

**CBSE Class 09**  
**English Language and Literature**  
**Sample Paper 11 (2019-20)**

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**Maximum Marks: 80**

**Time Allowed: 3 hours**

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**General Instructions:**

- i. This paper is divided into three sections: A, B and C. All questions are compulsory.
  - ii. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.  
Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
  - iii. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.
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**Section A**

- 1. Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions carefully: (8 Marks)**

Corruption in India is a major issue that adversely affects its economy. According to the study conducted by Transparency International in 2005, more than 62% of Indians had firsthand experience of paying bribes to get jobs done in public offices successfully. In its study conducted in the year 2008, Transparency International reports about 40% of Indians had firsthand experience of paying bribes or using a contact to get a job done in public office.

Today, India ranks 76th out of 168 countries in the Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index. In 2015, India was ranked 76th out of 175 countries in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index, compared to its neighbours; Bhutan (30th), Bangladesh (145th), Myanmar (156th), China (100th), Pakistan (126th) and Sri Lanka (85th). This is the second least corruption rank for India in the whole of South Asia. In 2013, India was ranked 94th out of 175 countries. Entitlement programmes and social spending schemes enacted by the Indian government are the largest sources of corruption in India. Examples include Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and the National Rural Health Mission. Other daily sources of corruption include India's trucking industry,

which is forced to pay billions in bribes annually to numerous regulatory and police check posts on its interstate highways.

Indian media have widely published allegations of corrupt Indian citizens stashing trillions of dollars in a Swiss bank. Swiss authorities, however, deny these allegations. Excessive regulations, complicated taxes and licensing systems, numerous government departments, each with opaque bureaucracy and discretionary powers, monopoly by government-controlled institutions on certain goods and services delivery, and the lack of transparent laws and processes are the causes of corruption in India.

**On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any eight of the following questions briefly: (1×8=8)**

- a. According to the study conducted by Transparency International in 2005, what percentage of Indians had firsthand experience of paying bribes to get jobs done in public offices successfully?
  - i. More than 62%
  - ii. More than 65%
  - iii. More than 74%
  - iv. More than 60%
- b. Which country was ranked 30th in 2015 in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index?
  - i. Myanmar
  - ii. Nepal
  - iii. Bhutan
  - iv. Pakistan
- c. What is the rank of India in corruption out of 168 countries in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index?
  - i. 75th
  - ii. 70th
  - iii. 76th
  - iv. 71st
- d. What was the rank of Myanmar out of 175 countries in 2015 in Transparency International's Perceptions Index?

- i. 165th
  - ii. 150th
  - iii. 155th
  - iv. 156th
- e. How much money corrupt Indian Citizens deposit in Swiss Bank?
- i. Millions of Dollars
  - ii. Billions of Dollars
  - iii. Trillions of Dollars
  - iv. None of these
- f. What are the other daily sources of corruption in India?
- i. Entitlement programmes
  - ii. social spending schemes
  - iii. India's trucking industry
  - iv. None of these
- g. Entitlement programmes and social spending schemes enacted by the Indian Government are the..... in India.
- h. The causes of corruption in India include excessive regulations, complicated taxes and licensing systems and numerous government departments. (True/False)

**2. Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions carefully: (12 marks)**

**A year or two ago**, he said, I was in rooms in Great Ormond Street - an old house on the Holborn side. The bedroom walls had been distempered by a previous tenant, but the place was damp and great patches of discolouration, had broken out. One of these - as indeed often happens - was exactly like a human face, but more faithfully and startlingly than is customary? Lying in bed in the morning putting off getting up, I used to watch it and watch it, and gradually I came to think of it as real - as my fellow lodger, in fact. The odd thing was that while the patches on the walls grew larger and changed their contours, this never did. It remained identically the same.

