



तत् त्वं पूषन् अपावृणु  
केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन

केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन, पटना संभाग

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**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (Code No. 184)**

**CLASS-X**

**STUDENT SUPPORT MATERIAL  
CBSE CURRICULAM**

**SESSION-2023-24**



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**SECTION - WISE WEIGHTAGE**

Sections		
A	Reading Skills	20 Marks
B	Writing Skills with Grammar	20 Marks
C	Literature Textbooks and	40 Marks

	Supplementary Reading Text	
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## DISCURSIVE PASSAGES

### PASSAGE 1(Solved)

**Read the passage given below. (1 x 10 = 10)**

(1) In this jet age, everyone is interested in making easy money. Thanks to the advancement in science and technology, these days life has become easier and more comfortable than earlier with a lot of domestic gadgets as well as instantaneous food recipes available in the market. This has resulted in making the people develop a mind-set to have anything immediately without waiting for at the traffic signals.

(2) Most of us want results quickly. We want to reach the top immediately and get worked up when things go wrong. Perseverance and patience are forgotten words. We get upset, frustrated and angry when a skill or activity requires us to put in a lot of effort and time. We get dejected and want to give it up. Things should be easy.

(3) Life is too short and there is not enough time to do all the things we want to. We tend to compare with others and get upset when they seem to be doing well and start believing God is being too kind to them and not to us. And so, we give up. But such thinking serves no purpose. For it doesn't solve the problem.

(4) Success, real success and happiness come to those who have a 'bread-making' attitude. I am talking of those who are willing to knead the dough, wait for hours for it to rise only to punch it down and knead some more, wait for another couple of hours for it to rise again, then bake it before it is ready to be eaten. Nothing is instantaneous. For every endeavour—whether in the area of career, academics, music, sports, relationships, physical fitness or even in spirituality, it is a long arduous journey.

(5) We can get results only if we are willing to spend time, put in painstaking effort and have faith. If we don't accept this difficult but true fact of life, our lives will be far from being happy and fulfilling. For we may not make that extra effort which can change the course of life dramatically for our benefit.

(6) However, if we just pause to analyse what we are doing, we will realise how much time we are wasting searching for such magical solutions which simply do not exist. We actually save time when we stop this futile search and accept the proven methods of treading the straight and narrow path however difficult it may seem initially..

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the given questions.**

(A) What has been credited in the passage for our easier and more comfortable life? [1]

Answer: Advancement in science and technology have made our lives easier and more comfortable.

(B) According to the passage, choose the correct statement from the following:

(a) Advancement in science and technology has resulted in the mind set to have things at their pace.

(b) Advancement in science and technology has resulted in the mind set to have things instantly and fast.

(c) Advancement in science and technology has resulted in the mind set to have things slowly and patiently.

(d) Advancement in science and technology has resulted in a give-up attitude. [1]

Answer: Advancement in science and technology has resulted in the mind set to have things instantly and fast.

(C) List 1 way in which we can save our time as advised by the author.

(1) ..... [1]

Answer: We can save our time by stop searching for magical solutions to our problems.

(D) Choose the prerequisites to get the desired results in life as per the passage:

- (a) With perseverance and painstaking efforts.      (b) With utmost faith in mutual understanding.  
(c) With deviated mind and fluctuations.      (d) By greasing the palms of others. [1]

Answer:(a) With perseverance and painstaking efforts.

(E) “Success, real success and happiness come to those who have a “bread-making attitude.” The ‘bread-making attitude’ tells that:

- (a) We should be absolutely inactive.      (b) It requires a skill in household chores.  
(c) We should remain idle in order to taste success.      (d) We should be a man of patience in order to taste success. [1]

Answer:(d) We should be a man of patience in order to taste success

Explanation: The ‘bread-making attitude’ tells us that a person waits for achieving the true success. A baker waits for hours for the dough to rise, only to punch it again & then wait to bake it. Hence, (d) is the right answer.

(F) Nothing in life is instantaneous. The underlined word can be replaced by the word ..... in the passage. [1]

Answer: immediate

(G) Select the best option from the following that can help us reach the top in life.

- (a) Perseverance and patience      (b) Science and technology  
(c) Dejection and frustration      (d) Analysis and magical solution [1]

Answer: (a) Perseverance and patience

(H) The author has stated the example of ‘bread-making attitude’ to make us ..... [1]

Answer: Patient

(I) We can only get the desired results if we do not waste time trying for the same thing again and again. True/false. [1]

Answer: False

Explanation: As per the passage, we can only get results when we put in the painstaking effort and have perseverance to keep trying for the same thing again and again.

(J) Most of us want results quickly. This shows that we are ..... [1]

Answer: Impatient

## Passage 2

1. Mind management is a way to control one’s mind. To do this, we need to be cautious about our thinking process and also need a high level of understanding and meditation as well. Understanding is wisdom – 80 percent of people are knowledgeable, while 20 per cent are wise. Knowledgeable men take sides without reason. They feel sad seeing deprived people but jealous when they see happy people. They work in the guidance of others’ inspiration, take unnecessary responsibility to keep themselves disturbed.



drawn up by US experts, according to a government report. At the US Centre for Naval Analyses, the Military Advisor- Board found that climate change had induced drought in the Middle East and Africa. The lack of food and water was affecting the populations of these countries to take recourse to extreme measures. It was escalating long-standing ethnic tensions into violent clashes in the affected countries. In addition, the report predicted that an increase in catastrophic weather conditions worldwide would create more demand for American troops, even as flooding and extreme weather could damage naval ports and military bases.

(2) According to official findings, the report signalled that it would influence American foreign policy as well. The report vitalizes situations caused by the massive dislocation or massive drying up of the waters of the Nile or of the major rivers of India and China. Pentagon officials also feel that the reports would affect military of their country as climate change is having an impact on national security, whether by increasing global instability or by opening the Arctic or by increasing sea level and storm surge close to coastal installations. This is the first major study to draw the link between climate change and national Security. Thus, American leaders are delivering major speeches wherein they are linking up climate change with that of national security. New regulations would also be put in place to cut pollution from coal-fired power options.

(3) The report follows a recent string of scientific studies that warn that the effects of climate change are already occurring and that more flooding, droughts, extreme storms, food and water shortages, and damage to infrastructure will occur in the future. There is thus, a link in some quarters between rising sea waters and terrorism. These effects are stress multipliers that will aggravate stressors abroad, such as poverty, environmental degradation, political instability, and social tensions.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the given questions:**

(A) According to the passage, what is the latest finding regarding climate change?

The latest finding regarding climate change is that ..... and ..... [1]

Answer: Climate change had induced drought in the Middle East; it poses a severe risk to America's security.

(B) Identify the way the lack of food and water affecting countries in the Middle East and Africa?

(I) It has damaged naval ports and military bases.

(II) It poses a severe risk to national security.

(III) It had escalated long standing racial discrimination tension into violent clashes in the affected areas.

(IV) It has multiplied the stress.

(a) II and III      (b) III      (c) I and II      (d) I, II and IV [1]

Answer: (b) III

(C) The unique thing about the latest report on climate change is .....

(a) That it would influence American foreign and military policy as climate change is having an impact on their national security.

(b) That the lack of food and water was affecting the populations of the countries.

(c) That new regulations would also be put in place to cut pollution from coal-fired power options.

(d) That the effects of climate change are already occurring. [1]

Answer: (a) That it would influence American foreign and military policy as climate change is having an impact on their national security.

Explanation: It is given in the passage that the unique signal that the report gave was that it would have an effect on the American foreign and military policy. Hence, (a) is the right answer.



(D) ..... affected the populations of the Middle East and Africa to take recourse to extreme measures. [1]

**Answer:** Lack of food and water

(E) Choose the option that makes the correct use of ‘aggravate’, as used in the passage.

- (a) ..... conflict will intervene Military even further.
- (b) The ..... Military intervention will conflict even further.
- (c) Military intervention will only ..... the conflict even further.
- (d) ..... will intervene the Military conflict even further. [1]

**Answer:** (c) Military intervention will only aggravate the conflict even further.

(F) Increase in catastrophic weather conditions worldwide would create more demand for American troops why?

- (a) Because it will create a link in some quarters between rising sea waters and terrorism.
- (b) Because climate change has become a national issue.
- (c) Both (b) and (c)
- (d) Because flooding and extreme weather could damage naval ports and military bases. [1]

**Answer:**(d) Because flooding and extreme weather could damage naval ports and military bases.

(G) The author means ‘bad feelings between people from different races’ when he says, ‘ethnic tensions.

(True/ false) [1]

**Answer:** True

(H) State any one reason why new regulations will also be put in place. [1]

Answer: New regulations would also be put in place to cut pollution from coal-fired power options.

(I) Complete the given analogy correctly with a word from the passage.

Signalled: reflected::.....:increase [1]

**Answer:** Aggravate

(J) List 2 major stressors highlighted in

- (1) .....
- (2) ..... [1]

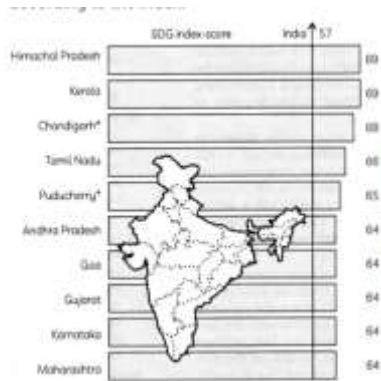
Answer: Poverty and political instability.

## **CASE-BASED PASSAGES**

### **PASSAGE 1 (Solved)**

#### **1.India’s SDG Scores**

India has crossed the halfway mark in achieving the UN’s sustainable development goals (SDGs) adopted in 2015 and to be achieved by 2030, according to the SDG India Index released on Friday by think tank NITI Aayog and the UN Here are the 10 best-performing states and Union territories according to the index.



(1) Himachal Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu have emerged as the front runners in the race to achieve key sustainable development goals (SDG) like removal of poverty inequality, while Assam, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are the laggards in ranking of states.

(2) According to the SDG India Index, the nation as a whole has a score of 57, showing the country has reached a little beyond the halfway mark in meeting the sustainable development goals adopted by India and 192 other nations in 2015. The index covers 13 of the 17 sustainable development goals, including healthcare, gender equality, clean energy, infrastructure, education, peace and building strong, accountable institution.

(3) For goals, including climate action and sustainable use of marine resources, were left out because of lack of data at the state level. Kerala's overall top rank (69) is attributed to its strong performance in providing good health, reducing hunger, achieving gender equality and providing quality education. The rank shows the distance each state has to cover to reach 100 – the point at which it fully meets the sustainable development goal.

(4) Himachal Pradesh ranks high with a similar overall score in providing clean water and sanitation, reducing inequalities and preserving the mountain ecosystem. Tamil Nadu has a score of 66. Among Union territories, Chandigarh takes the lead with a score of 68 on account of its track record in providing clean water and sanitation. Performance in providing quality education has also helped Chandigarh achieve high score.

(5) Tamil Nadu topped the states in poverty reduction, while Kerala topped in providing quality education, closely followed by Chandigarh and Himachal Pradesh.

(6) Kerala and Tamil Nadu also topped in facilitating good health and well-being. Gender equality, however, is an area all states and the nation as a whole need to improve upon. The toppers in gender equality, Sikkim and Union territories .Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Chandigarh, have crossed the halfway mark in reaching the goals.

(7) The scores represent the current status of achievement in meeting the goals.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the given questions:**

A) The other remaining goals left out from SDG India Index because:

- (a) of lack of data of the state level
- (b) they have already crossed halfway mark in reaching the goals.
- (c) countries have not taken care of the remaining goals
- (d) those goals have not yet officially accepted by the companies [1]

Answer: (a) of lack of data of the state level

(B) Among Union Territories ..... takes the lead with a score of 68 on account of its track record in providing clean water and sanitation. [1]

Answer: Chandigarh

(C) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.

According to the survey ..... topped in providing quality education.

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Chandigarh
- (d) Andhra Pradesh [1]

Answer: (a) Kerala

(D) How many sustainable goals does index cover? [1]

Answer: 13

(E) What do 100 points mean as per SDG Index?

- (a) It means the index has covered 13 goals including healthcare, gender equality clean energy,

infrastructure, education, peace and building strong, accountable institutions.

(b) It means the point at which it fully meets the sustainable development goal.

(c) It means the removal of poverty and equality.

(d) It means India has reached a little beyond the halfway mark to meet sustainable development goals. [1]

Answer:

(b) It means the point at which it fully meets the sustainable development goal.

(F) Which state has the least SDG score according to the graph? [1]

Answer: Maharashtra

(G) The SDG score represents the current status of achievements by the states in meeting the goals.

True/false. [1]

Answer: True

(H) Which state ranks the best in total SDG scores? [1]

Answer:

Himachal Pradesh

(I) Select the option that is true for the two statements given below.

(1) Tamil Nadu topped the states in poverty reduction.

(2) Kerala topped the states in providing amenities.

(a) (1) is the result of (2).

(b) (1) is true and (2) is false.

(c) (1) is independent of (2).

(d) (1) contradicts (2). [1]

Answer:(b) (1) is true and (2) is false.

Explanation: It is clearly given in paragraph 5 of the passage that Tamil Nadu topped the states in poverty reduction while Kerala topped the states in providing quality education. Hence, (b) is the right answer.

(J) The index covers .....

sustainable development goals out of ..... [1]

Answer: 13,17.

## PASSAGE 2

### India Covid-19 numbers explained

1. With novel Coronavirus spreading rapidly all over the country, there are only three states right now, Meghalaya, Sikkim and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, that have less than 1,000 people infected with the disease.

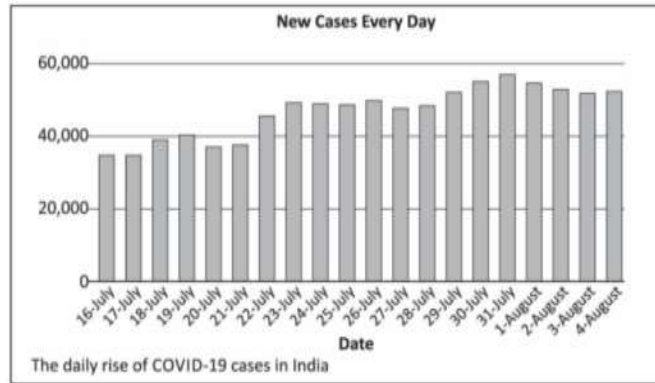
2. Lakshadweep, of course, still hasn't reported even a single case till now, the only region in India entirely free of the epidemic.

3. Otherwise, even the relatively smaller states now have significantly large spread of the disease. Goa, for example, has seen more than 7,000 of its people infected by the virus till now. Tripura has over 5,500 cases, while Manipur has more than 3,000, and Nagaland a little less than 2,500. Puducherry has more than 4,000 cases, while even Daman and Diu has over 1,300 people infected.

4. And in each of these states, the numbers are rising at a fast pace, at a rate higher than the national level. The infections had initially reached these states in the first and second week of May, when the lockdown was relaxed for the first time to enable people stuck in different parts of the country to return to their native places.

5. After a period of very slow growth, the number of cases have begun to rise rapidly in the last one month. In Goa, for example, the total number of infected people has nearly doubled in the last 15 days. Same has happened in Puducherry, as well.

6. Tuesday was one of those rare occasions when the number of active cases in the country, those who are yet to recover from the disease, went down compared to the previous day. That is because the number of recoveries, combined with the number of deaths, exceeded the new cases that were detected on Tuesday.



7. With over 52,500 new cases detected in the country, the total number of infections crossed 19 lakh, out of which 12.82 lakh people have recovered from the disease. The number of dead is now close to 40,000.

8. The number of recoveries on Tuesday was the highest-ever for a single day. More than 51,700 people were declared to have been recovered. Three days earlier, the number of recoveries had crossed 50,000 for the first time, but in the next two days the number had fallen to much lower levels.

2. Choose the correct option to answer the questions based on the above passage and graphics.

(a) How are these three states – Meghalaya, Sikkim and Andaman and Nicobar Islands – different from the rest of India?

- (i) they are the only states to have less than 1,000 people infected with novel coronavirus
- (ii) they are three of the five states to have less than 1,000 people infected with novel coronavirus
- (iii) they are the only states to have less than 2,000 people infected with novel coronavirus
- (iv) none of these

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ is the only region in India which is entirely free of the epidemic.

- (i) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- (ii) Maharashtra
- (iii) Lakshadweep
- (iv) Tripura

(c) What is common among Goa, Tripura, Manipur, Nagaland, Puducherry and Daman and Diu?

- (i) the numbers are rising at a fast pace at rates lower than the national level
- (ii) the numbers are falling at a fast pace at rates equal than the national level
- (iii) the numbers are rising at a fast pace at rates higher than the national level
- (iv) none of these

(d) Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the inherent qualities of climate in the present times.

- (i) 1 and 4
- (ii) 2 and 6
- (iii) 1 and 3
- (iv) 3 and 5

(e) Which date in the graph shows the highest jump of detected cases in a day?

- (i) July 30
- (ii) July 31
- (iii) August 1
- (iv) August 2

(f) Of the 19 lakh infected cases, how many have recovered?

- (i) 11.82 lakh
- (ii) 13.82 lakh
- (iii) 12.81 lakh
- (iv) 12.82 lakh

(g) More than 51,700 people were declared to have been recovered on \_\_\_\_\_.

- (i) Wednesday
- (ii) Sunday
- (iii) Tuesday
- (iv) Monday

(h) When had the number of recoveries crossed 50,000 for the first time?

- (i) two days earlier
- (ii) Tuesday
- (iii) three days earlier than Tuesday
- (iv) none of these

(i) Which word in the passage means the same as “quickly”?

- (i) rapidly
- (ii) significantly
- (iii) native
- (iv) rare

(j) Which word in the passage is opposite in meaning to “indigenous”?

- (i) rapidly
- (ii) significantly
- (iii) native
- (iv) rare

### PASSAGE 3

(1) Yoga is not a particular denomination or religion, but an age-old practice based on a harmonizing system for the body, mind, and spirit to attain inner peace and liberation.

(2) Within the past decade, yoga has infiltrated not only Western culture, but also Western medicine. The more we learn about this ancient practice, the more we realize that its benefits go far beyond increased flexibility and muscle tone.

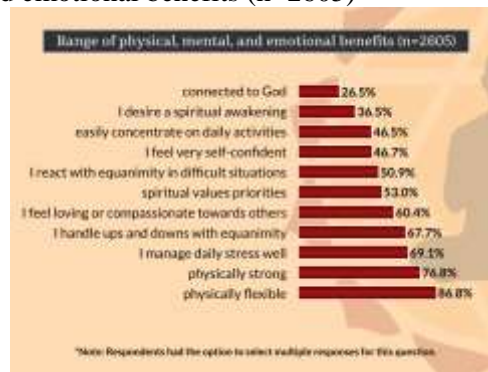
A common misunderstanding is that yoga predominantly focuses on increasing flexibility; however, the physical practice of yoga, does emphasize appropriate postural alignment, musculoskeletal strength and endurance as well as balance. The study and practice of yoga incorporates mindfulness-based practices such as mindful breathing techniques, focused concentration meditation and self-reflection.

(3) We give undue importance to our health and the treatment of diseases. A large number of medicines treat only the symptoms of the disease, and not the root cause. In fact, the cause of many chronic ailments is still being researched. It is here that yoga therapy comes to our assistance.

Yoga emphasizes treatment of the root cause of an ailment works in a slow, subtle and miraculous manner. Modern medicine can claim to save a life at a critical stage, but for complete recovery and regaining of normal health, one must believe in the efficiency of Yoga therapy.

(4) The yogic way of life includes a code of ethics, regulations, discipline, combined with prayer and meditation. Even a discussion of these subjects helps one relieve tensions and change attitudes. Simple asanas help to stretch and relax the whole body and release tensions. The sincere practice of yoga postures is beneficial for the mind and body.

Range of physical mental, and emotional benefits (n=2605)



(5) The continued practice of yoga has profound effect on the inner corner of life. Yoga aims at developing the mental, physical, spiritual and emotional laxities. Other forms of physical exercise, like aerobics, assume only physical well being. They have little to do with the development of the soul and mind.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the given questions:

(A) Select the option that is true for the two statements given below.

(1) Yoga can treat the root cause of an ailment.

(2) Modern medicines can save a life at a critical stage.

(a) (1) is the result of (2).

(b) (1) is true and (2) is false

(c) (1) is independent of (2).

(d) (1) contradicts (2). [1]

Answer:

(c) (1) is independent of (2).

Explanation: It is clearly given in paragraph 5 of the passage that yoga emphasizes on the treatment of the root cause of ailment while the modern medicines may save a life at a critical stage. Both the statements are true and independent. Hence, (c) is the right answer.

(B) Select the correct option to complete the given sentence.

One must believe in ..... for complete recovery and regaining of health. [1]

(a) God (b) Yoga Therapy (c) gym (d) medicines

Answer: (b) Yoga Therapy

(C) Yoga aims at developing the ..... faculties whereas physical exercise only develop the ..... [1]

Answer: Physical, mental, emotional and spiritual body; physical body

(D) Most of the medicines treat

(a) only the symptoms and not the root cause (b) only the critical stage of saving life.

(c) only the root cause

(d) both the symptoms and the root cause [1]

Answer: (a) only the symptoms and not the root cause

(E) The phrase 'age-old practice' means ..... [1]

Answer: an ancient practice

(F) Aerobics has a major impact on both mind and body. (True/false). [1]

Answer: False

Explanation: It is given in the passage that physical exercises other than yoga like aerobics, has only little impact on mind and body, not major.

(G) Which factor in a human body gets influenced the most with yoga? [1]

Answer: Physical flexibility

(H) Yoga also helps to become ..... and ..... towards people, according to the given chart. [1]

Answer: loving; compassionate

(I) Select the option that shows what has yoga infiltrated within the past decade. [1]

(I) Western philosophy (II) Western culture (III) Western manner (IV) Western medicine

(a) (II) and (IV)

(b) (III) and (IV)

(c) (I) and (IV)

(d)(II) and (IV)

Answer:(a) (II) and (IV)

(J) List one issue that people who practice yoga can handle easily. [1]

Answer: Stress

### GRAMMAR

#### DETERMINERS

Determiners are the words which are used before nouns to determine or fix their meaning.

#### TYPES

1. Articles: a/an, the

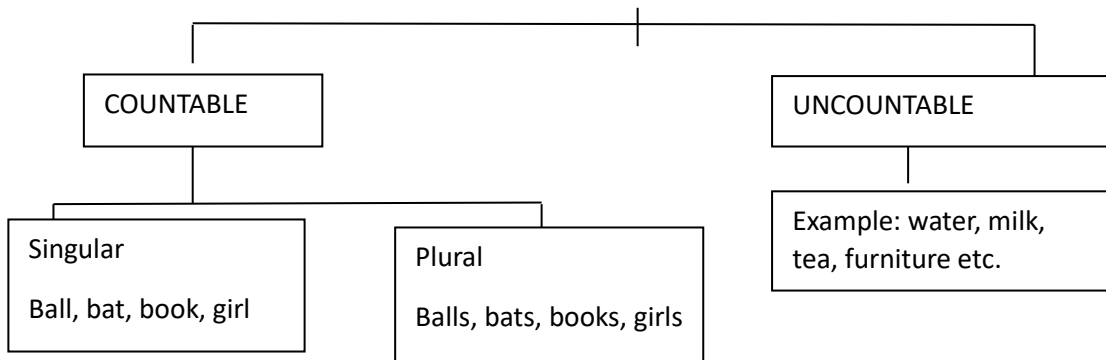
2. Demonstrative Adjectives: This, that, these, those.

3. Possessives: my, our, your, his, her, its, their.

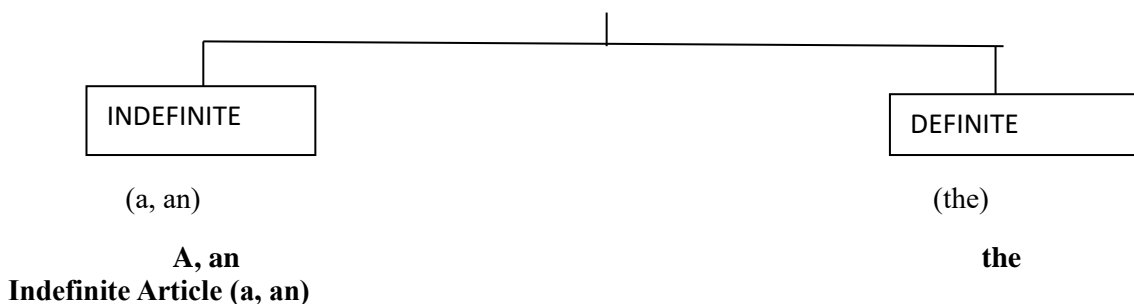
4. Adjectives (Quantity &number):some, any, much, many, all, both, little, few, several, less, one, two, etc

.5. Others- first, second, third etc

#### NOUNS



#### 1. ARTICLES



1. Used before singular countable noun.



Examples: The earth, The moon, The sun.

6. used before names of monuments and memorials.

The Red Fort, The Taj Mahal

7. Used before the names of states/ countries that have a common noun in their names.

Examples: The Punjab, The Congo, The USA, The UAE, The UNO, The UK.

8. Used before the names of scriptures.( Religious Books)

The Ramayana, The Mahabharata, The Gita, The Bible, The Quran, The Guru Granth Sahib.

9. Used before the names of news paper, magazines.

The Hindustan Times, The Times of India , The Hindu, The New York Times , The Competition Success Review, The Reader's Digest.

10. Used before political parties.

The Bhartiya Janta Party, The Congress Party, The Rastriya Janta Dal, The Janta Dal United.

11. When the+ adjectives used as plural nouns.

Example: The poor means “ the poor men”

The rich “ the rich men”

The rich always exploit the poor

12. When proper noun used as common noun.

Kalidas is the Shakespeare of India.

↓  
A great dramatist

## 2. DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVES

This, That, These, Those are called Demonstrative Adjectives

**This:** To demonstrate nearby things

Example: This is my book.

**That:** To demonstrate far off things

**These:** plural of this

**Those:** plural of that

## 3. POSSESSIVES

These are used to show belongingness/ ownership.

Examples: My, Our, Your, His , Her, Its, Their

**ADJECTIVES (Quantity and Number) Others.**

ADJECTIVES	Before Countable nouns (number)	Before Uncountable nouns (quantity)	Remark



Some	✓	✓	Used in negative and interrogative sentences
Any	✓	✓	
Much	×	✓	
Many	✓	×	
All	✓	✓	
both	✓	✓	
Few	✓	×	Few: hardly any It is negative
A few	✓	×	A few: not many but some
The few	✓	×	The few: not many but all of them
Little		✓	Little: not much hardly any, less than requirement. It is negative.
A little	×	✓	Not much but sufficient.
The little	×	✓	Not much but all that is.
several	✓	×	
Less	×	✓	
One, two etc.	✓	×	Cardinal
Each, every	✓	×	
Next	✓	×	
Another	✓	×	
Either, neither	✓	×	
First, second etc.	✓	×	Ordinals

### MODALS

Modals are the auxiliaries that are used to convey special idea. Modal auxiliary is not used alone but is always used with the main verb. Only the first form of the verb can be used after a modal auxiliary.

Modal verb	Function / Idea conveyed
<b>Can</b>	Ability, permission (informal)
<b>Could</b>	Past of 'can'
<b>May</b>	Possibility, permission (formal)

<b>Might</b>	Past of 'may'
<b>Will and Shall</b>	To express future time, to express determination, promise and threatening, to make requests
<b>Should, ought to</b>	Moral obligation, to express advice.
<b>Must, have to</b>	Social obligation (compulsion), duty necessity
<b>Used</b>	Past habit

### TENSE

Tense is a verb form which shows the of an action or event.

There are three Tenses:

- A) Present Tense
- B) Past Tense
- C) Future Tense

#### **1. Present Indefinite Or Simple Present**

**Uses**

- **Habitual actions**  
Ex- I get up early in the morning.  
He goes out for a walk daily.
- **Universal/ General Truth.**  
Ex- the east moves round the sun.
- **Scientific Truth**  
Ex- Water boils at 100 centigrade.
- **Rules for Affirmative Sentences.**  
He/she/It/Singular Nouns + first form of verb + s/est.  
I/We/ you/ they/ Plural Nouns + first form of verb

**Rules for Negative sentences.**

- He/she/It/singular Noun + does not + first form of verb
- (2) Present continuous, Progressive, Imperfect Tense.
- Usage
- Action taking place at the time of speaking.  
Ex- She is singing a beautiful song.
- Birds are flying in the sky.
- Action continued over a period of time in the present.  
Ex- We are working on a science project these days.
- Key – Words- these days, nowadays, at present.
- Structure

**Subject + is/am/are + 1<sup>st</sup> form of verb + Ing**

#### **(3) Present Perfect tense**

**Usage**

- Just completed action.  
Ex- I have just received your letter.  
Key-Word- Just, Just now, Yet, Still, recently.
- Structure

Sub + Has/Have + third form of verb ( Past Participle)

#### **(4) Present Perfect Continuous Tense**

##### **Usage**

- Action started in the Past and is still continuing.  
Ex- It has been raining for two hours.
- The gardener has been watering the plants since morning  
Key words- for, since.

Structure

S+ has/have+ been+ 1<sup>st</sup> form of verb +Ing

### **PAST TENSE**

#### **1. Simple past or past Indefinite**

**Usage-** An action completed in the past with reference to the time of speaking

Ex- We close the gate at 6Pm.

##### **Habitual action in past.**

Ex- I used to play football everyday.

Structure

S+ 2<sup>nd</sup> form of the verb....

Negative- S+ did not + 1<sup>st</sup> form of verb.

#### **2. Past Continuous Tense or Past Imperfect Tense**

**Usage –** An action going on in the past.

Ex- We were watching TV the whole evening yesterday.

**Structure**

S+ was /were + first form of verb + ing....

#### **3. Past Perfect Tense**

**Usage -** An action completed before a said time or another action took place.

Ex- The train had left before I reached the station.

(Earlier Past)

(Past)

**Structure**

Sub + had + III rd form of verb

**Key words –** before , after, when, as soon as ,etc.

#### **4. Past Perfect Continuous**

An action going on for the said period in the past.

Ex - Children had been playing cricket since morning.

**Key Words** – for, since.

**Structure** S+ had + been + present participle....

## FUTURE TENSE

### 1. Future Indefinite (simple)

**Usage** – Expresses the action or event which is likely to happen in future.

Ex – I shall go to Delhi tomorrow.

**Key Words** – tomorrow, next, coming, etc.

Structure

S+ Shall/ will + 1<sup>st</sup> form of verb.

### 2. Future Continuous Tense

**Usage** – A progressive future action.

Ex- Sonu will be revising his lesson tomorrow at this time.

**Key Words** - tomorrow at this time.

Structure

S+ shall/ will +be +1<sup>st</sup> form +ing (Present Participle).

### 3. Future Perfect Tense

**Usage** - Expresses an action which is expected to be completed by a certain time in future.

Ex- I shall have prepared study material by Thursday.

**Key Words** – after, by, etc.

Structure

S+ shall/ will/ have + 3<sup>rd</sup> form of verb.

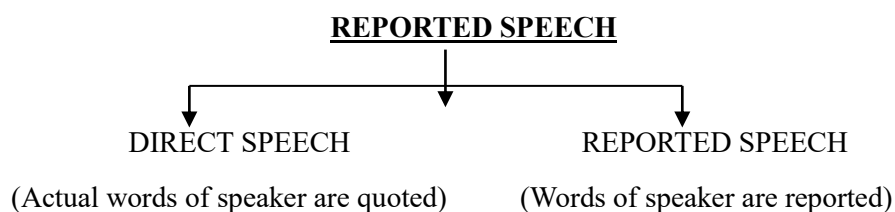
### 4. Future Perfect Continuous

**Usage** – Expresses an action that will have been going on at or before some point of time in the future.

Ex- We shall have been writing for you for a long time.

