while 12% is incinerated, and the rest accumulates in landfills or the environment.
2. The majority of plastic waste finds its way into the oceans, where it creates devastating environmental effects. Marine life is particularly vulnerable, as plastic pollution harms sea creatures by entangling them or being ingested. According to a study by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, by 2050, the ocean could contain more plastic by weight than fish.
3. Countries around the world have implemented policies to address this growing problem. In 2019, the European Union adopted the Single-Use Plastics Directive, which bans the use of certain plastic products and promotes the use of sustainable alternatives. Similarly, several countries, including India, Kenya, and Canada, have introduced bans on plastic bags, aiming to curb the amount of plastic waste generated.
4. Despite these efforts, the global plastic crisis remains unsolved. One reason is that plastic is inexpensive to produce, making it a preferred material for industries. Additionally, the recycling infrastructure in many countries is insufficient to handle the sheer volume of plastic waste produced.
5. Innovative solutions are emerging to combat the plastic waste problem. Researchers are developing biodegradable plastics that break down naturally in the environment, while companies are exploring reusable alternatives to single-use products. However, widespread adoption of these innovations will require significant investments and changes in consumer behavior.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i.** Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links single-use plastics to the growing waste crisis to highlight _____.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To investigate the environmental and economic impacts of single-use plastics.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Secondary objective (B) Research outcome
(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why single-use plastics are challenging to manage, based on the passage. 2
- iv. Paragraph 2 includes words – ‘marine life’ and ‘plastic waste.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘marine life’ or ‘plastic waste’:
Sentence 1: Sea creatures are often entangled in or ingest plastic debris.
Sentence 2: Over 300 million tons of plastic are produced globally each year.
- v. Read the following : 1
Ravi frequently uses plastic straws and cutlery, while Priya has switched to biodegradable alternatives. Arjun, their mutual friend, is concerned about marine life being harmed by plastic pollution.
Select the option that identifies the correct environmental issues associated with Ravi, Priya, and Arjun.
(A) Ravi – single-use plastics; Priya – biodegradable alternatives; Arjun – marine life
(B) Ravi – marine life; Priya – plastic waste; Arjun – biodegradable alternatives
(C) Ravi – biodegradable alternatives; Priya – single-use plastics; Arjun – plastic waste
(D) Ravi – marine life; Priya – biodegradable alternatives; Arjun – single-use plastics
- vi. Although many countries have banned plastic products, why does the global plastic crisis continue to persist? 1
- vii. Analyse how innovations like biodegradable plastics can help reduce plastic waste. (Paragraph 5) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Increase the production of single-use plastics
(B) Implement stronger bans on plastic across all countries
(C) Promote investment in sustainable alternatives and reduce plastic consumption
(D) Encourage the incineration of more plastic waste

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

18

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$
- A. You are Sahil Sagar, the President of Nehru Yuva Club, Delhi. You have planned to take a trekking trip for 15 days to Rohtang Pass next month. Write a notice giving all necessary information to invite participants for trekking programme.
- OR**
- B. As the Director, Primary Section, write a notice in about 50 words for the children announcing the programme for the Children’s Day.

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You are the secretary of the Alumni Club, S.K. International School, Roshan Road, Raipur. Using the information given below, write an invitation letter to all the old students of the school on the Alumni Meet.

Alumni Meet on 25th December-Dinner-DJ-Mahek Hotel-Raipur-6 PM to 10 PM-
confirm your seats.

OR

- B.** Write an invitation to your friend inviting him on the inauguration ceremony of your new house. Use the information given below.

Inauguration of home - Hawan ceremony - Lunch

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Pankaj Das of 95, Dehu Road, Pune, sees an advertisement for the post of a supervisor and decides to apply for the job. The requirements for the job are graduation in any science subject, knowledge of English and possession of computer skills. Write an application along with the biodata in about 120-150 words to the Personnel Manager, Light Sight Chemists, Dehu Road, Pune.

OR

- B.** Write a letter to the editor of The Hindu about rash and reckless driving, suggesting preventive measures. You are Neha/Nehal living at B-3/345 Sector 8, Defence Colony, New Delhi.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Write an article in about 120-150 words for your school magazine on 'Drug Abuse and Its Prevention'.

OR

- B.** You have recently visited an island on the Pulicat Lagoon in Tamil Nadu. Write a report in 120-150 words on how children go to school by boat from this island.

SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two - (A) or (B). $1 \times 6 = 6$

- A.** Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing
A flowery band to bind us to the earth,
Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth
of noble natures, of the gloomy days,
of all the unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways
Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all,

(A Thing of Beauty)

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- i. Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?
(A) Beauty is intransient (B) Happiness
(C) Joyful youth (D) Mundane world
- ii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet suggests that despite the gloom and hardships in life, beauty binds us to the Earth.
Reason : The flowery band in the poem symbolizes the material possessions that keep us attached to the world.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii. Complete the following suitably.
The extract highlights the fact that beauty has a positive impact on one's health. It helps one get _____ sleep.
- iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The poetic device used in the phrase 'noble nature' is _____ (alliteration/metaphor).
- v. Based on the rhyming scheme, evident in lines 2-5, of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line1?

breathing

target

sound

- vi. What does the poet mean by "wreathing a flowery band" every day?

OR

- B. When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by. The tigers in the panel that she made Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.
(Aunt Jennifer's Tiger)
- i. What does the Aunt's terrified hands show about her emotional state?
(A) Hard and bitter experience of her married life
(B) The weight of her wedding band
(C) Her aged terrified hands
(D) Victim of gender oppression
- ii. What does the phrase 'she was mastered by' suggest?
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The Aunt embroidered tigers on the panel to express her fighting spirit of a _____ (warrior/boxer).

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : Aunt Jennifer's tigers will continue to symbolize strength and fearlessness, even after her death.
Reason : The tigers represent a world of confidence and freedom, contrasting with Aunt Jennifer's life of struggles and oppression, symbolized by her "terrified hands."
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship :
- (A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. What message does the line highlight 'still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by' in the aunt's life?
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
The tigers that she made in the panel shows her strength and her ability of _____.

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

4 × 1 = 4

- A. From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers inhabiting Pratibandapuram. The state banned tiger hunting by anyone except the Maharaja. A proclamation was issued to the effect that if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated. The Maharaja vowed he would attend to all other matters only after killing the hundred tigers. Initially the king seemed well set to realise his ambition.
Not that he faced no dangers. There were times when the bullet missed its mark, the tiger leapt upon him and he fought the beast with his bare hands. Each time it was the Maharaja who won.
- (The Tiger King)*
- i. The tone of the author when he says 'it was celebration time for all tigers' is _____.
- ii. Select the option that enumerates the characteristics of the king.
(A) Gullible and scrupulous (B) Wilful and arrogant
(C) Aggressive and apathetic (D) All of these
- iii. Why did the Maharaja want to kill tigers specifically?
- iv. What does the proclamation show us about the authority possessed by the Maharaja?

OR

- B. We must simply tell them that we intend to give him to the police-as indeed we must, Sadao. We must think of the children and your position. It would endanger all of us if we did not give this man over as a prisoner of war"

(The Enemy)

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
Dr Sadao will not be arrested on the charge of harbouring an enemy ____.
- ii. Who are 'them' being referred to here?
(A) Servants (B) Friends
(C) Neighbours (D) Doctors
- iii. Who is the speaker of the above lines and who is the listener?
- iv. What will Sadao and Hana do with the man?

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

- A.** The experience had a deep meaning for me, as only those who have known stark terror and conquered it can appreciate. In death there is peace. There is terror only in the fear of death, as Roosevelt knew when he said, 'All we have to fear is fear itself.' Because I had experienced both the sensation of dying and the terror that fear of it can produce, the will to live somehow grew in intensity.

(Deep Water)

- i. How had the narrator experienced 'the sensation of dying and the terror that fear of it can produce'?
- ii. Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is TRUE for the speaker.
(A) Douglas fear kept him away from going fishing.
(B) The fall in the pool at YMCA intensified Douglas fear.
(C) The fear of drowning resulted in Douglas' anxiety and terror.
(D) Douglas decided to practice to overcome his fear.
- iii. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.
Roosevelt's opinion on fear is that ____.
- iv. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that the writer has himself faced the terror.
- v. What was the impact of the 'experience' on the narrator's life?
- vi. Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately.
The 'experience' in the context refers to ____.
(A) drowning in the YMCA Pool
(B) swimming perfectly in various lakes
(C) learning how to swim
(D) Both (B) and (c)



OR

- B.** “The man was evidently used to sleeping with one eye open. He jumped up abruptly and seemed to be quite frightened. “My name is Edla Willmansson,” said the young girl. “My father came home and said that you wanted to sleep here in the forge tonight, and then I asked permission to come and bring you home to us. I am so sorry, Captain, that you are having such a hard time.” She looked at him compassionately, with her heavy eyes, and then she noticed that the man was afraid. “Either he has stolen something or else he has escaped from jail”, she thought, and added quickly, “You may be sure, Captain, that you will be allowed to leave us just as freely as you came.”

(The Rattrap)

- i. What did the man evidently used to?
- ii. The line, “Either he has stolen something or else he has escaped from jail” can be best classified as
(A) a truth (B) an opinion
(C) an assumption (D) a plot point
- iii. Explain any one inference that can be drawn from the line, “Either he has stolen something or else he has escaped from jail.”
- iv. Identify the line from the text that bears evidence to the fact that Edla felt that the man was frightened.
- v. Which is the most likely reason Edla calling him captain?
(A) He was looking like captain. (B) He was mistaken as a captain.
(C) He was looking like thief. (D) He had escaped from jail.
- vi. Complete the sentence with ONE word.
Edla had two doubts about the man-one is that he was a thief and another is that he had escaped from _____.

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. What followed when Gandhiji arrived at Champaran? *(Indigo)*
- ii. Why do most celebrity writers hate to be interviewed? *(The Interview)*
- iii. How were the parents and M. Hamel responsible for the children’s neglect of the French language? *(The Last Lesson)*
- iv. Bring out the contrast between the urban rich and the rural poor. *(A Roadside Stand)*
- v. What is the significance of the state of total inactivity or quietude that the poet urges in ‘Keeping Quiet’?
- vi. What kind of mother’s face has been described in ‘My Mother at Sixty-Six’?

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. Where did Charley go after reading Sam's note and why? What did he come to know about it?

(The Third Level)

- ii. Why was Tishani Doshi filled with relief and wonder when he set foot on the Antarctic continent?

(Journey to the End of the Earth)

- iii. What kind of a garden does Mr Lamb possess? Why is he attached to it?

(On the face of It)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. In Prose section, Indigo, chapter points out how an effective leadership can overcome any problem. Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in 120-150 words elaborating on occurrences from the text to inspire your audience and to convince them about the importance of leadership.

OR

- B. 'Mother continually warned against it, and kept fresh in my mind the details of each drowning in the river.'

In Prose section, 'Deep Water' includes this comment on William Douglas.

In 'My Mother at Sixty Six', we are told that -

'But after the airport's security check, standing a few yards away, I looked again at her, wan, pale as a late winter's moon'

Imagine a conversation between Kamla Das and William Douglas as friends. Create this exchange with reference to the extracts given above.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. 'The modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry, tension and stress.' Discuss with reference to "The Third Level".

OR

- B. The two accounts that you read in Memories of Childhood are based on two distant cultures.

However, there lies the commonality of theme in both of them. Instead of letting it pull them down, they both found a way to overcome it in their own way. You wish to include a cameo of both in your upcoming blog post.

(A cameo is a short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something)

As a part of the research, compare and contrast the experiences faced by the two and their responses to these experiences, in about 120-150 words. (Clue : include similarities and differences in the discrimination they faced - their feelings - determination to overcome - success)

□□□□□□

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



SAMPLE PAPER 15

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The small town of Shimla, nestled in the foothills of the Himalayas, wakes up to the soft glow of the morning sun. The cool mountain air carries the scent of pine trees, and the narrow streets are quiet, except for the occasional chirping of birds. As the mist lifts from the surrounding hills, the town comes alive with the clatter of footsteps and the sound of tea stalls opening for the day. The first rays of sunlight touch the rooftops of the old colonial buildings, which stand as reminders of a bygone era.
2. Shimla's charm lies not only in its scenic beauty but also in its rich history. The town was once the summer capital of British India, and traces of its colonial past can still be seen in the architecture, from the grand Viceregal Lodge to the small cottages lining the Mall Road. The streets are lined with tall deodar trees, and at every turn, one can catch a glimpse of the snow-capped peaks in the distance. Tourists flock to Shimla to escape the heat of the plains and enjoy the cool mountain air, often spending their afternoons walking along the winding roads or sitting on the benches overlooking the valley.
3. As the day progresses, the town's pace quickens. The local market fills with the hustle and bustle of vendors selling everything from fresh produce to woolen shawls. Tourists haggle over prices while shopkeepers call out their wares. The scent of street food—hot pakoras and spicy chaat—fills the air, mixing with the earthy smell of the mountains. Amid the activity, the town's clock tower stands tall, its chimes marking the passing hours.
4. By evening, the town slows down again. The golden hues of the setting sun bathe the hills in a warm glow, and a peaceful stillness settles over Shimla. The streets, once filled with activity, become quiet as shopkeepers close their stalls and tourists return to their hotels. The chilly night air begins to settle in, and the lights of the town twinkle against the darkening sky, giving Shimla a magical, almost timeless, feel.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



5. Shimla is not just a hill station; it is a place where time seems to slow down, where the past meets the present, and where nature and history come together to create a sense of peace and tranquility. For those who visit, Shimla offers a brief escape from the rush of modern life, allowing them to pause, reflect, and reconnect with the simpler joys of life.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, what does the scent of pine trees in Shimla's morning air represent? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the connection between Shimla's colonial past and its present, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "where time seems to slow down" in paragraph 5 suggests that Shimla provides a sense of calm and escape from the fast-paced modern world.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
Shimla's atmosphere feels timeless because _____.
(A) it combines natural beauty with historical charm
(B) it is a popular destination for tourists
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3: 1
The scent of street food in Shimla fills the market because _____.
- v. Why does the writer describe Shimla as "a place where nature and history come together" in paragraph 5? 1
Because
(A) It is a historic hill station with natural beauty and a rich colonial past.
(B) Shimla is known for its popular shopping centers and local markets.
(C) The town is famous for its tea stalls and scenic roads.
(D) It is an important business hub in the mountains.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
Shimla becomes peaceful in the evening after a busy day.
- vii. In the line, 'the golden hues of the setting sun bathe the hills in a warm glow' (Paragraph 4), what does the phrase 'golden hues' suggest about the mood as evening approaches? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 3 : 1
tourists: haggle :: shopkeepers: _____
(A) sell (B) buy
(C) stroll (D) rest
- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement 'Shimla offers a brief escape from the rush of modern life' in paragraph 5 uses descriptive language? 1
(A) It explains Shimla's popularity as a tourist destination.
(B) It highlights Shimla's ability to offer peace and tranquility.
(C) It compares Shimla to other hill stations in the region.
(D) It focuses on the activities people enjoy in Shimla.



- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of maintaining Shimla's natural and historical beauty, as suggested in paragraph 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. Urbanization has resulted in significant changes in global land use patterns. As more people migrate to cities, the need for housing, infrastructure, and resources has grown. This demand often leads to the destruction of natural ecosystems. The case study looks into how urbanization has impacted land use and the environmental consequences that follow.
2. Data from the United Nations shows that over 55% of the world's population currently resides in urban areas, and this is expected to rise to 68% by 2050. Urbanization has been responsible for the loss of 30% of the world's forests over the past century. Furthermore, around 3 million hectares of agricultural land are being converted into urban areas each year, raising concerns about food security.
3. The study found that urban growth significantly increases the consumption of natural resources, especially in cities:
60% of the total energy is consumed by the industrial and transportation sectors in urban areas.
Urban regions are responsible for 75% of global CO₂ emissions, which contributes heavily to climate change and worsening air quality.
This shows that cities, while being hubs of economic activity, are also major contributors to environmental degradation through their high levels of resource consumption.
4. Urban sprawl has fragmented natural ecosystems, with habitats being divided by roads, buildings, and other infrastructure. The loss of habitats has led to a decline in biodiversity, particularly in densely populated regions. The study highlights that 40% of species in urban areas face extinction due to habitat loss.
5. Efforts to reduce the environmental impacts of urbanization include promoting sustainable city planning and integrating green infrastructure. Investments in public transportation can also help minimize the carbon footprint. It is projected that curbing urban sprawl could reduce CO₂ emissions by 15% globally by 2050.
6. The case study emphasizes the need to balance urban development with environmental preservation. By integrating nature-based solutions into urban planning, cities can accommodate population growth while reducing environmental damage.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably.
In the introduction, the researcher links urbanization with land use changes to highlight -----.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To examine the effects of urbanization on global land use and the environmental consequences that follow.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Secondary objective (B) Research outcome
(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- iii. Give two points to support why habitat fragmentation was included as a focus in the study on urbanization. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘energy consumption’ and ‘biodiversity loss.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘energy consumption’ or ‘biodiversity loss’:
Sentence 1: The expansion of cities has caused habitat loss for many species, reducing their populations.
Sentence 2: Industries and transportation in urban areas are the largest consumers of energy.
- v. Read the following : 1
Arun works in the transportation sector in a large city, where most energy is consumed by transportation and industries. His neighbor Suresh prefers living on the city outskirts, where he enjoys a quiet lifestyle surrounded by forests. Meanwhile, Rina lives in a rapidly expanding suburb where urban sprawl is leading to habitat fragmentation.
Select the option that identifies the correct demographic Arun, Suresh, and Rina belong to.
(A) Arun – urban resident; Suresh – rural dweller; Rina – suburban resident
(B) Arun – suburban resident; Suresh – urban resident; Rina – rural dweller
(C) Arun – rural dweller; Suresh – urban resident; Rina – suburban resident
(D) Arun – urban resident; Suresh – suburban resident; Rina – rural dweller
- vi. Although both rural and urban areas face environmental challenges, why is biodiversity loss more prevalent in urban regions? 1
- vii. Analyse how integrating green infrastructure into city planning can help mitigate the environmental impacts of urbanization. (Paragraph 5) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) To promote urban growth at the expense of natural ecosystems
(B) To reduce global food production for urban development
(C) To balance urbanization with environmental conservation
(D) To limit urbanization to rural regions

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

18

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$
- A. You are Shalini/ Shailesh, in charge of the NSS Club of St. Andrew’s School, Bhopal. Write a notice about a charity show being organized by the club to collect articles and money for people affected by earthquake in Uttarakhand. Write the notice in about 50 words. Include relevant details such as purpose of the show, kind of events, tickets and show timing, etc.
- OR
- B. As the Sports Captain of your school, write a notice in about 50 words informing budding cricketers to attend trials for Under-16 and Under-18 for final selection to the school teams. Sign off as Sunny Arora. Invent all necessary details as required.

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You are Dr. Swarupa Mitra, an eminent oncologist working at Rajiv Gandhi Cancer and Research Institute. You have the honour of being invited as the chief guest at a public function. However, due to sudden illness you are unable to attend the same. Draft a suitable reply in about 50 words.

OR

- B.** You are Rohana/Rohit. You have been invited to attend the wedding of your friend's brother. Respond to the invitation regretting your inability to attend it. Invent necessary details and do not exceed 50 words.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** You are Bhavjeet Kaur of 25/A, Defence Colony, New Delhi. You are deeply concerned about the growing apathy of people towards eve-teasing in local buses. Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper expressing your concern and suggesting ways in which are women can ensure their own safety.

OR

- B.** During summer months after your exams are over, you want to utilize your time by working in a leading chain of superstores. You are Gunjeet/ Gagan. Write an application for the post of a supervisor giving your complete bio-data to the HR Manager, Apna Ghar, GK Part II, New Delhi.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Every day you read in the newspaper about the increasing rate of crimes in Delhi. You live in Delhi and feel really bad about it. As Chinara Gulati, write an article for your school magazine on the topic.

OR

- B.** You are Nitin Sharma, the newly elected Secretary of Einstein Society of Cambridge School, Nagpur. Write a report in 120-150 words for the school magazine about the 'plantation week' held recently in your school.

SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two - (A) or (B). $1 \times 6 = 6$

- A.** When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

- i.** Which of the following best captures the symbolism of tigers created by Aunt Jennifer?
(A) They represent just art on cloth, nothing else.
(B) Although Aunt Jennifer has created the tigers, they are the ones who control her.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- (C) They reflect the true nature of a woman.
- (D) They represent assertiveness, fearlessness and strength which the Aunt lacked.

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

Assertion : Aunt Jennifer's tigers will continue to symbolize freedom and strength even after her death.

Reason : The tigers represent Aunt Jennifer's life of courage and confidence, which she displayed through her actions.

Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:

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

iii. Complete the following suitably.

Aunt Jennifer was stuck to traditional activity like embroidery but the tigers _____.

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

When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie. Here, in 'terrified hands' the figure of speech is _____ (alliteration/transferred epithet).

v. Based on the poem rhyme scheme, evident in lines 2-4, of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 1?

dry

die

try

vi. What is the effect of the figure of speech used in 'Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid'?

OR

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

(My Mother at Sixty-six)

i. Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the third and fourth lines of the extract.

- (A) The dazzling dames comes one by one
- (B) Nature is God's gift to us
- (C) As quick as a fox
- (D) Life is full of ups and downs



- ii. What is the cause of pain and ache that the poet feels?
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
“Her face ashen like that of a corpse” means that to the poet’s mother’s face was _____ (pale and lifeless/ bright and lively).
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet experiences a painful realization about her mother’s aging and frailty.
Reason : The sight of her mother dozing with an ashen, corpse-like face reminds the poet of her mother’s old age and mortality.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. Why did the poet put the thought away?
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
The poet’s mother look like a corpse because _____.

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

- A. DERRY: It won’t make my face change. Do you know, one day, a woman went by me in the street-I was at a bus stop-and she was with another woman, and she looked at me, and she said... whispered... only I heard her... she said, “Look at that, that’s a terrible thing. That’s a face only a mother could love.”

(On the Face of It)

- i. List the playwright’s purpose of using ellipses (...) in this extract.
- ii. Select the option that best describes the meaning of the word ‘whisper’.
(A) To speak heartily (B) To speak slowly
(C) To speak loudly (D) To speak humbly
- iii. How did people treat Derry?
- iv. The person who called Derry is terrible thing in the extract is _____.

OR

- B. “The master ought not to heal the wound of this white man,” he said bluntly to Hana. “The white man ought to die. First he was shot. Then the sea caught him and wounded him with her rocks. If the master heals, what the gun did and what the sea did they will take revenge on us.”

(The Enemy)

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- i. Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract.
The speaker of the given lines does not like the white man because _____.
- ii. Which of the following would NOT represent nature as presented in the given lines?
(A) The storm picked up everything on its way.
(B) The garden is a paradise.
(C) The sea turbulently swings her waves on the ship.
(D) The Sun blared with its full intensity.
- iii. Give a suitable title for the given extract.
- iv. Why the speaker didn't want the white man to live?

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A.** "But of course it is you, Nils Olof!" he said. "How you do look!"
The man with the rattraps had never before seen the ironmaster at Ramsjö and did not even know what his name was. But it occurred to him that if the fine gentleman thought he was an old acquaintance, he might perhaps throw him a couple of kronor. Therefore he did not want to undeceive him all at once.
"Yes, God knows things have gone downhill with me," he said.
"You should not have resigned from the regiment," said the ironmaster.
- (The Rattrap)*
- i. What does the expression 'things are going downhill' mean?
 - ii. Why does the protagonist not reveal his true identity?
(A) He just casually went with the situation.
(B) He hoped for some monetary help from the ironmaster.
(C) He was afraid of not getting food and shelter.
(D) He was hoping to escape getting arrested.
 - iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The extract suggests that the peddler was an incorrigible fellow because apparently he _____.
 - iv. Pick evidence from the extract that helps one infer important information about Nils Olof.
 - v. Which personality traits of the ironmaster can be distinguished from the extract? Mention any two.
 - vi. Which of the following idiomatic expressions best suggests the doings of the peddler?
(A) Slip of the tongue
(B) To err is human, to forgive divine
(C) Pull wool over someone's eyes
(D) The sleep of the just

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



OR

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

(Lost Spring)

- i. Complete the given sentence appropriately.
'They' in the given extract refers to ____.
- ii. What is not a part of 'his' growing up?
- iii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank.
The 'baggage' in the extract refers to ____.
- (A) the blame of their crimes
(B) the job of bangle making
(C) the bag containing bangles
(D) the job of selling bangles
- iv. Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is TRUE for 'them'.
- (A) They are figures of authority. (B) They are scared of government.
(C) They are suppressive. (D) Both (A) and (C)
- v. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that Mukesh's dream will require determination and sincerity.
- vi. Why does the writer state that the boy accepts bangle making as naturally as his father?

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. Who was Rajkumar Shukla? What role did he play at Champaran? *(Indigo)*
- ii. How does the poet bring out the images of disharmony between man and nature in 'Keeping Quiet' and how can it be resolved?
- iii. Why were the old men of the village present in the classroom? *(The Last Lesson)*
- iv. What were the options that Sophie was dreaming of? Why does Jansie discourage her from having such dreams? *(Going Places)*
- v. Why does the narrator smile and what does she say while bidding goodbye to her mother? *(My Mother at Sixty-Six)*
- vi. Do we experience things of beauty only for short moments or do they make a lasting impression on us?

(A Thing of Beauty)

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. “But this eating by formula was not the hardest trial in that first day”, says Zitkala-Sa. What does she mean by ‘eating by formula’?

(Memories of Childhood)

- ii. Why did the booking clerk refuse to accept the money from Charley?

(The Third Level)

- iii. How did the Maharaja devote himself to realise his ambition? How far did he succeed?

(The Tiger King)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. “Freedom from fear is more important than legal justice for the poor.” Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in about 120-150 words elaborating on occurrences from the text about whether the poor of India are free from fear after Independence or not.

(Indigo)

OR

- B. How does humour and satire enliven the account of the events and personalities at Gemini Studios as portrayed by Asokamitran in ‘Poets and Pancakes’?

(Poets and Pancakes)

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. Why does Tishani Doshi call her trip to Antarctica a “Journey to the End of the Earth”? What experience did she have during this expedition?

(Journey to the End of the Earth)

OR

- B. The modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and stress. We need to overcome them through different ways. Write a paragraph with reference to ‘The Third Level’, and express your thoughts about the ways to overcome it.

