
CBSE Sample Paper-02
SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT – I
English Language and Literature
Class – X

Time allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 70

General Instructions:

(i) The Question paper is divided into three sections:

Section A - Reading **20 marks**

Section B - Writing and Grammar **25 marks**

Section C - Literature **25 marks**

(ii) All questions are compulsory.

(iii) You may attempt any section at a time.

(iv) All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

Section A
Reading (20 marks)

1. Read the passage carefully. **(8)**

Big, bold and beautiful, the *Rafflesia arnoldii* boasts the title of the largest flower in the world and can grow to massive proportions, with a flower diameter of up to one metre (three feet) and a hefty weight of up to 11 kg (24 lbs). It might seem like a great gift for that special someone, except that its nicknamed the “corpse flower” and smells like rotting meat, so it may not be quite as endearing as expected.

Resembling the coiled tentacles of an octopus up close, the stinky flower leaves such a lasting impression that it was once described by Swedish zoologist Eric Mjoberg in 1928 as having “a penetrating smell more repulsive than any buffalo carcass in an advanced stage of decomposition”. Nice. Technically a plant, although it has no leaves, stems or roots that the eye can see, the corpse flower relies on its strong perfume to attract insects that help with pollination.

The other not so pleasant qualities of the flower are its parasitic tendencies; by living off the water and nutrients from the hapless *Tetrastigma* vine, the corpse flower is able to grow as large as it does. And whether it's considered a beauty, beast, or both, the lure of this bewitching flower is hard to resist. However, to be successful in a quest to find it, a few stars need to align.

Found only in the dwindling rainforests of Sumatra and Borneo, pollination is rare and the bud death rate is high at 80-90%. The few buds that actually bloom take many months to do so, and when they do, last no more than a few days before dying. The good news is that there are great conservation efforts in place to protect the habitat of the *Rafflesia* species, so future generations can experience the sight and smell of the largest flower on Earth.

Answer the following questions:

(a) Why is *Rafflesia* called the largest flower in the world?

(b) What is the nickname given to *Rafflesia* and why?

(c) Why cannot *Rafflesia* be used as a gift for someone?

(d) How is its smell useful for the flower?

(e) Why is *Rafflesia* called a parasite?

(f) Where are the flowers *Rafflesia* generally found?

(g) Why is a *Rafflesia* in full bloom a rare sight?

(h) What efforts are being done to protect the flower and why?

2. Read the passage carefully.

(12)

Some people get emotional satisfaction from talking about how awful other people are. But research has found that when you talk negatively to say, a friend, about how awful a colleague is, the listening friend is more likely to associate the negativity to you, rather than to the person you're describing. Researchers call this spontaneous trait transference'. So, it's best to go easy on bad-mouthing others because it may backfire anyway. It takes a big person to accept outwardly and inwardly that they are at fault. I'm not saying we should never blame other people. Sometimes others are at fault and they need to know it and take responsibility. But being able to accept responsibility when that's right means we actually become less helpless and passive.

If everything is someone else's fault, then what part do I play in my own life? Are my actions entirely without consequence? Am I that powerless? Or do all my actions only lead to good outcomes? Am I an entire new type of human being? Knowing we can accept responsibility when things go wrong means we can also accept credit when things go well. We do, as individuals, have an effect on life; and that's a good thing. But we need to develop the capacity to be objective enough about ourselves to avoid assuming we could never possibly have created problems ourselves. We also need to distinguish between accepting responsibility and punishing ourselves unduly. Ever noticed how some people get more hung up on assigning blame than actually fixing a problem? If people feel you blame them unfairly, they will resent you. They may even come to hate you. People instinctively hate injustice. People can be shouted at, cursed at, and blamed, but still not know what it is they did wrong.

Calling someone an idiot or telling them they "always do everything wrong!" is not feedback; it's just abuse, no matter why you think you're doing it. This kind of emotional incontinence may make people anxious, but they'll never respect you because it displays your weaknesses so clearly. As the wise Roman emperor Marcus Aurelius said, "How much more grievous are the consequences of anger than the causes of it." Life is full of people who take emotional shortcuts and blame other people unfairly or aggressively; for the sake of the human race, don't be one of them. But I wouldn't blame you if you were.