**Key words** – for, since, etc.

Structure S+ Shall/ will +have been +1<sup>st</sup> form of verb + ing



Example-

She said to me “ how are you ?”- Direct speech

Reporting verb      Reported speech

She asked me how I was – indirect speech/ reported speech

**Steps to change direct speech into Reported speech.**

1. Change the reporting verb- according to type of sentence of reported speech.
2. Remove commas and inverted commas and use conjunction according to type of sentence of reported speech.
3. Change the verb of reported speech according to tense of reporting verb.
4. Change the personal pronouns in reported speech.
5. Always use full stop (.) at the end.

Ex-

Direct- Tom said to me,” I shall meet you at the station.”

Indirect- Tom told me that he would meet me at the station.

Direct- Harish said to Deepti,” Where have you kept the fevicol?”

Indirect- Harish asked Deepti where she had kept fevicol.

**Change of Reporting verb**

Reporting verb (said to ) changed into	Types of sentences
Told/ Asked/inquired of asked/ Advised/ requested/ ordered	Assertive or Declarative Interrogative. imperative

**Removal of commas (conjunction used)**

Types of sentences (reported speech)	Conjunction used
Assertive/ Declarative <b><u>INTERROGATIVE</u></b> 1. Yes/ No type 2. wh- words type	That  If/ weather Wh- word
<b><u>IMPERATIVE</u></b> 1. Affirmative (begins with 1 <sup>st</sup> form of verb) 2. Negative (begin with “do not”)	To Not to

**Changing the verb of reported speech**

Verb (direct speech)	Verb (reported Indirect speech)
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**Reporting verb (present/ future tense)**

Verb (direct speech)	No change
----------------------	-----------

**Reporting verb (past tense)**

1 <sup>st</sup> form and 5 <sup>th</sup> form of verb	2 <sup>nd</sup> form of verb
Is/ am/ are	Was/were
Has/ have	Had
2 <sup>nd</sup> form of verb	Had+ 3 <sup>rd</sup> form of verb
Was/ were	Had been+ 1 <sup>st</sup> form of verb+ ing
Will/ shall	Would
Can	Could
May	Might
Must	Must/had to
Would	No change
Could	No change
Might	No change
Universal fact	No change

### Changing of the personal pronouns

1 <sup>st</sup> person changed	with the speaker
2 <sup>nd</sup> person changed	With the listener
3 <sup>rd</sup> person changed	No change

### Words denoting time and position

When the reporting verb is in the past tense, certain words denoting nearness of time and place are changed into words denoting distance.

<b>Direct speech</b>	<b>Indirect speech</b>
This	That
These	Those
Now	Then
Ago	Before
Last night	The previous night, the night before
Next day	The following day, the day after
Today	That day
Tonight	That night
Yesterday	The previous day , the day before
Tomorrow	The next day, the following day, the day after
Here	there

Ex-

#### **Direct Speech**

1. The teacher said to Kunal, “Why did you not come to school yesterday?”

#### **Indirect Speech.**

The teacher asked Kunal why he had not come to school the previous day.

#### **Direct Speech**

2. Kunal said to the teacher, “I was suffering from fever.”

#### **Indirect Speech.**

Kunal told the teacher that he had been suffering from fever.

### Subject-verb concord

1. Two or more singular subjects joined by ‘and’ take a plural verb ; as-

Fire and water do not agree.

2. When two or more singular subjects are connected by ‘or’, ‘nor’, ‘either-or’, ‘neither- nor’, they take a verb which agrees with the latter or the nearer subject.

Ex- i. Either he or I am mistaken.

ii. Neither she nor her friends are guilty.

3.. **Either, neither, none, each, every and everyone** are followed by a **singular verb**; as-

i. Either of the two brothers is at fault.

ii. neither of these two roads leads to the hospital.

iii. Each of them is honest.

4. When **two singular nouns** refer to the same person or thing, the verb must be singular. The **Article** is then not repeated; as

i. the treasurer and secretary has left from the bank.

ii. My friend and colleague has come.

5. When two or more singular subjects are connected by with, together with, and not, besides, no less than, the verb is in singular as –

i. The suitcase with all its contents was stolen.

ii. Kamal together with his sisters is present.

iii. No one besides the nurse knows this secret.

6. Some noun which are plural in form but singular in meaning take a singular verb; as-

i. Mathematics is my favorite subject.

ii. This news is true.

iii. Economics has no charm for him.

iv. The wages of sin is death.

7. A collective noun takes a singular verb when the subject stands for the collection as a whole. It takes a plural verb when the stress is on the individuals.

Ex- I . The committee has issued its report

II. The committee are divided on one minor points.

III. The Jury has five members. The Jury have different opinions.

### PRACTICE EXERCISES

**Read the following paragraphs and fill in the blanks with the appropriate determiners.**

**Q-1.** Savita has lost (a) ..... pens she had. Now she has spent (b) .....the. money she had on buying more. So she is giving (c) ..... worried look.

**Q-2.** There are so (a) ..... ways of entertainment in life. (b) ..... circus is one of the most entertaining media. Last Sunday (c) ..... of (d) ..... friends went to see the Diamond Circus. My uncle took us there. (e) ..... one paid for (f) ..... ticket.

**Q-3.** a) ..... is one of (b) ..... most memorable trips. At Rameshwaram we saw (c) ..... ancient temples, which gave (d)

..... idea of our glorious past. It added (e) ..... to (f) ..... knowledge.

**Q-4.** Sahil: Meet him, (a) ..... is (b) ..... brother.

Rohan: You resemble (c) ..... (d) .....

Sahil: No, you are wrong, (e) ..... of us resembles.

In fact, there is hardly (f) ..... resemblance.

**Q-5.** Mukna Kangjei is (a) ..... very popular game in Manipur. It enjoyed (b) ..... royal patronage in (c) ..... olden days. Manipur is known for several games that developed over (d) ..... period of time. It is (e) ..... indigenous game. In the beginning, it was very popular but now slowly (f) ..... game is fading away.

**Fill in the blanks with appropriate modals and complete the dialogue.**

**Q-1.** Pradeep : Doctor, I am not feeling well, (a) \_\_\_\_ you please issue me a medical certificate?

Dr. Ashok : Yes, certainly I (b) \_\_\_\_ if you (c) \_\_\_\_ tell me your ailment.

Pradeep : Sir, I (d) \_\_\_\_ go to Shimla as I am suffering from workaholism.

Dr. Ashok : This is no ailment. Sorry, in that case I (e) \_\_\_\_ . You (f) \_\_\_\_ leave now.

**Q-2.** (i) We..... obey our teachers, (have to, must)

(ii) She.....pass this time, (ought to, has to)

(iii) He..... not buy a car. (has to, need)

(iv) He works hard lest he ..... fail, (should, must)

(v) The old lady... ..... take a bath every day before taking meals, (ought to, should)

(vi) She ..... finish this work before I go. (has to, must)

(vii) Ramesh said that they ..... report for duty on Monday, (should, ought to)

(viii) We..... prepare our lessons well before examination, (ought to, must)

**Complete the paragraph by using the correct tense form of the verbs given in brackets.**

**Q-1.** Honey, amla, gums, resins, tubers and tamarind; all these and more (a) \_\_\_\_ (come) from forests and (b) \_\_\_\_ (find) their way into our lives. But the tribals who (c) \_\_\_\_ (pluck), dig and extract them get a pittance. Now, the government (d) \_\_\_\_ (decide) to provide a minimum support price (MSP) for some select forest produce on the lines of wheat and paddy. The step could (e) \_\_\_\_ (helped) around 40 million tribal families which still (f) \_\_\_\_ (depends) part of whole year on income from forest.

**Q-2.** A new study has (a) \_\_\_\_ (find) that birds living in cities (b) \_\_\_\_ (be) larger brains while species with smaller brains (c) \_\_\_\_ (find) almost exclusively in rural locations. Researchers at Sweden's Uppsala University (d) \_\_\_\_ (look) at 82 bird species in central European cities and in the surrounding countryside and (e) \_\_\_\_ (found) that birds with relatively large brains, such as crows and magpies (f) \_\_\_\_ (inhabited) urban areas.



**Miscellaneous exercise**

**I. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter:**

Dear Sir

I have just \_\_\_\_\_ (appear) for my class 12 CBSE examination and awaiting my results. I want to join NIFT.

**II. Read the given sentence from an article. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.**

When she put her hand on your head to blessed you, you can feel her love.

Error	Correction

**III. I shared some information with Jaya about my father, report Jaya's question**

“Does your father always come home late?”

**IV. Read the dialogue between a passerby and a farmer.**

Passerby: Can you tell me the way to Rampur?

Farmer: Drive for four kms. and then turn right.

Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.

The Passerby asked the farmer if he could tell him the way to Rampur. The farmer replied that \_\_\_\_\_

- a. he may drive for four kms. and turn right.
- b. he should drive for four kms. and turn right.
- c. he might drive for four kms. and turn right.
- d. he had to drive for four kms. and turn right.

**V. Fill the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the slogan:**

\_\_\_\_\_ only weapon to fight injustice is education. (An/ The/ This)

A copy of the plan is enclosed and \_\_\_\_\_ (that/ then/ this) may be communicated to all Team Leaders for compliance.

**VI. Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence:**

After using the computer for a long time, looking into the distance for about 5mins. relaxed the eyes.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

**VII. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line:**

During the summer holidays, I accompanied my friend from his village. It was a small place consisting of about 200 houses.

Option no	Error	Correction

A	The	A
B	My	Our
C	From	To
D	Accompanied	Accompany

**VIII. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the given sentence.**

When I reached the station I did not stop at ticket office but \_\_\_\_\_

- a) did dash      b) dashed      c) dashing      d) dash

**IX. Report the dialogue between a father and son, by completing the sentence:**

**Father:** Which project did you enjoy working on the most?

**Son:** The one in which I had to build a remote control car.

In response to the question about his favourite project, the son said that \_\_\_\_\_

**X. Fill the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the advisory by the Health Department.**

School \_\_\_\_\_ instruct students to wear full sleeved shirts during monsoon time.

- A. ought      B. would      C. might      D. ought to

**XI. Complete the line from a poem written by Sylvia Plath, filling in the correct option.**

I am important to her. She comes and goes.

Each morning it is her face that \_\_\_\_\_ the darkness.

In me she has drowned a young girl.

- A. will replace      B. replace      C. replaces      D. replaced

**XII. Identify the error in an online advertisement.**

**Apex classes**

Chandan Nagar, Delhi

Education is not learning facts but also training mind to think.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

**CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**

**What is a Formal Letter?**

A formal letter is one written in a formal and uses formal language. Such letters are written for official purposes to authorities, dignitaries, colleagues, seniors, etc, and not to personal contacts, friends, or family. A number of conventions must be adhered to while drafting formal letters.

**Formal Letter Format**

The main structure of a formal letter includes:

1. Sender's Address
2. Date

3. Date
4. Name / Designation of Addressee
5. Address of the Addressee
6. Salutation
7. Subject
8. Body [Introduction, Content, Conclusion]
9. Complimentary Closing Line
10. Signature / Name of the Sender
11. Designation of the Sender

### **Tips On Formal Letter Writing**

Here is how you can format your letter:

- Write a simple letter that is focused on your topic
- Single-space your letter
- Use plain font
- Leave a blank line after the salutation
- Print the letter on white bond paper

## **Letter of placing / cancelling an order**

### **Format for an Order Letter**

Sender's Address

Date

Receiver's Address

**Subject: Order for** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Salutation**

Body of the Letter:

Paragraph 1 – Introduction and Reason for Writing the Letter

Paragraph 2 – Specifics of the products ordered, mode of payment, order details, and so on

Paragraph 3 – Conclude by mentioning when you expect the items to be delivered and thanking them for their assistance.

Complimentary Closing

Sender's Signature

Sender's Name

## **Order Letter Samples**

### **Sample 1 – Order Letter for School Library Books**

Delhi Public School

Connaught Place

Delhi

25<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Sales Manager

Penguin Publications

Delhi

**Subject: Order for Library Books**

Respected Sir/Madam,

I'd like to request the following books for our school library. According to our telephonic discussion, we are delighted to have you as our distributor. I've attached a list of books as well as the quantity needed.

Sr. No.	Title of the Book	Author	Copies Required
1	Alice in Wonderland	Lewis Carol	30
2	Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen	30
3	Great Men of India	L.F.R Williams	40
4	Collins World Atlas	Collins Atlas	60
5	Harry Potter Collection	J.K Rowling	35
6	Treasure Island	Robert Louis Stevenson	25
7	The Call of the Wild	Jack London	30

The book pricing were reviewed throughout the meeting, and we received a feasible quotation. Please provide the books by next Monday. Also, please ensure that the books are in good shape and arrive in great condition.

I would like you to send the bill along with the books after applying for the school discount. Payment will be made as soon as the books are received and checked. Please contact us if you require any clarification.

Thanking you.

Yours Sincerely,

Suraj Jaiswal

KVS Librarian Mobile: 9XXXXXXXXXX

Signature

## SOLVED EXAMPLES

### LETTER OF ENQUIRY – EX 1

You are Rajani of A-101, Saraswati Vihar, New Delhi. You want information about German Language Courses at the German Embassy, Chanakya Puri, New Delhi. Write a letter to the Director inquiring about the same.

A-101, Saraswati Vihar  
New Delhi 1100XX  
12 August 20XX  
The Director  
German Embassy  
Chanakya Puri

Dear Sir/Madam  
Subject: Inquiry regarding German courses

I wish to make certain enquiries about the German language courses offered by your institution. I have just completed class X and want to pursue my career in German. I would like to know the duration of the course, the fee structure and the transport facilities available. I have always had a flair for language and have wanted to be multilingual.

Hence the desire to learn the German language. I will be grateful if you could send me the brochure along with the enrolment form enabling me to register myself for the course at the earliest. Please also find enclosed with the letter a draft of 200/- for the brochure. Any balance money shall be paid on receipt of the same.

Yours faithfully  
Rajani

### LETTER OF ENQUIRY – EX 2

You are Anamika, a student of class XII and resident of 33 D, Ring Road, ITO, New Delhi, and wants to be a choreographer. Write a letter to the director, the National Institute of Choreography, Noida, seeking information about their course, admission procedure, eligibility criteria and other necessary details.

33 D, Ring Road, ITO  
New Delhi 1100XX  
1 July 20XX  
The Director  
National Institute of Choreography  
Sector 16, Noida 102XXX

Dear Sir

Subject: Inquiry regarding course in choreography

Referring to your advertisement regarding the courses in choreography offered by your reputable institute, I want to state that I am currently in XII class and preparing for my final exam. I am very much interested in dancing and want to take it as a career. I am also given to understand that this institute is by far the best so far as choreography is concerned and I would very much like to be part of it. Kindly send me the prospectus and the application form. I would be highly grateful if you could provide me with the following information:

The department and programme faculty

Funding opportunities

Scholarships available

Admission procedure

Eligibility criteria

Hostel facilities

Kindly send me the brochure along with the enrolment form at the earliest so that I could register myself for the course.

Yours faithfully  
Anamika

### **LETTER OF COMPLAIN – EX 1**

Poor Maintenance of the Garden and Improper Waste Disposal

45 B, Rory Lane

Damsel Street

Mumbai – 400056

29<sup>th</sup> December, 2021

The Secretary

Residential Association

Mumbai – 400056

Subject: Complaint letter regarding the poor maintenance of the garden and improper waste disposal

Sir,

I am Shawn Mendez, a resident of Rory Lane. I am writing to bring to your notice the poor maintenance of the garden around our residential area and the improper disposal of waste. The garden around the residential area was watered regularly, and grass shrubs were trimmed and maintained neatly in the beginning. It has been more than a month now since any kind of maintenance is done in the garden. We have tried contacting the person in charge, but every effort has just been in vain.

Another growing issue is the problem of waste disposal. There were people from the corporation collecting garbage for disposal every two days, but it has been more than a week now since they have collected any garbage from our area. This has led to the accumulation of waste, and people have started dumping it in the corner of the street as they have no other choice. Kindly look into this and the maintenance of the garden as it would become a huge mess if this continues. It would be highly appreciated if you could also inform the residents that all garbage would be collected and not to throw them out around the street corners.

Thank you in advance.

Yours faithfully,

Signature

SHAWN MENDEZ

### **LETTER OF COMPLAIN – EX 1**

Complaint Letter for Incorrect Delivery of Books

XYZ School,

Delhi

10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Oxford Publication House

Consumer Complaint Division

Mumbai

**Subject: Complaint regarding incorrect delivery of wrong set of books**

Respected Sir/Madam,

I ordered a book set (Order No. 001458) to be supplied to XYZ School in Delhi on January 1, 2022. To my dismay, I did not receive the set I requested and instead received the incorrect book set. I am quite disappointed.

To fix the issue, I would appreciate it if you could please replace the incorrect book set with the one that was initially requested. Please notify me what action you intend to take as soon as feasible. I hope to hear from you within the next ten days.

Copies of the transaction paperwork and the receipt are enclosed. I eagerly await your response and a resolution to my situation.

Yours Sincerely,

Kapil Joshi

Librarian, XYZ School

**LETTER OF COMPLAIN – EX 2**

Damaged Product Received

5/652, SNV Street

VKL Colony

Hyderabad – 500025

November 26, 2021

The Manager

Customer Service Department

Taurus Shop

New Delhi – 110023

Subject: Complaint about a damaged product received

Sir/Ma'am,

I had purchased a black top from your online store. I received the product today, and I tried filing a return request as the size is smaller than the one I had ordered, and the cloth is torn on the left side. For some reason, the return request is not being filed. The page is either getting redirected or stuck. I have tried multiple times, and I could not go through with it. Can you please check and let me know if the return request has been filed for the order no. 3049. If not, kindly let me know what I should do to return the product.

I am attaching herewith photographs of the damaged portion of the top and the opening video for your reference.

Thank you

Yours sincerely,

Signature

SINDHU SHANKAR

**SELF ASSESSMENT**

1. Write a letter to M/s. Oxford Publishing House, London complaining that the books sent by them were not those you had ordered for. Ask for a replacement. You are Varun Joshi, Sector-20, Chandigarh.
2. You are Sanjeet of 122, Arjun Nagar, New Delhi. A number of scooters and cars are parked in your locality without any order, causing blockage of the streets. Write a letter to the local Secretary of the Resident's Association complaining against this problem.
3. You intend to join coaching classes at Success Coaching Centre situated in Delhi. The institute specializes in teaching science to classes XI–XII. Write a letter of inquiry in 100 – 120 words addressed to the Administrator in – charge of the institute seeking clarification about the timing, duration, staff, transport, and other necessary details for joining the institute. You are Sonia / Shiv of 2, Murthi Road, Chennai.
4. You are Tanuj / Tanuja, r/o 20, Sea view appt., Mumbai and your son Diwij has just completed B.Com. You want to admit him in a course to prepare for CAT Exam. Write a letter of inquiry to the director of Aasman institute to get the details about the course, fee, timings, duration, conveyance and types of batches provided.
5. You are Neeraj/Neeraja Shekhar, Principal, Vasant Public School, Pune. Your school has just started a music department. Write a letter to the Manager of Melody House, Pune, wholesale suppliers of musical instruments, placing an order for musical instruments for the school. Ask for a discount on the catalogue prices. (120 – 150 words).
6. You are Nalini/Vishal, Hostel Warden, Zennith Public School, Kosikalan, Uttar Pradesh. Write a letter to the Sales Manager, Bharat Electronics and Domestic Appliances Ltd., New Delhi, placing an order for a few fans, microwaves, ovens and geysers that you wish to purchase for the hostel. Also ask for discount permissible on the purchase.

## ANALYTICAL PARAGRAPH

### Features of an analytical paragraph writing-

1. It describes the given chart, table, data, graph, cues etc.
2. It should be brief and comprehensive (include complete information) at the same time.
3. It should state facts that are provided by the chart.
4. It is necessary to make use of simple and accurate language.
5. It should mention figures and quantities appropriately.
6. It is appropriate to use the same tense throughout the analytical paragraph.
7. No personal observation or response should be provided.
8. It would be preferable to use the passive form of the verb.

### Analytical Paragraph Writing Format

An **analytical paragraph** shall be divided into **three** parts-

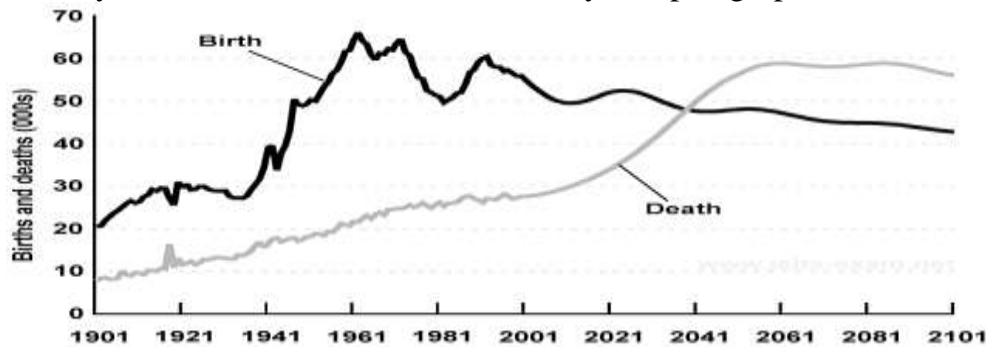
**1.Introduction** (explain in one or two lines the subject of the graph given)



2. **Body of the paragraph** - (explain in detail what the graph is about, use relevant figures, explain trends, make comparisons and contrasts, divide into sub paragraphs, if required)
3. **Conclusion** - (conclude the paragraph giving the overall view or summary of the graph)

### Analytical Paragraph Examples, samples

**Example Question 1:** Below is a graph given showing birth and death rates in a country from 1901 to 2101. Write an analytical paragraph (100-150 words).



**Answer 1:**

The graph shows birth and death rates starting from 1901 till 2101. Since 1901, the birth rate has remained more than the death rate until 2041. Birth rate was 20000 in 1901 and started increasing gradually. It peaked in 1961 to around 65000. From 1961, birth rate has fluctuated multiple times between 50000 and 60000. It is expected to decline for the coming years reaching approximately 42000 by 2101. On the other hand, the death rate stood at around 10000 in 1901 and then has increased steadily. It is expected to rise strikingly from 2021 before levelling off to approximately 60000 between 2061 and 2081. The graph indicates a slight decline in deaths in the year 2101. The graph shows the huge gap between birth rate and death during 1961 to 2001. However, this gap is expected to reduce in the later years. Overall, as opposed to the prevailing trends, the death rate will be more than the birth rate in the later half of the 21st century.

**Example Question 2:** The following table shows details about the internet activities for six categories for different age groups. Write an analytical paragraph for the table given in around 150-200 words.

**Internet Activities by Age Group**

Activity%	Age group						
	Teens	20s	30s	40s	50s	60s	70+
Get News	76	73	76	75	71	74	70
Online games	81	54	37	29	25	25	32
Downloads	52	46	27	15	13	8	6
Product research	0	79	80	83	79	74	70
Buying a product	43	68	69	68	67	65	41
Searching for people	5	31	23	23	24	29	27

**Answer 2:**

The given table suggests the internet activities of seven age groups ranging from teens to those in their seventies for six different kinds of activities. The table shows that the younger generation is

more interested in online games and news, while the older generation spends time on the internet to research and buy products.

It is evident from the table that teens mainly use the internet for games (as high as 81%), news and downloads and are interested in searching for people or friends or doing any product research. The middle-age group (people in 20s to 60s) is highly interested in getting news, doing product research and buying products, the percentage ranging from 70-80%. The internet activity which gets the least time is searching for people. All the age groups spend less than 30% of their internet time on the same. The amount of time spent on downloads decreases with age and gets as low as 6% (for people in 70s).

Overall, the table suggests that teenagers are most likely to spend time playing games and doing downloads. On the other side, older people are interested in researching and buying products. People spend the least amount of time searching for other people online.

**Example Question 3:** The given pie chart represents the amount of money spent by a family on different items in a month. Write an analytical paragraph using the information given in the chart.



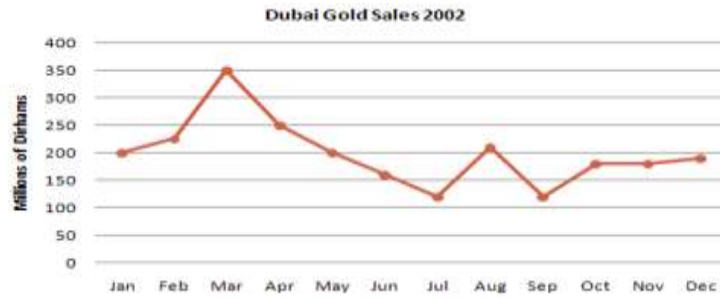
**Answer:** The pie chart provides information about the amount of money a family has spent on different items in a month. On an average, the family has spent majorly on grocery which is twenty-three percent of the total expenses. Whereas it has spent 20 percent on education which shows that it's the second priority for the family.

The other item on which it has spend the most is clothes and transportation which levels off 19 and 18 percent respectively. Fifteen per-cent of their expenses were on other items that might include stationery, cosmetics, accessories, etc. and the least they had spent was on their rent. The maximum amount was spent on grocery, education, transportation and clothes.

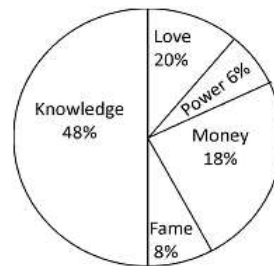
Overall the data shows that they have not spent much on the unnecessary items or miscellaneous. After spending on grocery which is of utmost importance, they have spent a significant amount on education. The least money is spent on miscellaneous items after spending on their rent which is their liability. Thus, it is evident that 85% of their total amount of money was spent on their liabilities whereas only 15 percent was spent on other items that might not be necessary to spend on.

### SELF ASSESSMENT

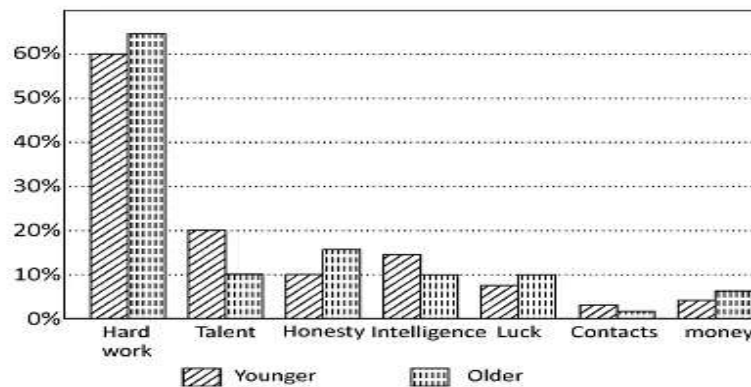
1. The graph given shows estimated sales of gold in Dubai in 2002. Write an analytical paragraph describing the line graph in around 150 words.



2. You asked people what they thought was the most valuable thing. The given pie chart shows the analytics of the different answers you received. Write an analytical paragraph for a research project in 150-200 words.



3. A research was conducted in order to see the maturity gap between young people of 15-35 years old and older people of 36-60 years old. The respondents were asked which of the following was the most important in order to be successful in life. Conceptualise the given result in an analytical paragraph having 150-200 words.



4. As the Captain of the school's Cultural Club, you have been asked to study the given itinerary provided by a tour-organising vendor.

A 3N/2D Educational Tour for the Senior School Students:

Jabalpur and Kanha National Park (Vandhya Pradesh)

- Tour Travel & sightseeing by bus.
- Accommodation on quad sharing basis.
- One staff complimentary for every 20 students.
- Bottled mineral water throughout the tour.
- Dance Party on 22 November.
- Insurance policy of ₹ 20,000/- per head.

- Provision of Tour Manager’s assistance to all places.

Day	Estimated time of departure from	Estimated time of arrival	Sight-seeing Destination/ Activity	Time spent at the destination
22 Nov. 2023	8:49 am (Nagpur Junction)-8 hrs. 30 min	5:23 pm	Reporting at the hotel	
23 Nov. 2023	9:00am (hotel)	10:00am	Bhawartal Garden	1 hr.
	11:00am (garden)	11:40am	Bhedaghat Dhuandhar Falls	1hr.
	12:40pm (falls)	1:00pm	Lunch (nearby restaurant)	1 hr.
	2:00pm (restaurant)	2:15pm	Marble Rocks Cable car tour	1hr. 30 mins
	3:45pm (Marble Rocks)	4:45 pm	Rani Durgavati Museum	1 hr. 30 mins
	6:15pm (museum)	7:00pm	Back to the hotel	
24 Nov. 2023	5:30am (hotel)- 170 kms- 4 hrs. drive	9:30am	Ranha Tiger Reserve	7hrs.
	4:30pm (Tiger Reserve)	9:00pm	Back to the hotel	
25 Nov. 2023	7:54 am (Jabalpur Railway station)- 8 hrs. 45 min	4:21 pm	Nagpur Railway Junction	

Analyse this itinerary to either approve or reject the tour proposal, while focusing on the students’ safety, interest, and physical wellness. Write this analytical paragraph in about 120 words, by selecting features that support your analysis.

You may begin like this : A thorough analysis of the itinerary provided by the tour organising vendor reveals that the tour proposal should be accepted / rejected.

You may end like this: Therefore, the tour proposal for the educational trip should be approved / rejected.

## SECTION –C (LITERATURE) FIRST FLIGHT

### 1.FIRST FLIGHT

#### A. PROSE

#### A LETTER TO GOD

#### Gist

#### G.L. Fuentes

A Letter to God is a story of extreme faith in God .It is the story of Lencho a poor, honest and hard- working farmer, who wrote a letter to God and asked God to send him money .Lencho was a dedicated farmer He was expecting a good harvest. Unfortunately, a hail storm came and destroyed his harvest totally. Lencho was very sad, but he had strong belief in God. He was sure that God would definitely help him. So the simple straight forward man wrote a letter to God asking for one hundred pesos. Although, his wishes get fulfilled partially, if not completely, he is ungrateful in the end and questions the honesty and modesty of the post-masters who actually helped him with money(anonymously) in the name of God.

### CHARACTER SKETCH OF LENCHO

Lencho was a simple farmer who was very hardworking. He was completely dependent on the yield of his fields. He had good knowledge of farming. His crops had always been good. He knew his crops needed a good downpour to get good yield. But when the rain changed into a hail storm his crop was totally destroyed. He became very sad. But since he had strong faith in God, he didn't

lose hope. He needed God's help. He knew how to read and write. He wrote a letter to God asking for help. He was fully confident that he would get the money. When he didn't get as much money as he had asked, he became unhappy. He was not ready to be happy with what he received. He felt that he was being cheated. But he was not ungrateful to God. He felt angry thinking that the people in the post office are crooks and they had stolen the rest of the money. So he wrote another letter to God, instructing him to send money directly to him, not through the post office. Lencho's innocence and staunch belief in God are clearly depicted in the story.

#### EXTRACT BASED COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

"What faith! I wish had the faith of the man who wrote this letter. Starting up a correspondence with God!"

Questions:-

a)Who is the speaker of the above lines?

Ans: The postmaster

b)Why did the man write a letter to God?

Ans: The man lost his crops due to a hailstorm. So he wanted hundred pesos to sow his field again and to live until the crops come.

c)"Starting up a correspondence with God." What does it tell you about the man's character?