□□□□□□



SAMPLE PAPER 16

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. In the early morning, before the city of Kolkata fully awakens, the Howrah Bridge stands in quiet majesty over the Hooghly River. The bridge, with its enormous steel beams and towering pillars, is one of the busiest in the world. As dawn breaks, the first rays of sunlight glimmer on the surface of the water, and the bridge begins to come alive. Slowly, the hum of engines and the footsteps of commuters fill the air as people make their way across, heading to work or returning home after a long night.
2. The Howrah Bridge is not just a structure of steel and iron; it is a lifeline that connects the twin cities of Howrah and Kolkata. Thousands of vehicles and pedestrians cross it daily, making it one of the most essential parts of Kolkata's bustling life. It is more than just a means of transport; it is a symbol of the city's resilience and unity. No matter the time of day, the bridge stands strong, carrying the weight of the city's hopes, dreams, and struggles.
3. For those who walk across the bridge early in the morning, the scene is different. The cool breeze from the river brings a sense of calm, and the city's noise feels distant. Fishermen can be seen casting their nets into the Hooghly's waters, hoping for a good catch, while boatmen row gently along the river. The bridge, towering above them, seems to watch over the river, silently witnessing the daily rhythm of life.
4. As the day progresses, the city's pulse quickens. The once peaceful bridge becomes a hive of activity. Buses, cars, bicycles, and hand-pulled rickshaws all jostle for space, moving in a chaotic yet synchronized flow. Street vendors set up their stalls at the foot of the bridge, selling everything from fruits to newspapers. The Howrah Bridge, now bustling with life, is a testament to Kolkata's vibrancy and unyielding spirit.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



5. By nightfall, the bridge stands lit against the dark sky, its lights reflecting on the water below. Even in the stillness of night, the Howrah Bridge remains a beacon of the city's strength, connecting two sides, two cities, and countless lives. It is not just a bridge; it is the heartbeat of Kolkata, standing tall against the passage of time.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, what role does the Howrah Bridge play in the daily life of Kolkata? 1
- ii. How does the author describe the significance of the bridge for the people of Kolkata, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "a lifeline that connects the twin cities" in paragraph 2 suggests that the Howrah Bridge is essential for the daily functioning of Kolkata and Howrah.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
The Howrah Bridge is a lifeline because _____.
(A) it carries thousands of vehicles and pedestrians every day
(B) it is the tallest structure in Kolkata
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
The Howrah Bridge provides a sense of calm in the early morning because _____.
- v. Why does the writer describe the bridge as a "symbol of the city's resilience" in paragraph 2? 1
Because
(A) The bridge helps people reach work on time.
(B) The bridge connects the city in both a physical and emotional sense.
(C) It is the most iconic structure in Kolkata.
(D) It helps street vendors set up their stalls every day.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
The Howrah Bridge transforms into a busy hub of activity as the day progresses.
- vii. In the line, 'the bridge, towering above them, seems to watch over the river' (Paragraph 3), what does the phrase 'watch over the river' suggest about the bridge's presence? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 4 : 1
vehicles: traffic :: street vendors: _____
(A) river (B) stalls
(C) Howrah (D) bridge
- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement 'the Howrah Bridge remains a beacon of the city's strength' in paragraph 5 uses figurative language? 1
(A) It suggests the bridge represents Kolkata's enduring spirit.
(B) It compares the bridge to a literal beacon.
(C) It emphasizes the physical size of the bridge.
(D) It describes the lights on the bridge.



- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of maintaining such an important structure, as suggested in paragraph 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. Climate change is one of the most pressing challenges facing the world today. Rising global temperatures have led to extreme weather events, sea-level rise, and ecosystem disruptions. This case study examines the global trends in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, identifying key sectors contributing to these emissions and evaluating efforts to reduce them.
2. Data from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) shows that global GHG emissions have increased by 45% over the last three decades. In developed countries, emissions have slightly decreased, while in developing countries, emissions have risen by 60% due to industrialization and population growth. The global average CO₂ emissions per capita is 4.8 tons, with developed countries averaging 10 tons and developing countries averaging 2.5 tons.
3. The data highlights that 25% of global GHG emissions come from the energy sector, followed by agriculture at 24%, industry at 21%, and transportation at 14%. In developing nations, agriculture and energy are the primary sources of emissions, while in developed countries, industrial and transportation sectors play a larger role. These differences reflect variations in economic activities and resource use across regions.
4. The study also found that deforestation, which contributes to 12% of global emissions, is a major concern in regions like South America and Southeast Asia, where forests are cleared for agricultural purposes. Deforestation, combined with fossil fuel combustion, accounts for the majority of CO₂ emissions globally.
5. Efforts to reduce GHG emissions include transitioning to renewable energy, improving energy efficiency, and adopting sustainable agricultural practices. In energy production, solar and wind energy have the potential to reduce CO₂ emissions by 30% by 2050, while reforestation efforts could sequester up to 10% of global emissions annually.
6. This study emphasizes the need for global cooperation to mitigate climate change. By adopting cleaner energy sources, reducing deforestation, and improving industrial practices, it is possible to limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and avoid the most severe impacts of climate change.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links rising global temperatures with climate change to highlight _____.
_____.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To identify key sectors contributing to global greenhouse gas emissions and evaluate efforts to reduce them.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Method of analysis (B) Research outcome
(C) Primary objective (D) Secondary objective

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- iii. Give two points to support why agriculture was included as a focus in the study on GHG emissions. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘energy sector’ and ‘deforestation.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘energy sector’ or ‘deforestation’:
Sentence 1: Clearing forests for agriculture leads to higher CO₂ emissions.
Sentence 2: Burning fossil fuels for electricity generation is a major source of GHG emissions.
- v. Read the following : 1
James drives a car daily for commuting, which adds to GHG emissions from transportation. Ravi works in agriculture, where he uses fertilizers that release GHGs into the atmosphere. Priya, who lives in an industrial area, works in a factory that emits CO₂ due to the production process.
Select the option that identifies the correct sector contributing to emissions for James, Ravi, and Priya.
(A) James – industry; Ravi – transportation; Priya – agriculture
(B) James – transportation; Ravi – industry; Priya – agriculture
(C) James – transportation; Ravi – agriculture; Priya – industry
(D) James – agriculture; Ravi – transportation; Priya – industry
- vi. Although both developing and developed countries contribute to global GHG emissions, why is the contribution of the energy sector higher in developed countries? 1
- vii. Analyse how transitioning to renewable energy could significantly reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, particularly in the energy sector. (Paragraph 5) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Increase emissions in the industrial sector
(B) Transition entirely to solar energy
(C) Limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels
(D) Focus solely on reducing transportation emissions

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

18

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. 1 × 4 = 4
- A. You are Shikha Kapoor, General Secretary of Sports Club of Meera Bai School, Dehradun. Your school has decided to celebrate the Silver Jubilee function of the school in the form of Annual Sports Day. Write a notice on the school notice board inviting the names of the students who want to participate in any of the sports activity or to put up any show on the stage.
- OR**
- B. While walking in a park in your neighbourhood you found a small plastic bag containing some documents and some cash. Write a notice in about 50 words to be put on the park noticeboard asking the owner to identify and collect it from you. You are Amar/Amrita 943912xxxx.

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You are a student of St. Joseph Public School, Nainital. The school is holding its annual function on Saturday, the 9th of October, 20xx at 5 p.m. The Education Minister, Dr. M.N. Johri, has consented to be the Chief Guest. Design an invitation card to be sent to the parents and other invitees.

OR

- B.** You are Rachna Madan. Your friend Archana Gupta has invited you to her engagement ceremony to be held at Hotel Crowne Plaza on 27th November 20xx at 8 p.m. Draft a reply saying politely that due to an exam on that day, you cannot attend the engagement ceremony. Wish her a good luck.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** You are Renu of 334, Kirti Nagar. You have just come across an advertisement concerning education abroad.

The BTN Sussex University in collaboration with its Indian counterpart offers the first year of study in India and the three subsequent years in the UK.

You joined the above course. Despite having spent a substantial amount, you haven't been able to proceed to the UK for your studies. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the editor of a newspaper drawing attention of the public and the education authorities to such advertisements which befool students. Suggest measures which could be taken up against unscrupulous vendors of education.

OR

- B.** You are Krishna of 13-C/169 Sector 16, Rohini, Delhi. You have seen an advertisement in the Hindustan Times for the post of Chief Chef in a Five Start Hotel. Apply for the same with complete resume. Do not exceed 120-150 words. Invent necessary details.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** You had to appear for your Maths Tutorial on 7th of May this year and were travelling by one of the local buses. You were stuck in a traffic jam. Write an article stating your experience and expressing your concern over the growing vehicular traffic on the roads and its ill effects.

OR

- B.** National Science Centre, New Delhi organised "Cancer Drug Discovery" workshop. Write a report on the same to be published in a newspaper.

SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two - (A) or (B). $1 \times 6 = 6$

- A.** ... but soon
put that thought away, and
looked out at young
trees sprinting, the merry children spilling out of their homes,

(My Mother At Sixty-Six)

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- i. Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the last line of the extract.
- (A) The sizzling summer took a toll on us.
(B) I'm as happy as I can be.
(C) Life is a roller coaster ride.
(D) The flood swallowed more than a dozen villages.
- ii. Complete the following suitably.
'The merry children spilling out of their homes' is symbolic of _____ youth.
- iii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet shifts her focus from her mother's aging to the youthful energy outside.
Reason : The lively scene of trees and children distracts the poet from her painful thoughts about her mother.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The fact that the poem's narrative style is single sentence, punctuated by commas shows that there is only one _____ (trick/thought) which runs through the poem.
- v. Why were the young trees sprinting?
- vi. Give an apt title for the extract.

OR

- B. If we were not so single-minded
about keeping our lives moving,
and for once could do nothing,
Perhaps a huge silence might interrupt this sadness
Of never understanding ourselves
And of threatening ourselves with death.
- (Keeping Quiet)*
- i. What is the tone of poet in the poem 'Keeping Quiet'?
- (A) frightened (B) aggressive
(C) terrific (D) calm and tranquil
- ii. What does the phrase 'single-minded' mean?
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The poet wants silence and _____ (commotion/ calmness).

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet believes that taking a moment to pause and reflect can lead to greater self-understanding.
Reason : By stopping the constant motion of life, we can break free from the sadness caused by a lack of self-awareness and the constant threat of death.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. What does 'keeping our lives moving' suggest?
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
Pablo Neruda stresses upon being quiet and harmless to the _____.

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

- A.** MR. LAMB : Like a bomb only blew up my leg. There's worse things can happen. You can burn yours elf away inside.
DERRY : After I'd come home, one person said, "He'd have been better off stopping in there. In the hospital. He'd be better off with others like himself." She thinks blind people only ought to be with other blind people and idiot boys with idiot boys.
MR. LAMB : And people with no legs altogether?
DERRY : That's right.
MR. LAMB : What kind of a world would that be?
(On the Face of It)
- i. What do the given lines tell about the relationship between Mr. Lamb and Derry?
- ii. Select the option that best describes the stranger's belief regarding people like Derry?
(A) That there should be a place where all people like him could stay together.
(B) That he would not live for long and so should stay at home.
(C) That no one would love him and he would be alone forever.
(D) That he should stop being a burden.
- iii. The attitude shown by 'she' in the extract is _____.
- iv. What does 'you can burn yourself away inside' mean?

OR

- B.** We must simply tell them that we intend to give him to the police-as indeed we must, Sadao. We must think of the children and your position. It would endanger all of us if we did not give this man over as a prisoner of war"
(The Enemy)

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
Dr Sadao will not be arrested on the charge of harbouring an enemy ____.
- ii. Who are 'them' being referred to here?
(A) Servants (B) Friends
(C) Neighbours (D) Doctors
- iii. Who is the speaker of the above lines and who is the listener?
- iv. What will Sadao and Hana do with the man?

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

- A.** The news of Gandhi's advent and of the nature of his mission spread quickly through Muzaffarpur and to Champaran. Sharecroppers from Champaran began arriving on foot and by conveyance to see their champion. Muzaffarpur lawyers called on Gandhi to brief him; they frequently represented peasant groups in court, they told him about their cases and reported the size of their fee.

(Indigo)

- i. What was the nature of Gandhi's mission as mentioned in the passage?
- ii. The cases referred to in the extract were the cases fought against _____.
(A) the Lawyers (B) the British Landlords
(C) East India Company (D) the Indian Zamindars
- iii. What does 'their cases' refer to in the extract?
- iv. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation.
The fact that the sharecroppers from Champaran began arriving on foot shows that _____.
- v. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that the lawyers did not care for the condition of the poor.
- vi. Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is TRUE for the lawyers.
(A) The lawyers stood with Gandhiji in his mission.
(B) The lawyers wanted to help the poor.
(C) The lawyers were apathetic to the condition of the poor.
(D) All of the above

OR

- B.** "My children, this is the last lesson I shall give you. The order has come from Berlin to teach only German in the schools of Alsace and Lorraine. The new master comes tomorrow. This is your last French lesson. I want you to be very attentive."
"What a thunderclap these words were to me!
Oh, the wretches; that was what they had put up at the town hall!

(The Last Lesson)

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- i. How would you describe Franz's tone when he says- "What a thunderclap these words were to me"?
- ii. 'What a thunderclap these words were to me!' The words were
(A) startling and unexpected (B) pleasant and welcome
(C) loud and clear (D) Both (A) and (C)
- iii. What do you M. Hamel is feeling in the given lines?
- iv. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that Franz realised that the order was put up on the bulletin board.
- v. Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is TRUE for the speaker of the given lines.
(A) The speaker is angry at the villagers.
(B) The speaker does not want to leave Alsace.
(C) The speaker is angry at the Prussian kingdom.
(D) The speaker does not want to take the lesson.
- vi. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.
'They' in the given lines refer to ____.