Answer the following questions:

- (i) Why is it best to go easy on bad-mouthing?
- (ii) What makes a person less helpless and passive?
- (iii) What objective quality should a person develop?
- (iv) What is the meaning of the quote by Marcus Aurelius in the passage?
- (v) Find the synonym of the word 'associate' in the passage from the following.
- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| (a) result | (b) link |
| (c) attitude | (d) blame |
- (vi) Find the correct meaning of the word 'outwardly' in the reference of the passage.
- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| (a) externally | (b) extrovert |
| (c) behind the back | (d) emotional |
- (vii) Which word from the following in the passage means 'allowing what happens without active response'?
- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| (a) passive | (b) feedback |
| (c) powerless | (d) weakness |
- (viii) Find the antonym of the word 'cursed' in the passage from the following.
- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| (a) right | (b) helpful |
| (c) prayer | (d) blessed |
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Section B
Writing (25 marks)

3. You are Ritika, a resident of Delhi. With the increase in choices of processed food and inactive lifestyle, the problem of obesity is rising. Write a letter to the Editor of 'The Times', Mumbai, expressing your concern regarding the issue and suggest measures that can be taken to put a halt to the problem. (100-120 words) **(5)**

Or

Sports from time immemorial, are considered to be the best form of exercise for maintaining our health. You are Rajesh / Riya, Head of the Sports Club of your school. Write an article for your school magazine titled 'Health Benefits of Sports'.

4. "It was a dark and lonely night. I was returning from". Complete the story in about 150-200 words using the given clues. **(10)**

Dark night – quiet jungle – sound of footsteps – followed footprints trail – reached lonely house – hidden behind tress – entered – shocked to see – woke up in bed.

5. Complete the following passage by choosing the correct word from the given options. **(3)**
For the first time (i) _____ Independence, India added fewer people (ii) _____ its population in the decade that has just (iii) _____ than in the previous one.

(a) for (b) since (c) from (d) till
(a) in (b) on (c) at (d) to
(a) has ended (b) have ended (c) ended (d) had ended

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Identify the wrong word and write it with the correction in the spaces given. **(4)**

Incorrect Correct

The Gir National Park, also known by Gir Wildlife

Sanctuary, is situated in the state of Gujarat. It was one of the major wildlife sanctuaries to North India.

It was establishment on 18th September, 1965 as a forest reserve primary to conserve the Asiatic Lion.

(a) _____	_____
(b) _____	_____
(c) _____	_____
(d) _____	_____

7. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences. **(3)**

(i) watching TV / while you are / the following ways / the American Council / suggests / to exercise

(ii) the remote / the channel / to change / get up / from the couch / instead of using

(iii) the room during / walk up / the stairs / or around / and down / commercial breaks

Section C

Literature Textbook and Long Reading Text (25 marks)

8. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow. **(3)**

"Poor old lad", I said. "You haven't a kick in you but I think I know a cure for you".

- (i) Why does the speaker say "poor old lad".
(ii) What cure did the speaker know?
(iii) What is the meaning of 'a kick' in the extract?

Or

He should be lurking in shadow,
Sliding through long grass,
Near the water hole,
Where plump deer pass.

- (i) What do you mean by lurking?
(ii) Who is 'He' here?
-

-
- (iii) Where should he be lurking?
9. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each. **(8)**
- (i) What did Lencho compare the raindrops to and why?
- (ii) What freedom meant to Mandela in childhood?
- (iii) What was the young seagull's mother doing before him?
- (iv) Why does Anne Frank think that 'paper' has more patience than 'people'?
10. Describe the value of freedom for the human beings and how it is important for the growth of civilisation and humanism as described in the lesson 'Nelson Mandela' Long Walk to Freedom'. **(4)**

Or

Small things in life make significant changes in our life. Elaborate with reference to the poem 'Dust of Snow'.

11. **A.** What were the reasons for the constant friction between Anne, her mother and Mrs. van Daan? **(10)**

Or

Anne's character undergoes a wonderful and significant transformation in the annexe. Comment.

11. **B.** Why were Helen's parents deeply grieved and perplexed? How did this grief finally lessen? **(10)**

Or

Narrate the experience Helen had with nature which taught her that "nature is not always kind."

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SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT -I
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Class - X

Section A
Reading (20 marks)

1. (i) Rafflesia is called the largest flower in the world because it can grow to massive proportions, with a flower diameter of up to one metre (three feet) and a hefty weight of up to 11 kg (24 lbs).
(ii) The nickname given to Rafflesia is the “corpse flower” because it smells like rotting meat.
(iii) Rafflesia cannot be used as a gift for someone because of its bad smell.
(iv) Its smell is useful for the flower because this smell attracts insects that help with pollination.
(v) Rafflesia is called a parasite because it lives off the water and nutrients from the Tetrastigma vine.
(vi) The flowers Rafflesia are generally found only in the dwindling rainforests of Sumatra and Borneo.
(vii) Rafflesia in full bloom is a rare sight because its pollination is rare and the bud death rate is high at 80-90%. The few buds that actually bloom take many months to do so, and when they do, last no more than a few days before dying.
(viii) Great conservation efforts are being done to protect the habitat of the Rafflesia species, so that future generations can experience the sight and smell of the largest flower on Earth.
2. (i) It is best to go easy on bad-mouthing because when you bad mouth someone, the listener is likely to associate the negativity to you rather than to the person you’re describing.
(ii) Accepting our mistakes outwardly and inwardly and being able to take responsibility makes us less helpless and passive.
(iii) A person should develop the objective quality of giving up the assumption of always being right. They should have the courage to accept that they can be wrong too.
(iv) The meaning of the quote in the passage is that the consequences result of anger is worse and more hurtful than its cause. The repercussions of anger may leave one feeling awful.
(v) (b) link
(vi) (a) externally
(vii) (a) passive
(viii) (d) blessed