While there, I had a very bad attack of influenza, with complications, and all day long I had nothing to do but read or meditate, and it was then that this face began to get a firmer hold of me. It grew more and more real and remarkable. I may say that it dominated my thoughts day and night. There was a curious turn to the nose, and the

slant of the forehead was unique. It was, in fact, full of individuality: the face of a man apart, a man in a thousand. Well, I got better, but the face still controlled me. I found myself searching the streets for one like it. Somewhere, I was convinced, the real man must exist, and him I must meet. Why I had no notion; I only knew that he and I were in some way linked by fate. I frequented places where men congregate in large numbers - political meetings, football matches, the railway stations when the suburban trains pour forth their legions on the city in the morning and receive them again in the evening. But all in vain. I had never before realised as I then did how many different faces of man there are and how few. For all differ, and yet, classified, they belong to only as many groups as you count on your hands. The search became a mania with me. I neglected everything else. I stood at busy corners watching the crowd until people thought me crazy, and the police began to know me and are suspicious. Women I never glanced at men, men, and men, all the time.

**On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions:**

**Answer briefly:** ( 2 x 4 = 8)

- a. What did people and the police think of the narrator?
- b. How did the face on the wall control the narrator's mind and his activities?
- c. What was so special yet odd about the human face formed on the wall?
- d. What did the narrator notice among the great patches of discolouration on the wall of his room?

**Vocabulary:** (1x4 = 4)

- i. Find words from the passage which have the same meaning as the following:  
(1x2 = 2)
  - a. fading of colour
  - b. outlines of face
- ii. Find words from the passage which mean the opposite of the following:(1x2 = 2)
  - a. dry (para 1)
  - b. false/virtual

### **Section B**

3. Using the information given in the input, write an article on **Child Labour and Battle**

**for Child Rights in India. Hints:** Nobel Peace Prize 2014 to India's Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai of Pakistan, The 2001 national census, 12.6 million, aged 5-14.] **(8 Marks)**

**OR**

You went to see the Indian International Trade Fair held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. Write a diary entry, make a diary entry what you saw and experienced there.

4. Sneha wanted to write a story but could not go beyond a line or two. Taking help from, the information given below along with the lines Sneha wrote a complete story, in about 100-120 words. **(10 Marks)**

Mr. Aggarwal was a very wealthy businessman. One day he was alone sitting at his dining table when...

**OR**

Write a story, in 150-200 words, from the outline given below. Give a suitable title to the story.

A bee falls into a stream-a dove flies past-drops a leaf into the river-the bee climbs on it-escapes-a hunter aims at the dove-the bee stings the hunter-misses the aim-the dove is saved-Moral.

5. **Fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate words from the given options : (any four) (1×4=4)**

Even though we have (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the 21st century, more than a billion people (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ in extreme poverty. 40 million people are (iii) with AIDS. 104 million children do not (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ access to school and 860 million adults cannot read or (v) \_\_\_\_\_.

- i. (a) entering (b) entered (c) enter (d) enters
- ii. (a) live (b) lived (c) living (d) lives
- iii. (a) infecting (b) infect (c) infected (d) infects
- iv. (a) have (b) had (c) has (d) having
- v. (a) write (b) writing (c) wrote (d) written

6. In the following passage, one word has been omitted in each line against which a blank is given. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word comes after it in the space provided. (1×4=4)

	Word Before	Missing Word	Word After
While Dickens' novels tended to set in an urban environment,	e.g. as	a	novelist
Hardy's focus was on the countryside its decline.	(a) ____	____	____
Many his works	(b) ____	____	____
are set Wessex; a partly real, partly imagined, rural	(c) ____	____	____
region harked back to England.	(d) ____	____	____

7. Read the conversation given below and complete the paragraph that follows: (4 marks)

Customer: Can I have a bottle of juice?

Shopkeeper: Sorry, we only have milk bottles.

Customer: When will it be available?

Shopkeeper: I can give it to you tomorrow.

Customer: Thank you, then I will come tomorrow. The customer asked the shopkeeper

(a)..... The shopkeeper apologized and said (b).....

The customer wanted to know (c).....The shopkeeper said that

(d)..... The customer thanked him and said that he would come the following day.

### Section C

8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. [4x1 = 4 marks]

He won't do what you tell him.

So, come, let's build strong homes,

Let's joint the doors firmly.

Practice to firm the body.  
Make the heart steadfast.  
Do this, and the wind will be friends with us.  
The wind blows out weak fires.  
He makes strong fires roar and flourishes.  
His friendship is good.  
We praise him every day.