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. Who, in today's world, is our chief source of information about personalities?
(*The Interview*)
- ii. What is the 'misadventure' that William Douglas speaks about?
(*Deep Water*)
- iii. What are the items that Aunt Jennifer is embroidering? What do they signify?
(*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)
- iv. What spreads the pall of despondence over our dark spirits? How is it removed.
(*A Thing of Beauty*)
- v. Does Geoff believe what Sophie says about her meeting with Danny Casey?
(*Going Places*)
- vi. What are green wars? Who wage them and with what result?
(*Keeping Quiet*)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. How did Hana help the wounded man?
(*The Enemy*)
- ii. How is global temperature increasing? What are the immediate fears due to it?
(*Journey to the End of the Earth*)



- iii. In what sense is the friendship between Mr. Lamb and Derry fruitful?

(On The Face of It)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. There is a saying “Kindness pays, rudeness never.” In the story, ‘The Rattrap’ Edla’s attitude towards men and matters is different from her father’s attitude. How are the values of concern and compassion brought out in the story, ‘The Rattrap’? Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in about 120-150 words elaborating on occurrences from the text to inspire your audience and to convince them to have values of concern and compassion.

OR

- B. “The experience had a deep meaning for me, as only those who have known stark terror and conquered it can appreciate. In death there is peace. There is terror only in the fear of death, as Roosevelt knew when he said, ‘All we have to fear is fear itself.’” Because I had experienced both the sensation of dying and the terror that fear of it can produce, the will to live somehow grew in intensity.” Douglas, notwithstanding his aversion to water and extreme exhaustion, keeps on trying to conquer his fear of water and finally emerges victorious. We all have one fear or another but few of us are able to overcome it. What innate quality did Douglas possess that helped him succeed in overcoming his fear of water? Write it in about 120-150 words.

(Deep Water)

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. “Children are keen observers. They notice every happening in their surroundings. Injustice in any form cannot escape being unnoticed by them.” Bama and Zitkala Sa in ‘Memories of Childhood’ faced discrimination. You wish to include a cameo for the above statement’s explanation in your upcoming blog post. (A short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something facing discrimination) As a part of the research, discuss the statement in relation to Memories of Childhood in about 120-150 words.

OR

- B. How did Charley reach the third level of Grand Central? How was it different from the other levels? (120-150 words)

(The Third Level)

□□□□□□



SAMPLE PAPER 17

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. India has one of the largest railway networks in the world, spanning over 67,000 kilometers and serving as a crucial mode of transport for millions of people. Indian Railways, established during British rule in 1853, has grown to become a lifeline for the nation. Every day, more than 23 million passengers use Indian Railways, making it one of the busiest and most essential transport systems globally. From bustling cities to remote villages, trains connect people across the length and breadth of the country.
2. The Indian Railways operates a variety of trains to meet the needs of different travelers. High-speed trains like the Vande Bharat Express and Shatabdi Express have made long-distance travel faster and more comfortable. These trains cater to those looking for speed and efficiency. On the other hand, local passenger trains provide an affordable mode of transportation for daily commuters, particularly in rural areas and smaller towns. These trains are often crowded but remain a lifeline for millions of people who rely on them for their livelihood and everyday commute.
3. What makes the Indian Railways unique is its vast diversity. Trains travel through a wide range of landscapes, from the snow-capped mountains of Jammu and Kashmir to the desert plains of Rajasthan, and the lush green fields of Kerala. The experience of traveling on Indian Railways is not just about getting from one place to another, but also about witnessing the geographical and cultural diversity of India. At every station, passengers are treated to regional food and local flavors, making each journey a blend of travel and cultural experience.
4. Despite its importance, the Indian Railways faces several challenges. Overcrowding, delays, and an aging infrastructure are some of the issues that affect passengers. The government has recognized these challenges and has been investing in modernization

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



projects. These include the electrification of tracks, upgrading stations, and introducing more environmentally friendly practices like solar energy in railway stations. The aim is to make Indian Railways more efficient, safer, and eco-friendly.

5. Indian Railways is more than just a transportation system; it is an integral part of India's economy and social fabric. It connects cities, towns, and villages, providing affordable transport to the common man while also supporting trade and commerce. As India continues to modernize, the railways will remain a key player in the country's development.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, how many passengers use the Indian Railways each day? 1
- ii. How does Indian Railways serve different types of passengers, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "a lifeline for the nation" in paragraph 1 suggests that Indian Railways plays an essential role in connecting people across the country.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
Indian Railways is a lifeline because _____.
(A) it connects people across urban and rural areas
(B) it only serves high-speed trains and large cities
- iv. Complete the following with ONE reason, with reference to paragraph 4 : 1
The government is investing in modernization because _____.
- v. Why does the writer emphasize the diversity of landscapes in paragraph 3? 1
Because
(A) It shows how the trains offer scenic journeys across India's vast terrains.
(B) It explains why Indian Railways is the largest in the world.
(C) It demonstrates how difficult it is to maintain the railway system.
(D) It shows how regional food plays an important role in train journeys.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
The Indian Railways is improving its infrastructure to meet modern challenges.
- vii. In the line, 'the railways will remain a key player in the country's development' (Paragraph 5), what does the phrase 'key player' suggest about the role of Indian Railways in the future? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 2 : 1
local passenger trains: affordability :: high-speed trains : _____.
(A) slow journeys (B) crowded compartments
(C) efficiency (D) regional food



- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement 'Indian Railways is more than just a transportation system; it is an integral part of India's economy and social fabric' in paragraph 5 uses factual language? 1
- (A) It presents the role of railways in connecting people and boosting commerce.
(B) It focuses on how trains operate in urban areas.
(C) It suggests the modernization efforts happening in Indian Railways.
(D) It highlights the scenic routes across the country.
- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of modernization projects for Indian Railways, as suggested in paragraph 4. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. Global literacy rates have improved significantly over the past few decades, with the global average currently at 86%. However, disparities still exist between regions, especially in developing countries where the literacy rate averages 73%. In contrast, developed countries boast a 99% literacy rate. This case study explores the literacy rates across various regions and the factors contributing to these differences.
2. Data was collected from UNESCO and other international education reports to analyze global literacy rates among individuals aged 15 and above. In developing countries, the gender disparity in literacy rates is notable, with 80% of males being literate compared to 70% of females. Factors such as education access, government investment, and rural-urban divides were considered in understanding their impact on literacy levels.
3. The survey examined the literacy gap between rural and urban populations. In developing countries, rural areas have a literacy rate of 60%, significantly lower than the 85% rate in urban regions. The reasons behind low literacy rates in rural areas were primarily due to poverty and lack of infrastructure. Social inequality also plays a major role, with females in rural areas disproportionately affected.
4. The results of the survey highlighted significant disparities between regions. In developing countries, 73% literacy was observed, while developed countries maintained an impressive 99% rate. Gender disparity continues to be a pressing issue, particularly in developing regions, with 80% of males literate compared to 70% of females. The rural literacy rate, at 60%, lags significantly behind urban areas, where it stands at 85%.
5. The data shows that, despite global improvements, literacy efforts need to focus on marginalized communities in developing countries. Government investment in infrastructure and education, particularly in rural regions, is crucial. Scholarships for girls, teacher training, and school-building initiatives in rural areas can raise literacy rates, particularly in areas where gender and geographic disparities persist.
6. The study emphasizes the need for targeted interventions in developing regions to improve global literacy. Reducing the literacy gap, especially in rural and marginalized communities, could increase overall global literacy beyond the current 86% average, and significantly boost development and social equity in those regions.



Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links global literacy rates with educational policy to highlight _____.
_____.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To explore the factors contributing to literacy rate disparities between developed and developing countries.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Research outcome (B) Secondary objective
(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why gender disparity was included as a focus in the study on literacy rates. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘poverty’ and ‘social inequality.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘poverty’ or ‘social inequality’:
Sentence 1: Lack of funds to build schools in rural areas affects literacy rates.
Sentence 2: Girls in developing countries are often denied education due to cultural norms.
- v. Read the following : 1
Ravi lives in a rural area in a developing country, where the literacy rate is 60%. His sister, Priya, faces additional barriers due to gender disparity, as only 70% of females in their country are literate.
Select the option that identifies the correct factors affecting Ravi and Priya’s literacy rates.
(A) Geographic disparity and gender disparity
(B) Poverty and access to technology
(C) Urbanization and economic development
(D) Government investment and cultural norms
- vi. Although rural and urban areas both show significant differences in literacy rates, why is the literacy rate in rural areas much lower? 1
- vii. Analyse how targeted interventions in rural areas and among females can significantly improve literacy rates in developing regions. 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Increase government spending on technology
(B) Close the literacy gap between developed and developing countries
(C) Promote literacy only in urban areas
(D) Focus on higher education programs exclusively



SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** You are Manak/Meera, the Head Boy/Girl of St. Giri Public School, Mathura. Write a notice in about 50 words informing the students about the debate competition in the school on the topic 'School Uniforms Should be Banned'.

OR

- B.** You are Health Secretary, Students Council Citizens Public School, Ram Bagh, Varanasi. The Council has decided to start from the second of October a week-long cleanliness drive around the school. Draft a notice in about 50 words asking the Class XI students to enrol for the drive.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** Sakshi, the secretary of the English Literature Society of St. Francis Convent Senior Secondary School, Gurugram, has to organise an Interschool Extempore competition for students of classes IX-XII. You wish to invite Rajat Sharma, the eminent media personality to preside over the function to be held on 30 September, 20xx, at 11:00 a.m. Write the letter of invitation in 50 words.

OR

- B.** Mr and Mrs Tiwari want to invite all their friends and acquaintances to the wedding of their granddaughter Deepika. Design an invitation card for the wedding inventing the necessary details, in 50 words.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Sunflower Public School, Jaipur, requires 2 sports coaches (one male and one female). Each should be a degree holder in Physical Education as well as an SAI certified coach in athletics. Write an application in 120-150 words along with your resume. You are Prateek/Payal, House No. 109, Azadpur, Delhi.

OR

- B.** You are Rajat/Raveena, a resident of Gwalior. You feel students should use the Internet mostly for gaining knowledge rather than wasting time merely on entertainment. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the Editor of The Economic Times pointing out how schools can control students net surfing at school and enable them to use the Internet fruitfully.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** As a newspaper reporter, write a report of a train accident, the site which you visited. Your report should be in 120-150 words.

OR

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

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

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

- A. Those who prepare green wars,
wars with gas, wars with fire,
victory with no survivors,
would put on clean clothes
and walk about with their brothers
in the shade, doing nothing.

(Keeping Quiet)

- i. What does the phrase “victory with no survivors” mean?
(A) The bloodshed caused by the result of wars.
(B) Nobody would be able to celebrate the victory of wars.
(C) Degradation of human life.
(D) Both (A) and (B)
- ii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet believes that those who wage war will stop and live peacefully.
Reason : Ceasing war allows individuals to live in harmony with others.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii. Which of the following, poetic devices has been used in ‘clean clothes’?
(A) Oxymoron (B) Alliteration
(C) Metaphor (D) Assonance
- iv. Complete the sentence with an appropriate word(s), with reference to the extract.
The world presented in the given lines can be said to be _____.
- v. What do ‘green wars’ refer to?
- vi. Identify the phrase from the extract, that suggests the following.
The poet does not promote inactivity or death but wants fraternity.

OR

- B. And
looked out at
Young Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes, but after the airport’s
security check, standing a few yards

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



away, I looked again at her, wan, pale
as a late winter's moon and felt that old
familiar ache...

(My Mother at Sixty-six)

- i. What is the poet's emotional state when she looked out of the window?
(A) Fearful (B) Apprehensive
(C) Nostalgic (D) Confused
- ii. What does the use of the phrase 'old familiar ache' actually hide?
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The expression 'merry children' brings in _____ (weakness/happiness).
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet contrasts the vitality of the outside world with her mother's frail condition.
Reason : The sight of young trees and children highlights the poet's sense of loss and concern for her mother, who appears pale and weak.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship :
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. Why has the poet capitalised 'Young Trees'?
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
In 'And looked out at Young Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling,' the figures of speech used are personification and _____.
- 8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (A) or (B).** $4 \times 1 = 4$
- A.** "Not by you, but by someone who does not know him. I have my own private assassins. Suppose I send two of them to your house tonight or better, any night. You need know nothing about it. It is now warm – what would be more natural than that you should leave the outer partition of the white man's room open to the garden while he sleeps?"
(The Enemy)
- i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
There is a need to assassinate 'him' because _____.
- ii. List the speaker's purpose behind getting the white man assassinated.



- iii. The given lines indicate characteristic/s about the General. These characteristics are _____ and _____.
 (A) Humanist and patriotic (B) Ignorance and self-centered
 (C) Care and kindness (D) Both (A) and (C)

- iv. Who hatched the plan to kill the white man? Was it successful?

OR

- B. The Maharaja and the dewan held deliberations over this issue. As a result, a telegram was despatched forthwith to a famous British Company of jewellers in Calcutta. 'Send samples of expensive diamond rings of different designs.' Some fifty rings arrived. The Maharaja sent the whole lot to the British officer's good lady. The king and the minister expected the duraisani to choose one or two rings and send the rest back. Within no time at all, the duraisani sent her reply: 'Thank you very much for your gifts.' In two days, a bill for three lakh of rupees came from the British jewellers. The Maharaja was happy that though he had lost three lakh of rupees, he had managed to retain his kingdom.

(The Tiger King)

- i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
 The narrator's purpose of using the phrase 'good lady' in this extract was _____.
- ii. In the given extract, what emotions does the Maharaja have when he sent diamond rings to the British's good lady?
 (A) Humiliation (B) Selfish act
 (C) Fear of losing his kingdom (D) Unease
- iii. On which issue did the Maharaja and dewan hold deliberations?
- iv. What does the line, "Within no time at all, the duraisani sent her reply: 'Thank you very much for your gifts' " mean?