Ans: The man is simple, innocent and straight forward. He has strong belief in God

d)Give the verb form of the word 'Correspondence'. Ans: Correspond

#### SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS :(30 to 40 words)

1.How did the rain change? What happened to Lencho's fields?

Ans: The rain began on a pleasant note. The air was fresh and sweet. But suddenly a strong wind began to blow and along with the rain very large hailstones began to fall. It did not pass quickly. For an hour the hail rained on the field and the corn was total.

2.Who did Lencho write a letter? What did he ask for?

Ans: Lencho wrote a letter to God. He asked God to send him Hundred Pesos to sow his field again and to live until the crops come.

3.What does the postmaster do to answer Lencho's Letter?

Ans: The postmaster decided to answer the letter, but as Lencho very badly needed some money, he asked for money from his employees. He himself gave part of his salary and several of his friends joined him. He could gather only seventy pesos. He put the money in an envelope addressed to Lencho and with it a letter containing only one word as signature: God.

#### Unsolved Short Answer Questions:-

1.What were Lencho's feelings when he found the letter with money in it?

2.Why was Lencho angry? What did he do?

3.What are the raindrops compared to and why?

4.How did the rain change? What happened to Lencho's fields?

#### Unsolved Long Answer Questions: -

1.Write the story of Lencho's faith in God?

2.Who does Lencho think has taken the rest of the money? Describe the ironical ending of the story

**NELSON MANDELA - LONG WALK TO FREEDOM**  
**- Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela**

## GIST

Nelson Mandela became South Africa's first Black President after more than three centuries of White rule.

Mandela had spent a life time fight against apartheid. He had spent thirty years in prison fighting for the democratic rights of the Black and Coloured people of South Africa. Mr. Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) party won 252 of the 400 seats in the first democratic elections of South Africa's history.

In this extract from his autobiography, Long Walk to Freedom, Nelson Mandela speaks about a historic occasion. 'The inauguration' on 10th May 1994.

## EXTRACT BASED COMPREHENSION QUESTION EXERCISES

Q1. 'Never, never and never again shall it be that this beautiful land will again experience the oppression of one by another. The sun shall never set on so glorious a human achievement'

- a) Who is the speaker?
- b) Which is the beautiful land the speaker refers to here?
- c) What is the 'glorious a human achievement' that the speaker talks about in the extract?
- d) The idiom 'The sun shall never set' means:
  - i) It is always bright in the land
  - ii) The sun always shines in the land
  - iii) The people will enjoy the freedom attained forever
  - iv) It is never dark in the country

## Answers

- a) The speaker is Nelson Mandela
- b) The beautiful land is South Africa
- c) The freedom that the people of South Africa have attained/ freedom attained after the fight against apartheid/first democratic non-racial government.
- d) The people will enjoy the freedom attained forever

## SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS - (30-40 words)

1. What according to Nelson Mandela is true freedom?
2. What did Nelson Mandela pledge when he was sworn in as President? Answers

## Answer

1. According to Mandela, true freedom means, not to be obstructed in leading a lawful life.
2. Nelson Mandela pledged freedom and justice for all the black and coloured people of South Africa. He promised to uphold the constitution of his country and devote himself to liberate his people from the bondage of poverty, deprivation, suffering, gender and other discrimination.

## LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS - (100-150 words)

1. What were the difficulties Nelson Mandela encountered while fighting for freedom
2. What were Nelson Mandela's views on the policy of Apartheid?

## Answers - Main Points

1. Nelson Mandela underwent extreme hardships and suffering. He was a true patriot and sacrificed his personal comforts and that of his family's while demanding freedom and equality for all his countrymen. He and his comrades were oppressed, punished and imprisoned for resisting

the white rule. He was imprisoned for almost thirty years. His persistence and independence of South Africa. sacrifice culminated in the

2.Nelson Mandela says that Apartheid created a deep and lasting wound in his country. It cast a shadow on the people of South Africa - deep wounds that would take many years to heal. The oppression and brutality that the people of the nation had been subjected to had no parallel. From this situation arouse a spirit of aggression in the minds of men and produced men of extraordinary courage, wisdom and generosity. Mandela believed that the greatest wealth of South Africa are the people of the nationThe more the oppression rained on them the more the spirit to fight back was triggered in the minds of the people. In the end victory for the people of South Africa prevailed and they attained Independence on 10th May 1994.

### UNSOLVED QUESTIONS SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1.What does Mandela mean to say that the oppressor and the oppressed alike are robbed off their humanity?

2.What are the twin obligations that Mandela talks about?

### LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS

1.Do you agree with Mandela that the 'depths of oppression' create heights of character'? Explain how he illustrates this.

2.How did Mandela's hunger for freedom change his life?

## TWO STORIES ABOUT FLYING

### Part 1 - His First Flight

#### GIST

The story is about a young seagull who is afraid to fly. He observes all his siblings take their first flight but he cannot get himself to take the plunge He feels that his wings will never support him to fly into the sky and so he hesitates each time he runs to the brink of the ledge However, his mother's ingenuity, empowers him to soar into the boundless skies with the vast expanse of the sea stretched down beneath him. The lesson explicitly explains his fears and doubts initially and his exhilarated feelings, as he finally soars into the skies with his family beside him.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE TEXT

1. 'He stepped slowly out to the brink of the ledge, and standing on one leg with the other leg hidden under his wing; he closed one eye, then the other, and pretended to be falling asleep Still they took no notice of him.'

(a)What did the young seagull do?

(b)What was the seagull afraid of?

- (c) Why did he close his eyes one at a time?  
(d) What could his brothers and sister do which he was not able to?

Answers

- (a) The young seagull wanted to catch the attention of the others. So he pretended to fall asleep on the brink of the ledge.  
(b) The seagull was afraid to fly.  
(c) He was pretending to fall asleep.  
(d) They could fly but he was not able to.

2 His father and mother had come around him calling him shrilly, upbraiding him, and threatening to let him starve on the ledge unless he flew away. But for the life of him, he could not move.

- (a) How did his parents try to make him fly?  
(b) What was the effect of their efforts?  
(c) What does the passage convey about the young seagull?  
(d) How was the young seagull threatened by his parents initially when he did not fly?

Answers.

- (a) First, they invited him encouragingly. Then scolded and threatened to leave him alone to starve unless he flew away.  
(b) All their efforts failed but he did not fly.  
(c) He was a coward.

(d) First his parents encouraged him to fly but later on, they even threatened to let him starve if he did not fly.

### **SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (30 -40 Words)**

1. Describe the young seagull's expression when he saw his mother with food.  
2. How did the young seagull and his family celebrate his first flight?

**Answers**

1. The young seagull uttered a joyful scream because he thought that his mother was bringing food for him. He tried to come nearer to her as she flew across.  
2. When the young seagull started flying and got over his fear, his family screamed around him out of joy. They praised him and offered him scraps of dog-fish out of delight as he made a successful attempt.

### **LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (100-150 Words)**

1. How does the author describe the young Seagull's fear of flying?  
2. Do you think hunger was a good motivation for the young Seagull in his flight?

Answers

1. The young Seagull was afraid of flying though he wanted very much to fly. When he flapped his wings he became afraid. The sea stretched down beneath. He felt certain that his wings would never support him. So he bent his head and ran away back to the little hole. He could not get himself to fly like his siblings.

2. The young seagull was greatly afraid of flying --- did not dare to come out and fly - had no self-confidence - Parents, brothers and sister decided to leave him alone - left for twenty four hours --- no food to eat very hungry -- parents rebuked--would die of hunger --- getting mad with hunger --- mother bought a piece of fish -- offered him but was not able to catch it - called out to her- but she did not come any closer - so he dived for it as he was hungry -- fell and started going downwards --- next moment wings spread outwards --wind rushed through him -- started flying high- with joy as he was finally flying-thus made his maiden flight. screamed



## UNSOLVED QUESTIONS

### SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (30-40 Words)

1. Why did the young seagull feel very miserable on the ledge?
2. How did young seagull's parents try to make him fly?
3. Young seagull tried to fly but he could not. Why was he afraid to fly?

**LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (100-150 Words)** 1. Flying is a natural act in birds. Then why was the young seagull terrified by the strange exercise?

Hints- The seagull didn't have the courage to fly. Hence, he used to make excuses for not flying. He felt certain that his wings were too weak to support him - thought they were longer than those of his siblings- He had no courage to flap his wings and try- failed to muster up the courage to take the plunge when he looked down at the vast expanse of the sea.

## Part II - Black Aeroplane

### GIST

The Black Aeroplane is about a pilot who is flying an old Dakota aeroplane and is happy and to be able to be home with his family in time for breakfast. He is flying from Paris to London. But suddenly he sees some huge black storm clouds that look like black mountains in front of him. He does not have enough fuel to go around the clouds. He takes the risk and flies right into it.

Suddenly it is pitch dark and impossible to see anything. The instruments stop working and he has lost contact with Paris Control. Very soon he sees another black aeroplane near him and the pilot motions for him to follow and leads the way. Soon he comes out of the clouds and sees two long straight lines of lights in front of him and that was a Runway! He looks back to thank his friend but cannot see the other plane anywhere. After landing he asks the lady at the Control room about the other plane, but she's surprised and says that there were no other plane in the skies that night, and his was the only plane flying in the storm. The pilot is puzzled! Who could it have been he wonders.

### EXTRACTS FROM THE TEXT

1. I knew I could not fly up and over them, and I didn't have enough fuel to fly around them to the north or south. "I ought to go back to Paris." I thought, but I wanted to get home.

- a) What does 'them' in the first sentence refer to?
- b) Why could he not fly over on either side of storm clouds?
- c) Why did he not go back to Paris?
- d) Which country was the pilot of the plane flying towards?

Answers

- a) 'Them' means the big black clouds
- b) There was not enough fuel left in the Dakota - aero plane for him to fly around the clouds
- c) He wanted to get home and enjoy breakfast with his family
- d) The Pilot was flying towards England.

2. He turned his aeroplane slowly to the north, in front of my Dakota, so that it would be easier for me to follow him. I was very happy to go behind the strange aeroplane like an obedient child

- a)Where was the pilot at this time?
- b)Who does 'He' refer to in the first sentence?
- c)Why did 'He' of the black aeroplane bring his plane in front of the Dakota aeroplane?
- d)Why did the pilot of the Dakota follow him like an obedient child?

### **Answers**

- a)The pilot was inside the black storm cloud
- b)The pilot of the Black aeroplane
- c)The pilot was trying to guide the author out of the storm clouds by asking him to follow him.
- d)He was lost and all his instruments had stopped working. He wanted to find a way out of the storm/ He wanted to get out of the storm safely.

### **SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (30-40 Words)**

- 1.What did the narrator feel inside the clouds?
- 2.Why was the woman in the control room shocked when the narrator asked her about another aeroplane?

#### **Answer:**

1. When the narrator entered the clouds, it became impossible to see outside the aeroplane. The aeroplane jumped and twisted in the air and all the instruments like compass etc. stopped working due to the weather conditions. He could not see anything and he was worried whether the fuel would last till he landed.

2.The woman in the control room was shocked when the narrator asked about another aeroplane because there was no such plane flying in the sky that night as she saw none on the radar. It was an extremely stormy night and no one had taken the risk of flying in the storm.

### **LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (100-150 Words)**

- 1.The narrator does not lose hope and follows the pilot in the black aeroplane knowing well that he might be taking a huge risk. What qualities does he possess to endure this critical situation bravely?
- 2.The narrator knew that he could not fly up due to storm and lack of fuel but still, he continued. What kind of person was he? Was it not in his nature to accept defeat? Discuss the values one should possess to accept failures and still be able to move ahead in life

#### **Answer**

The author's plane did not have enough fuel. He knew that because of the paucity of fuel, he could not fly up and over the clouds nor he could fly around them to the north or south. But then he decided to take the risk to fly into the clouds because he wanted to go home and wanted to join his family at breakfast. This shows that he was a family-loving person. He was courageous as he knew that it would be risky to enter the clouds, but he did so nevertheless. Gradually a black aeroplane approaches and the pilot signals to him to follow him. Knowing well that it is a risky move he still continues to follow and to his delight and relief he reaches an airport safely. However he cannot see the other aeroplane anywhere and nor can the lady at the Control room help him.

His brave act led him to safety. His Faith in himself and perhaps the Almighty enabled him to emerge safely from the gruelling situation.

## **UNSOLVED QUESTIONS**

### **SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (30-40 Words)**

1. Why do you think there were no other planes flying?
2. "I'll take the risk." What is the risk that the pilot of the old Dakota takes? Why does he take the risk?

### **LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (100-150 Words)**

1. Describe the flight of the Dakota aeroplane until it landed safely at the airport.
2. What is the message that Frederick Forsyth wants to convey to the readers through the lesson "The Black Aeroplane"?

Hint: The message the narrator conveys is never say die till the end. Never lose your hope in the most hopeless situation. No one knows who may have to save you. The narrator was really in such a hopeless situation when he lost contact with Paris control and all his instruments and the compass was dead. Then came the mysterious pilot in the black aeroplane to the narrator to save. Having faith in oneself is important to move forward in life.

### **FROM THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK GIST:**

This lesson is an excerpt from "Diary of a Young Girl" or "The Diary of Anne Frank". It is an autobiography that was first published in 1947. In this, Anne expresses her thoughts in a diary which was gifted to her on her thirteenth birthday. She names the diary "kitty" which she considers as her only true friend. She mentions about her childhood, her family and a lot of other things that she told no one else.

### **CHARACTER SKETCH OF ANNE FRANK**

Anne Frank was born on 12th June 1929 in Frankfurt Germany. She was four years old when her father went to Holland to find a better place for them to live. She was very intelligent and always wanted to become a writer.

She was a very good reader as well, she continued reading books, translated chapters, wrote down the vocabulary and worked hard on her skills. Like any child, she loved her parents but later grew a dislike towards her mother as she compared her to Margot. She was always jealous of her. She believed that time would come when the problems would be over. She felt lonely. Though she was amidst thirty people, she could hardly call anyone as her true friend. Anne died of typhus in the concentration camp at Berger-Belsen in late February or early March.

EXTRACT BASED COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Writing in a diary is a really strange experience for someone like me. Not only because I have never written anything before, but also because it seems to me that later on neither I nor anyone else will be interested in the musing of a thirteen year old school girl. Oh well, it doesn't matter. I feel like writing and I have an even greater need to get all kind of things off my chest. 'Paper has more patience than people.' I thought of this saying on one of those days when I was feeling a little depressed and was sitting at home with my chin in my hands, bored and listless, wondering whether to stay in or go out.

- (a) Whom does 'I' refer to in the given passage?

- (b)Paper has more patience than people' - Why did Anne Frank say that?
- (c)Find a word in the passage that means 'deep thought'.
- (d)Which word in the passage is a synonym of lethargic?

**Answers:**

- (a)'I' refers to Anne Frank in the given passage.
- (b)Anne Frank said that 'Paper has more patience than people' because one can rely on the paper to confide his/her secrets and it listens carefully and silently.
- (c)The word is 'musing'.
- (d)The word is 'listless'.

2)Let me put it more clearly, since no one will believe that a thirteen-year-old girl is completely alone in the world. And I'm not. I have loving parents and a sixteen-year-old sister, and there are about thirty people I can call friends. I have a family, loving aunts and a good home. No, on the surface I seem to have everything, except my one true friend. All I think about when I'm with friends is having a good time. I can't bring myself to talk about anything but ordinary everyday things We don't seem to be able to get any closer, and that's the problem. Maybe it's my fault that we don't confide in each other. In any case, that's just how things are, and unfortunately they're not liable to change This is why I've started the diary.

- a)Why was Anne Frank disturbed even when she had loving parents, relatives and friends?
- (b)Why did Anne decide to write a diary?
- (c)Find the word that means the same as unluckily.
- (d)To confide in somebody is to.

**Answers:**

- (a)Anne Frank was disturbed even after being surrounded by so many people because she didn't have any true friend
- (b)Anne decided to write a diary because she could not confide in anyone and felt lonely
- (c)The word is unfortunately
- (d)It means to tell somebody your secrets or personal information.

3)To enhance the image of this long awaited friend in my imagination, don't want to jot down the facts in this diary the way most people would do, but I want the diary to be my friend, and I'm going to call this friend Kitty'.

Since no one would understand a word of my stories to Kitty if I were to plunge right in I'd better provide a brief sketch of my life, much as I dislike doing so

- (a)Who was the long awaited friend of Anne? Why?
- (b)What did she provide in her diary?
- (c)Find a word from the extract which means the same as submerge

**Answers:**

- (a)The diary named Kitty was the long awaited friend of Anne, because she had no true friend in her life with whom she could share her feelings and thoughts.
- (b)She provided a brief-sketch of her life and her family in her diary.
- (c)Plunge.

**SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (30-40 words)**

1. Why does Anne Frank think that 'paper has more patience than people'?

Ans. Anne believes that paper has more patience than people because it listens to her more patiently and silently it does not react like other people and also because she can confide in her diary all her secrets..

2.What does Anne Frank tell about her family in her diary? Ans. Anne Frank tells that she has very lovely and caring family

Her parents and her elder sister love her a lot. There are about thirty people nearby her whom she can call friends She has loving aunts and a good home but she wants to have a true friend with whom she can share her feelings and thoughts

3.Describe your views about Mr Keesing as a teacher.

Ans. Mr Keesing seems to be a strict teacher. He actually believes taking action with good intention and prefers development in children. He tries to control Anne's talkative habit, but as soon as he is convinced that it does not affect her studies, he overlooks her shortcomings.

### **LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (100-150 Words)**

1.Anne called 26th July a 'tumultuous' day. Explain the reasons

**Ans.** Anne called 26th July a tumultuous day as it was full of tension and fright. The first warning siren was sent off in the morning but nobody paid any attention to it because it only meant that the planes were crossing the coast The siren alarmed again around 2 O'clock in the afternoon.

Anne and her sister went upstairs but after five minutes they heard loud gunshots. After half an hour, drone of engines faded and life became normal The city was enveloped in thick fog. But after dinner time, there was another gun-fire round and swarms of planes. The air was buzzing with the drone of engines. Nobody was able to sleep that night because it repeated again at midnight. behind it.

2.Why did Anne think that she could confide more in her diary than in the people?

Ans Anne Frank did not have a friend with whom she could share her feelings Though she had spent a good time with her friends but she was unable to share her views and thoughts with them. When she got her diary, she decided to share everything with it because she believed that nobody would be interested in her musings. So, she treated her diary as her best friend. She felt that it would keep her life a secret and would not react like people. She confided everything in the diary; her family, her fear, her loneliness, her life and considered it her best friend and named it 'Kitty'.

### **UNSOLVED QUESTIONS:**

#### **SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (30 - 40 words)**

- 1)What does Anne write in her first essay to support her habit of talking so much?
- 2)Why was Anne's entire class anxious and nervous?
- 3)Describe Anne's for her grandmother.
- 4)Write in brief about Anne Frank's early education.

#### **LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (100-150 Words)**

- 1)Who helped Anne in writing the essay and how?
- 2)Give a brief description about Anne's life.
- 3)Paper has more patience than people'. Justify.

## **GLIMPSES OF INDIA**

### **Introduction**

## **PART I: A Baker from Goa**

'A Baker from Goa' revolves around the relevance of a baker in the Goan culture which dates back to the time when Portuguese ruled over the city of Goa. The Portuguese may have left but the bread-makers continue to have an inevitable stature. In this story, the author recalls his childhood days and their excitement on seeing the baker. They were enthusiastic to the point that they would run to him as soon as they woke up without even brushing their teeth.

### **GIST**

The lesson begins with how narrator's elders often recall the time when Goa was under the rule of the Portuguese. They talk how the importance of bakers is still maintained in their villages even after the Portuguese have left. They are known as 'Paders' in Goa. The mixers, moulders and their time-tested furnaces continue to serve the people of Goa with their famous bread loaves. It is possible that the original ones may not exist, but their profession is being continued by their sons. The thud of their bamboo stick can still be heard in some parts of the village. The same jingling thud would wake the narrator and his friends during their childhood days who would go running to him without brushing or washing their mouth properly. It was the maid-servant of the house who collected the loaves while children sorted out the bread bangles for themselves. Bakery products have importance in the culture and traditions of Goa. Bol or sweet bread is a part of marriage gifts, cakes and Bolinhas or coconut cookies are eaten at every festival and the lady of the house prepares sandwiches at her daughter's engagement. Earlier bakers wore a unique frock of knee-length known as 'kabal' but during the narrator's childhood days, they wore a shirt and trousers of length slightly shorter than the usual ones. They generally collected their bills at the end of every month. Bakery has continued to be a profitable profession, managing to keep their families joyous and prosperous.

### **Main Points of the Story**

1. The Portuguese in Goa were lovers of bread
2. Those eaters of bread have now gone but its makers still exist.
3. During the childhood days of the narrator, a baker used to be their friend, companion and guide.
4. The baker came twice a day - once in the morning and again while returning home
5. After finishing his sailing. The jingling thud of the baker's bamboo woke up the sleeping children.
6. The loaves were delivered to the servants of the house.
7. The children would peep into the baker's basket for the bread bangles.
8. The children would eat bread with hot tea.
9. The marriages were incomplete without the popular bol bread.
10. Bolinhas was a must during Christmas and all other festivals.
11. The makers wore a particular knee length frock known as kabai.
12. Baking was a profitable profession. Bakers had a plump physique testifying to this.
13. The bakers collected their bills at the end of the month

### **Extract Based Questions (Solved)**

Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow

#### **Question 1.**

We kid would be pushed aside with a mild rebuke and the loaves would be delivered to the servant.. But we would not give up. We would climb a bench or the parapet and peep into the basket, somehow. I can still recall the typical fragrance of those loaves. Loaves for the elders and the bangles for the children.

- (a) Who are 'we' in the extract?
- (b) Why were the children pushed aside?

- (c) Which word/phrase in the extract means the same as 'an expression of disapproval/a scolding'?
- (d) What was there in the basket?

**Answer:**

- (a) We in the extract refers to the narrator and his friends.
- (b) The kids were pushed aside so that the breads can be delivered to the servants.
- (c) The word 'rebuke' from the extract means an expression of disapproval/a scolding.
- (d) There were some loaves for the elders and some bangles for the children.

### **Question 2.**

Marriage gifts are meaningless without the sweet bread known as the bol, just as a party or a feast loses its charm without bread. Not enough can be said to show how important a baker can be for a village. The lady of the house must prepare sandwiches on the occasion of her daughter's engagement. Cakes and bolinhas are a must for Christmas as well as other festivals. Thus, the presence of the baker's furnace in the village is absolutely essential.

- (a) What are compulsorily prepared during Christmas in Goa?
- (b) Why is a baker necessary in a village?
- (c) Find the word in the extract which means 'celebration meal'.
- (d) What is a must to be prepared on a daughter's engagement by a lady?

**Answer:**

- (a) During Christmas cakes and bolinhas are compulsorily prepared in Goa.
- (b) A baker is necessary in a village because different kinds of breads are required by the villagers for daily consumption as well as for special occasions.
- (c) 'Feast' from the extract means 'celebration meal'.
- (d) The lady of the house must prepare sandwiches on the occasion of her daughter's engagement.

### **Short Answer Questions (30-40 Words)**

1. What did the baker do first once he reached a house?

**Ans.** The baker would first greet the lady of the house by saying "Good Morning". He would then place the basket on the vertical bamboo and deliver the loaves to the servant.

2. How did the baker make his entry?

**Ans.** The baker used to enter with the jingling sound of his specially made bamboo staff. His one hand supported the basket on his head and the other banged the bamboo on the ground.

3. How do we get to know that the makers of bread still exist?

**Ans.** The narrator states that the eaters of loaves might have vanished but the makers are still there. He further says that those age old, time tested furnaces still exist and the fire in the furnaces had not yet been extinguished.

4. What is the importance of breads for the Goans?

**Ans.** Different kinds of breads are important during the different occasions. Bolinhas had to be prepared during Christmas and other festivals. The mothers used to prepare sandwiches on the occasion of their daughter's engagement. So, the baker's furnace was essential

5. Describe the dress of the bakers.

**Ans.** The bakers had a peculiar dress earlier known as the kabai. It was a one-piece long frock reaching down to the knees.

### **Long Answer Questions (100-150 Words)**

1. Instead of enjoying their childhood, the children today are keen to enter adulthood. After reading about all the joys that the author Lucio Rodrigues had in his childhood, do you think such a keenness on the part of children is desirable?

**Ans.** I don't think that the keenness of the children these days to enter adulthood is desirable. Children these days are in a hurry to enter adulthood and have access to technology. Due to this, they are learning things earlier than usual and getting matured beyond their age. Hence, they are losing out on their childhood and missing the joys that it brings with it. As per my thinking, they should grow at a slow pace and enjoy their childhood to the fullest. Children who miss out on their childhood cannot be a complete adult. So, they should not hurry up to be an adult and grow at nature's pace.

2. After reading the story 'A Baker from Goa', do you think our traditions, heritage, values, and practises are the roots that nourish us? Why/Why not?

**Ans.** 'A Baker from Goa' highlights the importance of the traditional practice of making bread for every occasion and festival of the Goan people. This tradition continues even today. This shows how traditional values shape our personality and also provide us emotional support that enables us to face difficult situations and make us mentally strong. Strong traditional practises also have an impact on our behaviour pattern towards other people in society.

3. During our childhood in Goa, the baker used to be our friend, companion, and guide. What does this statement imply in relation to the character of the baker?

**Ans.** This statement tells us that the baker was a very respected person in the Goan society because he would guide the children about good behaviour (when he mildly rebuked them for peeping into his basket and giving respect to the elders (when he wished "Good morning" to the lady of the house) etc.). He was very informal with the children and so the author considered him as a friend and companion. He was not simply a vendor interested in selling what he made. Thus, he was an important character in the Goan society of those days.

## **PART II: GLIMPSES OF INDIA - COORG**

### **Introduction**

The lesson gives us a beautiful insight of the smallest district of Karnataka and its people. The place has an amazing weather throughout the year with enough rain during the monsoon season. The people of Coorg are known to be one of the bravest. Coffee is the main crop grown in this region. A variety of animals can be found here while the place is surrounded by beautiful Brahmagiri hills, islands, and Tibetan settlements.



## GIST

The writer describes the hill station of Coorg located in the Western Ghats in the state of Karnataka is located midway between Bangalore and Mangalore. The suitable time to visit Coors is from September to March. The place is famous for coffee plantations and spices There are abundant rainforests which cover 30 percent of the area. The Corgi men are brave warriors who are permitted to

keep firearms without a license due to their trustworthiness The women of Coorg are pretty. Coorg is also known as Kodavu and the Kodavus, though are Hindus by religion but their customs differ from those of mainstream Hindus. They marry within their community Kodavus are said to be of Greek or Arabic descent some soldiers of Alexander's army settled there. Also, as the ethnic dress of the Kodavus, Kuppia is similar to the Arab garment Kuffia, it is said that maybe their ancestors were Arabs or Kurds. The river Kaveri originates from Coorg The fish named Mahaseer is found in the river. many animals and birds like kingfisher, langur, squirrels and elephants can be spotted along the river. Tourists relax in the serene atmosphere and also enjoy adventure sports like river rafting, canoeing, rappelling, mountain biking rock climbing and trekking While trekking on the nature trails, animals like Macaques, Malabar squirrels, langurs and slender loris can be spotted on the trees. The major tourist attractions are Brahmagiri hills, Nisargdham Island and Bylakuppe Tibetan settlements Coorg gives visitors a feel of India's diverse cultures.

### Main Points From the Story:-

- 1.Coorg situated between Mysore and the coastal town of a Mangalore.
- 2.It is called the land of rolling Hills.
- 3.Calling is the Home of evergreen forest, spices and a coffee plantation.
- 4.It is the smallest district of Karnataka.
- 5.Called is inhabited by proud race of material, Main beautiful woman and wild creature.
- 6.September to March it is the most present season for tourists. During this period, weather is perfect and air breach of coffee.
- 7.The people of coal Coorg are fiercely independent people.
- 8.They are possible of Greek and Arabic origin.
- 9.It is said that part of Alexander's army settled there and married amongst the local.
- 10.They are long black coat with and abroad and waist belt Kuppuswamy resembles that of worn by Arabs.
- 11.Coorgi homes are known for their hospitality.
- 12.The Coorgi regiment is one of the most decorated in Indian Army.
- 13.The first chief of Indian army general Cariappa was a Coorgi.
- 14.The river Kaveri of dense its water from the hills and forest of course.
- 15.High energy adventure with a river rafting can you sing a river climbing a mountain biking or quite popular in court.
- 16.Birds, Bees, Butterflies, Malabar Squirrel and Languars find shelter in the rainforest of Coorg.
- 17.The top of the Brahmagiri Hills gives you a paranormal view of the misty Valley of Coorg. India's largest Tibetan settlement at Bylakuppe is famous for its Buddhist monks and temples.

### EXTRACT BASED QUESTIONS

Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions that follow

Question 1

Midway between Mysore and the coastal town of a Mangalore cites a piece of Heaven that must have drifted from the kingdom of God. This land of rolling Hills is inhabited by a brown dress of Martial man, beautiful women and wild creatures.

Coorg, or Kolagunta, the smallest district of Karnataka is the home to evergreen rainforest species and coffee plantation.

- a. Which kind of animal are likely to get at Coorg?
- b. What is Coorg known for?
- c. Which word in the extract the same as 'having to do with war'?
- d. Where is Coorg situated?

**Answer**

- a. We are likely to see wild animals.
- b. It is known for its evergreen rainforest species and coffee plantation.
- c. Martial from the extract means 'having to do with war'.
- d. It is situated between the midway of Mysore and the coastal town of Mangalore.

Question 2.

The fiercely independent people of Coorg are possibly of Greek or Arabic descent As one story goes, a part of Alexander's army moved south along the coast and settled here when return became impractical These people married amongst the locals and their culture is apparent in the martial traditions, marriage and religious rites, which are distinct from the Hindu mainstream.

- (a) Which descent do the people of Coorg belong to?
- (b) Where can we find the culture of Coorg most apparently? (c) Which word in the extract means an act that is part of a religious ceremony?
- (d) Which story is famous about the people of Coorg?

**Answer:**

- (a) The people of Coorg belong to Greek or Arabic descent
- (b) The Coorg people's culture is most apparent in their martial traditions religious rites and marriages
- (c) Rites from the extract means an act that is part of a religious ceremony
- (d) It is said that the people of coorg were the descendants of Alexander's army who settled here when return became impractical.

**Short Answer Questions (30-40 Words)**

1. From whom have the inhabitants of Coorg descended, as per the legend?

**Ans:** As per the legend, a part of Alexander's army when retreating from India, went South and settled in Coorg when they found that they could not return home. Then they married among the locals and their descendants are the Kodavus (the people of Coorg).

2. How has the Coorgi tradition of courage and bravery recognised in modern India?

**Ans:** The Coorgi tradition of courage and bravery has been recognised by awarding the Coorg Regiment with the most number of gallantry awards Besides, the Coorg is are the only Indians allowed to carry firearms without a license.

3. Describe the wildlife of Coorg.

**Ans:** The wildlife of Coorg consists of animals like macaques, langurs, squirrels, loris and elephants. The birds spotted in Coorg are kingfishers.

### **Long Answer Questions (100-150 Words)**

1. The Coorgis are the descendants of the Greeks or the Arabs and are still able to maintain their traditional practices. Do you agree that following these practices today is important? Why or why not?