- a. Why does the poet ask us to make strong houses?
- b. What should we do with our hearts and bodies?
- c. When will the wind be our friend?
- d. What is the effect of the wind on the fire?

**OR**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. [4x1 = 4 marks]**

And I shall have some peace there, for  
peace comes dropping slow;  
Dropping from the veils of the morning to  
where the cricket sings;  
Their midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,  
And evenings full of the linnet's wings.

- a. What will the speaker get there?
  - b. How has 'noon' been described in the stanza?
  - c. What inference can be drawn from the word cricket sings?
  - d. What is Linnet?
9. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each: **(10 Marks)**
- a. Why did the little girl start making the pin-cushion? Write your answer in the context of The Little Girl.
  - b. What kind of society was Santosh born in?
  - c. What does the poet mean by The strength of the tree exposed? Write your answer

in the context of Poem On Killing a Tree.

- d. Why did Toto run away with the dish of pullao?
- e. Bill Bryson ached to be suave. Was he successful in his mission?
- f. To whom did the Happy Prince send his great ruby and why?

10. What did the bear start eating in the company of human beings? **(8 Marks)**

**OR**

Why does the author call 'febrile confusion' to the atmosphere at Pashupatinath Temple?

11. What was foolish about the king's trial of the merchant? **(8 Marks)**

**OR**

The widows and orphans of village Kalikuda remember Prashant's help after the cyclone with gratitude. Explain how Prashant helped them in their darkest hour of grief.



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**Solution**

**Section A**

1.
  - a. More than 62%
  - b. Bhutan
  - c. 76th
  - d. 156th
  - e. Trillions of dollars
  - f. India's trucking industry
  - g. The largest sources of corruption
  - h. True

2. **Answer briefly:**

- a. The search became a mania with the narrator. The people thought him crazy. The police began to know him and grew suspicious.
- b. The face formed on the wall controlled the narrator's mind and his activities. He was searching the streets as he was convinced that the real man exactly like the face must exist somewhere.
- c. The odd thing was that while all other patches on the walls grew larger and changed their contours, the human face so formed remained the same. It never changed its contours.
- d. The bedroom walls were damp and great patches of discolouration had broken out on them. On one of these patches of discolouration, there was a patch that looked exactly like a human face.

**Vocabulary:**

- i.
  - a. discoloration
  - b. contours
- ii.
  - a. damp
  - b. real

## **Section B**

### **3. Child Labour and Battle for Child Rights in India**

Riya Kailash Satyarthi brought laurels to the people of India for being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize 2014 along with Malala for their battle for child safety. The world has appreciated the battle he fought for child rights for years. The term 'Child Labour' is actually the work that deprives children of their childhood. It destroys their potentiality and their dignity. In short, it is the kind of work that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children. Child labour is the practice of having children engaged in economic activity. The constitution of India (Article 24) prohibits child labour below the age of 14 years in any factory or mine or castle or engaged in any other hazardous employment. India has the highest number of labourers under 14 in the world. Many NGOs like 'Bachpan Bachao Andolan' of Kailash Satyarthi are working sincerely to eradicate child labour in India. Only concerted efforts by the government, the NGOs and the public can eradicate this evil from our civilized society.

**OR**

New Delhi.

26th November, 20XX

Sunday, 7:00 pm

Dear Diary,

I recently attended the 32nd Edition of India International Trade Fair (IITF) held at Pragati Maidan that witnessed a participation of more than 7,000 exhibitors, including participation from 28 countries. The fair included stores from various sectors such as Cosmetics, Healthcare products, Consumer Electronics, Home & Kitchen Appliances, Fitness equipment, Leather Goods, Footwear & Travel Goods. But the footwear section was very attracting. I got to see various types of footwear from which I had bought a shoe pair. I am planning to wear it in the upcoming function. Anyway, it was a very pleasant and rewarding experience.