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A. Poor man! It was in honour of this last lesson that he had put on his fine Sunday clothes, and now I understood why the old men of the village were sitting there in the back of the room. It was because they were sorry, too, that they had not gone to school more. It was their way of thanking our master for his forty years of faithful service and of showing their respect for the country that was theirs no more. While I was thinking of all this, I heard my name called. It was my turn to recite. What would I not have given to be able to say that dreadful rule for the participle all through, very loud and clear, and without one mistake? But I got mixed up on the first words and stood there, holding on to my desk, my heart beating, and not daring to look up.

(The Last Lesson)

- i. List any two sensory details present in the extract.



- ii. How did the teacher react to this show of 'non-performance'?
- (A) He let the iron ruler talk.
(B) He ignored his pupil's lack of commitment.
(C) He didn't utter a harsh word in response.
(D) He let Franz be free and sent him out.
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The presence of the old men of the village on the back benches shows that _____.
- iv. Pick out an evidence from the extract that helps one infer his way of showing patriotic love for his land and language.
- v. Why does the narrator use the term 'Poor man' about M. Hamel?
- vi. Which of these idioms best encapsulates the scenario at this moment in the story?
- (A) Too good to believe (B) Too many cooks spoil the broth
(C) Too little, too late (D) Too cool for school

OR

- B. And afterwards you wait there alone in the arcade for a long while, standing where he stood, remembering the soft melodious voice, the shimmer of green eyes. No taller than you. No bolder than you. The prodigy. The innocent genius, the great Danny Casey. And she saw it all again, last Saturday—saw him ghost past the lumbering defenders, heard the fifty thousand catch their breath as he hovered momentarily over the ball, and then the explosion of sound as he struck it crisply into the goal, the sudden thunderous eruption of exultant approbation.

(Going Places)

- i. What does the author wish to portray through the words 'And she saw it all again'?
- ii. The lines, "No taller than you. No bolder than you," can be best classified as :
- (A) A theme (B) An opinion
(C) A fact (D) A plot point
- iii. Explain ANY ONE possible inference that can be drawn from the lines, "The prodigy. The innocent genius, the great Danny Casey."
- iv. Identify the line from the text that bears evidence to the fact that Danny Casey was too agile for the opponents.
- v. Based on the context provided in the extract, which of the following conclusion matches the prodigy's success as a professional football player?
- (A) He was called an innocent genius.
(B) He could deftly move past the lumbering defenders and shoot crisp goals.
(C) A crowd of fifty-thousand regularly cheered him.
(D) He was shy and soft-spoken.
- vi. Complete the sentence with ONE word.
The word that matches 'lumbering' perfectly in the given context is _____.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. Why were M. Hamel's words like a thunderclap to Franz? *(The Last Lesson)*
- ii. Mention the hazards of working in the glass bangles industry. *(Lost Spring)*
- iii. What impression do you get of Douglas from the chapter 'Deep Water'?
- iv. Interpret the symbols found in the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'.
- v. What, according to Pablo Neruda, would be the ultimate end of man if the present scenario of wars continued? *(Keeping Quiet)*
- vi. Keats feels that Nature binds us to the Earth. How does he justify this statement? *(A Thing of Beauty)*

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. What do you infer from Sam's letter to Charley? *(The Third Level)*
- ii. Comment on the ending of the play 'On the Face of It'.
- iii. How did the Dewan manage to get the hundredth tiger for the Maharaja? *(The Tiger King)*

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. The peddler believed that the whole world is a rattrap. How did he himself get caught in the same? *(The Rattrap)*

OR

- B. Why is the Champaran episode considered to be the beginning of the Indian struggle for Independence? *(Indigo)*

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

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

OR

- B. In India, the so-called lower castes have been treated cruelly for a long time. Who advised Bama to fight against this prejudice, when and how? *(Memories of Childhood)*

□□□□□□

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



SAMPLE PAPER 18

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. The Pacific Ocean, the largest and deepest ocean on Earth, covers more than 63 million square miles. It holds more water than all of the world's land above sea level combined. It stretches from the Arctic Ocean in the north to the Southern Ocean in the south, and from Asia and Australia in the west to the Americas in the east. The Pacific Ocean is so vast that it accounts for one-third of the Earth's total surface area.
2. Due to its size, the Pacific Ocean plays a critical role in regulating the Earth's climate. It absorbs a significant amount of heat from the atmosphere, which helps to stabilize global temperatures. The ocean's currents, such as the North Pacific Current and the South Equatorial Current, transport warm and cold water across vast distances, influencing weather patterns all over the globe. For example, the El Niño phenomenon, which is caused by variations in Pacific Ocean currents, can lead to drastic changes in weather conditions, including droughts and floods in different parts of the world.
3. The Pacific Ocean is also home to an extraordinary array of marine life. Its ecosystems range from coral reefs near tropical islands to the cold, nutrient-rich waters of the northern regions. Many species of fish, whales, sharks, and sea turtles depend on the Pacific for food and habitat. However, the ocean is facing numerous threats, including overfishing, pollution, and climate change. Plastic waste is a growing problem, with large patches of floating debris, such as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, posing a severe threat to marine life.
4. Human activity along the Pacific Rim, where many of the world's largest cities are located, also affects the ocean. Coastal development, industrial pollution, and shipping routes contribute to the degradation of the ocean's health. Conservation efforts are

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



underway, including protected marine areas and international agreements aimed at reducing pollution and protecting biodiversity. Yet, much remains to be done to ensure the long-term health of the Pacific Ocean.

5. The Pacific Ocean is not just a body of water; it is a vital part of the global ecosystem. Its influence on weather, climate, and marine life makes it an essential component of life on Earth. Preserving its health is crucial for the future of the planet.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, how much of the Earth's surface is covered by the Pacific Ocean? 1
- ii. How does the Pacific Ocean contribute to stabilizing global temperatures, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "critical role in regulating the Earth's climate" in paragraph 2 suggests that the Pacific Ocean is essential in maintaining stable weather conditions globally.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
The Pacific Ocean's influence on the climate comes from _____.
(A) its currents and ability to absorb heat
(B) the presence of marine species like whales
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 2 : 1
The Pacific Ocean affects weather patterns through _____.
- v. Why does the writer refer to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch in paragraph 3? 1
Because
(A) It shows the scale of pollution affecting marine life.
(B) It highlights a natural feature of the Pacific.
(C) It explains how the Pacific Ocean forms ocean currents.
(D) It indicates the Pacific's ability to sustain life.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
Human activity along the Pacific Rim has a significant impact on the ocean's health.
- vii. In the line, 'much remains to be done to ensure the long-term health of the Pacific Ocean' (Paragraph 4), what does the phrase 'much remains to be done' suggest about conservation efforts? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 3 : 1
coral reefs: tropical :: nutrient-rich waters: _____.
(A) garbage patches (B) deep ocean
(C) northern regions (D) marine animals



- ix.** Why is it fair to say that the statement ‘the Pacific Ocean is a vital part of the global ecosystem’ in paragraph 5 uses factual language? 1
- (A) It uses data and information about the ocean’s size.
- (B) It is backed by scientific knowledge of the ocean’s importance.
- (C) It reflects the opinion of environmental groups.
- (D) It focuses on the beauty of the ocean.
- x.** Evaluate the potential challenges or benefits of international agreements to protect the Pacific Ocean, as suggested in paragraph 4. 2

2. Read the following carefully. **10**

1. Introduction :

In recent years, the rise of e-commerce has transformed the way people shop, affecting both consumer behavior and the traditional retail industry. This case study aims to explore the purchasing preferences of different age groups when it comes to online shopping versus in-store shopping and their impact on the retail market.

2. Methodology :

A survey was conducted among individuals of varying age groups to determine their preferred shopping method. Participants were asked to indicate whether they primarily shop online, in physical stores, or a combination of both. Data was collected and analysed to observe trends in purchasing behavior and the factors influencing their choices.

3. Survey Examination :

The survey looked into the preferences for online and in-store shopping, focusing on convenience, product variety, and price comparison. Participants were encouraged to elaborate on why they favored one method over the other, offering insights into the influence of technology, accessibility, and personal habits on their shopping choices.

4. Results :

The survey results revealed the following shopping preferences across age groups:

Age Group	% Prefer Online Shopping	Reasons for Preference
Teenagers	75%	Convenience, Technology familiarity, Peer influence
Young Adults	65%	Time-saving, Price comparison, Product variety
Middle-aged	45%	In-store experience, Product inspection, Customer service
Elderly	30%	Familiarity with physical stores, Trust, Personal interaction

5. Implications for Interventions :

The findings suggest that retail businesses should adopt strategies that cater to the preferences of different age groups. For example, enhancing the online shopping experience for younger consumers while improving in-store customer service for older shoppers could lead to increased customer satisfaction. Retailers can also focus on integrating technology in physical stores to bridge the gap between online and in-store shopping experiences.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



6. Conclusion :

This study provides key insights into how the rise of e-commerce is reshaping consumer habits. By understanding the different shopping preferences across age groups, businesses can tailor their strategies to meet the needs of both online and in-store shoppers, ultimately improving customer engagement and competitiveness in the market.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links e-commerce with consumer behavior and the retail industry to highlight _____.
_____.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To explore the purchasing preferences of different age groups when it comes to online shopping versus in-store shopping.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Research outcome (B) Method of analysis
(C) Secondary objective (D) Primary objective
- iii. Give two points to support why e-commerce was included as a focus in the survey on purchasing preferences. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘technology’ and ‘habits.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘technology’ or ‘habit’:
Sentence 1: The familiarity with smartphones and apps leads teenagers to prefer online shopping.
Sentence 2: Elderly shoppers prefer in-store shopping due to their long-standing habits.
- v. Read the following : 1
Aman is a teenager who enjoys the convenience of shopping online. His older brother, Rohit, prefers the flexibility of comparing prices and buying both online and in stores. Their father, Rajesh, values the personal interaction he gets from in-store shopping. Select the option that identifies the correct age group for Aman, Rohit, and Rajesh.
(A) Aman – young adult; Rohit – middle-aged; Rajesh – elderly
(B) Aman – teenager; Rohit – young adult; Rajesh – middle-aged
(C) Aman – teenager; Rohit – middle-aged; Rajesh – elderly
(D) Aman – young adult; Rohit – elderly; Rajesh – teenager
- vi. Although young adults and teenagers both show a strong preference for online shopping, why is the percentage highest among teenagers? 1
- vii. Analyse how improving the in-store shopping experience for older age groups can benefit retailers. (Paragraph 5) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Improve technology used in online shopping
(B) Create a more personalized shopping experience



- (C) Increase sales across all shopping platforms
- (D) Expand the number of physical stores

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** Water supply will be suspended for eight hours (10 am to 6 pm) on 6th of March for cleaning of the water tank. Write a notice in about 50 words advising the residents to store water for a day. You are Karan Kumar/Karuna Bajaj, Secretary, Janata Group Housing Society, Palam Vihar, Kurnool.

OR

- B.** You are Mahender, Sports Captain, St. John's School, Lucicnow. Write a notice in 50 words for the school notice board informing students about an Inter School Football match to be played in your school. Invite them to watch and cheer the teams.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A.** The literary club of your society is putting up the play 'Macbeth'. As secretary of the club, draft an invitation inviting the famous writer Rohit Sharma to be the guest of honour at the function. Write the invitation in about 50 words. You are Gaurav/Garima.

OR

- B.** You have been invited as a judge for a debate competition by New Hope public School. Draft a formal refusal in about 50 words.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Write a letter to Editor of local daily, New Delhi about water scarcity in you locality suggesting ways to improve the condition of water supply. You are Bobby/Babita of Ghaziabad.

OR

- B.** As a regular commuter by bus from Noida to Delhi, you have been witnessing rash driving by the bus drivers daily without an exception. Write a letter to the Editor, 'The Times of India' drawing the attention of the General Manager, Delhi Transport Corporation to this problem. You are Priti/Prakash, 15, Udyog Vihar, Noida.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Incessant rain has caused irrecoverable damage in your area. As an active participant in the flood relief programme, write a report in 120-150 words on the different flood relief measures carried out. You are Krishan/ Krishna.

OR

- B.** Accidents happen when people violate traffic rules. Careless drivers cause suffering to themselves and to others. Write an article in 120-150 words on "Safe Driving".

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two - (A) or (B). $1 \times 6 = 6$

- A. And such too is the grandeur of the dooms
We have imagined for the mighty dead;
All lovely tales that we have heard or read:
An endless fountain of immortal drink,
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.

(A Thing of Beauty)

- i. Write the theme which is best represented in the given extract.
- ii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet suggests that the tales of the mighty dead inspire us and provide eternal beauty.
Reason : These tales are compared to an endless fountain of immortal drink, which pours from heaven, symbolizing the eternal nature of inspiration.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship :
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii. Complete the following suitably.
The “endless fountain of immortal drink” is an apt analogy for the tales of the mighty dead because _____.
- iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The use of the word “brink” in the extract suggests that the immortality that is being poured onto us is on the verge of overflowing. This creates a powerful image of _____ (scarcity/abundance).
- v. Based on the poem rhyme scheme, evident in lines 2-5, of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 1?
said think tombs
- vi. Select the option that is NOT true about the lack of punctuation at the end of line 1 in the extract.
(A) Encourages a revisit to the ideas in the preceding lines.
(B) Encourages the reader to continue reading seamlessly without any pause.
(C) Creates a sense of anticipation and expectation for the reader.
(D) Creates a sense of continuity and flow that connects the line with the second line.