**Ans:** After reading the text, I feel that it is important to follow the traditional practices, as it has kept the tradition of Coorgis known to the people even today. If the people of Coorg had not followed their tradition, it would have perished and nobody would have remembered them today because of their culture and traditional practices. According to the text, their traditions can be seen in the martial traditions, religious rites and marriages. The Kodavus even wear the dress which resembles Arabs. Traditional practices also play a very important role in maintaining values amongst people and have an impact on shaping the behaviour of people.

Short Answer Type Questions [Unsolved]

1. What type of place is Coorg?
2. Why is Coorg called the land of rolling hills?
3. Why are the people of Coorg known as descendants of the Arabs?
4. Throw some light on the vast biodiversity of Coorg.

### **Long Answer Type Questions [Unsolved]**

1. How has the Coorgi tradition of courage and bravery recognised in modern India?
2. Describe the wildlife of Coorg.
3. Describe Coorg's weather. When is it most pleasant for the tourists to visit Coorg?
4. The Coorgis are the descendants of the Greeks or the Arabs and are still able to maintain their traditional practices. Do you agree that following these practices today is important? Why or why not?

## **PART III: GLIMPSES OF INDIA - Tea from Assam**

### **Introduction**

This is a very short description of Assam, a North-Eastern State of India. This state is famous for its tea plantations. In this extract, Pranjol, a youngster from Assam, is Rajvir's classmate at a school in Delhi. Pranjol's father is the manager of a tea-garden in Upper Assam and Pranjol has invited Rajvir to visit his home during the summer vacation.

### **GIST**

In 'Tea from Assam', Arup Kumar Datta describes how popular tea has become as a beverage in the world. Over 80 crore cups of tea are drunk every day throughout the world. It shows the increasing popularity of tea. The lesson gives a graphic description of the sea of tea bushes stretching as far as eyes can go in Assam. The plucking of the newly sprouted leaves by groups of tea-pluckers with bamboo baskets on their backs are vividly described in the lesson.

Pranjol belonged to Assam. He was studying in a school in Delhi. Rajvir was his classmate. Pranjol's father was the manager of a tea-garden in Upper Assam. Pranjol invited Rajvir to visit his home during the summer vacation. Both of them travelled to Assam on a train. When the train stopped on the way at a station, a vendor called, 'chai-garam garam-chai'. They took tea and started sipping it. Rajvir told Pranjol that over eighty crore cups of tea are drunk every day throughout the world.

Pranjol started reading his detective book again. But Rajvir looked out of the window of the moving train. There was beautiful scenery outside. Soon the soft green paddy fields were left behind and there were tea bushes everywhere. Rajvir was fascinated by the magnificent view of tea gardens. There were shade trees also. He was very excited. Pranjol didn't share Rajvir's excitement because he had been born and brought up on a plantation. He told Rajvir that Assam has the largest concentration of tea plantation in the world.

Rajvir said that no one really knows who discovered tea. He told Pranjol that there are many legends attached to tea to the discovery of tea. According to one story, a Chinese emperor discovered tea by chance. He always boiled water before drinking it. One day a few leaves off the twigs burning under the pot fell into the water. As a result, the boiled water got a delicious flavour. It is said they were tea leaves. According to another Indian legend, Bodhidharma, an ancient Buddhist monk, felt sleep during meditations. So he cut off his eyelids. Ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids. The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drunk banished sleep.

Rajvir told Pranjol that tea was first drunk in China in 2700 B.C. Words like 'chai' and chini are Chinese. Tea came to Europe in the sixteenth century. At first, it was used more as a medicine than as a beverage.

### **Extract Based Questions (Solved)**

**Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

Question 1.

"Chai-garam... garam-chai," a vendor called out in a high-pitched voice. He came up to their

window and asked, "Chai, sa'ab?" "Give us two cups," Pranjol said. They sipped the steaming hot liquid. Almost everyone in their compartment was drinking tea too.

"Do you know that over eighty crore cups of tea are drunk every day throughout the world?" Rajvir said "Whew!" exclaimed Pranjol. "Tea really is very popular."

- (a) How many cups of tea are drunk everyday throughout the world?
- (b) Where were Pranjol and Rajvir when this conversation took place?
- (c) Find the word in the extract which is an expression of astonishment.
- (d) Who was selling the tea and where was he?

Answer:

- (a) Over eighty crore cups of tea are drunk everyday throughout the world.
- (b) Pranjol and Rajvir were in a train when this conversation took place.
- (c) 'Whew!' is an expression of astonishment from the extract.
- (d) A tea vendor was selling tea and he was outside the window of the train compartment.

## Question 2.

We have an Indian legend too. Bodhidharma, an ancient Buddhist ascetic, cut off his eyelids because he felt sleepy during meditations. Ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids. The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drunk banished sleep.

"Tea was first drunk in China," Rajvir added, "as far back as 2700 BC! In fact words such as tea, 'chai' and 'chini' are from Chinese. Tea came to Europe only in the sixteenth century and was drunk more as medicine than as beverage." [CBSE2014]

- (a) Who was Bodhidharma?
- (b) How is medicine different from a beverage?
- (c) Find the word in the extract which means the same as 'a drink'.
- (d) When and where was tea first drunk?

Answer:

- (a) Bodhidharma was an ancient Buddhist ascetic.
- (b) Medicine is used for treating diseases whereas beverage is used for general drinking purpose.
- (c) 'Beverage' from the extract means 'a drink'.
- (d) Tea was first drunk in China as far back as 2700 BC.

### Short Answer Questions (30-40 Words)

1. Where were Rajvir and Pranjol going and why?

**Ans:** Rajvir and Pranjol were going to Assam as Pranjol had invited Rajvir to spend summer vacation there.

2. What did Rajvir see while looking outside from the train?

**Ans:** Rajvir saw much greenery while looking outside from the train. He was amazed to see the soft: green paddy fields first and then the green tea bushes.

3. This is a tea country now Explain this with reference to Assam

**Ans:** Assam has the world's largest concentration of tea plantations in the world A large number of tea gardens can be found there Most of the tea grown in Assam is supplied all over the world.

### Long Answer Questions (100-150 Words)

1 According to the text, Assam is said to be 'tea country'. Do you believe that Assam has some of the best plantations in the world that makes it a unique country?

**Ans:** In India, some of the best plantations like tea and coffee are grown in huge quantities. India is also a home to many spices like haldi and while Assam is home to tea, Coorg is home to coffee. Others which are grown exclusively in India and exported to various countries. These plantations

make India a unique country which has not just traditional spices and beverage plants growing within it but also follows traditional agricultural practices.

2. What are the legends related to the discovery of tea?

**Ans.** There are many popular legends about the discovery of tea. Two of them are as follows: A Chinese emperor was used to drinking boiled water. One day a twig from the fire fell into the pot in which was boiled. It gave a delicious flavour to the drink. It is said that those were tea leaves. An Indian legend goes like this. Once there was a Buddhist ascetic who used to feel sleepy during meditations So he cut off his eyelids Ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids When the leaves from these plants were put in hot water and drunk they banished sleep.

Short Answer Type Questions [Unsolved]

1. What landscape did Rajvir notice while sitting in the train?
2. Why was Rajvir so much excited?
3. How has tea become a popular beverage?
4. How does Rajvir describe the tea-garden at Dhekiabari?

Long Answer Type Questions [Unsolved]

1. What information do you gather about the history of tea after reading the lesson, 'Tea from Assam'?
2. Where were Pranjol and Rajvir going? What did Rajvir see when he looked out of the train on the way?

## UNIT 8: MIJBIL THE OTTER

Gavin Maxwell lives in a cottage in Camusfearnain the West Highlands in Scotland When his dog Jonnie died. Maxwell was too sad to think of keeping a dog again But life without a pet was lonely...

Mijbil the Otter- Introduction

In this lesson, the author tells us how his life changed after he decided to domesticate an otter after he lost his pet dog. He takes us through his journey of adjusting, playing and travelling with Mijbil (or Mij) the otter, from Iraq to London and how during this journey, he developed an inseparable bond with him.

### GIST

The story begins with the author travelling to Basra along with his friend. During their journey, the author expresses his desire to domesticate an otter because after he had lost his pet dog, life had become lonely for him. His friend suggested that he should get one from the Marshes along river Tigris in Iraq. When they reached the destination, they found that only the friend's mail had arrived. After a few days, the friend left while the narrator was still waiting to receive his mail. Upon receiving it, he went to his room only to find an otter (brought to him in a sack), accompanied by two Arabs with a note. It was a gift from his friend. He named the otter Mijbil or shortly, Mij. It took some time for Mij to open up and get acquainted with his surroundings. He was covered in mud to an extent that it took almost a month of cleaning and washing to reveal his actual colour Mij loved

playing with water so much so that he even learned to open the tap on his own. He believed that each drop of water should be squished and splashed till the bowl had been emptied everything was going smoothly in Basra, but now it was time to fly back to London. British airlines did not allow animals, so he had to book another flight that allowed Mij with a condition that he had to be carried in a box. The narrator put him in a box an hour before the flight so that Mij could get accustomed to it and then left for a quick meal. When he returned, he found that the box was still and Mij had created a mess by destroying the inner lining. As a result, blood was dripping out of the holes. Scared as he was, he hurried. They were far away from the airport and there were only ten minutes left for the flight to take off. He cleaned it all, hurried in a cab and managed to reach just in time. He explained the series of events to a very kind and generous air hostess who advised him to keep the box on his lap. Gavin developed extreme admiration for the air hostess for she was very kind to him. As soon as he opened the box, the otter leaped out and disappeared thereby creating a chaos. Passengers were frightened. A lady climbed up her chair and in an attempt to get a hold of Mij, the author got himself covered in curry. The air hostess offered help and brought him back to Gavin and finally, they reached London. Mij was fond of playing with ping-pong balls and marbles. He even developed a game with the author's damaged suitcase. It could keep him engrossed for a long period of time. Narrator took him for walks while taking the lead and played with him. People of London, being unfamiliar with otters, had wild guesses about what Mij was. Some thought it to be a baby seal, squirrel or even a hippo. The most shocking reaction came when a labourer digging the hole asked the author, "What is that supposed to be?"

#### **Extract based comprehension questions:**

1. Mijbil, as I called the otter, was, in fact, of a race previously unknown to science and was at length christened by zoologists *Lutrogale Perspicillata Maxwelli*, or Maxwell's otter. For the twenty-four hours Mijbil was either hostile or friendly; he was simply aloof and indifferent, choosing to sleep on the floor as far from my bed as possible.

- a) Who was Mijbil?
- b) How did the otter behave for the first twenty-four hours? )
- c) Find exact word from the extract which means 'having no particular interest'.
- d) Why is the otter called 'Maxwell's otter'?

#### **Ans:**

- a) Mijbil was the name of the otter brought by the narrator
- b) The otter was indifferent and stayed as far as possible from the narrator for the first 24 hours. c) 'Indifferent' from the extract means 'having no particular interest'.
- d) The otter was christened by zoologist Maxwell. So, in his honour, it was called Maxwell's otter.

2. Mij was out of the box in a flash. He disappeared at high speed down the aircraft. There was squawks and shrieks, and a woman stood up on her seat screaming out, "A rat! A rat!"

- a) Why did the woman scream?
- b) What did Mij do?
- c) Find the exact word from the extract which means 'makes a loud noise'.
- d) What had Mij been compared with a rat. Ans:
  - a) the woman screamed as she thought that there was a rat inside the plane.
  - b) Mij came out of the box and disappeared.
  - c) 'Squawk' from the extract means 'make a loud noise'
  - d) in the extract, Mij had been compared with a rat.

#### **Short Answer Questions (30-40 words)**

Q1. What happened when Maxwell took Mijbil to the bathroom? What did it do two days after that? A when Maxwell took Mijbil to the bathroom, for half an hour he went wild with joy in the water, plunging and rolling in it, shooting up and down the length of the bathtub underwater, and making enough slosh and splash for a hippo Two days later, it escaped into the bathroom and Maxwell saw it opening the tap, all by itself.

Q2. Why did Maxwell put the otter back in the box? How do you think he felt when he did this? A. Maxwell removed every bit of the shredded inner lining so that Mij won't hurt himself. He then kept the otter back in the box as they had to reach the flight on time. He must have felt pity and be worried about Mij

### **Long Answer Questions :( 100-150 words)**

Q1. Describe the relationship between the otter and Maxwell in your own words.

Ans. Maxwell and the otter Mijbil shared a lovely relationship Maxwell treated Mij like his own son He took very good care of him. He gave him many toys including marbles, rubber bands rubber fruits and a terrapin shell to play with He took him to the bathtub to play in the water knowing the fascination of otters with water. He noticed his habits and traits. Mijbil hesitated on the first day but then became very friendly. Maxwell encouraged Mijbil to do whatever he liked to do. He took him out for exercise every day. When Maxwell saw blood on the box in which Mij was packed he was horrified When Mij came out of the box he jumped all over but then came and sat on Maxwell's knees quietly.

Q2. Why did Maxwell decide to have an otter as a pet? How did he get it?

Ans. Maxwell's pet dog Jonnie died. He felt alone without a pet. This time he decided to change his pet. He decided to own an otter as his pet. His place, Camusfearna was ringed by water. It would be a suitable place for this new experiment One of his friends suggested that he could get an otter in the Tigris marshes. Otters were as common in the Tigris marshes as were mosquitoes They were often tamed by the Arabs as pets. Maxwell got his mail after five days. He carried it to his bedroom to read. There he found two Arabs squatting on the floor. A sack lay beside them. There was something moving and twisting in it. The Arabs handed him a note from his friend. It read, "Here is your otter ..." The sack was opened. And there emerged a Unique creature from the sack. Later on, this otter was named Mijbil by Maxwell.

### **UNSOLVED QUESTIONS:**

1. Why was the author not allowed to take a flight of British Airways?
2. Why were Maxwell and his friends going to Basra?
3. Give an example from the text to show that Mijbil is an intelligent animal.
4. What is a characteristic of otter and how did Mijbil behave in the water?

## **MADAM RIDES THE BUS**

### **GIST:**

In this story the author tries to present a world as seen from a child's perspective. The main character of this story is an eight year old girl who lives near a bus stop in a village. For major part of the day, she enjoys standing in her doorway; watching frenetic activities at the bus stop. Valli develops a desire to enjoy a ride on the bus but she needs to plan meticulously to realise her dream. She has to



curtail her expenses so that she can save enough money for two-way fair She also has to make the journey during the time when her mother takes afternoon nap While on her journey, Valli does not want anybody's help and wants to feel independent. She enjoys every bit of her journey to the town But she is careful enough not to get off the bus in the unknown environs of the town. On her return journey, a sad accident spoils her mood and she just keeps to herself throughout the journey She does not seem to be satisfied with one ride and wishes to make another attempt in future. She is also quite mischievous when she is sure that her mother did not know about her journey

#### EXTRACT BASED COMPREHENSION QUESTION EXERCISES:

1. The bus rolled on now cutting across a bare landscape, now rushing through a tiny hamlet or past an odd wayside shop. Sometimes the bus seemed on the point of gobbling up another vehicle that was coming towards them or a pedestrian crossing the road. But lo! somehow it passed on smoothly leaving all obstacles safely behind. Trees came running towards them but then stopped as the bus reached them and simply stood there helpless for a moment by the side of the road before rushing away in the other direction.

Questions:

- (a) From which story have these lines been taken?
- (b) What did the bus pass by?
- (c) How does the author describe the landscape?
- (d) How did the trees appear from the moving bus?
- (e) Find a word from the passage which means village.

Answers:

- (a) These lines have been taken from the story 'Madam Rides the Bus.'
- (b) The bus passed by a bare landscape, a tiny hamlet or an odd wayside shop.
- (c) The author says that the landscape was bare.
- (d) The trees appeared to be coming towards the moving bus.
- (e) Hamlet

#### Character Sketch

Valliammai: She emerges as a very clever, sensitive, self-respecting and fun-loving girl. She was just eight years old. She was a determined girl with a commanding nature. She was very curious about things. Her favourite pastime was standing in the front doorway of her house. She was mature, clever and practical beyond her years. Saving sixty paise was not an easy job for a girl of her age. She was determined to resist any temptation that came in her way. Valli didn't like being called 'madam' or 'child'. She was a great planner and planned things after knowing all the necessary details about them.

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS: (30-40 Words)

Q1 What was the favourite pastime of Valli?

Ans Valliammai or Valli was eight years old. Her favourite pastime was standing in the front doorway of her house. From there, she watched what was happening in the street outside. For her, standing at the front door was as enjoyable as any of the games other children played

Q-2 Why did Valli find the elderly woman absolutely repulsive?

Ans. The elderly woman who was sitting beside Valli in the bus looked absolutely repulsive to Valli. She had big holes in her ears and had ugly earrings in them. She didn't relish the smell of the betel nut that she was chewing. The betel juice was about to spill over her lips at any moment. She couldn't be social with such a woman.

Q-3 What dampened Valli's enthusiasm during the return journey?

Ans. During her return journey Valli saw a young cow lying dead by the side of the road. She was the same lovable and beautiful cow that she saw only a little while ago. Now, it looked so horrible and frightening as it lay there. There was a fixed stare in her lifeless eyes and she was smeared with blood. The sight dampened her enthusiasm and she stopped looking outside.

### **LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (100-150 Words):**

Q-1. "Never mind," she said, "I can get on by myself." "You don't have to help me," said Valli to the conductor. She shows extraordinary courage in making the bus journey all alone. Taking inspiration from Valli's character, write how the ability and courage to take risk are essential to fulfilling one's dream. Or Valli nurtures a strong desire to travel by bus and visit the city. She works hard for it and finally, she is successful. Based on this incident, analyse what values of life do you need to nurture to attain your goals in life?

Ans. Valli is an eight-year-old village girl. She is fascinated by the bus that comes to the village every hour. She develops a desire and then a longing turning into a firm determination to ride the bus. She meticulously plans for it and saves money for the bus journey. Then she boards the bus without anyone's help. She travels all alone, confidently and independently and finally returns home successfully. Her self-dependence and self-respecting nature help her to nurture her goal. She enjoys her journey. Similarly, to achieve goals in life, we need to have such values in us. One should be confident and self-dependent. Proper planning and strong determination lead to success. Enthusiasm and excitement to achieve the goal are also needed to nurture our goals in life.

Q-2 Justify the statement with instances that Valli was a mature girl and ahead of her age?

Ans. Valli was an eight-year-old village girl. She had no playmates. Her favourite pastime was to stand at the doorstep and watch things and people. She not only satisfied her curiosity but also gained new experiences. Her strongest desire was to make a bus-ride. She meticulously planned for it - gathered information about the distance, time and ticket money. Showing self-restraint, she resisted the temptation to buy peppermint, toys or a ride on the merry-go-round in order to save 60 paise for the bus journey. She boarded the bus without anyone's help, refused a free treat by the conductor and didn't talk to strangers. This shows her commanding, confident and self-dependent nature. This also shows her determination and maturity at such a little age.

### **UNSOLVED QUESTIONS:**

**SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS: (30-40 Words)**

1. What details did Valli pick up about the bus journey? How did she pick up these details?
2. What was the most fascinating thing for Valli?
3. How did Valli manage to leave the house?
4. How did Valli react when the conductor called her "a very grown-up madam?"

**LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (100-150 Words):**

1 - Do you think that Valli enjoyed her first ride on a bus? Give examples in support of your answer.

2-Valli was so overcome with sadness to see the dead cow that she lost all enthusiasm. Do you feel the same way? If you feel concerned about the plight of animals falling prey to the fast-moving traffic what efforts will you make to make travelling on roads a safer activity?

## **THE SERMON AT BENARES**

### **GIST**

Sermon is a religious talk delivered by a prophet or Saint. Here we have the journey of Gautam Buddha from prince hood to his saintly life. He left the palace at the age of 25, after seeing the sufferings of the world, to seek enlightenment. He wandered for seven years, here and there, and under a peepal tree at Bodhgaya he got it. His first sermon was delivered at Benaras as it was considered to be the holiest place because of river Ganga. He thinks that he who seeks peace should draw out the arrow of lamentation, complaint and grief. He who has drawn out the arrow has become composed, and will obtain peace of mind; he who has overcome all such circumstances will be free from sorrow and be blessed. Kisa Gautami was grieving over the death of her son. She moved from door to door and at last came to Buddha. She made him a humble request to make her son alive. Buddha said he would do but he asked a handful of mustard seeds. He further commanded it must be taken from a house where no one had lost her husband, child, parent or a friend. She went from house to house but was unable to find one where nobody had died. She was tired and hopeless and sat down at the wayside watching the light of the city as they flickered up. And she realised that these lives flicker up for some time and are extinguished again. This way she was taught that the lives of mortals in this world are troubled and brief and there is no means by which one can avoid deaths. As all earthen vessels made by the potter are being broken, so is the life of mortals. Death is inevitable.

### **Extract Based Comprehension Questions Exercises:**

1. "The Buddha preached his first sermon at the city of Benares, most holy of the dipping places on the River Ganges; that sermon has been preserved and is given here. It reflects the Buddha's wisdom about one inscrutable kind of suffering."

Questions:-

- (a) Name the holiest of the dipping places on the River Ganges where the Buddha preached his first sermon.
- (b) What does Buddha's first sermon reflect?
- (c) What did Gautama do after getting enlightenment?
- (d) How was he known as then?

Ans.

- (a) Benares.
- (b) Buddha's wisdom about one inscrutable kind of suffering.
- (c) After getting enlightenment, he began to teach and share his new understandings with the common people.
- (d) As he started preaching, he was known as Buddha, meaning, the awakened or the enlightened one.

### SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (30-40 Words):

Q.1. Who was Gautam Buddha? Write a few lines about his early life.

Ans. Gautam Buddha was a prince. He was named Siddhartha Gautam by his parents. He was born in 563 B.C. in North India. He was sent away for schooling when he was twelve years old but four years later, he got married to a princess.

Q. 2. What did Buddha say about the mortals of the world? Ans. The Buddha told Kisa Gotami that the life of mortals is troubled and brief in this world. Those who have been born can't avoid dying. As ripe fruits are in danger of falling, so mortals are always in danger of death. All earthen vessels end in being broken.

Q. 3. Did Kisa Gotami get a handful of mustard seeds as directed by the Buddha?

Ans. Poor Kisa Gotami went from house to house. The people pitied her and were ready to give a handful of mustard seeds to her. But, she couldn't find a house where no one had lost a child, husband, parent or friend.

### LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (100-150 Words)

Q. 1. "The life of mortals in this world is troubled and brief and combined with pain" With this statement of the Buddha, find out the moral values that Kisa Gotami learnt after the death of her child.

Ans. After the death of her only son, Kisa Gotami went to the Buddha. Firstly, she went to every neighbour, asking for medicine for her dead son. She had lost all her senses. She forgot that no medicine could bring back the dead. Then she went to Buddha for making her son alive. Buddha asked her to bring a handful of mustard seeds from a house where no death had occurred. But she couldn't find such a house. The Buddha made her realise that death is common to all. It also shows the detachment from mundane life. Only grieving cannot bring peace of mind.

Q. 2. Why did Kisa Gotami understand the message given by the Buddha only the second time? In what way did the Buddha change her understanding?

Ans. Kisa Gotami had lost her only son and in grief, she carried her dead son to all her neighbours to get him cured and restored back to life. Finally, she went to the Buddha asking him for medicine to cure her boy. The Buddha felt that she needed to be enlightened about the truth of life—that death and sorrow are inescapable. He could see that grief had blinded her, and it would be difficult for her to accept the truth. So the Buddha told her to procure mustard seeds from a house where none had died. Kisa Gotami went from door to door. Then she realised that there was no house where no one had died and that death is common to all. She came back to the Buddha where He sermonised her that life in this world is troubled and filled with sorrows. He gave her examples of ripe fruits and earthen vessels whose 'lives' are short. This way he made her realise that death is unavoidable and none—even the near and dear ones—can save anyone from death.

### UNSOLVED QUESTIONS:

Extract Based Comprehension Questions Exercises:

A. And the girl said. "Please tell me, sir, who is it?" And the man replied. "Go to Sakyamuni the Buddha." Kisa Gautami repaired to the Buddha and cried. "Lord and Master, give me the medicine that will cure my boy. "The Buddha answered, "I want a handful of mustard-seed." And when the girl in her joy promised to procure it, the Buddha added. "The mustard-seed must be taken from a house where no one has lost a child, husband, parent or friend."

Questions:

- (a) Name the lesson from the above lines that have been taken.
- (b) What suggestion did a man give to Gotami?
- (c) What request did (Kisa) make to the Buddha?
- (d) What did Buddha ask the girl to do?

B. The Buddha answered. "I want a handful of mustard-seed." And when the girl in her joy promised to procure it, the Buddha added, "The mustard-seed must be taken from a house where no one has lost a child, husband, parent or friend."

Poor Kisa Gotami now went from house to house, and the people pitied her and said, "Here is mustard-seed: take it!" But when she asked, "Did a son or daughter, a father or mother, die in your family?" they answered her. "Alas! The living are few, but the dead are many. Do not remind us of our deepest grief." And there was no house but some beloved one had died in it.

Questions:

- (a) What did the Buddha ask Kisa Gotami to bring?
- (b) What was the condition attached to it?
- (c) Why did Gotami go from house to house?
- (d) What did the people tell Gotami?

### **SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (30-40 Words):**

1. Kisa compared human life to an inanimate object. What is it and why does she do so?
2. How did the Buddha attain enlightenment?
3. What did Kisa Gotami learn at the end?

Long Answer Questions (100-150 words)

1. Life is full of trials and tribulations. Kisa Gotami also passes through a period of grief in her life. How does she behave in those circumstances? What lesson does the story impart to the reader?
2. Give a character sketch of Gautam Buddha.
3. How does Gautam Buddha make human beings realise that death is common to all?

### **The Proposal ( Play ):**

**Summary :-** This article focuses on The Proposal summary. It is a one-act play written by the Russian story writer and dramatist Chekhov in 1888–89.

The play is about the tendency of rich families to hunt ties with other wealthy families, to extend their estates by encouraging marriages that observe economic sense. Ivan Lomov, a wealthy neighbour of Stepan Chubukov, also wealthy, who seeks the hand of Chubukov's twenty-five-year-

old daughter, Natalya. All three are argumentative, and they argue over petty issues. The proposal is on the verge of losing in the middle of all this quarrelling. But economic common sense ensures that the proposal is formed, in any case — although the quarrelling perhaps continues

The curtain rises with Lomov entering his neighbour Chubukov's house in neatly dressed up attire. Chubukov in great curiosity to see him well-dressed and asks him the occasion. Lomov reveals that he had come for a desire. Chubukov assumes that he must have come to ask for money which he does not want to return. After knowing that Lomov had come to invite Chubukov's daughter, Natalya's hand in marriage, Chubukov leaves to call Natalya. Lomov is a 35 years old gentleman who suffers from palpitations and gets upset very easily. He thinks it's the right age for him to marry and is happy that he is choosing Natalya. He believes, Natalya is average-looking and an honest caretaker.

On Natalya's arrival, Lomov initiates the conversation about the cordial terms of both the families. While continuing to speak about his land, he somehow mentions Oxen Meadows which earlier was a disputed property but is now his. Natalya is in the perception that Oxen Meadows belong to her family. Both enter into a heated discussion and act childish and Chubukov's entry made it more heated. They shout and scream while Lomov suffers from extreme palpitation and a numb foot. They throw Lomov out of the house and continue abusing him. While defaming him, Chubukov accidentally reveals that he had a wedding proposal for Natalya which surprises Natalya, and she suddenly regrets sending him out. She tells her father to bring him back and Chubukov banes himself for being the father of a young daughter.

When Lomov returns, Natalya tries to deviate the topic by talking about shooting. Little later they enter into a debate on their dogs. Natalya strongly believes that her dog Squeezer is better in comparison to Lomov's Guess. They continue arguing when Chubukov enters the scene only to form things worse again. Everyone gets hyper and Lomov finally falls because of palpitations. Even then, the cursing continues when suddenly Natalya notices that he's unconscious. As they find him unable to drink water, declare him dead. After a while Lomov moves a bit, they give him some water to drink and Chubukov forcefully hands over Natalya's hands to him, gives his blessings and asks them to kiss. After regaining his senses, he expresses his excitement and kisses Natalya's hands. Natalya again keeps convincing him that Squeezer is better than Guess but Lomov, being adamant refuses to accept this and the quarrelling continues.

### **Conclusion of The Proposal**

The drama displays the greed of rich families to marry their children into other wealthy families with the aim of enhancing their wealth.

### **QUESTIONS :-**

1. What does Chubukov at first suspect that Lomov has come for? Is he sincere when he later says? "And I've always loved you, my angel, as if you were my own son"? Find reasons for your answers from the play.

**Ans:** Chubukov's first suspicion was that Lomov had come to borrow money from him. Chubukov was not at all sincere when he said he loved Lomov as his own son. Because, after some time, he started fighting with Lomov. He abused Lomov badly.

### **SELF ASSESSMENT :-**

1. Chubukov says of Natalya:”.....as if she won’t consent! She’s in love; egad, she’s like a lovesick cat..... ” Would you agree? Find reasons for your answers.
2. Find all the words and expressions in the play that the characters use to speak about each other. (For example, Lomov in the end calls Chubukov an intriguer; but earlier, Chubukov has himself called Lomov a “malicious, double-faced intriguer. ” Again, Lomov beings by describing Natalya as” an excellent housekeeper, not bad-looking, well-educated. “)
3. Why is Chubukov giving his blessing?

### **Dust of snow-Robert Frost**

#### **Gist**

Dust of Snow is a beautiful poem written by the famous American poet Robert Frost. It depicts a simple moment, but it has great significance. The poem is set on a wintry day. The snow is falling heavily. The poet is depressed and has lost all hope. He is sitting under a hemlock tree. A small natural incident changes his sad mood into a happy mood. The poem teaches us that one should never be desperate and hopeless. There is always scope for a change.

#### **EXTRACT BASED COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS**

##### **1. The way a crow**

**Shook down on me**

**The dust of snow**

**From a hemlock tree.**

- a) The crow and the hemlock are considered as symbols of nature.  
i. positive ii. negative iii. Pleasant
- b) What did the crow do to the hemlock tree?
- c) Where do you think the poet was then?
- d) What is the rhyme scheme of the given stanza?

#### **ANSWERS**

- a) ii. Negative
- b) The crow shook the hemlock tree.
- c) The poet was under the hemlock tree.
- d) abab

##### **2. Has given my heart A change of mood And saved some part Of a day I had rued.**

- a) How did the poet’s mood change?
- b) What had the poet thought of the day?
- c) What do you understand by the word ‘rued’?
- d) Name the poet and the poem?

#### **ANSWERS**

- a) The falling of snow on the poet had changed his mood.
- b) The poet had thought that it was a bad day. He was sad and depressed.
- c) ‘Rued’ means held in regret
- d) The poet is Robert Frost and the poem is ‘Dust of Snow’.

#### **SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:**

1. What mood of the poet is reflected in the poem?
2. What do the crow, hemlock tree and dust of snow represent in the poem?
3. What is the message given by the poem?

### **ANSWERS**

1. The poet seems to be in a sad and depressive mood. The day offered no comfort or happiness to him. He thinks that the whole day is going to be sad and dull. He can see only negative symbols like the hemlock tree and the crow around him.

2. The crow is black and ugly. It is not considered as a pleasant sight. It is a symbol of bad omen. The hemlock tree is a poisonous plant with white flowers. It is a symbol of sorrow. The poet chose the crow and the hemlock tree to present his sadness and depression.

3. The poem teaches us that we should not be desperate because there is always an opportunity to change the sad mood into happy mood. Today, when most of the people are living in stressful atmosphere, the poem teaches us to gain happiness from little things.