Section B
Writing (25 marks)

3. 145, Nehru Place
New Delhi-110014

1st March, 20XX

The Editor
The Times Mumbai

Subject Obesity – A Major Concern

Sir/Madam,

Using your daily as a medium, I wish to throw light on the exponential rise in the number of obese individuals in our country.

Obesity is a medical condition in which excess body fat accumulates to adversely affect our health. It has increased the tendencies of many health problems among people nowadays.

Though the causes of obesity are complicated and diverse, the contribution of inactive lifestyle and readily available fast food cannot be ignored.

Our country needs a reminder about the situation so that it can be improved. We can bring about a change with stringent actions taken by the government and individuals. We can encourage the masses to adopt measures like morning walk or jogging, using bicycle for short distance, practising physical exercises, intake of healthy and nutritional food, ban on beverages with high calories and more, to alter the situation.

I hope my thoughts find some takers so that their health is improved.

Yours sincerely

Ritika

Or

Health Benefits of Sports

By Rajesh

Sports play a therapeutic role in maintenance of good health in our lives. Indulging in any kind of sport is good for mind, body and spirit.

Playing a sport gradually develops a certain kind of skill-set which proves to be beneficial in our lives. Practising a sport on regular basis refreshes our mind and body, thus allowing us to perform better, both mentally and physically. It helps to maintain an optimum weight and promotes wellness. Physical activity in any form of sports make us less likely to develop problems that lead to ailments later in life.

Achieving a healthy immune system and a fit body through sports is an exciting and rewarding process. Putting it all together, playing a sport is a winning strike towards good health.

4. It was a dark and lonely night. I was returning from a relatives' place and had missed the last lorry. Now, I had to walk through the jungle. I was hesitant, but the thought of reaching home on time persuaded me.

There was something odd about the jungle in the night. It was very quiet and the silence made me shiver. Horrifically, I realised that I was lost. It didn't take long and I was gripped with panic. I cried for help but there was no response. I was terrified to hear the sounds of owls and bats. It was very scary and I had lost all hopes of survival. Suddenly, I heard the sound of footsteps. I followed the sound of these footsteps. It was like light at the end of a tunnel. After ten minutes, I reached near a lonely house.

I hid behind the trees to see whether it would be safe to go near the house. Finally, I decided to take shelter in the lonely house, but to my shock, it was full of dancing skeletons. I fainted with fear. When I opened my eyes, to my relief, I was sleeping in my lovely bed. What a nightmare it was!

5. (i) (b) since
(ii) (d) to
-

-
- (iii) (c) ended
6. (i) was is
(ii) to in
(iii) establishment established
(iv) primary primarily
7. (i) The American Council suggests the following ways to exercise while you are watching TV.
(ii) Get up from the couch instead of using the remote to change the channel.
(iii) Walk up and down the stairs or around the room during commercial breaks.

Section C

Literature Textbook and Long Reading Text (25 marks)

8. (i) The speaker addresses Tricky as a poor old lad because he is unwell and listless.
(ii) The speaker knew that the cure for Tricky's illness is to be on a strict diet.
(iii) The phrase means 'any alertness'.

Or

- (i) 'Lurking' means hiding.
(ii) 'He' refers to the tiger.
(iii) He should be lurking in the shadows in the forest.
9. (i) Lencho compared the raindrops to new coins because the crop needed the rain badly and it was the sign of good harvest. Good harvest meant prosperity for Lencho as he needed the money to fulfil his basic needs.
(ii) During childhood the meaning of freedom for Mandela was quite limited he considered it to be free to run in the fields, to swim in the clear stream, free to roast mealies and ride the board backs of slow moving bulls.
(iii) The young seagull's mother was standing on the plateau, her white breast thrust forward. She tore a piece of fish that lay at her feet, then she scrapped each side of her beak on the rock.
(iv) 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.
10. Everybody whether human or other creatures wants to live free as freedom is natural to all living beings. The value of freedom is better known to that human being who has not tasted it till he gets it. A person who is chained with the limits and not allowed to perform his duties freely, values freedom more than anyone else. For instance the value of freedom is known better to Mandela who remained behind the bars most of his life. Think about a bird or animal which is caged as they have the habit of living with full freedom but in the cage they are not free and their conditions are very pitiable. Similarly, life becomes like a hell if we are deprived of freedom. There is no growth of civilisation as it grows only when one has freedom. Similarly, humanism grows in the atmosphere of freedom.