OR

- B.** “Fishermen in the cold sea
would not harm whales
and the man gathering salt
would look at his hurt hands.”

(Keeping Quiet)

- i.** What do the given lines tell us about mankind?
(A) Selfish nature (B) Greed
(C) Materialism (D) All of these
- ii.** What does the poet expect of the fisherman?
- iii.** Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The poet has used _____ (metaphor/transferred epithet) in the first line of the stanza or in words ‘Cold Sea’.
- iv.** Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet advocates for a moment of introspection where humans cease harmful activities and reflect on their actions.
Reason : By pausing, fishermen would stop harming whales, and the man gathering salt would reflect on the damage he has caused to himself.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship :
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v.** How is ‘keeping quiet’ going to help the man who works as ‘salt gatherer’?
- vi.** Complete the following suitably.
The tone of the poet in the given lines is _____.

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

$4 \times 1 = 4$

- A.** In the afternoon the second thing happened. Hana, working hard on unaccustomed labour, saw a messenger come to the door in official uniform. Her hands went weak and she could not draw her breath. The servants must have told already. She ran to Sadao, gasping unable to utter a word. But by then the messenger had simply followed her through the garden and there he stood. She pointed at him helplessly. Sadao looked up from his book
“What is it?” he asked the messenger and then he rose, seeing the man’s uniform. “You are to come to the palace,” The man said. “the old General is in pain again.” “Oh”, Hana breathed, “is that all?”

(The Enemy)

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- i. Give one reason for the following.
The messenger had come to Sadao's house
- ii. The above extract has been taken from
(A) Going Places (B) The Enemy
(C) The Third Level (D) Lost Spring
- iii. The phrase 'unaccustomed labour' means _____.
- iv. What was Hana's fear in the given extract?

OR

- B.** Have you ever been there? It's a wonderful town still, with big old frame houses, huge lawns, and tremendous trees whose branches meet overhead and roof the streets. And in 1894, summer evenings were twice as long, and people sat out on their lawns, the men smoking cigars and talking quietly, the women waving palm-leaf fans, with the fire-flies all around, in a peaceful world. To be back there with the First World War still twenty years off and World War II over forty years in the future... I wanted two tickets for that.
- (The Third Level)*
- i. The author wants two tickets to a place which he refers to in the last two lines of the extract. Which year does he wish to go back to?
 - ii. At the beginning of the extract, the author addresses the question to _____.
(A) Louisa, Charley's wife
(B) Sam Weiner, Charley's psychiatrist
(C) the reader
(D) nobody in particular as it's a rhetoric question
 - iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
'Tremendous trees whose branches meet overhead and roof the streets' is an example of _____.
 - iv. How has life been described in the given extract?
- 9. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (A) or (B).** $1 \times 6 = 6$
- A.** To do anything else would mean to dare. And daring is not part of his growing up. When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh I am cheered. "I want to be a motor mechanic," he repeats: He will go to a garage and learn. But the garage is a long way from his home. "I will walk," he insists. "Do you also dream of flying a plane?" He is suddenly silent. "No," he says, staring at the ground.
- (Lost Spring)*
- i. What was Mukesh supposed to be if not his dream to be a motor mechanic?



- ii. "I will walk" this line shows Mukesh's.
(A) disappointment (B) determination
(C) shyness (D) helplessness
- iii. With whom was the speaker sharing his dream?
- iv. Did Mukesh sound unreasonable?
(A) Maybe (B) No
(C) Yes (D) Can't be determined
- v. Why did the writer ask, "Do you also dream of flying a plane?"
- vi. What can we understand from the line, "And daring is not part of his growing up:"?

OR

- B. Then I started down a third time. I sucked for air and got water the yellowish light was going out. Then all effort ceased. I relaxed. Even my legs felt limp; and a blackness swept over my brain. It wiped out fear; it wiped out terror. There was no more panic. It was quiet and peaceful. Nothing to be afraid of This is nice... to be drowsy... to go to sleep... no need to jump... too tired to jump... it's nice to be carried gently... to float along in space... tender arms around me... tender arms like Mother's... now I must go to sleep... I crossed to oblivion, and the curtain of life fell.
- (Deep Water)*
- i. The author ends the given paragraph about the seemingly long struggle of little Douglas with the words 'and the curtain of life fell.' How does he involve the reader into it?
- ii. The line, 'After a while, Douglas gave up being anxious and fearful in water' can be best classified as:
(A) an effect (B) a cause
(C) a fact (D) an opinion
- iii. Infer from the given extract, the author shows gradation of various stages of fear.
- iv. Identify the line from the given extract that bears evidence to the fact that the author was now not much afraid.
- v. The author has used this figure of speech with this meaning in- tender arms around me ... tender arms like Mother's ...
(A) metaphor, softness
(B) simile, comfort
(C) repetition, anxiety
(D) paradox, the arms don't belong to his mother
- vi. Complete the sentence in ONE word.
When the curtain of life fell, Douglas surrendered before death and with _____ crossed to oblivion.



10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. Is the society in any way affected by Aunt Jennifer's death? (*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)
- ii. Why did Gandhiji feel that it was useless for the peasants to go to law courts? (*Indigo*)
- iii. For Franz, what was much more tempting than going to school and why? (*The Last Lesson*)
- iv. What different image does the poet use to convey the idea of her mother's age? (*My Mother at Sixty-Six*)
- v. At the crofter's home, why did the peddler feel very happy? (*The Rattrap*)
- vi. How can suspension of activities help? (*Keeping Quiet*)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. How did the gardener react when Dr. Sadao told him about the wounded American soldier? (*The Enemy*)
- ii. If you were to give a different ending to the story, "On the Face of It" how would you end it? (*On the Face of It*)
- iii. What is common between Zitkala-Sa and Bama? (*Memories of Childhood*)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. Why is the Champaran episode considered to be the beginning of the Indian struggle for independence ? (*Indigo*)

OR

- B. The government and other social service agencies appear to help the poor rural people but do them no good. Pick out the words and phrases that the poet uses to show their double standards. (*A Roadside Stand*)

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. What benefits did Derry reap from his association with Mr. Lamb? (*On the Face of It*)

OR

- B. Why is Antarctica the place to go to, to understand the earth's past, present and future? (*Journey to the End of the Earth*)

□□□□□□

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



SAMPLE PAPER 19

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. India is the largest producer of milk globally, contributing over 22% of the world's milk supply. The country's transformation into a dairy giant began with Operation Flood in the 1970s, an initiative led by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). Operation Flood, also known as the White Revolution, aimed to create a nationwide milk grid, increase milk production, and establish a reliable dairy infrastructure. As a result, India moved from being a milk-deficient country to becoming the top producer of milk, with key dairy-producing states including Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Punjab.
2. Milk production in India is largely driven by small-scale farmers who own just a few cattle. These farmers contribute to a vast network of dairy cooperatives, which collect, process, and distribute milk across the country. The cooperative model, pioneered by organizations like Amul, ensures that small farmers receive fair compensation for their milk. It also provides consumers with affordable dairy products such as milk, butter, curd, and paneer. Dairy farming is a critical source of income for millions of rural households, and it plays a significant role in supporting the rural economy.
3. Dairy products hold cultural and economic importance in India. Milk is an essential part of the daily diet and is used in many traditional dishes, such as kheer, paneer, and ghee. Milk also has religious and cultural significance, being offered during rituals and used in festivals and celebrations. Demand for dairy products has grown steadily due to the country's increasing population, rising income levels, and urbanization. This growing demand has fueled the expansion of the dairy industry, leading to the modernization of milk processing facilities and improvements in cold storage and transportation.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



4. Despite its success, India's dairy industry faces several challenges. Fluctuations in milk prices can destabilize the incomes of small farmers, who depend heavily on the consistency of dairy sales. Additionally, climate change poses a significant threat, as rising temperatures and erratic rainfall patterns affect the availability of water and feed for livestock. The health and productivity of cattle are also ongoing concerns, with a need for better veterinary services, breeding practices, and nutrition.
5. The future of India's dairy industry lies in adopting sustainable practices and investing in technological innovations. Improvements in breeding techniques, cattle feed, and cold storage systems will be crucial for the industry to meet the growing demand for milk while ensuring the livelihoods of farmers and protecting the environment.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, what was the goal of Operation Flood in the 1970s? 1
- ii. How do dairy cooperatives benefit small-scale farmers, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "the cooperative model" in paragraph 2 suggests that India's dairy industry is structured in a way that supports farmers through collective efforts.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
The cooperative model benefits small farmers because _____.
(A) it helps them get fair compensation for their milk
(B) it allows them to access milk at lower prices
- iv. Complete the following with ONE example, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
Milk is important in Indian culture because _____.
- v. Why does the writer mention climate change in paragraph 4? 1
Because
(A) Climate change threatens the sustainability of dairy farming by affecting water and feed supplies for livestock.
(B) Climate change will boost the dairy industry's productivity.
(C) It increases the demand for dairy products in rural areas.
(D) It helps stabilize milk prices in India.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
Fluctuations in milk prices affect the incomes of small-scale farmers.
- vii. In the line, 'The future of India's dairy industry lies in adopting sustainable practices and investing in technological innovations' (Paragraph 5), what does the phrase 'sustainable practices' suggest about the future of the dairy industry? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 1: 1
Operation Flood: White Revolution :: dairy cooperatives: _____
(A) government (B) livestock
(C) Amul (D) milk



- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement 'Milk holds cultural and economic importance in India' in paragraph 3 uses factual language? 1
(A) It refers to the role of milk in religious rituals and as a part of the daily diet.
(B) It explains how milk consumption is limited to rural areas.
(C) It describes the scientific reasons for milk production.
(D) It highlights the effect of dairy products on climate change.
- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of adopting technological innovations in India's dairy industry, as suggested in paragraph 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. A large portion of India's elderly population lacks access to long-term and palliative care. A United Nations study, conducted in May-June 2018 with 10,000 respondents across five regions of India, revealed that 62.1% of the elderly do not receive such care. More than half of these respondents (52.4%) stated they primarily rely on traditional family support, as reported by the Agewell Research and Advocacy Centre.
2. The elderly population in India faces challenges like disability, limited mobility, loneliness, poverty, and difficulty accessing care. Rapid population aging, the growing generation gap, and the fast-paced lifestyle of the younger generation have worsened these issues, making life a constant struggle for independence for the elderly.
3. According to 64% of elderly respondents, loneliness, marginalisation, and isolation are the most critical issues for bedridden seniors, as they are unable to interact with relatives or friends. Himanshu Rath, founder of the Agewell Foundation, highlighted that this lack of social contact deepens the sense of isolation among the elderly.
4. The study also noted that 67.6% of elderly individuals, cared for by family members, are often required to help with household chores or babysitting to ensure they receive basic care and support from their families.
5. About 73.7% of elderly respondents mentioned that taking care of the family's house or property guarantees them better care. Additionally, 75% of respondents limit their social interactions due to pressure from family members to ensure continued support for food and medicines.
6. Rath also noted that home care for the elderly in India remains a challenge, as unorganised service providers such as nursing agencies and physiotherapists offer incomplete care, and geriatric care remains a neglected aspect of the country's healthcare system.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links elderly care in India with the reliance on traditional family support to highlight ____.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To explore the challenges faced by the elderly in accessing long-term and palliative care in India.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Secondary objective (B) Research outcome
(C) Method of analysis (D) Primary objective

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- iii. Give two points to support why family involvement was included as a focus in the study on elderly care in India. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘isolation’ and ‘family support.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘isolation’ or ‘family support’:
Sentence 1: Elderly individuals who are bedridden feel lonely due to lack of social interaction.
Sentence 2: Many elderly people help with household chores to receive care from family members.
- v. Read the following : 1
Seema regularly helps her family with household chores to ensure she receives the care she needs. Mohan, who lives next door, suffers from isolation because he is bedridden and unable to engage with friends or family. Arindam, their mutual friend, spends much of his time caring for his family’s property in exchange for support.
Select the option that identifies the correct situations Seema, Mohan, and Arindam face.
(A) Seema – household chores; Mohan – isolation; Arindam – property management
(B) Seema – isolation; Mohan – social interaction; Arindam – family care
(C) Seema – family support; Mohan – independence; Arindam – social isolation
(D) Seema – neglect; Mohan – family care; Arindam – household chores
- vi. Although both mobility and poverty contribute to elderly challenges, why is isolation considered the most critical issue for bedridden seniors? 1
- vii. Analyse how the involvement of family in care provision impacts the independence of elderly individuals. (Paragraph 4) 2
- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
(A) Strengthen the involvement of organised service providers for elderly care
(B) Ensure traditional family care systems are maintained
(C) Focus on improving health insurance coverage for elderly hospitalisation
(D) Limit the role of family in elderly care

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

18

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$
- A. While walking in a park in your colony you found a small briefcase with some documents and cash. Write a notice in about 50 words to be put on the park noticeboard asking the owner to identify and collect it from you. You are Rajat/Rani.
- OR
- B. As the head of Physical Education Department, write a notice in about 50 words informing the students about the selection of athletes for the coming Zonal Athletic meet.
4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. $1 \times 4 = 4$
- A. Christ King College, Lalitpur, is celebrating its Annual Day and wants to invite the parents and other guests to the occasion. Design an invitation card for the same in 50 words. Invent necessary details.

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



OR

- B.** Your friend has invited you to her sister's wedding to be held at Nasik. Write a letter declining the invitation because of prior engagement. You are Abha of C-4/140, sector 8 Tandon Road, Nasik.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** You are Wasim/Wahida of New Ashok Colony, Agra. The main road leading to the colony is in a very bad condition with many potholes and open manholes. To add to the woes, there is no streetlight that makes the matters worse at night. Write a letter in about 120-150 words to the Editor of The Times of India drawing attention of the authorities concerned to the problem and to seek immediate remedial action.