### **Long Answer Questions [100-150 words]**

1. It is our attitude towards a situation that makes it positive or negative. Do you agree with it? Express your views with reference to the poem 'Dust of Snow'.

**Ans:** It is true that our attitude towards a problem plays an important role in making it positive or negative. Most of the people in today's world live a stressful life. They face different types of problems in day to day life. A person can neither keep away from problems completely nor find solutions for them easily. But what makes the situation worse is one's attitude towards the problems. If we are depressed or sad the whole environment becomes gloomy. But if we are ready to face the problem bravely and positively, it helps in solving the problem also. The poet in the poem Dust of Snow was in a sorrowful mood. He felt that the whole day was going to be gloomy. But when a crow shook down snowflakes on him, his bitter mood changed into an optimistic one. This small, regular incident wiped away his gloom and made him cheerful. He could have become unhappy when such a thing occurred. But instead of seeing the negative aspect of the incident, he took a positive vibe from it. Thus the poem teaches us to find happiness from small things and to take everything positively.

## **A TIGER IN THE ZOO**

**-LESLIE NORRIS**

The poem gives a sharp contrast of a tiger. The poem provides a contrast in the mood and environment of a tiger, when he is in the zoo and when he is in the forest, when it is in its natural habitat and when it is imprisoned.

### **Summary**

'This poem contrasts a tiger in the zoo with the tiger in its natural habitat. The poem moves from the zoo to the jungle, and again back to the zoo. In the zoo, he has no freedom. He is kept in a cemented cell behind the bars. He feels angry, frustrated and helpless. This reminds him of his natural habitat, his hiding and sliding in the long grass near the water hole and pouncing upon the fat deer, the way he terrorised the villagers, displaying his sharp teeth and claws. At night in the zoo, he hears the sounds of patrolling cars. The tiger in the zoo appears helpless as a mere showpiece and a source of entertainment to people. The poet wants to convey that it is cruel to keep wild animals in small



enclosures of the zoo, away from their natural habitat. They feel angry, helpless and unhappy in the cage. He pays no attention to the visitors who come to watch him. In the silence of the night, he stares at the brilliant stars with his bright eyes.

#### EXTRACT BASED QUESTIONS:

**1. He stalks in his vivid stripes The few steps of his cage, On pads of velvet quiet,  
In his quiet rage.  
He should be lurking in shadow, Sliding through long grass  
Near the water hole Where plump deer pass.**

- i. Find the poetic device mentioned in the following line, “He stalks in his vivid stripes”.
- ii. “He should be lurking in shadow”. In this line the poet expresses which of the following emotions?  
a) Anger, confusion b) Empathy, disappointment c) Anxiety, Rage d) Anger, sympathy
- iii. Find the poetic device mentioned in the following line, “On pads of velvet quiet”.
- iv. The tiger in the zoo is neither happy nor sad. (True/False)
- v. The poetic device mentioned in the following line, “In his quiet rage” is oxymoron. Explain oxymoron?

#### Answers:

i. Personification. Here the tiger is personified as human being by using the word “he” for the tiger.

i) Empathy, disappointment

iii) Metaphor: The paws of the tiger is compared to the soft velvet cloth.

ii) The statement is false because the tiger is sad.

iii) Oxymoron is a combination of two words of opposing qualities. Examples: Harmonic

**2. But he’s locked in a concrete cell, His strength behind bars,  
Stalking the length of his cage, Ignoring visitors.**

**He hears the last voice at night, The patrolling cars,**

**And stares with his brilliant eyes At the brilliant stars.**

(i) Find the poetic device mentioned in the following line, “His strength behind bars”.

(ii) “His strength behind bars”. Here in this line the word “strength” means the soul of the tiger. (True/False)

(iii) The tiger was towards the visitors. (a) Fed up (b) Angry (c) Interested (d) Indifferent

(iv) Find the rhyme scheme of the 2nd stanza.

(v) The words “sky and stars” symbolizes. (a) Captivity (b) Freedom (c) Servitude (d) Slavery

#### Answers:

i) Alliteration – Repetition of initial consonant sounds in the same line Alliteration has been used in phrases “behind bars”

ii) False because the word “strength” refers to the body of the tiger.

iii) Indifferent iv) abbb v) Freedom

#### SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS – (30 - 40 words)

1. What does the poet mean when he says that the Tiger ‘s strength is behind the bars?

- 2.Explain why the Tiger ignores the visitors at the zoo?
- 3.Freedom can't be bargained at any cost. What message does the poet give to the readers in 'A Tiger in the Zoo'?

Answers:

1.The poet means that since the Tiger is locked in the cage, he has no freedom and therefore he cannot use his strength. He is angry and restless but proudly walks the length of his cage.

2. The Tiger is caged it has no freedom to roam the vast jungles. He is constrained by the space available in the cage. He is angry and restless. He suppresses his anger by proudly walking the length of his cage and ignoring the visitors who have come to see him.

3.Ans. Not only humans but animals too cherish freedom. Freedom can't be bargained. In this case, a tiger may be well-fed and protected. However, the curtailment of his freedom keeps him in 'quiet rage'. He resents being behind the bars. He is a different animal when he is in his natural habitat, the jungle. He roams around the water hole and ambushes his favourite plump deer.

### **LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS:**

I) Explain how the poet contrasts the Tiger in the cage to the Tiger in the jungle?

**Ans.** The poet says that since the Tiger is caged it has no freedom to roam the vast jungles. He is constrained by the space available in the cage. He is angry and restless but proudly walks the length of his cage, ignoring the visitors who have come to see him. All he can do is stare at the brilliant stars with his brilliant eyes. The poet contrasts this with the Tiger in the jungle, who is free, to roam the wild, sliding through long grass, and enjoying his liberty. He goes near water holes and where he can find deer. He snarls around houses at the edge of the jungle frightening the villagers by baring his fangs and his claws

II)The tiger in the poem is feeling miserable in a concrete cell. Does it not amount to cruelty? Express your opinion about keeping wild animals in zoos. Is there any lesson for humans?

**Ans.** The tiger in the poem is wretched in its cage. It longs for freedom. It may be well looked after, but the fact of the matter is that unless one is free, one is not alive. Confinement brings bondage, and bondage is cruelty. One may argue that at least this way they all will not be killed and become extinct. However, taking away one's freedom to keep one alive kills the desire to live anyhow. Even humans throughout the world oppose the chains of slavery and oppression. How are other living creatures any different? Humans have encroached on their space, and sheltering them in zoos is truly inhuman. Humans must learn to respect nature, for humans exist only due to nature.cacophony, found missing

## **CHAPTER -4**

### **HOW TO TELL WILD ANIMALS**

**-CAROLYNE WELLS**

This humorous poem suggests some dangerous ways to identify wild animals. . In the poem, the poetess is introducing various wild animals by explaining the characteristics of each of them in a very funny way.

## Summary

'How To Tell Animals', is a beautiful poem by Carolyn Wells about the strange habits and behaviour of some wild animals. The poetess says that the Asian Lion is a large tawny beast with a fearful roar. A tiger has black stripes on his yellow skin and is always ready to eat his victim. A Leopard has black spots on his skin. He leaps on his prey and eats it up. A bear can come to human colonies. He hugs up against a person and can put to death. A crocodile always sheds tears while eating its victim. A hyena will always look smiling. A chameleon always changes its colour according to its surrounding. This is the strange world of some of the wild animals. Much of the humour arises from the way language is used.

Poetic Devices

Rhyme Scheme: ababcc

Alliteration: roaming round, lep and lep again, who hugs you very very hard, A novice might nonplus.

### EXTRACT BASED QUESTIONS:

**1.If ever you should go by chance To jungles in the east;  
And if there should to you advance A large and tawny beast,  
If he roars at you as you 're dyin' You 'll know it is the Asian Lion ....**

- (a)What are the features of an Asian Lion?
- (b)What happens to you when the lion roars?
- (c)What do you mean by tawny'?
- (d)Where is the Asian Lion found?

**Answers:**

- (a)An Asian Lion is large and brownish-yellow in colour.
- (b)When the lion roars, it is very scary and we feel that we are going to die.
- (c)Tawny 'means brownish-yellow in colour.
- (d)Asian lion is found in the jungles of the East.

**2.Though to distinguish beasts of prey A novice might nonplus,  
The Crocodile you always may Tell from the Hyena thus:  
Hyenas come with merry smiles; But if they weep they're Crocodiles.**

- a)Choose the option that does not describe a 'novice'.
  - i)Lakshman has played cricket for the first time today.
  - ii)Samiksha has been teaching for the last ten years. iii ) Srishti went to her first French class yesterday.
  - iv) Gautam baked a second cake to improve his skills. Ans: ii) Samiksha has been teaching for the last ten years.
- c)What, according to the extract, would cause bewilderment?
  - i)Discovering the similarity between different preys of beasts.
  - ii)Analysing habits of beasts that prey on hyenas.
  - iii)Knowing the difference between several beasts of prey.
  - iv)Drawing the similarities between crocodiles and hyenas.

**Ans**

- iii) Knowing the difference between several beasts of prey
- d)choose the line from the given stanza that the poet takes liberty with, to fit the rhyme scheme.
  - i)Though to distinguish beasts of prey
  - ii)A novice might nonplus
  - iii)The Crocodile you always may

iv) Hyenas come with merry smiles Ans: ii) A novice might nonplus **SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

1. How can you identify the Asian lion and the Bengal Tiger?

The Asian Lion has a large body and a brownish-yellow colour. It roars loudly when it attacks its prey. The very roar is enough to terrorise one to death. On the other hand, the Bengal Tiger is a noble animal which attacks the prey silently. It has black stripes on its yellow coat.

2. Why does the poet use the term 'noble' and 'wild' for the tiger?

**Ans.** The poet calls the tiger 'noble' and 'wild' because it hunts only when it is hungry and not like leopard who kills for mere pleasure.

3. How can you distinguish between a hyena and a crocodile?

It is not easy to distinguish among wild animals. But a hyena and a crocodile can easily be distinguished. A hyena laughs as it swallows its victim, whereas a crocodile will have tears as it kills its victim.

4. What does a bear do when it attacks?

A bear catches hold of its victim and crushes it really hard. If the prey is still struggling then it gives another 'hug' to crush its prey. This description by the poet is based on the common phrase 'a bear hug'.

5. How does a leopard behave when he sees someone?

A leopard has black spots all over its body. As soon as it sees someone, it leaps over him at once. There will be no use of crying with pain. It will not show any mercy, but keep on pouncing continuously on its victim.

### **LONG ANSWER QUESTION**

1. Describe the effective use of humour in the poem 'How to tell wild animals'. What are the poetic liberties taken by the poet in the poem?

The poet, in the poem 'How to tell Wild Animals' creates humour by describing various beasts of prey. The way the poet explains the things is very funny yet interesting. The poet has depicted the wildlife very vividly and in a lively manner. While reading the poem, the readers enjoy the poet's work and it leaves them refreshed and happy. The humour used in the poem is suggestive and mild. If the Asian Lion roars 'at you as you are dying, the Bengal Tiger is a 'noble' wild beast that 'greet' you when you are roaming round in the jungle. The leopard will show no mercy and it will do no good to roar with pain. The bear gives you a very hard 'hug' and if you have any doubts whether it is a bear, it will give you just one more caress. The poet humorously says that hyenas come with 'merry smiles'; but if they 'weep' they are crocodiles. Similarly, the poet takes many liberties to make the poem impressive. In order to rhyme with 'lion' the poet changes the word dying to 'dyin'. Instead of leapt and leap the poet writes 'lept' and 'lep'. All these changes make the poem more interesting and enjoyable.

2. At present, we are in a fast-moving world which is at times stressful. 'Humour is the best medicine for every ailment in life'. Comment.

It is rightly said that humour is the best medicine. Humour is very infectious. When humour is shared, it binds people together and increases happiness. Humour strengthens our immune system, boosts our energy, diminishes pain and protects us from the damaging effects of stress. It is the priceless medicine for every ailment in life. The poet, in the poem 'How to tell Wild Animals' creates humour by describing various beasts of prey. The way the poet explains them is very funny and interesting. The poet has depicted the wildlife very vividly and in a lively manner. While reading 146 the poem, the readers enjoy the poet's work and it leaves them refreshed and happy. The poet also drives home the different characteristics of each animal and makes it so descriptive to us.

## **THE BALL POEM**

### **JOHN BERRYMAN**

#### **Introduction**

This poem is written in blank verse. This poem is about losing something that you love, and learning to grow up. It is about a little boy, who, for the first time in his young life, is learning what it is like to experience grief at the loss of a much beloved possession – his ball. The main theme of the poem is Loss and Acceptance.

#### **Summary**

Once a boy was playing with his ball. It was bouncing in the street up and down. The boy was happily enjoying the game. While bouncing, suddenly it fell into the water and was lost. Without the ball, the boy became full of grief. The poet said and that there were other balls. He could purchase another since it was not a great loss. There was no need to worry. But, the boy had that ball for a long time so he was deeply grieved due to his attachment with it. It was linked to his memories. The poet thinks that it is of no use to purchase another ball. He must feel his responsibility of the loss. The poet conveys the readers of the poem that the loss is inseparable in human life.

#### **POETIC DEVICES**

- \* It is written in a free-verse (blank-verse) style. No rhyme scheme is followed.
- \* Symbolism: The ball is symbol of the boy's young and innocent days.
- \* The word 'BALL' is repeatedly used by John Berryman in the poem. This technique is called Repetition.
- \* Alliteration: And no one buys a ball back, What, what is he to do?
- \* Imagery is also used in the following lines: I saw it go.  
Merrily bouncing, down the street, and then Merrily over—there it is in the water!
  
- \* Assonance is used in the following line: (Use of the vowel sound 'e') He is learning, well behind his desperate eyes

#### **Extracts Based Comprehension Questions:**

1. What is the boy now, who has lost his ball, what, what is he to do? I saw it go merrily bouncing, down the street, and then merrily over – there it is in the water! No use to say – O there are other balls.

a) What has happened to the boy?

(b) Why does the poet say No use to say – 'O there are other balls'?

(c) Which word means 'happily'?

(d) Where did the ball go? Answer:

(a) The boy was very sad as he had lost his ball.

(b) The poet says so as the loss of the ball is of a major consequence to the boy.

(c) Merrily means happily.

(d) The ball went to the water.

2. An ultimate shaking grief fixes the boy As he stands rigid, trembling, staring down All his young days into the harbour where His ball went. I would not intrude on him.

(i) Select the option that DOES NOT convey the meaning of the word 'ULTIMATE' as used in the given extract.

(a) eventual (b) furthest (c) consequent (d) fateful Ans. Fateful

(ii) The poet does not intrude on him. It is because

(a) the poet may spoil the mood of the boy who was in a happy mood.

(b) the poet thinks that the boy learns a lesson for his life from this incident.

(c) the poet feels sad for the condition of the boy who lost his ball.

(d) the poet has no willingness to buy a ball for the boy.

**Ans-** (b) the poet thinks that the boy learns a lesson for his life from this incident.

(iii) The age of the boy is around ten years. If the boy is a mature, grown up, he might react to the same ball in the following way:

(1) inconsistent to the loss.

(2) urge to get a new ball or toy.

(3) casual approach to get the ball back

(4) regrets the loss and stands strongly.

(a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3 (c) 2, 3 and 4 (d) 4 only Ans- (d) 4 only

(v) Choose the sentence(s) that list(s) the meaning of the word 'HARBOUR' as used in the extract.

(1) During the riots, all the criminals harbour in the cave.

(2) He might have harboured in Visakhapatnam.

(3) This town has a harbour and an airport.

(4) Belfast harbour was dredged in 1845 to provide deeper berths for larger ships

(a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 2, 3 and 4 (c) 1, 3 and 4 (d) 2 and 3

**Ans-** (b) 2, 3 and 4

### SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1- Why does the poet say, —I would not intrude on him? Why doesn't he offer him money to buy another ball?

**Ans--** The poet does not want to intrude so that the boy can get a chance to learn the real truth of life. He has to learn to accept the loss. The loss here means the most important thing or relationship.

2- "... staring down/All his young days into the harbour where/His ball went ...." Do you think the boy has had the ball for a long time? Is it linked to the memories of days when he played with it?

**Ans-** Yes we can say that the boy had the ball for a very long time. The line itself describes how the boy recalls those days when he used to play with the ball. The ball was surely linked to some sweet memories of his playing with the ball.

3. Is it necessary to have an experience of losing something in life to gain strength and courage?

**Ans.** It is important for everyone to experience loss and to stand up after it because if a person is a victim of loss, she/he couldn't move forward in life. Whatever is lost is lost. One should understand that nothing is permanent in life. Everyone may learn this philosophy of life only after experiencing the loss of something.

4. What is the main theme of the poem The Ball Poem? Explain.

**Ans.** Loss and Acceptance is the main theme of the poem. John Berryman conveys this theme using a ball and a boy. Loss of someone or something is inevitable in life. A person needs to accept bravely the truth of the loss of his own possession. Life never stops for a person at the loss of a thing. It moves on.

### **LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS**

1. Should the boy be allowed to grieve for his ball? If his loss is irreparable or irretrievable then how should one handle it? What lessons can be learnt?

**Ans.** Yes, the boy should be allowed to grieve for his ball, as he had that ball for a long time. He had many old memories associated with it since his childhood. Moreover, when a person is trying to come over his grief on his own, then one should not intrude or disturb him as it may break his chain of thoughts and may irritate him. One should have self-consolation, and self-understanding in order to bear the loss. Self-realization and understanding are more effective and lasting than when it is done by an external agency or a person.

2. How is the lost ball, the metaphor of the lost childhood of the boy? Why doesn't the poet want to 'intrude on' the boy by offering him money to buy another ball?

**Ans:** The boy has a ball. Perhaps he has been keeping it for a long time. He must have developed a lot of attachment and love with the ball. Suddenly while he is playing, the ball bounces down the street. And after a few bounces, it falls down into the harbour. It is lost forever. The boy stands there shocked and fixed to the ground. He constantly goes on staring at the spot where his ball fell down into the water.

Outwardly, the loss seems to be quite small. The boy seems to be making a fuss over the loss. Many boys have lost such balls and will lose so in future. A new ball can be easily bought in a dime. The metaphor of the lost ball is beautifully linked to the loss of sweet childhood. No amount of money can buy the ball back that has been lost forever. Similarly, no worldly wealth can buy back the lost childhood. The poet doesn't want to sermonize on this issue. The boy himself has to learn epistemology or the nature of the loss. He has to move ahead in life forgetting all the losses he has suffered in the past

## **AMANDA**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The poem, "Amanda!" has been composed by Robin Klein. Robin Klein is an Australian author of books for children. In this poem the poet writes about a young girl who is longing to be free from continuous control and instructions of her mother.

### **SUMMARY**

This poem depicts the state of a little girl's mind who is constantly instructed about do's and don'ts by her elders. She is told not to hunch her shoulders and to sit up straight. She is told to finish her homework and tidy her room. She is forbidden from eating a chocolate that she has. But all the time, the little girl Amanda keeps dreaming of a life of freedom without any restraint. She dreams of mermaids in the sea, of roaming barefoot in the dusty street and of the golden-haired Rapunzel who

lived alone in a high tower. She takes no note of what is being said to her. Then she is rebuked by her mother for being moody and sulking all the time.

### **THEME**

In the poem, 'Amanda!', Robin Klein explores the theme of excessive restraint and control on young children and its consequences. Should parents impose their own wishes and ways on children, or they should allow children to make their own ways of dealing with life? Klein seems to believe in the latter view as his tone is sympathetic to Amanda, who has to face a torrent of constant instructions which she is expected to obey. Klein seems to ask that in such a situation, when will the young Amanda express her own true self?

### **REFERENCE TO THE CONTEXT**

1. Don't bite your nails, Amanda!  
Don't hunch your shoulders, Amanda!  
Stop that slouching and sit up straight, Amanda

- (a) Amanda is getting instructions for what purpose?
- (b) Give a synonym of 'hunch'
- (c) What does the speaker of above lines instruct Amanda in the first stanza?
- (d) What is the literary device used in the third line?

#### **Answer:**

(a) Amanda is getting instructions as a part of her upbringing. Her conduct and manners are getting refined for future purposes.

(b) Bend

(c) Amanda is getting instructed for biting her nails and sitting lazily with her shoulders bent.

(d) Literary device used in the third line is Alliteration.

2. Did you tidy your room, Amanda?  
I thought I told you to clean your shoes.

- (a) Who is the speaker?
- (b) What does the speaker want Amanda to do first?
- (c) What is the second demand made on Amanda?
- (d) What is the tone of the speaker?

#### **Answers:**

(a) The speaker is Amanda's mother.

(b) The speaker wants Amanda to tidy her room first.

(c) Amanda is asked to clean her shoes.

(d) The speaker speaks in a nagging and authoritative tone.

3. (I am an orphan, roaming in the street,

I pattern soft dust with my hushed, bare feet. The silence is golden, the freedom is sweet.)

- (a) How come silence is golden?
- (b) Give a synonym of 'roaming'.
- (c) What is Amanda up to in this stanza?
- (d) What poetic device is used in this stanza?

#### **Answers:**

(a) Silence is shown golden using the poetic device metaphor. By making silence golden the poet is estimating the worth of silence. For Amanda seeks peace and calmness, which is absent in her reality.



(b)Wandering

(c)Amanda is again taking refuge in her imagination. Here she wishes to be an orphan, away from her nagging parents. Amanda wants to roam aimlessly in streets and draw patterns using just her bare feet.

(d)The poet uses metaphor such as ‘orphan’ ‘silence is golden’ and ‘freedom is sweet’

### SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1.How life on a tower would be different from life anywhere else for Amanda?

**Answer:** Life on a tower for Amanda would be very different from her reality. Just like Rapunzel, even she desires to live on top of a tower, away from everyday chaos. Amanda suffers due to the constant nagging from her parents. She seeks a place full of peace and serenity, where there is no one to disturb her. Hence, she wishes to live on a tower.

2.Is Amanda at fault at all?

**Answer:** Amanda is not at fault at all. It is too harsh for a small child to understand the concept of acne and not eating a chocolate. Love of parents is missing from Amanda’s life. It is with pity that we look towards Amanda. There is nothing worst for a child who wishes to be an orphan. Amanda just seeks freedom from the overpowering environment around her.

3.What does Amanda yearn for? What does this poem tell you about Amanda?

**Answer:** Amanda yearns for a life of freedom. She is fed up with the constant nagging of her parents. She wishes that she had been an orphan. This shows that if she had no parents no one would nag her. Then she could move about freely and play where she liked.

4.Explain the expression: “The silence is golden; the freedom is sweet”.

**Answer:** When Amanda thinks of herself as an orphan she finds an atmosphere of silence. Moreover, she experiences the much-coveted freedom. Since she has dearly wanted to have this silence, it is called golden. The freedom she enjoys in this imaginary world is enjoyable to her.

5.Bringing up teenagers can be both a challenge and fun. How far do you agree? Express your views with reference to Amanda’s life.

**Answer:** Bringing up teenagers is truly challenging and fun. Teenagers can be rebellious and apparently hot-headed with a highly independent perspective. In such circumstances, yelling at them, and nagging them as done in the poem with Amanda, will only make matters worse. Forcing decisions on them only makes them more detached, as we see in Amanda’s case, where she wishes to be lone mermaid, an orphan or the lonely Rapunzel. To make things fun, one must become a friend where needed.

### VALUE BASED QUESTIONS

1.How does Amanda tackle the nagging nature of her parents? Explain with examples from the poem. What values does it portray about Amanda?

**Answer:** Amanda is a small girl who is termed moody for her careless behavior. But it is very surprising to know that this is her defense mechanism to shield against her nagging parents. Amanda is getting instructions from her parents, which becomes too much to handle for the small girl. She is told not to bite her nails and sit in a proper position. Amanda’s response to it her world of imagination where she is a mermaid drifting effortlessly by the languid sea.Further, she is asked about cleaning her room and finishing her homework to which she reacts being an orphan roaming in the street and making patterns with her bare feet. Amanda then faces the heat for eating a chocolate, which had once caused her acne. She takes the form of Rapunzel and wishes to live on the top of a tower away from everyone in her imagination. Amanda’s parents are upset over her behaviour and casualness, but she stays in her own world. All these portray Amanda in a positive light and her parents in a negative light.

2.Escapism is one way to run away from harsh realities. Discuss in context to the poem.

**Answer:** By going through the whole poem, we come to know that Amanda’s parents, specially her mother keep instructing Amanda all the time. Amanda’s mother intention may be to discipline her

daughter and make her a mature person. But very frequent checking and instructing using so many don'ts, leave no space for the child. Children need love and caring attitude of their elders. An advice in the form of nagging leaves a very harmful impression on the child's mind. The reality becomes harsh for them and they try to escape these realities by indulging in their own fantasy world. Here in the poem, life of Amanda is quite frustrating as Amanda is forbidden to do anything without seeking permission. Continuous instructions of her mother and correcting her all the times leave a very negative impact on child's personality. In such situation the child adheres to a defense mechanism where she imagines herself to be free and without parents so that no nagging is done. Amanda drifts into an imaginary situation to escape from the harsh realities of her life. The parents behavior is forcing her to do so, as a result there will not be a balanced development of her personality. Parents need to understand that their child also requires freedom and his/ her own space. If no space is given, child will develop one or the other complex which may hamper his/r normal growth.

## The Trees

### GIST

The poet talks about trees symbolically. They refer to women who have been healed and are ready to move out of their houses to fulfil their primary purpose - to renew the forest of mankind. As women have remained indoors, the forest has become empty, the birds and insects rendered shelter less. She says that the forest will be full of trees the next morning. The roots of the trees are working hard to separate from the floor of the veranda where they have remained fixed. The leaves and branches are moving towards the glass windows. They are desperate to move out just like a newly discharged patient who has not recovered completely, He moves to the exit door of the hospital in a hurry. The poet is sitting in her house with the doors of the veranda open. She is writing letters but does not mention this movement of the trees. It is night time, the sky is clear and a bright moon is visible. She can smell the leaves and lichen which seem to be calling out desperately. She hears the glass of the window pane breaking. The trees are moving out and the fast-blowing wind embraces them. As the trees have reached the forest, the tall and strong oak tree overshadows the moon and it seems that the moon has been broken into several pieces. The trees inside are moving out into the forest, the forest that was empty all these days where no bird could sit, no insect hide, no sun bury its feet in shadow, the forest that was empty all these nights will be full of trees by morning.

### THEMES

The major themes of this poem are:

- Humanity vs Nature

- Freedom

Humanity vs Nature

- In the poem, Rich describes some consequences of the absence of trees from forests.

- She says that without trees and their branches, birds have nowhere to sit. Similarly, insects have no place where they can hide.

- Through this, Rich may be highlighting how human activities like deforestation and the felling of trees have damaged nature.

- These activities have destroyed the natural habitats of birds, insects, and other species.

Freedom

- In the poem, Rich uses trees to symbolise women's quest for freedom.

- She vividly details how the trees fight to reach their home, the forest.

- Trees' roots struggle to break free from the veranda floor. Similarly, leaves and twigs labour to escape through the glass windows.
- Their movement resembles the 'half-dazed' or confused movement of patients who have just been released from the hospital.
- Through these images, Rich stresses on the difficulties that women face while overcoming long-established traditions.
- Thus, the trees' struggle to escape from the houses to the forest reflects a woman's struggle to shatter the barriers that are binding her and attain freedom.

### Extract Based Comprehension Questions:

1.The trees inside are moving out into the forest, the forest that was empty all these days where no bird could sit no insect hide no sun bury its feet in shadow the forest that was empty all these nights will be full of trees by morning.

#### Questions

- From where are the trees moving out into the forest?
- Why can't birds sit in them or insects hide in them?
- How was the forest all these nights?
- Are these trees useful for birds and insects?
- What type of trees are these?

#### Answers

- The trees are moving out of the mind of the painter and coining on the canvas.
- These are not real trees. These are the trees in a picture or decorative trees in a house. So, birds can't sit in them and insects cannot hide there.
- All these nights, the forest was empty.
- No, these trees are not useful for birds and insects.
- These are decorative or picture trees.

2.All night the roots work to disengage themselves from the cracks on the veranda floor. The leaves strain toward the glass small twigs stiff with exertion long-cramped boughs shuffling under the roof like newly discharged patients half- dazed, moving to the clinic doors.

#### Questions

- What do the roots do all night?
- How are the small twigs?
- What are the boughs compared to?
- What do the leaves do?
- Name the poem and the poetess.

#### Answers

- All night the roots work to free themselves from the cracks in the veranda floor.
- The small twigs are stiff.
- The boughs are compared to newly discharged patients.
- The leaves strain towards the glass.
- Poem: The Trees, Poetess: Adrienne Rich.

3.I sit inside, doors open to the veranda writing long letters in which I scarcely mention the departure of the forest from the house. The night is fresh, the whole moon shines in a sky still open.

### Questions

- (a) Where is the poetess sitting?
- (b) What is the poetess doing?
- (c) What does she not mention in her letters?
- (d) How does the poetess describe the night and the moon?
- (e) How is the sky?

### Answers

- (a) The poetess is sitting in her room.
- (b) The poetess is writing long letters.
- (c) She does not mention the departure of the forest from the house.
- (d) The night is pleasant and fresh. The full moon is shining.
- (e) The sky is still open.

4. The smell of leaves and lichen

still reaches like a voice into the rooms.

My head is full of whispers which tomorrow will be silent.

### Questions:

- (a) Where is the poetess sitting at present?
- (b) Which smell is reaching her?
- (c) What is her head full of?
- (d) What will be silent tomorrow?
- (e) Name the poem and the poetess.

### Answers

- (a) At present, the poetess is sitting in her room.
- (b) The smell of leaves and lichen is reaching her.
- (c) Her head is full of whispers.
- (d) Tomorrow, the whispers will be silent.
- (e) Poem: The Trees, Poetess: Adrienne Rich.

### Short Answer Questions (30-40 words)

Q1-(i) Find three things in the first stanza, that cannot happen in a treeless forest?

Ans: The three things mentioned in the first stanza that cannot happen in a treeless forest are:

1. Birds sitting on the tree branches.
2. The hiding of insects in the branches of trees
3. The sun burying its feet in the shadow of the trees in the forest.

(ii) What picture do these words create in your mind: —... sun bury its feet in shadow...! What could the poet mean by the sun's feet?

Ans: The sun's feet are the rays of sun that reach the earth after falling on the leaves of the trees and finally, reach the earth 's surface.

Q2 (i) Where are the trees in the poem? What do their roots, their leaves, and their twigs do?

Ans: The trees are in the poet's house. The roots are working hard to remove themselves from the cracks of veranda. The leaves are making an effort to reach towards the glass in order to come out and the twigs are making attempts to set themselves free and reach the forest.

(ii) What does the poet compare their branches to?

Ans: The poet uses the word long cramped for the branches. She says that the branches are trying hard to come out of the roof. She then compares them with newly discharged patients who are trying to move out in their half consciousness.

### Long Answer Questions (100-150 Words)

Q1. Now that you have read the poem in detail, we can begin to ask what the poem might mean.

Here are two suggestions. Can you think of others?

Does the poem present a conflict between man and nature? Compare it with A Tiger in the zoo. Is the poet suggesting that plants and trees, used for interior decoration in cities while forests are cut down, are imprisoned and need to break out?