Vinod

### **4. The Return Gift**

Mr. Aggarwal was a very wealthy businessman. One day he was alone sitting at his dining table. It was his birthday. He heard the footsteps of a man behind the curtains. He knew there was a thief there. **Come on! Thank you for coming to my house on my birthday. I'm alone, give me your company.** The thief was starving. He had good food and drinks. Mr. Aggarwal gave him a big purse. It had silver coins. Years rolled by. His fortunes changed. Mr. Aggarwal was a very poor man now. His business was ruined. Today was his 50th birthday. But he had become a pauper now. He was alone reflecting over his good old days. It was at 9 pm. The bell rang. "Who can be at such a time to visit a poor man?" thought Aggarwal. He saw a man in a new suit with a lovely bouquet of red roses. He had many packets of gifts, fruits, sweets, and a few bottles. He tried to recognize the man. "I'm your old thief," replied the man. With the money, you gave me I did some business. I earned a lot of money within these years. Now I am a rich businessman. **Let's celebrate your birthday,** he said. **It is for you, a little return-gift.** He gave a bag to Mr. Aggarwal. Mr. Aggarwal opened the bag. It was full of new currency notes. Mr. Agarwal was surprised and refused the gift at first. Then the thief convinced him to take it as a token of gratitude since he is the reason behind him turning into a rich businessman from a thief. Mr. Agarwal accepted the gift and started his own business and lead his life ever like before. Agarwal accepted the request but on one condition he said he would use this money to start his business and share 50% share of his profit to the thief.

**OR**

### The Bee and the Dove

"Kindness never goes unrewarded" is an often-quoted proverb. It means if we help others in their difficulties, they will help us in our difficulties. If we do good to others, they will do good for us. There is a famous story to illustrate the truth of this proverb. It was a pleasant morning, though the sky was overcast with clouds. A bee was busy flying flower to flower, collecting nectar to take back to the hive, where the young babies, as well as, the queen bee was waiting to be fed. Though it would have preferred sunny weather, summertime is supposed to be a period of hectic activity and the cloudy sky was no deterrent for a bee to take an off from work. Enough nectar had to be collected and stored as honey to last them throughout the long winter. Suddenly, there was such a gust of wind that dropped it (the bee) into the

stream below. A dove was sitting in her nest, who had noticed the event. It was compassionate and helpful by nature. It dropped a leaf that floated close enough to bee, so as to be convenient for the insect to climb on to it. The bee was grateful and flapped its wings vigorously to dry them. The bee thanked the dove for saving its life. They became friends. After a few days, the dove was sitting on the branch of a tree. A little distance away, the bee noticed a hunter, taking an aim in the sky. He loaded his gun to shoot her down. And lo and behold ! the hunter was aiming at the dove that had saved it just a while ago. The bee that was flying here and there happened to see all that. At once, the bee darted towards the hunter and stung him on the hand just in time that he missed his mark. The dove flew away with the bang of the gun and saved her life. Thus she received the reward of her noble deed done to the bee.

Moral: A well-done returns in the form of good fortune in a numerable way.

5.
  - i. entered
  - ii. live
  - iii. infected
  - iv. have
  - v. write

6.

Word Before	Missing Word	Word After
(a) countryside	<u>and</u>	its
(b) many	<u>of</u>	his
(c) set	<u>in</u>	Wessex
(d) region	<u>that</u>	harked

7.
  - a. if he could have a bottle of juice
  - b. they only had milk bottles
  - c. when that would be available
  - d. he could give that to him the next day.

### Section C

8.
  - a. The poet asks us to build strong houses as a defence against the wind.
  - b. We should make our bodies firm and our hearts steadfast.
  - c. The wind will be our friend when we are strong.

- d. The wind blows out the weak fires but makes the strong fires very strong. The wind is a metaphor for the challenges and adversities that come our way. If we face these challenges firmly, we will emerge even stronger for the experience.

**OR**

- a. The speaker will get peace there.
- b. The 'noon' has been described here as a purple glow.
- c. The word cricket refers to the bird-like grasshopper which is producing sound pleasant to the ears.
- d. Linnet is a bird.

9. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each:

- a. One day when Kezia was kept indoors because of a cold, her grandmother told her about her father's birthday which was the coming week. Her grandmother suggested that she should give her father a pincushion for his birthday. She gave her a beautiful piece of yellow silk to make it. So she started making the pincushion as a gift for her father's birthday.
- b. Santosh was born in Joniyawas, a small village in the Rewari District in Haryana. The society in this region was rigidly patriarchal and gender-biased. The birth of a girl was generally unwelcome and people strictly adhered to conservative traditions. In those days the birth of a son was regarded as a blessing, but the birth of a daughter was not generally welcomed in the society.
- c. The expression 'the strength of the tree exposed' conveys that the roots of the tree, which are its strength and source of life, are pulled out of the earth and thrown open to the mercy of harsh weather. Once exposed to the scorching and choking sun and air, the tree withers away and finally dies.
- d. One day, at noon, a dish of Pullao was lying on the dinner table which is prepared by his grandmother. Toto's mouth watered as he wanted to eat it. He did not miss the opportunity and stuffed himself with rice. He ran away with the dish of Pullao to eat it. He made his exit through the window.
- e. Bill Bryson was a person prone to accidents. He would cause yet another accident

whenever he tried to be suave. His un-suave ways included littering food at the dinning-table, getting his coat trapped while closing the car door and smudging his light-coloured trousers. So he was not successful in his mission.

f. The seamstress was a poor lady whose son was unwell. His sick son wanted oranges but she couldn't afford it. She could only offer river water to his son. So the Happy Prince sent his precious ruby to the seamstress. Swallow reached the seamstress's house and kept the ruby behind her hand near the table.

10. Bruno was a baby bear when he was brought by the narrator. Before this, he had never lived with any human being. His mother had been shot dead. It was a matter of question how would the bear survive and what he would be fed on. But he soon took to drinking milk from a bottle. He ate porridge, made from any ingredients, vegetables, fruits, nuts, meat (especially pork), curry and rice regardless of condiments and chillies, bread, eggs, chocolates, sweets, pudding, ice-creams, etc. As for drink: milk, tea, coffee, lime juice, aerated water, buttermilk, beer, alcoholic liquor and, in fact, anything liquid. He relished everything that a human being enjoys to eat. He did not leave any eatable that humans eat.

**OR**

'Febrile confusion' means a situation of complete confusion and chaos. The author plans to visit two temples in Kathmandu: the Buddhist shrine and the Pashupatinath temple out of which he first visits the Pashupatinath Temple. Like any other Hindu temple or pilgrimage centre, Pashupatinath temple is buzzing with people and mindless activities. There he notices too much clamour. He sees a number of priests, hawkers, devotees, tourists, cows, monkeys, pigeons and dogs roam through the ground. There are so many people at the temple that some people trying to get the priest's attention are pushed aside by the elbows of others. Besides, he sees Westerners seeking permission from the policeman to enter the temple. But the policeman does not allow them to enter it by saying to them that only Hindus are allowed to enter the temple. Moreover, a fight breaks out between two monkeys. One chases the other who jumps onto a Shivalinga then runs screaming around the temples and down the river Bagmati. Thus, the author finds a noisy environment at the temple and that is why he calls atmosphere febrile confusion.

11. While the thief was carrying on the burglary in the merchant's house the damaged, weak wall fell over his head and lead to his death. The thief's brother brought his petition to the king demanding justice. He blamed the merchant whose house it was to be the culprit. The foolish king agreed to give him justice. He called the merchant to trial. The helpless merchant blamed the bricklayer who built the wall who in turn blamed the dancing girl for distracting him with her jingling anklets. The dancing girl was summoned and she blamed the jeweller who made her walk up and down the street. The jeweller escaped by placing the blame on a rich merchant whose jewellery he had been making. The rich merchant turned out to be the merchant's father and so the king blamed him for the thief's death and ordered his execution. Despite the application of logic, this judgement of the king was very foolish.

**OR**

Prashant gave a good account of himself and rose to become a good Samaritan. After the devastation, the shelter was established at Kalikuda. Around 2500 people were there. The whole atmosphere was grimy. The people survived on green coconuts. The men, the women and the children looked helpless. Prashant took an initiative and organised many groups. With the help of a group of volunteers, he managed to procure food, shelter and other basic requirements. They could succeed in their efforts and got rice to eat. They got relief packages sent through helicopters. They cleaned filth, vomit, urine and carcasses which might had brought epidemic. Life seemed slow there. The people there passed their time in gossiping and performing several activities. The situation of the shelter showed a clear picture of suffering humanity. Prashant along with the volunteers managed to provide the victims with food, shelter and tried his best to wipe out the suffering of the people.