OR

- B.** You are Suraj/Sohana. You came across the following advertisement in a national daily. You consider yourself suitable and eligible for the post. Write an application in about 120-150 words in response to the advertisement.

Applications are invited for the post of a nursery teacher in a reputable school of north west Delhi. The candidate must have at least 5 years experience of teaching tiny tots. The applicant must have good command over English and be well versed in computer. He/she should be innovative and creative. Attractive salary. Interested candidates should apply to the Principal, Ramnarayan International School, Ghaziaabad, within 10 day with detailed resume.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B) in 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Recently you got a chance to participate in a week-long workshop on 'Energy Conservation'. By the end of the workshop, you were much enlightened about the need and ways of conserving energy. Write an article titled 'Energy Conservation: the need of the hour'. You are Amrit/Annie of Sarvodya Vidyalaya No. 1, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.

OR

- B.** You are a reporter with 'India Today'. You recently witnessed 'illegal trade of rare animals on some websites'. Write a report in about 120-150 words about the same for your magazine.

SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two - (A) or (B). $1 \times 6 = 6$

- A.** Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool,
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
The massive weight of uncle's wedding band,
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- i. Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?
- (A) The hopeful and positive bent of mind of Aunt Jennifer
(B) The oppressed and frightened bent of mind of Aunt Jennifer
(C) The intelligent bent of mind of Aunt Jennifer
(D) The creative bend of mind of Aunt Jennifer
- ii. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : Aunt Jennifer struggles with the burdens of her marriage, symbolized by the difficulty in pulling the needle.
Reason : The weight of the wedding band on Aunt Jennifer's hand represents the oppressive nature of her married life, making even simple tasks hard for her.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
- (A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii. Complete the following suitably.
Aunt Jennifer is suffering at the oppressive hands of the _____.
- iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The ivory _____ (needle/stick) used to embroider is in sharp contrast to the difficulty in using it.
- v. Based on the poem rhyme scheme, evident in lines 2-4, of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 1?
- tell cool tie
- vi. Give an example of alliteration from the extract.

OR

- B. I saw my mother
Beside me,
Doze, open mouthed, her face
Ashen like that
Of a corpse and realized with pain
That she was as old as she
Looked but soon
Put that thought away

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)



- i. Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?
(A) Depiction of human relationships
(B) Power of imagination
(C) Inevitable relationships
(D) Immortality of art and literature
- ii. Where is the poetess going when she said, “home to Cochin last Friday”?
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The extract discusses fear of _____ (childhood/brotherhood).
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet is overwhelmed with a painful realization of her mother’s aging.
Reason : The poet immediately accepts the reality of her mother’s old age without any emotional struggle.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. What message do these lines highlight, in the context of familial relationships, and the speaker’s sense of anxiety and fear at the prospect of losing her mother?
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
The daughter cringed with pain at the realisation that her mother _____.

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

4 × 1 = 4

- A. MR LAMB : And that’s all true, and you know it.
DERRY It won’t make my face change. Do you know, one day, a woman went by me in the street-I was at a bus stop-and she was with another woman, and she looked at me, and she said... whispered... only I heard her... she said, “Look at that, that’s a terrible thing. That’s a face only a mother could love.”
MR LAMB : So you believe everything you hear, then?
DERRY It was cruel.

(On the Face of It)

- i. List the playwright’s purpose of using ellipses (...) in this extract.
- ii. Select the option that best describes the reason for using the word ‘cruel’ in conversation.
(A) He feels hurt and pained by the comments of the people on his face.
(B) He feels overheard comments are cruel.
(C) He wants to say so.
(D) He was not aware of the people’s cruelty.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- iii. The people treated Derry because they made _____.
- iv. Who called Derry 'a terrible thing'?

OR

- B.** You lose all earthly sense of perspective and time here. The visual scale ranges from the microscopic to the mighty: midges and mites to blue whales and icebergs as big as countries (the largest recorded was the size of Belgium). Days go on and on and on in surreal 24-hour austral summer light, and a ubiquitous silence, interrupted only by the occasional avalanche or calving ice sheet, consecrates the place. It's an immersion that will force you to place yourself in the context of the earth's geological history. And for humans, the prognosis isn't good.

(Journey to the End of the Earth)

- i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The range of the 'visual scale' in Antarctica as mentioned by the author is _____.
- ii. In the line, "You lose all earthly sense of perspective and time here", what could be the best synonym for the word 'perspective' in the context of the passage?
(A) awareness (b) insight
(C) opinion (d) outlook
- iii. Which elements influence earth's physicality?
- iv. How does the narrator feel to see the grandeur of the icy region?

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A.** I used every way I knew to overcome this fear, but it held me firmly in its grip. Finally, one October; I decided to get an instructor and learn to swim. I went to a pool and practiced five days a week, an hour each day. The instructor put a belt around me. A rope attached to the belt went through a pulley that ran on an overhead cable. He held on to the end of the rope, and we went back and forth, back and forth across the pool, hour after hour, day after day, week after week. On each trip across the pool a bit of the panic seized me. Each time the instructor relaxed his hold on the rope and I went under some of the old terror returned and my legs froze. It was three months before the tension began to slack. Then he taught me to put my face under water and exhale, and to raise my nose and inhale. I repeated the exercise hundreds of times. Bit by bit I shed part of the panic that seized me when my head went under water.

(Deep Water)

- i. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that the narrator is keen to be free from his fear.
- ii. What does the narrator talk about in the given extract?
(A) He wanted to overcome his fears.
(B) He never wanted to swim beyond the pool.
(C) He lost his zeal to swim with time.
(D) His efforts were half-hearted.

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The writer uses the phrase 'bit by bit' to refer to the regular and gradual efforts put in by him as _____.
- iv. What kind of act was the hiring of the instructor?
- v. What does the phrase 'I used every way I knew' refer to?
- vi. Which of the following options best suggests the central idea of the extract?
(A) The anxiety of a swimmer (B) To overcome the fear of water
(C) The importance of swimming (D) The importance of a swimmer

OR

- B. "Since you have been so nice to me all day long, as if I was a captain, I want to be nice to you, in return, as if I was a real captain-for I do not want you to be embarrassed at this Christmas season by a thief; but you can give back the money to the old man on the roadside, who has the money pouch hanging on the window frame as a bait for poor wanderers."

The rattrap is a Christmas present from a rat who would have been caught in this world's rattrap if he had not been raised to captain, because in that way he got power to clear himself.

"Written with friendship and high regard, Captain von Stahle."

(The Rattrap)

- i. Why did the peddler gift a rattrap as a Christmas present?
- ii. This communication includes
(A) a promise (B) regret
(C) an apology (D) (A) and (C)
- iii. What is the significance of the letter written to Edla?
- iv. Do you think the peddler would have changed if Edla would not have been nice to him?
- v. Which of the following CANNOT be attributed to the peddler, according to the above extract?
(A) Indebtedness (B) Reform
(C) Self-pity (D) Self-awareness
- vi. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The peddler signs himself as Captain Von stable to _____.

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions, in about 40-50 words. $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. Can you think of some possible reasons for the migration of people from village to city? Explain with reference to 'Lost Spring'.
- ii. What made the peddler think that he had really fallen into a rattrap? *(The Rattrap)*

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- iii. What is the significance of uncle's 'wedding band'? Why does Aunt Jennifer find it heavy?
(*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)
- iv. What spreads the pall of despondence over our dark spirits? How is it removed?
(*A Thing of Beauty*)
- v. Why does Pablo Neruda count up to twelve and what is the purpose of this exercise?
(*Keeping Quiet*)
- vi. Why was there a crowd in front of the bulletin-board at the town Hall?
(*The Last Lesson*)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. Why did the general spare the American soldier?
(*The Enemy*)
- ii. What qualities of Mr Lamb attracted Derry to him?
(*On the Face of It*)
- iii. Why could Charley not be convinced by his distractions that the third level was only a wish fulfilment?
(*The Third Level*)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. Exploitation is a universal phenomenon. The poor indigo farmers were exploited by the British landlords to which Gandhiji objected. Even after our independence, we find exploitation of unorganized labour. What values do we learn from Gandhiji's campaign to counter the present day problems of exploitation?
Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in about 120-150 words elaborating how the weak have always and at all times been the victims of injustice and exploitation.
(*Indigo*)

OR

- B. Sophie lives in her fantasies. She hopes to make it big. You realise that the modern day youth are also like her. You decide to write an article about the need to dream and how it can prove to be harmful sometimes. You are Poorti from class XII.
(*Going Places*)

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. 'Knowing too much of your future is never a good thing.' In light of this quote, examine how knowing the future paved the way for the king's end.
(*The Tiger King*)

OR

- B. "But this eating by formula was not the hardest trial in that first day", says Zitkala-Sa. What do you understand by 'eating by formula' and how did she find it a hard trial?
(*Memories of Childhood*)

□□□□□□



SAMPLE PAPER 20

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII EXAM 2024-25

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

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

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

22

1. Read the following passage carefully:

12

1. India is one of the largest producers of tea in the world, with vast tea plantations spread across the northeastern and southern regions. The states of Assam, West Bengal (Darjeeling), and Tamil Nadu are especially famous for their tea production. Assam produces more than half of India's total tea, known for its strong, bold flavor. Darjeeling tea, often referred to as the "Champagne of Teas," is prized for its light, floral taste, and is one of the most sought-after teas globally.
2. Tea cultivation in India dates back to the early 19th century when the British East India Company began establishing tea gardens to compete with China's tea monopoly. The hilly regions of Assam and Darjeeling were found to have the perfect climate for growing tea. Today, tea is not only an important agricultural product but also deeply intertwined with the cultural identity of India. Millions of Indians begin their day with a steaming cup of chai, often spiced with ginger, cardamom, and other flavors.
3. Tea gardens employ millions of workers across India, with many of them being women. The work involves plucking the tender leaves by hand, a skill that requires precision and speed. The freshly plucked leaves are then processed in factories, where they are withered, rolled, fermented, and dried to produce the final product. Despite its popularity, the tea industry faces several challenges, including fluctuating market prices, climate change, and the need to improve working conditions for laborers.
4. In recent years, India's tea exports have expanded to countries like Russia, the UK, and the United States, contributing significantly to the nation's economy. India remains the second-largest producer of tea globally, after China. However, there is growing competition from other tea-producing countries like Sri Lanka and Kenya, which are also major players in the global market.

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



5. The future of India's tea industry depends on sustainable practices and modernization. With climate change affecting rainfall patterns and temperatures in key tea-growing regions, many plantation owners are looking to adapt through eco-friendly farming techniques and better resource management.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. According to paragraph 1, which Indian states are known for their significant tea production? 1
- ii. How did tea cultivation begin in India, as mentioned in paragraph 2? 1
- iii. Read and complete the following sentence suitably. 1
The phrase "intertwined with the cultural identity of India" in paragraph 2 suggests that tea plays a central role in daily life and tradition for many Indians.
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.
Tea is important to India's culture because _____.
(A) it is only consumed in rural areas
(B) millions of people enjoy it as a daily beverage
- iv. Complete the following with ONE reason, with reference to paragraph 3 : 1
Tea plantations employ many workers because _____.
- v. Why does the writer mention challenges like climate change in paragraph 3? 1
Because
(A) These challenges affect the production and quality of tea.
(B) The challenges show how tea remains popular despite difficulties.
(C) They explain why tea prices are rising in the global market.
(D) It highlights how other countries are overcoming these issues.
- vi. Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 4, to support the following : 1
India plays a key role in the global tea market.
- vii. In the line, 'The future of India's tea industry depends on sustainable practices and modernization' (Paragraph 5), what does the phrase 'sustainable practices' suggest about the changes needed for the industry's survival? 2
- viii. Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 1 : 1
Assam tea : strong flavor :: Darjeeling tea: _____.
(A) light flavor (B) bold flavor
(C) floral taste (D) spiced taste
- ix. Why is it fair to say that the statement 'Tea cultivation is deeply intertwined with the cultural identity of India' in paragraph 2 uses factual language? 1
(A) It shows the popularity of tea in India's daily life.
(B) It emphasizes the cultural importance of tea production.
(C) It presents data on tea consumption and historical significance.
(D) It highlights the historical impact of the tea industry.



- x. Assess the potential challenges or benefits of eco-friendly farming techniques in India's tea industry, as suggested in paragraph 5. 2

2. Read the following carefully. 10

1. Introduction :

Energy consumption is one of the key factors contributing to global environmental changes, with varying levels of energy usage across countries depending on industrialization, population, and economic activity. This case study explores the energy consumption patterns of different countries and evaluates the sources of energy used, focusing on renewable versus non-renewable energy.

2. Methodology :

Data was gathered from international energy reports tracking the consumption of energy in both developed and developing nations. The data was divided into renewable and non-renewable sources, and the energy consumption trends from 2000 to 2020 were analysed. The study aimed to understand the dependence on non-renewable resources and the global shift toward renewable energy.

3. Survey Examination :

The survey categorized countries based on their energy consumption and the proportion of energy sourced from renewables versus non-renewables. Factors such as government policies, technological advancements, and geographical resources were also examined to identify their impact on a country's energy mix.