**Ans:** Yes, the poem presents a conflict between man and nature. Man is causing deforestation by cutting down the trees for his own use. On the other hand, he decorates his house with the trees. We are damaging our environment without even thinking about the end results. By clearing up the forests, we are endangering ourselves. So is with the animals too. We are ruining their natural habitat and killing them for our fun or food but on the other hand, we are keeping them in the cages on the pretext of safeguarding them by making sanctuaries and zoos. So, it is true that we are in a direct conflict with nature and making the other living creatures prisoners, be it the trees or animals.

Q2. On the other hand, Adrienne Rich has been known to use trees as a metaphor for human beings; this is a recurrent image in her poetry. What new meanings emerge from the poem if you take its trees to be symbolic of this particular meaning?

**Ans:** If trees are to be taken as a symbol for human beings, then the poem will define the efforts of humans to free themselves from the clutches of the desire to achieve everything. All the human beings are under a constant pressure of being at the top in every field. Either they are forced by their own desire of doing so or there is a constant peer pressure on them. So, the the human beings will set themselves free from this race and try to live a happy and peaceful life.

## Fog

### GIST

Fog is a very small poem written by Carl Sandburg. He has described the process of arrival of the fog into a city and the harbour. He has very beautifully compared it to a cat. The poet says that the fog which is generally seen during the winter season is coming towards the city and the harbour just like a cat. This means that it is approaching the city in a very silent manner so that no one can notice its arrival. He has compared its arrival to that of a cat because a cat always enters a place silently. Next, he says that the fog has covered the whole of the city and harbour and it appears as if it is sitting by folding its legs and looking around just the way a cat does when it sits on the haunches and looks around. At the end, he describes the departure of the fog which very silently and unpredictably, again, similar to the departure of the cat, vanishes.

#### Extract Based Comprehension Questions:

**1.The fog comes on little cat feet.**

**It sits looking over harbour and city on silent haunches and then moves on.**

#### Questions:

- (a)How does the fog come?
- (b)What does the fog do in the end?
- (c)For what does “it” stand in the third line?
- (d)Name the poem and the poet.

#### Answers

- (a)The fog comes on little cat feet.
- (b)In the end, the fog marches on.
- (c)“It” stands for the fog.
- (d)The name of the poem is Fog‘and the poet’s name is Carl Sandburg.

**2.The fog comes on little cat feet.**

**It sits looking over harbour and city on silent haunches and then moves on.**

#### Questions:

- (a)Why does the poet use the metaphor of a cat?

- (b)How does the fog enter?
- (c)How does it sit and what does it look?
- (d)How does it depart?

**Answers:**

- (a)The poet finds the fog as a cat that comes on its tiny, silent feet while they stalk..
- (b)The fog enters silently like a little cat.
- (c)The fog sits silently on its haunches overlooking the harbour and the city.
- (d)The fog stays for a while and departs silently.

**Short Answer Questions (30-40 Words)**

Q 1. How does the poet compare fog to a living being?

Ans: The poet compares the fog to a cat. The silent steps of a cat and the way it sits on its haunches is very similar to the way fog comes and surrounds the city and looks over it.

Q 2. What image does the poet give to the fog? What are the similarities between that image and fog? Ans: The poet looks at fog as a living creature and compares it to a cat. The fog moves like a cat on little cat feet and sits on haunches like a cat.

**Additional SAQ for practice**

- 1.How is the fog like a cat? What poetic device is used by the poet here?
- 2.Name the three things that tell us that the fog is like a cat.

**Long Answer Questions: (100-150 words)**

Q 1. Difficulties come but they are not to stay forever. They come and go. Comment referring to the poem Fog ‘.

Ans: Difficulties, when faced by people, tend to leave them hopeless and shattered. It takes a lot of courage to overcome any problem and to solve it. If we take a clue from the poem and compare difficulties to fog, we find that just like fog, difficulties also come and go. Fog is a very small poem written by Carl Sandburg. He has described the process of arrival of the fog into a city and the harbour. He has very beautifully compared it to a cat. One need not be hopeless and lose courage when problems come, one should rather think of it as fog, meaning that it has not come to stay but will always leave, like fog.

Q 2. Nature has many wonders that people take for granted and never pay attention to. How is the poem Fog different from this perspective?

Ans: Fog is a very small poem written by Carl Sandburg. He has described the process of arrival of the fog into a city and the harbour. He has very beautifully compared it to a cat. The poet has taken utmost pleasure in nature and natural phenomenon like fog. Fog is so special to the poet that he cared enough not only to write about it, but also thinks of its resemblance with other things in the world. In his close attention to fog, he found fog resembles a cat, in the way it moves and sits on its haunches. The fact that such a resemblance was found by the poet shows how connected he is to various things in nature. This poem serves as a motivation for people, who take nature for granted to find such interesting comparisons and similarities around them.

## **THE TALE OF CUSTARD THE DRAGON**

### **GIST**

The Tale of Custard the Dragon is a whimsical fantasy. Belinda lives alone in her house with four pets, a dog, a cat, a mouse and a dragon named Custard. All other dwellers of the house except Custard, pride themselves on their fearlessness. They mock poor Custard for his timidity. However, when the real danger comes all others run away in a panic except Custard. Only Custard fights ferociously and swallows the pirate. The poem ends ironically. After the danger is past, everyone begins to boast again about their courage. Ironically, Custard who fought like a hero against the pirate agrees that everyone else is braver than he is. So, appearances may be deceptive. And even your merit and real value may not be recognised by your unwilling rivals.

**Extract Based Comprehension Questions:**

1-Custard the dragon had big sharp teeth, And spikes on top of him and scales underneath, Mouth

like a fireplace, chimney for a nose, And realio, trulio, daggers on his toes.

**Question**

- (a) What did the dragon look like?
- (b) Why is the dragon's mouth called a chimney?
- (c) Which word in the stanza means the same as —a small sword?
- (d) Find from the passage a word which means a structure through which smoke or steam is carried up away from a fire.

**Answer**

- (a) The Dragon had spikes on top and scale underneath. His mouth was like a fireplace and nose was like a chimney. He looked dangerous as his toes looked like daggers.
- (b) Dragons can spit fire; therefore, Custard's mouth has been called a fireplace.
- (c) The word is Dagger.
- (d) The word is Chimney. (e)

2- Suddenly, suddenly they heard a nasty sound, And Mustard growled, and they all looked around. Meowch! cried Ink, and Ooh! cried Belinda,  
For there was a pirate, climbing in the Window.

**Question**

- (a) Which poetic device is used in these lines?
- (b) Why was everyone frightened?
- (c) Which word in the stanza means —unpleasant?
- (d) What does a nasty sound refer to? Answer:

**Answer**

- (a) In the first line, the poet has used repetition in Suddenly, suddenly.
- (b) Everyone was frightened because a pirate was climbing up the window.
- (c) The word is Nasty.
- (d) A nasty sound refers to the entry of a pirate into the house. 3- Belinda paled, and she cried, Help! Help! But Mustard fled with a terrified yelp, Ink trickled down to the bottom of the household, And little mouse Blink strategically mouse holed.

**Question**

- (a) How did the people in the house react on seeing the pirate?
- (b) Why did everyone cry for help?
- (c) What does mouse holed mean?
- (d) Write the antonym of "bottom"

**Answer**

- (a) Belinda became pale with fear and the Mustard fled the scene. Ink went to the bottom of the house and Blink vanished in a mouse hole. They all cried for help.
- (b) Everyone cried for help because they all got frightened of the pirate.
- (c) Mouse holed has been used by the poet to mean the hole made by the mouse in which it disappeared.
- (d) The antonym of bottom is brim.

**SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS: (30-40 Words)**

Q1. How did Custard the dragon face the pirate? What was the outcome of their fight?

Ans: Custard the dragon jumped up snorting. He clashed his tail. Thus, he prepared himself to face the pirate. The pirate was amazed at this heroic gesture of the dragon. He gulped some wine to cheer up his drooping spirits. He fired two bullets but missed the aim. In the meantime, Custard the dragon swallowed him.

Q2. How did Belinda and her pets behave when the pirate had been killed by Custard?

Ans: When the pirate had been killed by Custard, Belinda embraced him, Mustard licked him and Ink and Blink gyrated around him.

Q3. How did all boast of their false bravery?

Ans: After the pirate had been killed, Mustard boasted that he would have been twice as brave if

he had not been confused. Ink and Blink said that they would have been thrice as brave.

Q4. How is The Tale of Custard the Dragon ‘a ballad’?

Ans. A ballad is a poem that tells a story. The theme of a ballad is an adventure, bravery, romance, etc. Then it is highly musical due to its rhyme scheme. This poem has these qualities. But it is a parody of a ballad. The poet shows these qualities in a humorous way.

Q5. Custard was not treated nicely by Belinda and his fellow animals. Justify.

Ans. Custard was laughed at by Belinda and his fellow animals. Despite proving to be bravest when the time came, he was mockingly called “Percival” for being a coward.

Q6 Analyse any one of Custard’s qualities with an example from The Tale of Custard the Dragon.

Ans. One of the qualities of Custard that stands out is fearlessness. He shows courage when a pirate armed with weapons attacks the house. While everyone else flees, he attacks the pirate and gobbles him up in order to protect Belinda and his animal friends.

### **LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (100-150 Words)**

Q1. The dragon, custard was considered a coward. The humble dragon proved his bravery in adversity. Analyse that certain qualities like bravery and courage are situational and spontaneous. Express your views with reference to the poem.

**Answer :** Custard’s humbleness won every reader’s heart as he showed true bravery and did not boast like Belinda and her other pets. Everyone boasted of their bravery but when they faced real danger, it was only Custard, who had the courage to face it. And he proved his bravery by not running away and facing the pirate and killing him. Qualities like bravery and courage can only be tested when someone is actually put in a dangerous situation. Therefore, these qualities are situational as becomes clear from Custard’s example. Custard looked for comfort all the time but this did not mean that he was a coward.

Q2. Do you think that one should be made fun of because of their preferences and choices in life? Explain in the context of Custard, the dragon.

#### **Answer**

It is not right to make fun of anyone on the basis of their life style and their choices. Custard, the dragon, always wanted comfort and safety for him and therefore always cried for a nice safe cage. Belinda and other pets of the house made fun of him because they thought that he was a coward. Custard proved that just because he likes comfort, he is not a coward. In fact, he was the only one, who had the courage to face the pirate and kill him.

Q3. Evaluate Ogden Nash’s The Tale of Custard the Dragon as a ballad. What message does the poet give to the readers in this poem?

**Ans.** Ballads are stories told in verse. Generally, ballads are tales of adventures and heroism. In the poem, the poet does present the encounter of Custard and the pirate in the typical spirit of a ballad. The four-line stanzas have the rhyme scheme: aa, bb throughout the poem.

Ogden Nash gives a subtle message to the readers through the fate of Custard, the dragon. In this world of deceit, self-confidence, self-dependence and self-respect are essentials to earn your rightful place among your peers. The mere presence of physical strength is not enough. The more important point is that you must be conscious of your strength. You must be fully aware of the fact that many others who are far inferior in strength and power should have no right to taunt and ridicule you.

## **FOOTPRINTS WITHOUT FEET A Triumph Of Surgery**

### **Summary:**

The story begins when Mrs Pumphrey takes Tricki for a stroll. A close veterinary notices Tricki and is stunned by his plumped body. He encourages her to quit overfeeding him yet she can’t deny him.

Before long Tricki falls debilitated and the specialist is called. The storyteller, Mr Herriot then in



some way takes Tricki to the medical clinic although he realises that Mrs Pumphrey can't keep her dog out of sight. Tricki was lethargic for a few days. One day, he glances around and whines a little. Subsequently, he went out and began playing with the bigger dogs.

Soon his condition began improving. He began battling for his feasts with different canines. When Mrs Pumphrey heard, she began remitting him eggs as she felt that Tricki was recuperating from disease and required energy food. Mr Herriot and his accomplices began consuming those eggs and wine. He felt that he wanted to keep Tricki and felt blissful because of his presence and his bounties. However, he made a shrewd choice and called up Mrs Pumphrey as she was stressed and Tricki was fit to be brought back home. Tricki rejoiced to see his maiden and bounced into the vehicle. Mrs Pumphrey said that she is grateful to him and that his medical procedure had been fruitful as Tricki was relieved.

### **Conclusion**

An overdose of something that is otherwise good means an extreme sum that becomes overpowering or hurtful, instead of accommodating or pleasurable. In limited quantities, the thing might work out great for you; in enormous sums, the thing is destructive or a weight.

### **Short Answer Type Questions**

1. What made James Herriot expect a call from Mrs Pumphrey? [CBSE 2015]

#### **Answer:**

James Herriot's encounter with Mrs Pumphrey and Tricki made him expect a call for help. He was sure that the extra diet and no physical activity would soon put Tricki's health in danger. And just as anticipated, Mrs Pumphrey called the vet a few days afterwards.

Question 2. What 'extra' did Mrs Pumphrey start to give Tricki and why?

#### **Answer:**

Mrs Pumphrey thought that Tricki was suffering from malnutrition, as he was weak and listless. So, she started to give him extra snacks like cod-liver oil and malt between the main meals and Horlicks after dinner to make him stronger. She also continued his cream cakes and chocolates.

Question 3.

3. What made Mrs Pumphrey call the vet?

#### **Answer:**

Tricki's condition made Mrs. Pumphrey call the vet for help. Tricki had become fat and lazy. He just used to lie on his rug and pant. He also refused to eat food, even his favorite dishes. His bouts of vomiting added to Mrs. Pumphrey's worry. That is why, she called James Herriot.

### **Long Answer (Value Based) Type Questions**

Question 1: Pen down incidences in support of values one should inculcate from Mr James Herriot. [CBSE 2015]

#### **Answer:**

Mr Herriot was a capable veterinary surgeon who treated Tricki. He was a very compassionate doctor and a wise and sympathetic human being. He showed his capabilities almost immediately when he advised Mrs Pumphrey to put Tricki on a strict diet after understanding his symptoms. He can also be said to be an understanding and tactful person as he knew exactly how to free Tricki from the spoiling love of Mrs Pumphrey for his betterment. He does not operate upon the poor dog unnecessarily and adopts a practical approach to treat him. Mr James was a caring and polite individual as he successfully allays Mrs Pumphrey's anxiety about Tricki's recovery patiently. He was in all a good human being and a successful professional.

Question 2. Do you think parents like Mrs Pumphrey exist? If yes, is it a good thing to pamper children? Why or why not? [CBSE 2012]

#### **Answer:**

Yes, parents like Mrs Pumphrey definitely exist. These people spoil their children by taking sure

all their demands are met. They spoil their children in the name of love and care. They not only feed them junk but also spoil their social habits. This kind of a behavior is very harmful for children. Such overprotective parental behavior hinders their growth as adults. In fact it sows the seeds of greed and dependency in them. They become stubborn and do not learn to value anything. For them, hard work is a myth as they get everything easily. Over pampered children often fail to face the hardships of life later, as for them life has been a cakewalk. Pampering children in moderation is healthy, but excess of it is harmful. It is not just bad for humans but also for animals, as we see in the story 'A triumph of Surgery'.

## A Thief's Story

### Summary:

The Thief's Story by Ruskin Bond is much more than just a tale of a thief. The narrative focuses on fundamental human connections and ideals. A robber will find it simpler to burgle a man who is greedy. Even a robber finds it challenging to burglarize a thoughtless and trustworthy individual. A fifteen-year-old burglar is the subject of the tale. To avoid the police and his previous jobs, he used to alter his name once a month. He referred to himself as Hari Singh this time. Anil, the second character in the narrative, is a 25-year-old author. One day, the thief runs into Anil and begs if he may work for him. Anil becomes friends with this young boy. He works for Anil, who has complete faith in him. Does the young man betray his trust? The tale reveals how the robber tricked Anil by committing fraud before backing out.

### Short Answer Type Questions

Question 1. Why did Hari Singh approach Anil?

#### Answer:

Hari Singh was a thief who had not much luck in his work recently. So he approached Anil with the intention of robbing him, as he seemed to be an easygoing and simple man. According to Hari, winning Anil's confidence was an easy task.

Question 2.

Anil walked away. I followed casually'. Why do you think the narrator followed Anil?

#### Answer:

The narrator's purpose of robbing Anil had not yet been served. He followed Anil to gain his trust and look for an opportunity that may help him give shape to his plans.

Question 3.

Was Hari Singh successful in robbing Anil? Was Anil the only one who was robbed or did Hari also rob himself of something?

#### Answer:

Yes, Hari Singh was successful in robbing Anil. But Anil was not the only one who was robbed at that time. Hari had robbed himself as well. He had lost the chance of receiving education and being literate. He had robbed Anil monetarily but he had robbed himself of the chance for a better and brighter future, which was much more valuable.

### Long Answer (Value Based) Type Questions .

Question 1.

Money can't make a man as much as education can. Elucidate the statement.

#### Answer:

The statement stands true in almost all the aspects of life. Money may buy us all the luxuries and fulfil our needs but it cannot buy us knowledge, civilized thinking, skills and abilities to achieve our dreams. Education lays the platform for all to act upon our goals according to our abilities. Education enables us to keep up with the fast moving world. It opens the door to opportunities we do not know even exist. Money, on the other hand, can assist us to a certain level. It can buy us a

plan but education gives us the knowledge of its execution. Just as in the story 'A Thief's Story', Hari Singh prioritised the chance of being literate over a few hundred rupees, we must understand that education can help us to achieve whatever we desire.

**Question 2.** Hari Singh didn't board the express and returned to Anil. Why did he return? On what values does this incidence put light on?

**Answer:**

Hari Singh was a thief and he had stolen Anil's money. After the theft, he realised that he had robbed not only Anil but also himself of the chance of being literate and having a bright future. His conscience pricked him to think what all he could have got had he not done this. It was difficult for him to rob Anil but it was tougher for him not to back. He realised that he could not make tea, buy daily supplies and learn how to read and write then. His inner self did not agree to bypass this and forced him to return.

Hari's return to Anil shows that despite indulging in criminal acts, he still had a practical and positive attitude towards life. It is the awakening of Hari's conscience and Anil's love and care that reformed Hari's character. It teaches us that love alone can change a person. Anil's understanding nature and care changed Hari's thinking to mend his ways for good.

### A Question Of Trust

**Summary:**

This story is about a thief who gets a taste of his own medicine. Horace Danby can be termed as a thief with a difference. He steals only once in a year. He is fond of books and spends most of his booty on buying books. He plans meticulously before attempting a burglary. During his burglary attempt at a big house, he gathers all the necessary information and enters the house for stealing from the safe. He is cheated by a lady thief, who claims herself to be the owner of the house. Finally, Horace ends up in prison only to repent at the way he was deceived by a person from his own profession.

**Short Answer Type Questions**

**Question 1.** 'Horace Danby was good and respectable but not completely honest.' Is this an apt description of Horace? If yes, why ?

**Answer:** Yes, Horace was good but not completely honest. He loved expensive books. So, he stole once a year. He was not aggressive by nature but only submissive as seen in the case of lady thief in red.

**Question 2.** Horace was no ordinary thief. How can you say this? Or

What was the passion of Horace Danby and how did he satisfy it ?

**Answer:** Horace Danby was not an ordinary thief. He loved rare and expensive books. So he robbed a safe every year and through an agent secretly bought the books he loved.

**Question 3.** How did Danby prepare for the robbery at Shot over Grange ?

**Answer:** Danby studied the complete situation of the house, i.e., electric wiring, paths and garden. He collected knowledge about family. He knew all the movements of the servants. He always kept his tools ready.

**Question 4.** Horace Danby was interested in the books, not in the painting. Why ?

**Answer:** Horace Danby was fond of reading the rare type of books. For a moment, he thought to collect paintings from the small house but he could not, as the books were better in that small house.

**Question 5.** Horace sneezed. Why did he do it ?

**Answer:** Horace did not sneeze deliberately, rather he suffered from an attack of hay fever. There was a big bowl of flowers kept in the drawing room that caused him to sneeze.

### Long Answer (Value Based) Type Questions

**Question 1.**

Horace Danby was a meticulous planner but still he faltered. Where did he go wrong and why ?

**Answer:**

Horace Danby had collected all the information about the owner and servants and studied the house carefully. He always planned his work well and was always alert. When the lady in red came and announced that she was the owner of the house, her appearance was such that he was fooled. When she took a cigarette from a silver book, Horace took off his gloves and held his lighter towards her. When opening the safe to get her jewels, he forgot to put on the gloves and so, his fingerprints were found on the safe and he was arrested two days later. The owner of the house was an aged lady of sixty and he had been fooled by that young lady

2. How was Horace Danby arrested for the robbery of the jewels in a house at Shot over Grange? Do you think his own foolishness was responsible for his arrest? Give a reasoned answer.

**Answer:** Horace Danby never acted recklessly in a hurry while committing a theft. He robbed a safe every year. All his previous thefts had been completely successful. Even to commit a theft in a house at Shot over Grange, he made detailed and fool-proof preparations. However, he proved a novice in comparison to the young lady in red. She, in a very confident and convincing way, made him believe that she was the lady of the house. She made him open the safe without the gloves and handover all the jewels to her. She decamped with the jewels and Horace was arrested.

By noon, a policeman arrested Horace for the jewel robbery at Shot over Grange. He had opened the safe without wearing his gloves. He did believe that he was opening the safe for the lady of the house. He pleaded that the wife of the owner of the house had asked him to open the safe for her. The real lady of the house appeared on the scene. She was not the young lady in red but a grey-haired woman of sixty. She said that Horace's story was nonsense. Only then, Horace came to know that he was outwitted by the lady in red who was also a thief like him.

### **The midnight's Visitor**

#### **Summary:**

The Midnight Visitor is a story about how a detective named Ausable got rid of his rival Max applying his brain in a grave situation. If you go through the detailed summary of The Midnight Visitor Class 10, you will find that Ausable was in search of some sensitive papers in the hotel room. Suddenly, he was attacked by his rival named Max. Max put him at the gunpoint and claimed the sensitive papers. However, Ausable got rid of the situation by applying extraordinary intelligence. Ausable was too fat to be a secret agent. The fact surprised Fowler, a friend of Ausable. Fowler got scared at the situation. However, understanding the gravity of the situation, Ausable created a story about a fake balcony. Max believed the story of the non-existent balcony. Ausable again created a fake story involving police. Max believed that story too and instead of evading the police, he jumped into that nonexistent fake balcony. The Midnight Visitor is a story of how anyone can get rid of a crunch situation with the help of common sense. We will find the details of the summary of The Midnight Visitor in the next section.

#### **Short Answer Type Questions**

1. Who actually had knocked at the door of Ausable's room? Why did he come there?

**Answer:** The waiter in the hotel where Ausable stayed knocked at the door of Ausable's room. He had brought the drinks which Ausable had ordered when he arrived in the hotel with Fowler.

2. Why did Ausable frame the story of the balcony?

**Answer:** Ausable framed the story of the balcony to counter the use of the pistol by the rival secret agent Max to threaten him. The rival would have been able to get the important report about the new missiles if Ausable had not concocted this story.

3. Why did Max's face turn black with anger? What did he want Ausable to do?

**Answer:** Max's face turned black with anger because he felt that his plan of extracting the important document from Ausable was in danger of failing due to the knocking on the door, which Ausable identified as the police. He wanted Ausable to send the police away.

### **Long Answer (Value Based) Type Questions**

#### **Question 1.**

What information did Ausable give about the imaginary balcony? Why did he do so?

#### **Answer:**

Ausable created a detailed description of how his room was part a bigger apartment and how the next room had a direct connection with a balcony. His statement that somebody else had also broken into his office through that balcony made it a convincing story. Ausable did this to fool Max into thinking that a balcony existed just outside the window, as he knew that soon the waiter bringing the drinks he had ordered would be knocking at the door, which may prompt Max to jump into the imaginary balcony to hide.

**Question 2.** Ausable was a clever secret agent. Do you agree with the statement? Justify your

**Answer:** Ausable did not look at all like the conventional image of a secret agent. He was short and very fat. Besides, he spoke French and German which lacked fluency as well as the right accent; the American accent was quite palpable in his speech. However, Ausable had a very sharp and active mind because he invented two stories, one about a non-existent balcony outside his hotel window and another about the police arriving to give extra security to some important documents he was about to receive. He was an intelligent man and a clever secret agent to be able to invent such stories on the spur of the moment in the face of imminent danger in the form of Max, a rival secret agent.

### **FOOTPRINTS WITHOUT FEET BY H. G. WELLS**

#### **GIST:**

The story is about a scientist named Griffin. He had been discovering ways which could make a man invisible and finally swallowed certain rare drugs that made him invisible. He was first noticed by two boys in staircase of a house where they could just see his footsteps and started following it. They follow it until the footsteps are fainter and cannot be seen. First as he is feeling cold he enters a mall for some warmth. After the stores shutdown he decides to wear some warm clothes and eat something. He first unboxed a few clothes and wore them. Then from the kitchen of a restaurant he eats cold meat and some coffee. Later he goes to a grocery store and eats sweets and drinks wine. He then falls asleep on a pile of quilts. He then wakes up in the morning when some of the store assistants had seen him and started chasing him. He quickly threw away all the clothes he was wearing and became invisible again. Then he started roaming around again without any clothes in the cold winters of London. He then decides to steal clothes from a theatre company as he knew he

would get something there to cover his face as well. He then steals bandages for his face, dark glasses, false nose and a hat for covering himself. He then hits the shopkeeper and steals all his money. Soon he realizes that London is too crowded to live like this and decides that he would go to a remote village. He books two rooms at an inn at the Iping village. He reaches there and it is strange for the people of Iping that a stranger with such a weird appearance has come to stay at an inn during the winter season. Once his money is over, he steals from people and also hits the landlord and his wife when they try to check his room in his absence. Then the village constable is asked for help but before that Mrs. Hall, the wife of the landlord asks him questions regarding who he is and what he did to her furniture. This makes him really furious and he decides to show her who he really is. The people then see a headless man and Mr. Jaffers, the constable also finds out

that he would have to arrest a man who does not have a head. They are unable to catch Griffin as he removes all his clothes and becomes invisible. He even knocks out Jaffers as he tries to catch him.

**Short Answer Questions: - (30-40 words)**

### **1.Griffin was rather a lawless person. Comment.**

Answer: Griffin never thought twice before harming anybody. He put his landlord's house on fire. Then his stealing acts at shops and later in the village indicate towards this. When he was encountered by the landlady of the inn, he threw chair at her and her husband. Lawless persons never think about safety and well-being of others. They are always preoccupied by their benefits only.

### **2. How would you assess Griffin as a Scientist?**

Answer: Griffin is a brilliant scientist which is evident from his drug of invisibility. But he seems to enjoy the feeling of power which he got out of his invisibility. The power to hurt anybody without getting noticed can give sadistic pleasure to somebody. A true scientist makes discovery for the larger benefit of the society.

### **3. What did Halls see in the scientist's room?**

**Answer:** As the door was open and nobody appeared to be inside, Halls entered the scientist's room. They saw that the bedclothes were cold, showing that the scientist must have been up for some time and stranger still, the clothes and bandages that he always wore were lying about the room.

### **4. What was the explanation of 'mystery'?**

**Answer:** The two boys followed muddy footprints, being made fresh without seeing anybody making the prints, which was a 'mystery' for them. The explanation was that the bewildered boys had been following a scientist who had just discovered how to make the human body transparent and thus invisible, by swallowing certain drug

## **THE MAKING OF A SCIENTIST**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Richard H. Ebright has contributed significantly to Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. When Ebright was a little child, he used to collect butterflies, rocks, fossils and coins. He was an eager star-gazer also. But he was mainly interested in butterflies. During his school as well as college days, he did many experiments for which he was awarded many prizes. Most of his experiments were on butterflies. These experiments were a milestone in the world of science.

### **DETAILED SUMMARY**

Richard H. Ebright is one of the leading scientists. He has contributed significantly to Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He had been interested in science since his boyhood years. At the age of twenty two, he excited the scientific world with a new theory. It was concerned with the working of cells. Ebright and his college room-mate explained the theory in an article. It was published in the journal entitled 'Proceedings of the National Academy of Science'. It was first of his many achievements in the field of science. It started with his studies on 'butterflies'.

Ebright was the only child of his parents. They lived in the north of Reading, Pennsylvania. There was nothing for Ebright to do there. He had no companions. He was not a good player. But his hobby was collecting things. Ebright was fascinated by butterflies. He started collecting butterflies in kindergarten. He also collected rocks, fossils and coins. He also became a star-gazer and an eager astronomer.

Ebright's mother recognized his curiosity and encouraged him. She took him on trips. She also bought him telescopes, microscopes, cameras and other equipment so that he could follow his

hobbies. Ebright's mother was his friend until he started school. She would bring home friends to him. He was her whole life after her husband's death.

Ebright's mother would find work for Richie if he had nothing to do. She found learning tasks for him. He had a great hunger for learning. He earned top grades in school. By the time he was in second grade. He had collected 25 species of butterflies. These were found around in hometown. One day his mother gave him a children's book. It opened the world of science to Ebright.

That book was 'The Travels of Monarch X'. It described how monarch butterflies migrate to Central America. This book fascinated him. At the end of the book, readers were invited to help study butterfly migrations. They were asked to tag butterflies for research by Dr Frederick A. Urquhart of Toronto University. Canada. Anyone who found a tagged butterfly was asked to send the tag to Dr Urquhart. Ebright started tagging monarch butterflies. The butterfly collecting season around Reading lasts only six weeks in late summer. He realized that chasing the butterflies one by one won't enable him to catch many. So he decided to raise a flock of butterflies. He would catch a female monarch and take her eggs. He would raise them in his basement from egg to caterpillar to pupa to adult butterfly. Then he would tag the butterflies' wings and let them go.

However, soon Ebright began to lose interest in tagging butterflies. The reason was that there was no feedback. He was a little disappointed as only two butterflies had been recaptured. And they had been found not more than seventy-five miles from where he lived. By the time, Ebright reached the seventh grade. He got busy with other scientific experiments. He entered a county science fair. His entries were slides of frog tissues. But he did not win any prize He realised that the winners had tried to do real experiments. So he decided to do further research in his favourite field, that is, insects on which he had already been doing work.

Ebright wrote to Dr Urquhart for ideas. In reply, the famous scientist gave him many suggestions for experiments. These experiments kept Ebright busy all through high school. He also won many prizes in the county and international science fairs. For his eighth grade project, Ebright tried to find the cause of a viral disease that killed all monarch caterpillars. He thought the disease might be carried by a beetle. He tried raising caterpillars in the presence of beetles. But he didn't get any real results. But he showed his experiment in the science fair and won. The next year his science fair project was testing the theory that viceroy butterflies imitate monarchs. He said that viceroys look like monarchs because birds do not find monarchs tasty. By copying monarchs, the viceroys escape being eaten by birds. His project was to see if birds would eat monarchs. This project was placed first in the zoology division and third overall in the county science fair.

In his second year in high school, Ebright's research led to his discovery of an unknown insect hormone. Indirectly, it led to his new theory on the life of cells. He tried to answer a very simple question: What is the purpose of the twelve tiny gold spots on a monarch pupa? To find the answer Ebright and another student built a device that showed that the spots were producing a hormone. It was necessary for the butterfly's full development. This project won Ebright first place in the county fair and entry into the International Science and Engineering Fair. There he won third place for zoology. He also got a chance to work in Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

Ebright's interest in butterflies never abated. As a high school junior, he continued his advanced experiments on the monarch pupa. His project won first place at the International Science Fair. In his senior year, he grew cells from a monarch's wing in a culture. He showed that the cells would divide and develop into normal butterfly wing scales only if they were fed the hormone from the

gold spots. That project won first place for zoology at the International Fair. He also worked at the army laboratory and at the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's laboratory. The following summer Ebright went back to the Dept. of Agriculture's lab and worked on the hormone theory. Finally, he was able to identify the hormone's chemical structure.