4. Results :

The chart below shows the percentage of renewable and non-renewable energy consumption in different regions as of 2020 :

Region	Renewable Energy (%)	Non-Renewable Energy (%)
North America	25%	75%
Europe	40%	60%
Asia	20%	80%
Africa	30%	70%
South America	50%	50%

5. Implications for Interventions :

The data shows that despite global efforts to transition to renewable energy, a significant portion of energy consumption still comes from non-renewable sources, especially in developing regions. Governments must implement stronger policies to promote renewable energy use through incentives, subsidies, and public awareness campaigns. Technological innovation in renewable energy generation can also play a critical role in reducing dependence on fossil fuels.



6. Conclusion :

The findings of this study emphasize the need for a global shift toward renewable energy to mitigate environmental damage caused by non-renewable energy sources. International cooperation and investments in clean energy technologies are essential to achieving a sustainable energy future for all nations.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the introduction, the researcher links energy consumption with environmental changes to highlight _____.
-----.
- ii. What would the following be classified as? 1
To analyse the global patterns of energy consumption and the shift towards renewable sources.
Select the appropriate response.
(A) Secondary objective (B) Method of analysis
(C) Primary objective (D) Research outcome
- iii. Give two points to support why renewable energy was included as a focus in the study on global energy consumption. 2
- iv. Paragraph 3 includes words – ‘technological advancements’ and ‘policies.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as ‘technological advancement’ or ‘policy’:
Sentence 1: The development of solar and wind energy systems helps countries reduce their reliance on fossil fuels.
Sentence 2: Government subsidies encourage businesses to invest in renewable energy.
- v. Read the following : 1
Liam lives in Europe, where renewable energy accounts for 40% of total energy consumption. His friend Suresh, who resides in Asia, primarily uses non-renewable energy, which makes up 80% of the total. Meanwhile, Carlos in South America benefits from an equal split between renewable and non-renewable sources.
Select the option that identifies the correct regional energy consumption for Liam, Suresh, and Carlos.
(A) Liam – North America; Suresh – Africa; Carlos – Europe
(B) Liam – Europe; Suresh – Asia; Carlos – South America
(C) Liam – South America; Suresh – Asia; Carlos – North America
(D) Liam – Asia; Suresh – Europe; Carlos – Africa
- vi. Although Europe and South America both use a significant portion of renewable energy, why does South America have a higher percentage of renewables? 1
- vii. Analyse how targeted policies and technological advancements can help increase the use of renewable energy in regions like Asia and Africa. (Paragraph 5) 2



- viii. What is the ultimate goal for stakeholders, based on the insights from the study? 1
- (A) To increase the global use of non-renewable energy
 - (B) To promote energy consumption regardless of the source
 - (C) To achieve a global shift toward renewable energy
 - (D) To limit the use of renewable energy only to developed countries

SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**18**

- 3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words.** $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A. You are Vijay Dhawan, a student of Florence Nightingale Convent, Rohtas Nagar, Aurangabad. Your school is planning an Inter-House poster making competition to conclude the week-long Environment Week. As the secretary of the school's cultural association, write a notice in about 50 words informing students of classes IX-XII about the competition.

OR

- B. In a few days, the country will be celebrating its Independence Day. The Prime Minister will hoist the national flag of the country from the ramparts of the Red Fort and address the nation. Massive arrangements for seating and security are in the offing. The Delhi Traffic Police will be making traffic diversions on the big day in order to avoid inconvenience to the travellers and commuters, it has issued a public notice about the same. Reproduce the notice. You are Jayram Patil of Chanakya Puri, New Delhi.

- 4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words.** $1 \times 4 = 4$

- A. You are Nidhi Aggarwal, Secretary of the Literary Club called Shakespearewala of your school. The literary club has produced some great theatre actors in the past and has a phenomenal repertoire of dramas. Now, it is putting up the famous Shakespeare play 'The Taming of the Shrew'. The principal of your school has asked you to draft an invitation inviting the famous writer Mr. Ruskin Bond to be the Chief Guest at the event. Write the invitation in not more than 50 words. Invent necessary details as required.

OR

- B. Your friend, P.V. Nithish, has invited your family to attend the wedding of his sister, Jaya. You have your board examination on the day of the wedding. Since, south Indian weddings are traditionally morning events, you will not be able to attend the event. Write a formal reply in about 50 words to the family expressing your regret. You are Sushmitha Nair, M-114, Fort Road, Chennai.

- 5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words.** $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A. After passing the secondary school examination, a candidate has to make a very difficult choice from a number of streams available to him for further studies at senior secondary level. There is no valid mechanism to assess the suitability of a candidate for a particular stream. The aggregate percentage is deemed sufficient to decide the stream

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS

of a candidate. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily emphasizing the need for educational counsellors for guidance in this matter in each school. You are Rishi Negi of Koregaon, Pune, Maharashtra.

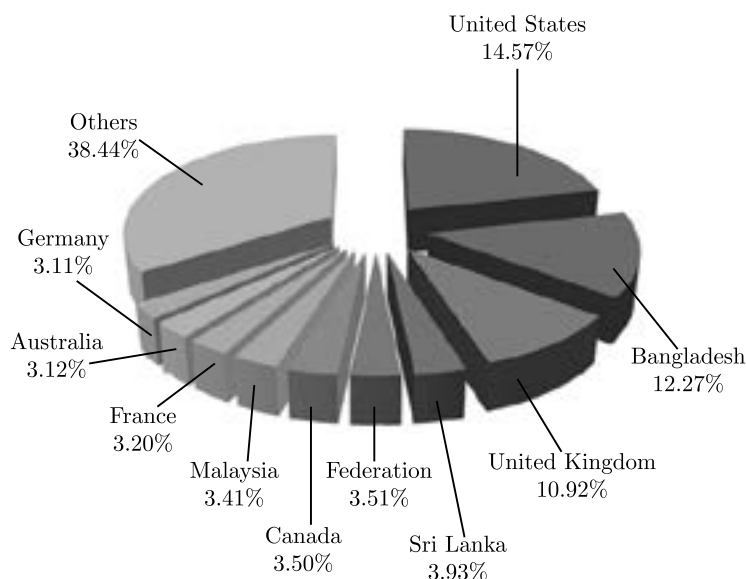
OR

- B.** You are Asit/Aarti Hempal of 14, West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi. You have seen the following advertisement in The Hindustan Times for the post of Chief Chef in a Five Star Hotel. Apply for the job with complete biodata. Write a cover letter also.

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

$1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** India is emerging as one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. The number of tourists has definitely picked up after the pandemic. The bar graph given below shows the criteria or parameters that play a decisive role for a foreign visitor in choosing and finalizing the country where he is going to spend his money and time. The government of India is making sustained efforts in projecting India as a great tourist destination but the citizens also need to understand their duties. Utilising this bar graph, write an article on “India as the popular choice of foreign visitors” as Lakshya Sen.



OR

- B.** Some students of the Senior Wing of St Mary's School, Safdarjang Enclave, New Delhi, collectively authored a book, 'School Memorabilia' that recounts episodes from their school days, anecdotes and the legacy of the school alumni who achieved legendary success in their respective fields. As student reporter for The Hindustan Times' PACE programme, write a report in 120-150 words.

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



SECTION C- LITERATURE**40**

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

- A.** “But after the airport’s
Security check, standing a few yards
away, I looked again at her, wan, pale
as a late winter’s Moon.”

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

- i.** Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the last line of the extract.
- (A) Life is full of ups and downs.
 - (B) The lanky lad troubled all.
 - (C) As white as snow
 - (D) Nature is god’s gift to us.
- ii.** Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : The poet feels a deep sense of concern as she observes her mother’s frail appearance.
Reason : The mother’s pale and wan appearance is compared to a late winter’s moon, symbolizing aging and fragility.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship :
- (A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
 - (B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
 - (C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
 - (D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- iii.** Complete the following suitably.
The poet looked at her mother again in order to _____.
- iv.** What does the line ‘I looked at her, wan and pale as a late winter’s moon’ indicate?
- v.** Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The figure of speech used in the lines ‘the young trees sprinting is _____ (metaphor/ personification).
- vi.** List any two reasons for mother’s pale face.



OR

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

(Aunt Jennifer's Tiger)

- i. What quality of Uncle can be inferred through the lines given in extract?
 (A) Confident (B) Courageousness
 (C) Compassionate nature (D) Dominating nature
- ii. What are the tigers in the extract symbolic of?
- iii. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
 Aunt Jennifer's fingers have _____ (strengthened/ weakened) a lot due to her oppression.
- iv. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion : Aunt Jennifer's tigers symbolize fearlessness and confidence, in contrast to her own constrained life.
Reason : The tigers move with chivalric certainty, while Aunt Jennifer struggles with the burden of her marriage, represented by the heavy wedding band.
 Choose the correct option regarding their relationship:
 (A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
 (B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
 (C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
 (D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- v. What message do the last four lines of the given extract highlight, in the context of feminism?
- vi. Complete the following suitably.
 Denizens of the 'world of green' refer to _____.

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

$4 \times 1 = 4$

- A.** Because he was perfecting a discovery which would render wounds entirely clean, he had not been sent abroad with the troops. Also, he knew, there was some slight danger that the old General might need an operation for a condition for which he was now being treated medically, and for this possibility Sadao was being kept in Japan.

(The Enemy)

CLICK HERE TO INSTALL NODIA APP



- i. Why was Dr Sadao not sent with the troops?
- ii. What kind of a person was Dr Sadao's father?
(A) A jealous man (B) Traditional man
(C) A patriotic person (D) Both (B) and (C)
- iii. The General referred to in the given extract is _____.
- iv. How does the general help Dr Sadao?

OR

- B.** Students on Ice, the programme I was working with on the Shokalskiy, aims to do exactly this by taking high school students to the ends of the world and providing them with inspiring educational opportunities which will help them foster a new understanding and respect for our planet. It's been in operation for six years now, headed by Canadian Geoff Green, who got tired of carting celebrities and retired, rich, curiosity-seekers who could only 'give' back in a limited way.
With Students on Ice, he offers the future generation of policy-makers a life-changing experience at an age when they're ready to absorb, learn and most importantly, act.
(Journey to the End of the Earth)
- i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
Students on Ice is _____ headed by Geoff Green.
 - ii. Characterise the celebrities based on your understanding of the extract.
 - iii. Select the most suitable title for the extract.
(A) High School Students
(B) Adventure in Antarctica
(C) Students on Ice Programme
(D) Wanderlust
 - iv. Why did Green start his Students on Ice programme?

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

1 × 6 = 6

- A.** Food is more important for survival than an identity. "If at the end of the day we can feed our families and go to bed without an aching stomach, we would rather live here than in the fields that gave us no grain," says a group of women in tattered saris when I ask them why they left their beautiful land of green fields and rivers. Wherever they find food, they pitch their tents that become transit homes. Children grow up in them, becoming partners in survival. And survival in Seemapuri means rag-picking. Through the years, it has acquired the proportions of a fine art. Garbage to them is gold. It is their daily bread, a roof over their heads, even if it is a leaking roof But for a child it is even more.

(Lost Spring)

CLICK HERE TO SEE ANSWERS



- vi. Why was the office boy disappointed?
(A) Could not succeed as a director
(B) Could not become a lyric writer
(C) As he could not become a star
(D) All of these

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- i. 'We realise the worth of something either before acquiring it or after losing it.' Explain this with reference to 'The Last Lesson'.
(The Last Lesson)
- ii. What are we single-minded about and what are its consequences?
(Keeping Quiet)
- iii. How is the ragpicker's name Saheb-e-Alam an ironical contradiction to his reality?
(Lost Spring)
- iv. What is the time projected by the poet in "her terrified hands will lie, Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by"?
(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)
- v. Why did Edla still entertain the peddler even after she knew the truth about him?
(The Rattrap)
- vi. Are Mukund and Eco on the same page when it comes to their views about Eco's work? How can you substantiate your response with reference to 'The Interview'?
(The Interview)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in 40-50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. 'Take care of the small things and the big things will fall into place.' Elucidate the relevance of this statement in context of the environment in the Antarctica.
(Journey to the End of the Earth)
- ii. Why did Charley suspect that Sam had gone to Galesburg?
(The Third Level)
- iii. Only an untouchable would know the pain of being one. Dalit consciousness cannot be illustrated as poignantly by people from other castes. Do you agree with the statement with reference to Bama's life?
(Memories of Childhood)



12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Our scriptures tell us that determination and perseverance are cardinal virtues of a good human being. Raj Kumar Shukla was determined as well as persevering because owing to these two traits, he succeeded in taking Gandhiji to Champaran. Gandhiji, in turn, had these characteristics too. Do you agree with the comparison? How can young students today use these two qualities to make successful careers for themselves?

(Indigo)

OR

- B.** I went to the pool when no one else was there...in came a big bruiser of a boy...he yelled, "Hi, skinny, how'd you like to be ducked?" Later, the boy said, "But I was only fooling." The youth today is characterized by a total absence of concern for others. They also act without thinking how their deeds may have long lasting effect on others. Write a note in about 120-150 words to be published in a youth magazine on the need for inculcating regard for the fellow beings.

(Deep Water)

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- A.** Satire employs irony, sarcasm, ridicule, etc. in exposing and criticising follies and vices in men. The story 'The Tiger King' criticizes self-seeking Kings who wilfully exploit both nature and their subjects for selfish interests and by a twist of fate are also paid in the same coin.

Can we relate this thought with instances in modern life too? Write your analysis in about 120-150 words.

(The Tiger King)

OR

- B.** Both 'The Third Level' by Jack Finney and the story 'The Adventure' by Jayant Narlikar in class XI interweave fantasy and reality. How do they compare and contrast with each other? Does Sophie in 'Going Places' belong to the same category of people as Charley and Prof. Gaitonde?

□□□□□□