A year-and-a-half later, one day, Ebright was seeing the X-ray photos of the chemical structure of cells. He got the idea for his new theory about cell life. Those photos provided him with the answer to one of biology's puzzles: how the cell can read the blueprint of its DNA. DNA is the substance in the nucleus of a cell that controls heredity. It is the blueprint for life. Ebright and his college room-mate James R. Wong drew pictures and constructed plastic models of molecules to show how it could happen.

No one was surprised when Richard Ebright graduated from Harvard with highest honours. He also became a graduate student researcher at Harvard Medical School. There he began experimenting to test his theory if the theory proves correct it will be a big step towards understanding the life processes. It might also lead to new ideas for preventing some types of cancer and other diseases.

Ebright has many other interests also. He also became a champion debater and public speaker, a good canoeist and an all-around outdoor-Person. He was also an expert photographer of nature and scientific exhibits.

Ebright's social studies teacher, Richard Weiherer had high praise for him. Ebright said about his teacher that he opened his mind to new ideas. Richard A. Weiherer also spoke highly of Ebright about his interests. He won because he wanted to do the best job. He said that Ebright was competitive, but not in a bad sense. In the end, the writer says Ebright possessed those traits which are necessary for the making of a scientist. These are: Start with a first-rate mind, add curiosity and mix in the will to win for the right reasons. Ebright had these qualities.

## **Main Characters**

### **1. Richard H Ebright**

- A multifaceted genius; a great scientist, debater, canoeist, etc.
- Collected butterflies since childhood
- Worked on monarch butterflies, the cell and its DNA
- Inspired by his mother, Dr Urquhart and his teacher RA Weiherer

### **2. Richard H Ebright's Mother**

- Encouraged and inspired Ebright's interest in learning
- Bought him instruments, cameras; his only companions
- Got him the book *The Travels of Monarch X* that changed Richard Ebright's life

### **3. Dr Urquhart**

- Famous for work on monarch butterflies
- Taught at University of Toronto, Canada
- Helped Ebright with new ideas and suggestions

### **4. Richard A Weiherer**



- Social Studies teacher of Ebright
- Respected and admired by Ebright
- Turned Ebright's energy towards the Debating and Model United Nations clubs.

### SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (30-40 Words)

Q1. Which project of Ebright won first prize in the county science fair?

Ans. Ebright didn't win anything at his first science fair, thereby realizing that actual experiments alone worked. Later, he started winning prizes. Ebright with his scientist friend first built a device that showed that the tiny gold spots on a monarch pupa were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly's full development. This project won the first prize in the county science fair and third prize in zoology in the International science fair.

Q2. What were the factors which contributed to making Ebright a scientist?

Ans. Sharp brain, d y observant, anal tic mind, driving curiosity, the keen interest in the subject and strong will for the right cause are some of the essentials for the making of a scientist. He should not run after prizes, have a competitive spirit but not in a bad sense.

Q3. What idea did Ebright get when he was looking at the X-ray photos of cells?

Ans. One day, Ebright was seeing the X-ray photos of the chemical structure of cells. He got the idea for his new theory about cell life. Those photos provided him with the answer to one of biology's puzzles: how the cell can read the blueprint of its DNA.

### LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS: (100-150 words)

1. 'Success is failure turned inside out'. Prove the above statement with instances from the journey taken by Richard Albright from losing at the science fair to winning at the international fair.

Ans. Success is the fruit of failure. It never comes straight but through failure. This can be seen in the life of Richard Albright. Although he earned top grades in school, on everyday things he was just like every other kid. He faced many failures in his life but every failure strengthened his will to succeed. When he was in seventh grade he participated in County Science Fair with his slides of frog tissues. But he could not win a prize. This made him determined to win the prize and in his eighth grade, he again participated in the science fair with the experiment of viral disease in monarch caterpillars and won the prize. The very next Year he participated with his experiment of whether viceroy butterflies copy the monarch butterflies in order to save their life from the birds and this project won Albright, third prize in overall county science fair.

His experiment regarding gold spots of monarch liar which he built a device that showed. That the spots produced hormones necessary for the full development of butterflies won third prize in international science and engineering fair.

Next year his advanced experiments on the monarch pupa won him first place at the international science fair. Thus, for Richard Albright, we can say that success is failure turned inside out.

Q2. Which book proved to be a turning point in Ebright's life?

Ans. One day, Ebright's mother gave him a book. That book was The Travels of Monarch X. It described how monarch butterflies migrate to Central America. This book fascinated him. At the

end of the book readers were invited to help study butterfly migrations. They were asked to tag butterflies for research by Dr Frederick of Toronto University, Canada. Anyone who found a tagged butterfly was asked to send the tag to Dr Frederick. Ebright started tagging monarch, butterflies. The butterfly collecting season lasts only six weeks in late summer. He realized that chasing the butterflies one by one won't enable him to catch many. So he decided to raise a flock of butterflies.

## **THE NECKLACE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Necklace' is one of the well-known stories of Guy De Maupassant. The story centers round Matilda Loisel, who is a beautiful woman. She suffers greatly because of her desire to appear rich and fashionable. She is married to a clerk and leads an ordinary life. But she wants to be rich and famous. Her husband gets an invitation to attend a dance party given by the Minister of Public Instruction. Matilda borrows a diamond necklace from her rich friend Madame Forestier to wear it at the party. She looks charming and everybody praises her. But when she returns home, she finds that she has lost the necklace. She and her husband borrow a big amount of money to replace the necklace. Both of the world hard for ten years to pay off their debt. Their life becomes miserable. One day, after the debt, is paid off. Matilda comes across Madame Forestier. Matilda is shocked to learn from her that the necklace was made of artificial diamonds and its price was not more than 500 francs.

### **GIST**

The Necklace' is a mild satire but with a strong message. It is ridiculous for people of ordinary means to copy the rich. One should live within one's means. Otherwise, he or she invites unnecessary problems, anxieties and confusion in his or her life. The main message of the story is that we should be what we are. False pride is the cause of our sufferings. The loss of a false necklace by Mrs. Loisel was not a big loss. Things could have been settled right if she had confessed the loss of the necklace to the owner, Madame Forestier. This small lapse or mistake of Mrs. Loisel makes her whole life miserable and dark. And the irony was that the cause of all these sufferings was a false necklace.

### **Main Characters**

#### **1. Matilda:**

Matilda is a pretty, young lady. She wanted to lead a rich and luxurious life. But she was born into a humble family and had to marry an ordinary man. She felt sad about her petty economic and social status. When Matilda got an invitation to a ball, she wanted to pretend as a rich woman. She gave in to vanity. She disregarded the advice of her good husband. She is a woman who sought the praise and admiration of others. She feels very happy when men appreciated her beauty and grace at the dance ball. Matilda is a woman lacking wisdom and prudence. Just to show off a day at the ball, she loses her borrowed necklace. This leads to enormous suffering for her and her husband for a number of years. She does not understand the importance of living within one's means.

#### **2.Mr. Loisel:**

Mr. Loisel is a simple man working as a clerk. He loves his wife and does everything to make her happy. He gets an invitation to a ball with his wife. When his wife wants a costly necklace, he

suggests she should borrow a necklace from her rich friend, Madame Forestier. When Matilda loses her necklace, he uses his hard-earned savings to buy a new necklace. He starts working very hard to repay the debt they had incurred. Mr. Loisel is ready to make an enormous sacrifice to maintain his family. He is a man who believes in living a life within one's means. Unfortunately, because he is lenient towards his wife, he has to undergo much suffering.

**Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:**

Q1. What do you think were the feelings of Madame Forester when she came to know that Matilda returned her a diamond necklace in place of an artificial one?

**Ans.** Matilda borrowed a necklace from Madame Frostier to wear at a party. She lost it somewhere and in that place returned a diamond necklace to her. She was unaware of the fact that it was an artificial one. Madame Forester was shocked to know the whole story. Madame Frostier thought that situation could be avoided if Matilda had the dare to accept the truth and share it with Madame Forester.

Q2. Why did Madame Loisel leave the ball in a hurry? What does it show about her character?

**Ans.** Madame Loisel left the ball in a hurry because her husband threw the modest wraps around her shoulders, whose poverty clashed with the elegance of the ball costume. She did not want to be noticed by the other woman who was wrapping themselves in rich furs. It shows the hypocrisy and show off life of Madame Loisel. It shows her dissatisfaction, anger and frustration with life.

Q3. What kind of a husband was M. Loisel? Discuss with reference to the chapter **‘The Necklace’**.

**Ans.** Mr. Loisel was a simple and poor clerk. He made every effort and sacrifice to make his wife happy. He sacrificed his 400 francs that he had saved to buy a gun for himself in order to buy a new party dress for his wife. It proves that he was a loving husband.

**Long Answer questions (100-150 words)**

Q1. Loisel wished to keep his wife in good humour. Which values of Matilda impress him?

**Ans.** Loisel wished to keep his wife in good humour. Mrs. Loisel was a beautiful and delicate woman. She was fond of all riches and luxuries. She thought she deserves all these and thought that it is an error of destiny that she is born in a poor family and married to a mere clerk in the office of the Board of Education. Matilda's beauty and style impressed Lisle. He tried his best to keep her happy. She was fond of parties and balls. That's an 8 W y when Lisle got an invitation of Ball of minister's residence. He was happy for his wife. He bought her a new dress for the ball, with the money he had saved to buy a hunting gun. He loved her so much that he bought the new diamond necklace to replace the lost one for thirty-six thousand francs which lost all his savings and compelled him to do extra jobs after office time. He did all this because he loved his beautiful wife very much and wanted to keep her happy.

Q2. Oh! My poor Matilda! Mine was false. || Confession saves you from a lot of trouble and the sense of guilt. Justify the statement.

**Ans.** Matilda's friend Mme Forester meets her after a long time, nearly a gap of ten years. Perhaps it was destined to. She does not recognize Matilda — old, hard and crude with dishevelled hair and skirts awry. She is astonished to see Matilda in this pathetic condition. Matilda tells her the reason for this — the loss of the original necklace and the misery that followed after replacing the necklace. Mme Forester could only sympathies with Matilda, for the necklace she had lent to Matilda was not of original diamonds. She could have told this clearly to Matilda while giving it to her. Perhaps Mme forester thought she should not dampen Matilda's spirits by revealing the truth. But what the loss of it, brought to Matilda was irreversible. Matilda on her part should have revealed the loss of the necklace to her friend. If it had been of real diamonds, then she could have asked for some time to replace it. Matilda could have thus taken her friend into confidence, but the silent suffering had really taken its toll on her life. If Matilda had only taken

courage and been honest to her friend, she would still have been living comfortably, thus justifying the statement given above. Her own senseless attitude led to her ruin

## **BHOLI**

### **GIST**

From a very young age, Bholi was neglected at home. She had remained a backward child and had contracted small-pox at the age of two which left her permanently disfigured by deep black pock-marks. She was late to start speaking and she stammered which made the other children make fun of her. This resulted in her speaking very little, until she went to school and learned to read and write with the help of a dedicated teacher

### **SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

1. Why was Ramlal worried about his daughter Bholi and not about his other children?
2. Why did the Tehsildar come to Ramlal's village? What did he ask Ramlal to do?

#### **Answers**

1. Ramlal was worried about Bholi because she had neither good looks nor intelligence. She stammered and had pock-marks on her face. He was worried, that nobody would marry her.
2. The Tehsildar came to the village to perform the opening ceremony of the new primary school for girls that was being opened there. He asked Ramlal to set an example to villagers as he was a representative of the government, and send his daughters to school.

### **LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS**

1. How did Bholi's teacher play an important role in changing the course of her life?
2. How significant is the education that Bholi received, to her life and decisions?

#### **HINTS**

Bholi's teacher changed the direction of Bholi's life through her love and affection --- she filled her mind with hope and faith --- She told Bholi to cast out all fear from her mind --- It was because of her guidance that Bholi developed her personality now she could face all the problems of life with great courage and confidence.

#### **HINTS**

This is very significant because Bholi is now no more Bholi (Simpleton) --- She had grown wiser and more self-confidence due to her education and her teacher's training --- She proves that education is like a philosopher's stone which can turn a base metal into gold.

## **THE BOOK THAT SAVED THE EARTH**

### **GIST**

The Book, That Saved the Earth is a drama set in 25th century. A historian in the museum is telling the story about 20th century; the century of the books. He tells how an old book of rhymes, Mother Goose, saved the earth from Martian invasion. The invaders from Mars consider themselves too intelligent for the earthlings. They think they are superior race than the inhabitants of the earth. Think- Tank is the Commander-in-Chief and ruler of Mars. He is praised and flattered as the most intelligent and powerful creature in the whole universe. Various members from the invaders' team enter a library. They are unable to identify what a book is. They make several wild guesses. Think-Tank gives ridiculous and fantastic interpretations of books. He calls them sandwiches and finally arrives at the conclusion that it must be a communication device for the earthlings. They try to decode what is written in the book. The book is full of nursery rhymes. Their encoding tells them that earthlings must have been on a mission to attack the Mars. Fearing that, they immediately leave the earth and fly away to the distant Alpha Centauri.

### **SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (30-40 Words)**

1. What difficulty does the crew of the space probe face on Earth?
2. How does Think-Tank explain the books to his probe crew?

#### **Ans:**

1. The space probe lands in a public library. The crew is shocked because the place looked very strange as they had no idea of books. They think the library to be some kind of storage barn.
2. Think-Tank told his crew that the books were sandwiches. He even ordered his crew to eat them. Then, he called them communication devices and later he said that they were meant for watching

#### **Long Answer Question [100-150 words each.]**

1. How did one old book of nursery rhymes save the Earth from a Martian invasion?
2. Compare and contrast the characters of Noodle and Think-Tank

#### **ANSWERS**

1. The invaders from Mars considered themselves too intelligent for the earthlings. They thought they were a superior race than the inhabitants of the earth. As ordered by Think-Tank, the Commander-in-Chief and ruler of Mars who was praised and flattered as the most intelligent and powerful creature in the whole universe, various members from the invaders' team entered a library. They were unable to identify what a book is. They made several wild guesses. Think-Tank gave ridiculous and fantastic interpretations of books. He called them sandwiches and finally arrived at the conclusion that it must be a communication device for the earthlings. They tried to decode what was written in the book. The book was full of nursery rhymes. This book was totally misunderstood by the Martians. Think-Tank misunderstood the Phrases like 'shell', 'silver' and 'garden'. They gave him a false idea that earthlings grew silver and weapons. He started thinking that earthlings were very advanced technologically. The crew of Think-Tank read about Humpty-Dumpty's fall in the rhyme and showed the picture to Think-Tank. Think-Tank's head resembled that of Humpty Dumpty. This made Think-Tank feel that earthlings were planning to invade Mars and capture him. So, he ordered them to cancel the invasion and they cancelled their invasion of Earth and went back. Thus one old book of nursery rhymes saved the Earth from a Martian invasion.

2. Noodle and Think-Tank have contrasting characters. Think-Tank likes to be called the 'Great and the Mighty'. He orders and commands. He is the ruler of Mars, but has no intelligence. He thinks books to be sandwiches. He is wrong about everything. He demands that the crew obey him. He likes to pass on other's idea as his own. He is a coward who simply boasts about his power. Noodle, his apprentice, is very clever and wise. He corrects the mistakes of the ruler (Think-Tank) very gently. He never takes credit for his ideas. But he offers them to the ruler very gently. Think-Tank makes them as his own.

### **TIPS TO SCORE BETTER MARKS IN ENGLISH**

With top-notch preparation, it is also essential how you pen down your knowledge. No matter how many hours you have studied or how brilliant your preparation is, if your writing skills are not up to the mark all your efforts will be in vain.

**To get good marks, writing excellent answers is also necessary.**

To help you attempt the questions in the best possible way we have prepared a list of points that you can follow to write your best in the exams:

#### **Use the 15 minutes discreetly**

The students are provided with 15 minutes time to read their question paper, use this given time discreetly. You can draft a writing plan in your mind while going through the question. And hence the students are recommended to make efficient use of this time.

#### **Set priorities**

While reading the question paper set priorities about which questions you want to answer first. Leave the questions that you don't know the answer to for last. This will give you enough time to give a thought to the questions which are a bit blur in your mind.

### **Choose the right questions**

In the board exam some questions come with internal choices and students end up choosing the wrong one. Think in mind how you would have written each answer and according to that choose the appropriate question. So, choose the questions wisely, without any haste.

### **Attempt all the questions**

If you don't know the answer to a particular question leave it for later but do attempt in the end. Even if you have only slight information about such questions do write them down. Go through that question again and try to understand what that question demands and considering that answer the questions. Adding good points to such answers can gain you at least some marks even if your answer is not fully correct.

### **Presentable answers**

While answering the questions make sure to write in points. Draw proper margins, use a black pen to write the heading and subheads, and for the rest of the answer use a blue pen. A well-managed answer sheet will not only make it easy for the examiner to check the answer sheet but they will also be impressed. A presentable answer sheet will make it easy for you to score well in the CBSE board exam. But do note that you do not get confused between presentable and decorative. Some students use colourful pens to beautify their mark sheets but this only makes them look flashy.

So, it is suggested to the students to not make use of any other coloured pens other than black and blue.

### **Create a mental picture of the answers**

While reading the question create a mental picture of how you will write it. While writing the answer try to keep the limit of words set. Your answers should neither be too long nor too short. Follow the instruction given on the question paper for the word limit.

### **Check your answers**

After you have completed your exams question paper, revise each and every question again and check that you have filled all the formalities correctly. Then look at the answer number, writing the wrong answer number can snatch away your marks even after writing an excellent answer.

## **Sample question paper(solved)**

**English Language And Literature (Code no. 184)**

**Class X**

**Allowed Time: 3 Hours Maximum Marks: 80**

General Instructions:

- 1.The question paper contains three sections that is reading grammar and writing and literature.
- 2.Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

### **Section A: Reading Skills (20 Marks)**

1. Read the passage given below:

Starting Monday, the country's low-cost Mars mission with the red planet for an extended period will enter "the Blackout" phase snapping communication with the satellite. From June 8 to 22 the Sun will block Mars from the Earth snapping communication with the satellite.

2. A senior Indian Space Research Organisation official said, "That will be for the first time that there will be a communication break for such a long period of about 15 days. During this period there will be no communication with the satellite", he added.

3. Expressing confidence about regaining control over the satellite once the blackout phase is over, he said, "the scenario had been seated and the line of communication will be established. The spacecraft's life has been extended for another six months in March due to surplus fuel.

4. Stating that the spacecraft has been "configured" for the blackout, the ISRO official said, "we are not sending any commands to the spacecraft now, till 8 June few hours of signals will be sent by the spacecraft that will be for about two to three hours per day. In May next year, the mission will have to go through a similar phase once again, if there is another extension of mission life when the Earth will come between the Sun and Mars

5. Scripting space history, India on September 24 last successfully placed its low-cost Mars spacecraft in orbit around the red planet in its very first attempt, breaking into an elite club of three countries.

**Based on your understanding of the extract, answer the questions below: [10x1 = 10]**

(i) Infer one reason for the following, based on information in paragraph 1.

The 'blackout' phase is significant

Choose the appropriate option to fill in the blank

(ii) From paragraph 1 & 2, we can infer that there will be

- a. no communication with the people.
- b. Blackout phase.
- c. Satellite will get no communication.
- d. Moon will block the earth
- e. the communication break will be for 15 days (a) 1,2&3 (c) 2,3&5  
(b) 1,3&4 (d) 3,4&5

(iii) The communication with the satellite will break for approximately..... days.

- (a) 10 (b) 15 (c) 20 (d) 25

(iv) Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phase from paragraph 2:

Aroma: cooking :..... :Space research

(Clue-just like aroma is integral to cooking, similarly is/are integral to Space Research)

(v) According to ISRO official till 8th July, when some will block Mars.....

Signal/signals per day will be sent to the spacecraft.

- (a) no (b) considerable (c) indefinite (d) only for few

(vi) Select the correct option to complete the following sentence.

The ISRO officials are... about their control over the spacecraft after the blackout phase.

- (a) doubtful (b) apprehensive (c) confident (d) jittery

(vii) The spacecraft's life was extended by six months because of

- (a) extra fuel (b) incomplete work
- (c) lack of communication amongst ISRO officials (d) technical problems in its landing.

(viii) Read the following sentence:

(A) The blackout was a sudden development.

(B) Because of this, the officials are very nervous about the success of the spacecraft.

- (a) Both (A) & (B) are true. (b) Both (A) & (B) are false.
- (c) (A) is true and (B) is false. (d) (A) is false and (B) is true.

(ix) Substitute the word 'nonpareil' with one word similar in meaning in the following sentence from paragraph 5. India managed to get into the nonpareil club of Mars spacecraft in orbit.

(x) The word 'fascination' in the opening sentence means the same as:

- (a) Enchantment            (b) Boredom            (c) Disinterest            (d) Ugliness

**2. Read the passage given below:**

A. Hiking is a great source of pleasure to us besides being beneficial for health. Once we leave the crowded streets of a city and go out for a walking tour away from the mad world, we really feel free. The open air has a bracing effect on the mind. The congestion of the city, the uproar and tumult, the intolerable noise of traffic, the hectic daily routine, all these are forgotten and the mind is at ease. We then feel like running, leaping, singing and laughing. We travel merrily mile after mile in the company of friends and associates.

B. Hiking takes us in the midst of nature. The sight of waterfalls, flowers, streams, trees and bushes is pleasing. A connect is established between us and nature. (Various sounds of nature, like the murmur of a brook or the song of a bird, acquire a new meaning and significance to us.)

C. You enjoy the beauty of nature. Minute observations like a snake casting its slough, a mouse peeping out of its hole, a squirrel leaping about on the branches of a tree, a bird flying past us, all these are noticed and they arouse our interest. We have no business worries, no fear of the examination, no anxiety about the home. We have

leisure to stand, to walk and talk. It is more thrilling and pleasurable to hike in a mountainous region than in the plains. The excitement of climbing up to the top of a hill, the adventure of coming down a slope, the grandeur of sunset behind a mountain- All these sights lend a rare charm and interest to our journey.

D. We walk along a zigzag motor road or cut across a mountain path in search of adventure. We may have bright sunny weather or might get caught in a shower of rain. We may look below us into the yawning chasm or up at the mountain peak. The feeling of unlimited freedom makes our hearts leap with joy.

E. Hiking is one of the healthiest sports. It ensures a complete escape from the urgent and busy activities of life and therefore gives solace to our brain. It regains its lost energy and is able to do twice as much work as before. 6. The fresh air, beautiful mountains, majestic trees, chirping sound of birds make one's mind and soul at peace with nature.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions below:    {1X10=10}**

(i) To go out for a walking tour is

- (a) to stroll    (b) to ramble    (c) to hike    (d) to saunter

(ii) Why does the writer say that the mind is at ease when you hike?

- (a) because hiking is an inexpensive activity.            (b) because it brings families together  
(c) because of intolerable noise of traffic.            (d) because the depressing daily routine is forgotten

(iii) Complete the following with a phrase:

The various sounds of nature acquire.....

(iv) Infer one reason for the following based on information in paragraph 2. A contact is established between us and nature.

(v) Complete the following analogy correctly with a word from paragraph 2. aroma: cooking: fragrance:.....

(vi) Give one reason why it is a pleasure to hike in the mountains than in the plains.

- (a) because observation is sharpened.  
(b) because of the excitement of climbing up and adventure of coming down.  
(c) because it is leisure to stand, to walk  
(d) because there are no worries.

(vii) Hiking gives the brain, the rest it needs because

- (a) It is a short time activity.    (b) It is one of the healthiest sports.  
(c) it makes us sleep peacefully. (d) It is an escape from our busy schedule.

(viii) List any two examples of minute observations you make while on a hike.

(ix) Supply one point to justify the following:

Hiking gives us a feeling of unlimited joy.

(x) Substitute the word 'leap with joy' with one word similar in meaning in the following sentence:

The feeling of unlimited freedom makes our hearts leap with joy.



**Section B : Writing Skills and Grammar (20 Marks)**

3. Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions: [10×1-10]

(i) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option: The mud houses are not.....The buildings in your city.

(a) Comparable to (b) Comparable of (c) Comparable as (d) Comparable for

(ii) Read the conversation between a policeman and a driver. Complete the sentence by reporting the driver's reply correctly.

Policeman: Why did you park your car here? Don't you see a 'no parking area'?

Driver: Sorry Sir! The engine broke down.

The policeman asked the driver why he had parked the car there and if he didn't see it was a 'no parking area'. The driver felt sorry and explained.....

(iii) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given sentence. Where were you? You... Be in the class at the right time.

(a) Shall (b) Should (c) Will (d) Would

(iv) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following sentence:

More of the fun and excitement in our lives comes from using our imagination.

Option Error Correction

(a) More Most

(b) Our The

(c) From Of

(d) Using use

(v) Complete the given narrative, by filling in the blank with the correct option:

Each of the boys..... Rewarded.

(a) Are being (b) Have been (c) was (d) were

(vi) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket: Governments are starting programmes... (teach) adults how to read and write.

(a) That teaching (b) Which taught (c) to teach (d) Were teaching

(vii) Report the dialogue between Ashish and his interviewer, by completing the sentence:

Interviewer: Why do you want to be a computer programmer? Ashish: I have always been interested in computers.

In response to the question of the interviewer about why Ashish wanted to be a computer programmer, he replied.....

(viii) Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction: Latex was a natural polymer found beneath the bark of a mature rubber tree.

Use the given format for your response:

Error Correction

.....

(ix) Kabir shared some information with Sahil about his travel plans. Report Kabir's plans.

I will go to Tripura tomorrow.

(x) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the slogan:

..... ONLY WEAPON TO FIGHT INJUSTICE IS EDUCATION.

(a) THE (b) A (c) AN (d) THIS

(xi) Select the correct option to complete the narration of a dialogue between a passerby and a farmer.

Passerby: Can you tell me the way to Rampur? Farmer: Drive for four kms and then turn right.

The passerby asked the farmer if he could tell him the way to Rampur. The farmer replied that:

(a) He may drive for four kms and then turn right.

(b) He should drive for four kms and then turn right.

(c) He might drive for four kms and then turn right.

(d) He had to drive for four kms and then turn right.

(xii) Identify the error in the statement given below and supply the corrections. Use the given format for your response.

Water was vital to human health and fitness. Error Correction

.....

4. You are Rohit / Rohini of A-45, Pitampura, Delhi. You observed that the subways in Delhi are seldom used by pedestrian who are always trying to cut across traffic. You have decided to write a letter to the editor of 'Hindustan Times' highlighting the dire need of creating awareness about it.

Based on the points given along with your own ideas write a letter in 100-120 words. 5 Marks

Technology in education

Infrastructure unutilized

Pedestrian prone to accident

Accumulation of stagnant water/ garbage in subways

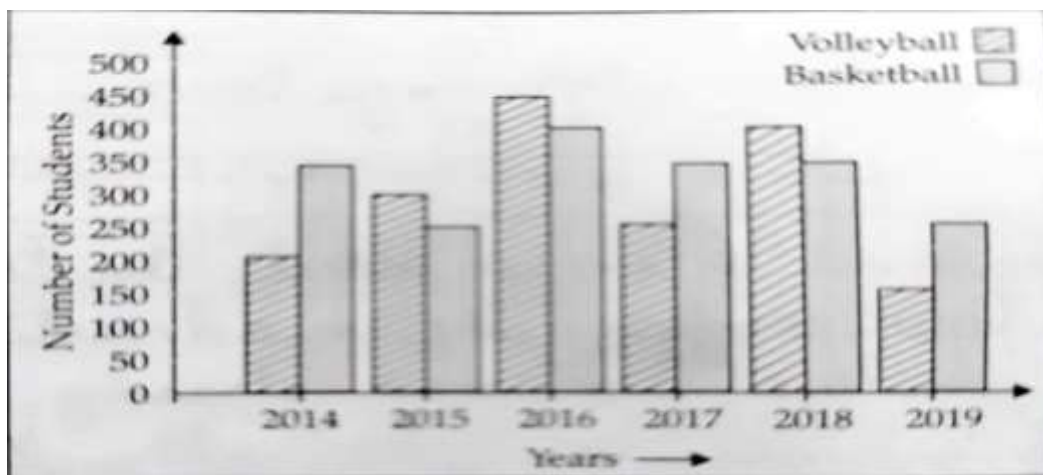
Need for improvement and regular cleanliness under proper supervision

OR

Your Shivam / Shivani of C-12, Janakpuri, Indore you wish to make a pilgrimage to Badrinath, Kedarnath and Haridwar with your family of 6. Write a letter to our travels enquiry about the schedule of their conducted tour by deluxe buses to these places. Ask about the charges,

boarding and lodging arrangements and the hotel time needed for the tour. Word limit 100-120 words.

5. The given bar graph shows the preferences of children in a school in playing different games over the span of 6 years. Right an analytical paragraph about the given information in about 100 words: 5 Marks



OR

The the chart below gives the percentage of social media users by age in India in 2020. Write a paragraph analysing the given information in 100-120 words.

Activity%	Age group						
	teens	20s	30s	40s	50s	60s	70s
Get news	76	73	76	75	71	74	70+
Online games	81	54	37	29	25	25	32
Downloads	52	46	27	15	13	8	6
Product research	0	79	80	83	79	74	70
Buying a product	43	68	69	68	67	65	41
Searching for people	5	31	23	23	24	29	27

### SECTION C: LITERATURE

6.(A) Read the extract given below and attempt the questions that follow:[5x1=5]

Inside the clouds, everything was suddenly black. It was impossible to see anything outside the aeroplane. The old aeroplane jumped and twisted in the air. I looked at the compass. I couldn't believe my eyes. The

compass was turning round and round and round. It was dead. It would not work. The other instruments were suddenly dead, too. I tried the radio. "Paris Control? Paris Control? Can you hear me? There was no answer. The radio was dead too. I had no radio, no compass, and I could not see where I was. I was lost in the storm.

(i) As soon as the pilot was inside the cloud:

- (a) His ears got blocked (b) He was choked with fear  
(c) his vision was obstructed. (d) He was jumping up and down.

(ii) The devices in the aeroplane were.

- (a) Malfunctioning (b) Broken completely.  
(c) Giving wrong readings. (d) Stopped responding completely.

(iii) The Paris air control did not reply to the pilot's call because.....

(iv) Select the option that correctly captures the application of the word 'twisted' as used in the extract.

- (a) Ragini twisted Raghav's wrist  
(b) Ragini twisted the story to suit the occasion.  
(c) Ragini did not appreciate Raghav's twisted bent of mind.  
(d) Ragini matched the swimmer as he twisted twice in the air before diving into the water.  
(v) Fill in the blank with ONE WORD only:

The narrator's \_\_\_\_\_ comes through clearly when he sees the compass turning round and round.

**OR**

{B} Read the extract given below and attempt the questions that follow: [5x1=5]

Lomov: But you can see from the documents, honoured Natalya Stepanovna. Oxen Meadows, it's true were once the subject of dispute, but now everybody knows they are mine. There's nothing to argue about. You see my aunt's grandmother gave the free use of these Meadows in perpetuity to the peasants of your father's grandfather, in return for which they were to make bricks for her. The peasants belonging to your father's grandfather had the free use of Meadows for forty years, and had got into the habit of regarding them as their own, when it happened that. Natalya: No, it isn't at all like that! Both grandfather and great grandfather reckoned that their land extended to Burnt Marsh-which means Oxen Meadows were ours. I don't see what there is to argue about, it's simply silly.

(i) The subject of dispute was regarding

- (a) Free use of Meadows. (b) Making of bricks.  
(c) peasants using Meadows (d) Ownership of Meadows

(ii) Find the word from the extract which means 'continuance'.

- (a) Dispute (b) Perpetuity (c) Belonging (d) Reckoned

(iii) Lomov's aunt's grandmother gave Oxen Meadows to Natalya's father's grandfather in lieu of.....

(iv) According to Natalya why did Oxen Meadows belong to them?

(v) Fill in the blank with ONE WORD only:

The peasants had free use of meadows for..... years.

7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: {1X5=5}

Don't eat that chocolate Amanda! Remember your acne, Amanda!

Will you please look at me when I'm speaking to you Amanda! (I am Rapunzel, I have not a care; life in tower is tranquil and rare, I'll certainly never let down my bright hair)

(i) The Speaker's tone is:

- (a) Loving (b) Hopeful (e) instructive (f) Indifferent

(ii) Complete the analogy with a word from the extract:

Rare: uncommon:: peace: .....

(iii) State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE Amanda did not want anyone to invade her privacy and silence.

(iv) Select the appropriate option:

Amanda's mother is continuously..... Amanda.

- (a) encouraging (b) reprimanding (c) motivating (d) disappointing

(v) Which word in the extract is opposite in meaning to the word 'dull'?

- (a) dreary (b) shady (c) bright (d) angry

**OR**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [5x1=5]

He stalks in his vivid stripes  
The few steps of his cage. On pads of velvet quiet,  
In his quiet rage.

He should be lurking in shadow, Sliding through long grass

Near the water hole Where plump deer pass

(i) Quiet rage' refers to the tigers.....

(a) helplessness

(b) he has not been able to hurt

(c) his prey has not come to the water hole

(d) he is not free

(ii) He is lurking in shadows because.....

(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately

It is clear that metaphor is the poetic device used for pads of velvet' because. (clue-explain how metaphor applies here).

(iv) Find a word from the extract which means to walk with measured, stiff or haughty strides:

(a) steps (b) lurking (c) Pads (d) stalk

v) State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE

The tiger is stealthily waiting for the deer to come to the water hole.

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following in about 40-50 words each: {4X3=12 Marks}

(a) Why did the night after the rains turn sorrowful for Lencho? (A letter To God)

(b) Describe the young seagull's first flight. (Two Stories About Flying)

(c) Who are paders and why are they friends of children? (Glimpses of India)

(d) How did Valli gather the details of the bus journey? (Madam Rides The Bus)

(e) Describe how Custard the dragon fights with the Pirate. (The Tale of Custard the Dragon)

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each :

(a) How did Mrs. Pumphery treat Tricky? (The Triumph of Surgery)

(b) How did Ausable get rid of Max without using a weapon? (The Midnight Visitor)

(c) Why did Richard Ebright raise a flock of butterflies? (Making Of A Scientist)

10 Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100-120 words : 6 Marks

(a) 'As ripe fruits are in danger of falling early, so mortals when born are always in danger of death'. With this statement of the Buddha, find out the moral values that Kisa Gotami learnt after the death of her child.

**OR**

(a) No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background or his religion Do you agree? Elaborate on the basis of the chapter "Nelson Mandela-Long walk to freedom".

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100-120 words: 6 Marks

(a) Contentment in one's life is very important to lead a peaceful life. We should be happy with what we have and should not crave for what we don't have. Matilda suffered in life because she was not content in her life. Her desired led to her disaster. What do you learn from her mistake in life?

**OR**

(b) Trust and compassion can reform a person. Justify this statement in the light of the lesson The Thief's Story.

### **Marking Scheme (2023-24)**

### **English Language and Literature (Code No. 184)**

### **Class X**

1.(i) The Black out face is significant because it will lead to sapping all communications with satellite that is on a mission to Mars.

(ii) Option C is correct 2,3 and 5

(iii) Option B is correct 15

(iv) Satellites

(v) Option D is correct only for you

(vi) Option C is correct confident

- (vii) Option A is correct extra fuel
- (viii) Option B is correct both a and B are falls
- (ix) Elite
- (x) Option A is correct enchantment
- 2.(i) Option (c) is correct
- (ii) Option (d) is correct
- (iii) Acquire a new meaning and significance to us.
- (iv) because hiking takes us in the midst of nature and the sight of waterfalls, flowers, streams, trees and bushes is pleasing.
- (v) flowers
- (vi) Option (b) is correct
- (vii) Option (d) is correct
- (viii) Two examples of minute observations made while on a hike are:
1. A snake casting its slough.
  2. A mouse peeping out of its hole.
- (ix) Hiking gives a feeling of unlimited joy as it gives us unlimited freedom and the sights of nature lend a charm to our journey.
- (x) exult
- 3.(i) Option (a) is correct
- (ii) that the engine had broken down.
- (iii) Option (b) is correct
- (iv) Option (a) is correct bak (v) Option (c) is correct
- (vi) Option (c) is correct
- (vii) that he had always been interested in computers.
- (viii) was-----is
- (ix) Kabir told Sahil that he would go to Tripura the next day.
- (x) Option (a) is correct
- (xi) Option (b) is correct
- (xii) was-is
- 4.Total 5 marks
- Format- 1 marks. Full credit if all aspects included. Partial credit if 1-2 aspects are missing. No credit if more than two aspect are missing
- Content- 2 marks. ½ marks for each content point area addressed-suggestion importance implication recommendation.
- Organization – 1 marks. Effective style, orderly sequence, paragraph structure and formal tone and vocabulary
- Accuracy -1 marks
- 5.Internet- A lifeline
- The given table shows the internet activities done by certain age groups. The first age group is teens who do not do any product research. Instead, the teens indulge themselves in other activities more like online games, searching for news, Doing online shopping etc. An average teen tends to look for entertainment on the internet more than something knowledgeable Then come the people in their 20s. Their internet activity is drastically different from the teens, and they can be seen being indulged in more product research, news, shopping, searching for people etc. It can be seen through the given statistics that a person’s mentality towards internet changes as they grow, and they tend to go for productive things to do there. The people in their 30s have a similar activity status to the 20s people except for a decrease in downloads, searching for people and online games. The given data also reflects that ”he usage of internet is the need of the hour. It is not only bound to the age group be it a 10-year-old or an above seventy. Internet is a part and parcel of everyone’s life.
- 6.A) (i) Option © is correct
- (ii) Option (d) is correct
- (iii)the radio was dead

(iv) Option (d) is correct

(v) fear

OR

(B) (i) Option (d) is correct

(ii) Option (b) is correct

(iii) making bricks for him

(iv) because her grandfather and great grandfather reckoned that their land extended up to the burnt marsh

(v) forty

7.

(i) Option (c) is correct

(ii) Tranquil.

(iii) True.

(iv) Option (b) is correct

(v) Option (c) is correct

OR

(B) (i) Option (a) is correct

(ii) he is trying to find a prey

(iii) comparison has been made between the pads of a tiger and the softness of velvet.

(iv) Option (d) is correct

(v) True

8. (a) In the short story "A Letter to God" by Gregorio Lopez y Fuentes, the night after the rains turned sorrowful for Lencho because the hailstorm had destroyed his entire crop, leaving him with no means to provide for his family. Nothing was left in his fields. He had suffered huge loss due to the hailstorm.

(b) The young seagull who always underestimated himself; was hungry and thus he dived at the fish. After holding her he fell downwards and outwards into the sea. The young seagull thought he would die but suddenly his wings spread outwards automatically. He moved outwards and downwards but landed safely on the sea and now he floated on the water without any fear. Thus he completed his first flight which led him to lead a life of freedom from fear and dependency.

© The bakers of Goa are known as 'Paders'. The thud and jingle of the traditional baker's bamboo are the signal of their arrival in the morning. When the writer was a child, the jingling thud of baker's bamboo used to wake him up. For children, the very sight of the baker was quite exciting. He was their friend, companion and guide. They ran to meet and greet him. It was not so much for the love of the loaf. What they longed for were the bread- bangles. Sometimes they liked the sweet bread of special make. Thus, arrival of Paders brought joy and belongingness among the children..

(d) Valli found out that the bus journey to the town took 45 minutes and the two-way fare was 60 paise. She found out these details by listening carefully to the conversations between her neighbors and people who regularly used the bus and asked a few questions here and there. This way, she picked up every small detail about the bus journey.

e) When the pirate entered, all were scared and ran away and disappeared except Custard who faced him boldly, attacked him, hit him hard with his forceful tail and gobbled every bit of him. All of them later felt obliged to Custard for saving their lives. Custard jumped in front of the pirate to fight him. The pirate fired two bullets at him but missed both of them. Then Custard gobbled the whole of the pirate and left no trace of him. Thus custard proved his worth in front of all the others.

9. Mrs. Pumphrey who was though an extremely rich lady was foolishly indulgent in pampering her dog, Tricki. She treated Tricki like a pampered child, feeding him gourmet meals and indulging his every whim. Being the mistress of Tricki; because of her loneliness she treated Tricki like her own child. She wanted to comfort him in each way. She gave Tricki all the things to eat. Since Tricki was also very greedy he didn't refuse to eat.

(b) Ausable was a secret agent who handled Max cleverly. He told Max that he would complain to the hotel authorities. There was a knock and he said it was the police. Max asked Ausable to send the police back and in the meantime, Max would go and wait on the balcony. It was cunning of him to say so as the

balcony didn't exist. With the result, he jumped down and died. This is how Ausable got rid of Max and thus used his intelligence and ingenuity to neutralize Max without resorting to violence. He demonstrates that a clever mind can be just as effective as a weapon in solving crimes and bringing criminals to justice.

(c) When Richard was in the second grade his mother bought him a children's book titled the travels of Monarch X. At the end of the book, readers were invited to help study butterfly migrations by tagging the butterflies for research. Richard attached light adhesive tags to the wings of monarchs. But the butterfly collecting season lasted for only six weeks in readings. So, it was not easy to catch them thus Ebright decided to raise a flock of butterflies as soon as the pupa changed to an adult butterfly, Ebright used to tag it and then let them go.

10. (a) It is a fact that the human life is mortal. It is brief and has pain. Death is a reality which has to be accepted by one and all. As ripe fruits are early in danger of falling, so mortals when born are always in danger of death. Whether its's a young or an adult, fools or wise, all are subject to death.

After the death of her child, Kisa Gotami learnt that death is inevitable and cannot be reversed. Whether somebody accepts it willingly or unwillingly, it's a fact which needs to be accepted. When she roamed around in the village from house to house, she found that there was no house where the members were immortal. Those who have taken birth are bound to die one or the other day. Just like ripe fruits are likely to fall apart one day, similarly humans also go far away after dying. Fruit once fallen from a tree cannot be stuck back similarly the human life once gone cannot be brought back. Thus, Kisa Gotami concluded after the Budhha made her learn indirectly that death is inevitable for all the living creatures on this earth.

OR

(b) No one is truly born hating a person due to their skin, background or religion. It is the society that teaches one to be hateful against someone. The people need to be taught to hate someone. This means they can be taught to love too. In the chapter Nelson Mandela - Long walk to freedom, Nelson Mandela seems to be quite optimistic and says that even when he and his mates were pushed to their limits in the prison, he still could see a ray of goodness and shine in the eyes of one of the guards which was enough to motivate him to keep going in the freedom struggle. Love comes more naturally to human heart than hatred. If people are taught to spread love amongst each other then issues like religious riots and other man-made discriminations will surely no longer be persisting in the society. We are all born under the same sky and in the same world. Thus, all of us deserve equal rights and integrity to fulfill our obligations.

11. (a) It is essential for a person to live a contended life. One should believe in simple living and high thinking. Not everyone is born with a golden spoon. However, with honesty and hard work, we can always achieve our best. A person will never be happy if he keeps craving for what he does not have. In this way, he may even ruin his present. Matilda had a loving and craving for a life of luxury and wealth. She immersed herself in glamour when her husband got an invitation to attend the ball. She did not care for her loving middle class husband, rather she was running after her fantasies. She always thought beyond her limits. She could have gone to the minister's party in the theatre dress, but she insisted on buying a new dress for 400 francs by shattering her husband's dreams. Then she longed for jewelry which was accessorial and unnecessary. She borrowed a diamond necklace and lost it. To repay its sum, she had to sacrifice many years of her life and her husband's income as well. Both lived in utter poverty to repay it. Matilda lost all her charm and became pale and ugly, thus losing her permanent beauty in search of momentary beauty. Her ostentation and vanity landed her in trouble. Thus, it is apt to say that it is better to be satisfied with less rather showing off out of one's limits and Matilda is a good example of this.

OR

The protagonist in the story Hari Singh is a young thief who has been caught stealing and is being taken to prison. He narrates his story to a fellow passenger on the train and shares his struggles and hardships that led him to a life of crime. The protagonist's life had been marked by poverty, hunger, and neglect, which forced him to take up stealing to survive. However, during his conversation with the kind and understanding stranger, the thief begins to feel a sense of empathy and compassion from the stranger. This sense of empathy and understanding is something that the thief had never experienced before, and it touches him deeply. Anil listens to the thief's story with a sympathetic ear and tries to understand the

reasons behind his actions. A stranger's kindness and compassion towards the thief creates a sense of trust and understanding between them. This trust and understanding leads the thief to realize the wrongness of his actions and he began to see the possibility of a better life. The thief starts to feel a sense of remorse for his past deeds and decides to turn over a new life. In the end, the thief decides to give up his life of crime and starts a fresh, inspired by the kindness and trust shown to him by the stranger and he did not board the train. Anil's compassion and empathy for the thief led to his transformation from a hardened criminal to a reformed person. In conclusion, the story shows that trust and compassion can indeed reform a person. The stranger's kindness and understanding towards the thief created a sense of empathy and trust that ultimately led to the thief's transformation.

**SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER (2023-24)(Unsolved)**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (Code No. 184)**  
**CLASS-X**

**Time allowed: 3 Hrs.**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

**General Instructions:**

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

**SECTION A : READING SKILLS (20 marks)**

1. Read the passage given below: (1X10=10)

1. Mind management is a way to control one's mind. To do this, we need to be cautious about our thinking process and also need a high level of understanding and meditation as well. Understanding is wisdom – 80 percent of people are knowledgeable, while 20 per cent are wise. Knowledgeable men take sides without reason. They feel sad seeing deprived people but jealous When they see happy people. They work in the guidance of others' inspiration, take unnecessary responsibility to keep themselves disturbed.

2. A wise person does not stand for or against any idea without concrete reason. He works according to the situation and capacity. He looks at everything intellectually. To him, failure is a stepping stone for future success. So, depression and conflict are not seen. Like the phrase 'Stop, Look, go', first one should see, and this needs patience. Meditation is necessary to control and manage mind which then becomes an easy task.

3. Unless we control or manage our mind, it is difficult to achieve success and peace. Psychologists say every interest is first born in the mind as a seed. Then it continues to grow. Later it takes its real form which everybody can see. The interest that first appears in the mind remains weak for the first three minutes and it becomes strong within the next five minutes. All the negative aspects should be deleted within the first three minutes. If not taken out, they would become stronger later and you can never throw them out. After taking control over the mind, we can control passion, interest and unrest. Mind management is essential for a peaceful, successful and healthy life.

4. The age of computers has thrown us on the escalator of aspirations but has robbed us of simple charms like falling asleep. The compulsions of hectic schedules burden the mind and cause stress. However, the joys that elude us can be regained by practising power meditation. It creates tranquility, simplifies life and cleanses the mind. It helps control indolence, ego and anger and builds confidence and patience. With power meditation, negative thoughts get dissipated and a sense of happiness is achieved.

Attempt the following questions on the basis of the passage you have read: (1X10=10)

a) Mind management is essential .....

- (i) for a peaceful, successful, and a healthy life      (ii) to remain fit  
(iii) for a wealthy life      (iv) to dominate others

b) Traits exhibited by knowledgeable people are .....

- (i) they take sides without reason      (ii) they are sympathetic to the deprived people  
(iii) they are jealous of happy people      (iv) all of the above

c) we can control -----

- i) passion ii) unrest iii) interest iv) all of these



d) ---- percent of people are knowledgeable and ----- percent are wise.

i) 60:40 ii) 90: 10 iii) 80;20 iv) 50:50

e) choose the trait of a wise man.

i) feels jealous seeing happy people ii) takes sides without reason

iii) works according to the situation iv) takes unnecessary responsibility

f) The age of computers has robbed us of simple charms of life.

True/ False

g) Psychologists say that every 'interest is first born in the mind as a.

i) plant ii) seed iii) fruit iv) grain

h) Meditation causes -----

i) simplifies life ii) creates tranquility

iii) cleanses the mind iv) all of these

i) Find the word from the passage which means the same as "based on facts, not on ideas". (Para 2)

i) soft ii) concrete iii) different iv) difficult

j) find the synonym from the passage which means "escape" -( para 4)

i) accept ii) elude iii) welcome iv) greet

2.2.Read the passage given below: (1X10=10)

India Covid-19 numbers explained

1. With novel Coronavirus spreading rapidly all over the country, there are only three states right now, Meghalaya, Sikkim and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, that have less than 1,000 people infected with the disease.

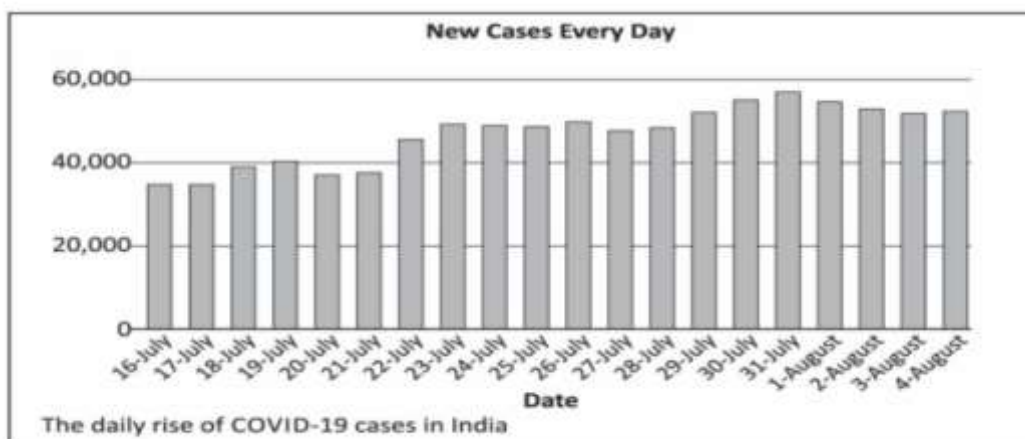
2. Lakshadweep, of course, still hasn't reported even a single case till now, the only region in India entirely free of the epidemic.

3. Otherwise, even the relatively smaller states now have significantly large spread of the disease. Goa, for example, has seen more than 7,000 of its people infected by the virus till now. Tripura has over 5,500 cases, while Manipur has more than 3,000, and Nagaland a little less than 2,500. Puducherry has more than 4,000 cases, while even Daman and Diu has over 1,300 people infected.

4. And in each of these states, the numbers are rising at a fast pace, at a rate higher than the national level. The infections had initially reached these states in the first and second week of May, when the lockdown was relaxed for the first time to enable people stuck in different parts of the country to return to their native places.

5. After a period of very slow growth, the number of cases have begun to rise rapidly in the last one month. In Goa, for example, the total number of infected people has nearly doubled in the last 15 days. Same has happened in Puducherry, as well.

6. Tuesday was one of those rare occasions when the number of active cases in the country, those who are yet to recover from the disease, went down compared to the previous day. That is because the number of recoveries, combined with the number of deaths, exceeded the new cases that were detected on Tuesday.



7. With over 52,500 new cases detected in the country, the total number of infections crossed 19 lakh, out of which 12.82 lakh people have recovered from the disease. The number of dead is now close to 40,000.
8. The number of recoveries on Tuesday was the highest-ever for a single day. More than 51,700 people were declared to have been recovered. Three days earlier, the number of recoveries had crossed 50,000 for the first time, but in the next two days the number had fallen to much lower levels.
2. Choose the correct option to answer the questions based on the above passage and graphics.
- (a) How are these three states – Meghalaya, Sikkim and Andaman and Nicobar Islands – different from the rest of India?
- (i) they are the only states to have less than 1,000 people infected with novel coronavirus  
(ii) they are three of the five states to have less than 1,000 people infected with novel coronavirus  
(iii) they are the only states to have less than 2,000 people infected with novel coronavirus  
(iv) none of these
- (b) \_\_\_\_\_ is the only region in India which is entirely free of the epidemic.  
(i) Andaman and Nicobar Islands (ii) Maharashtra (iii) Lakshadweep (iv) Tripura
- (c) What is common among Goa, Tripura, Manipur, Nagaland, Puducherry and Daman and Diu?
- (i) the numbers are rising at a fast pace at rates lower than the national level  
(ii) the numbers are falling at a fast pace at rates equal than the national level  
(iii) the numbers are rising at a fast pace at rates higher than the national level  
(iv) none of these
- (d) Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the inherent qualities of climate in the present times.  
(i) 1 and 4 (ii) 2 and 6 (iii) 1 and 3 (iv) 3 and 5
- (e) Which date in the graph shows the highest jump of detected cases in a day?  
(i) July 30 (ii) July 31 (iii) August 1 (iv) August 2
- (f) Of the 19 lakh infected cases, how many have recovered?  
(i) 11.82 lakh (ii) 13.82 lakh (iii) 12.81 lakh (iv) 12.82 lakh
- (g) More than 51,700 people were declared to have been recovered on \_\_\_\_\_.  
(i) Wednesday (ii) Sunday (iii) Tuesday (iv) Monday
- (h) When had the number of recoveries crossed 50,000 for the first time?  
(i) two days earlier (ii) Tuesday  
(iii) three days earlier than Tuesday (iv) none of these
- (i) Which word in the passage means the same as “quickly”?  
(i) rapidly (ii) significantly (iii) native (iv) rare
- (j) Which word in the passage is opposite in meaning to “indigenous”?  
(i) rapidly (ii) significantly (iii) native (iv) rare

### SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 marks)

#### WRITING-10

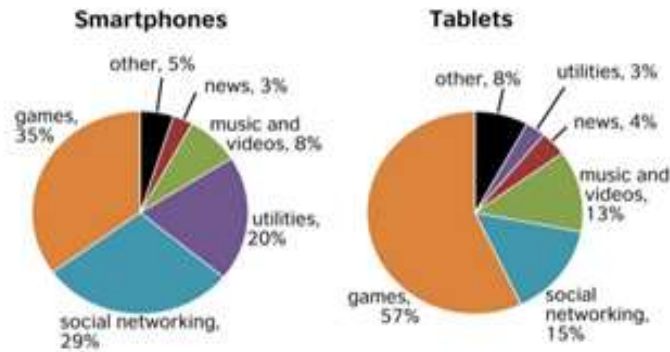
3.A) You are Sarvesh / Sarvesha, a student of Class X, PYP International School, New Delhi. You aspire to pursue the course in Graphic and become a Graphic Designer. You came across an advertisement in Newspaper about the Graphic Designing. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the Head of the Institute of Graphic Designer, University of Delhi, seeking information about the course admission procedure, eligibility criteria, fee structure, facilities, placement opportunities, etc.

OR

3.B) Recently you have been elected as the Secretary of ‘Youth Sangh Club’ Alipuduar Junction 42, West Bengal. The club is organising the Sports Day for the youth, to commemorate the birth day of Rabindranath Tagore. As a leader, you notice that you require more equipment for smooth conduction of the Sports day. Draft a letter in about 100-120 words, placing an order, to Mangalam Sports Complex Siliguri, specifying products and its quality. Sign as Ankit/ Ankita, Sports Secretary.

4.A) The two pie charts depict the percentage of time spent on smartphones and tablets as per six different categories of software, ranging from games to social networking, utilities and several others. Compare and analyse the paragraph in about 100-120 words.

**Time spent on smartphones and tablets, by category**



**OR**

4.B) The following table shows details about the internet activities for six categories for different age groups. Write an analytical paragraph for the table given in around 150-200 words.

Activity%	Age group						
	teens	20s	30s	40s	50s	60s	70s
Get news	70	73	76	75	72	74	70+
Online games	82	54	30	29	25	25	32
Downloads	50	46	27	15	13	8	6
Product research	0	79	80	83	79	74	70
Buying a product	42	67	69	68	67	65	41
Searching for people	5	31	23	23	24	29	27

**GRAMMAR 10**

Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed. (1X10=10)

i. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.

If only he \_\_\_\_\_ us truth in the first place, things would not have gone wrong.

- (a) has told
- (b) would have told
- (c) had told
- (d) should have told

ii. Read the conversation between Prateek and Raghav.

and complete the narration that follows.

Prateek: I don't feel well today.

Raghav: What can I help you, Sir?

Prateek: Can you take me to the doctor?

Raghav: Yes, Sir.

Prateek told Raghav that he did not feel well that day. Raghav asked respectfully what he could help him. Prateek asked Raghav \_\_\_\_\_. Prateek replied in the affirmative.

iii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line.

If I dyed my hair green, everybody \_\_\_\_\_ laugh at me.

- (a) would
- (b) should
- (c) may
- (d) can

iv. Select the option identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line:

As far as climate change is concerned, South Asia is one of a world's most sensitive areas.

v. Complete the given sentence, by filling in the blank with the correct option :

As he was crossing the road, a car \_\_\_\_\_ him down.

- (a) was knocking
- (b) had knocked
- (c) knocked
- (d) would have knocked

vi. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket.

The woman in the pool \_\_\_\_\_ (swim) well.

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

Mannu: Where are you going to?

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

Mannu asked Annu where she was going. Annu replied that she was going to the market and she further asked \_\_\_\_\_.  
viii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

I met her by chance then I gone to get some Medicine which Sister Amy used to give.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	correction

ix. Transform the following direct speech into reported speech:

I said to him, "Where have you lost the pen I brought for you yesterday ?

x. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the sentence.

I remember my promise. I \_\_\_\_\_ help you in the hour of your need.

(a) can(b) would(c) will(d) might

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

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

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

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

(a) he can't see it because it is not visible to the naked eye.

(b) he couldn't see it because it is not visible to the naked eye.

(c) he could see it because it is visible to the naked eye.

(d) he could not be seen it because it is not visible to the naked eye.

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

There are a little countries in the world where the population is not growing fast.

Use the given format for your response.

Error Correction

Error	correction

#### SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)

6. Read the given extracts and answer the following and answer the given extracts for ANY ONE of the two given. (1X5=5)

6.A) Marriage gifts are meaningless without the sweet bread known as the bol, just as a party or a feast loses its charm without bread. Not enough can be said to show how important a baker can be for a village. The lady of the house must prepare sandwiches on the occasion of her daughter's engagement. Cakes and bolinhas are a must for Christmas as well as other festivals. Thus, the presence of the baker's furnace in the village is absolutely essential.

(Glimpses of India)

i. In Goan village, what are meaningless without the sweet bread 'bol'?

(a) Birthday parties (b) Holi celebration (c) Wedding gifts (d) All the occasions

ii. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE:

Cakes and bolinhas are compulsorily prepared during Christmas in Goa.

iii. Find the word in the extract which means 'celebration meal'.

(a) Charm (b) Occasion (c) Engagement (d) Feast

iv. What is must for a lady of Goa on the occasion of her daughter's engagement?

(a) She must prepare sandwiches (b) She must dean the house

(c) She must feed seven children (d) She must purchase any gold item

v. What does the lady of the house prepare on the occasion of her daughter's engagement?

Or

6.B) How foolish people are when they own valuable things, Horace thought. A magazine article had described this house, giving a plan of all the rooms and a picture of this room. The writer had even mentioned that the painting hid a safe! But Horace found that the flowers were hindering him in his work. He buried his face in his handkerchief.

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

(A Question of Trust)

i. Infer one reason for the following, based on information in extract:

Horace was sneezing.

ii. Which magazine could have published the article mentioned in the given extract?

(a) Paws & Claws (b) Outdoors & Landscaping (c) Interiors (d) The Investor

iii. Where was the safe kept?

iv. In the line – Before he could think, Horace said, “Hay fever,” –the response was  
(a) rehearsed. (b) spontaneous and natural. (c) hesitant. (d) rapid and hostile.

v. Write a line from the extract that can be considered an example of sarcasm.

7. Read the given extracts and answer the following and answer the given extracts for ANY ONE of the two given. (1X5=5)

7.A) And no one buys a ball back. Money is external. He is learning, well behind his desperate eyes, The epistemology of loss, how to stand up Knowing what every man must one day know And most know many days, how to stand up.

i. What is epistemology?

(a) The philosophical theory of knowledge (b) The philosophical theory of work  
(c) The philosophical theory of behaviors (d) None of these

ii. What piece of advice is being given to the child by the poet?

iii. What is the poet trying to tell us in this poem?

(a) That age once lost can't be regained (b) That ball once lost can't be regained  
(c) That all the balls are useless (d) None of these

iv. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word from the extract:

logorrhea : words :: wealth : \_\_\_\_\_

(Clue : Just like logorrhea is an excess of words, similarly wealth is an excess of...)

v. Why does the poet say ‘Money is external’?

(a) He means money can buy everything (b) He means money can't buy everything  
(c) He means money can buy everything except balls (d) None of these

Or

7.B). **The fog comes**

**on little cat feet.**

**It sits looking**

**over harbour and city**

**on silent haunches**

**and then moves on.(Fog)**

i. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE:

By keeping the lines short, the poet is controlling the pace to make the reader slow down thereby reflecting the slow rolling in of the fog.

ii. What does the poet mean by ‘little cat feet’?

(a) small feet like that of the cat.  
(b) little soft feet of the cat which leave marks in the home.  
(c) little marks which a cat leaves behind in the sand.  
(d) the silent and careful steps of the fog which do not let anyone know of its arrival.

iii. Which poetic device used in second line?

(a) Simile (b) Alliteration (c) Metaphor (d) Personification

iv. Supply 1 point to justify the following:

The poet says that the fog is like a cat.

v. The word ‘haunches’ means.

(a) legs (b) eyes (c) thighs (d) knees

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words each. (3X4=12)

i. Why did the postmaster want to help Lencho? And how did he do that? (A Letter to God)

ii. What arguments did Anne give in her essay titled ‘A Chatterbox’? (From the Diary of Anne Frank)

iii. What was a source of unending joy for Valli? What was her strongest desire? (Madam Rides the Bus)

iv. What is the theme of the poem ‘How to Tell Wild Animals’?

v. What changes can be seen in the moon during the course of the poem ‘The Trees’?

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words each. (3X2=6)

i. Why was it difficult for Hari Singh to rob Anil? (The Thief’s Story)

ii. What lesson did Ebright learn when in the seventh grade he entered a country science fair?(The Making of a Scientist)

iii. Why did Bishamber’s marriage with Bholi not take place? (Bholi)

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (6X1=6)

i. “Water must be kept on the move and made to do things; when static it is wasted and provoking.” Do you think this statement was true in case of Mijbil, the otter? (Mijbil the Otter)

ii. Imagine Anne Gregory grows up to be a motivational speaker. As Anne Gregory, write a short speech on the importance of loving oneself.

You may begin this way:

Dear friends

The importance of believing in oneself can never be overstated. It becomes most important, therefore, to love oneself. I learnt this, as a young teen, the day a poet pointed out that (continue) ..... (For Anne Gregory)

11 .Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions ,in about 100-120. (6 X1=6)

i. Readers believe that Griffin was a man without a conscience. You have a class discussion on why our conscience plays a vital role in shaping our character. Present a summary of your views on this. (Footprints Without Feet)

ii. Attempt character sketch of Great and Mighty Think-Tank. (The Book that Saved the Earth)