Or

The poem, 'Dust of Snow', reiterates that the little things in life can make huge changes in our future. It also shows that if we can take the hard times of life in stride, eventually something will happen to change our situation into happier times. The simple things that we do for others can make all the difference. Just think about those random acts of kindness we do and how much they brighten a person's day and sometimes change their future. Noticing and appreciating all the small things in life will make our life happier. It will also cause us to have a spirit that is willing to change and therefore succeed.

11. **A.** From the very beginning, Anne and her mother could not get along well with Mrs. van Daan. The Franks were the first to occupy the annexe. The van Daans shifted there a few days later and the two families had to share the small space. Naturally, there were ample reasons for the friction between the ladies. Mrs. van Daan was quite selfish and did not want to share anything that belonged to her. She removed all her sheets from the common linen closet. She resented her China being used for meals and tried hard to find out where the Franks had kept their China.

Mrs. van Daan was also lazy and shirked work. She tried to get out of washing utensils and left the work for Margot to do. She further made matters worse by pretending to sympathise with Margot.

Mrs. Daan even criticised the upbringing of the Frank daughters—Anne and Margot. This annoyed Mrs. Frank all the more and she rose to her daughter's defence.

Anne herself did not like Mrs. Daan much. The lady always criticised anything and everything Anne would do. Mrs. van Daan constantly scolded Anne for her 'chatter' and her 'saucy replies'. She called Anne spoiled when she refused to eat more vegetables. She criticised the books Anne would read. Anne's breaking of one of her soup bowls fuelled her anger and dislike of the girl. Anne did not approve of Mrs. Daan's coquettish ways and detested her for flirting with her father.

Or

Anne is just thirteen years old when her family moves to the annexe. She is a carefree young girl, who loves enjoying every bit of her life – right from cracking jokes to flirting with boys at school. She is a rebellious teenager who refuses to obey all that her mother commands. While on the one hand Anne comes across as playful and comical, on the other hand, she has a serious side too. She is rather a lovely adolescent, who has a feeling that she is constantly misunderstood, ignored or snubbed by others, especially the elders in her family.

Anne certainly undergoes a significant transformation during her stay in the annexe. Though in the beginning she struggles with the adults, who constantly criticise her behaviour, her experiences gradually change her and she becomes more mature and emotionally independent.

We also see Anne complaining about the life in the annexe – the horrible food, the shortage of supplies, the confinement in a small area, etc. However, we soon find that the girl begins to accept the circumstances and tries to look for happiness in the little things she has, than grudging about the things she doesn't. She realises that she and her family members are rather fortunate that they are safe in the annexe.

Anne leaves her normal childhood behind and enters the stage of a physically and emotionally mature lady—introspective, thoughtful and balanced.

Or

11. **B.** As Helen's desire to improve her communication grew, she realised that the few signs she had learnt to communicate with others were becoming inadequate. Not being able to make others around her understand her, thoroughly frustrated Helen.

After a while, the need of some means of communication became so urgent that these outbursts occurred daily, sometimes hourly. Helen's helplessness disturbed her parents and made them anxious, since they lived a long way from any school for the deaf or the blind and it seemed unlikely that anyone would come to Tuscumbia to teach a child who was both deaf and blind.

When Helen was about six years old. Mr. Keller heard of an oculist in Baltimore. Dr Chisholm was not able to do anything for Helen, but suggested that she could be educated.

He advised Mr. Keller to consult Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Dr Bell told her father to write to Mr. Anagnos, Director of the Perkins Institution at Boston.
Mr. Keller immediately sent the letter, and Mr. Anagnos' reply was a positive one, informing them that a teacher had been found for Helen.

Or

One day Miss Sullivan and Helen were returning from a walk. The day became warm and sultry, so they stopped a couple of times under trees for short rests. The Last halt was under a cherry tree, a short distance from the house.

As the tree was easy to climb, Helen, with Miss Sullivan's assistance, sat amidst the branches. It was so cool up on the tree that Miss Sullivan proposed that they ate their Lunch there. She then Left Helen, who promised to keep still while her teacher went home to fetch the Lunch.

Suddenly the weather changed, the air became Less warm, the sky turned dark and a strange smell came from the earth. Helen could sense a thunderstorm and felt totally cut off from the earth, and a chilling terror crept over her. The Leaves stirred, a shiver ran through the tree and a strong wind almost knocked off Helen as she clung to a branch.

She wanted to jump off the tree but terror held her back. Just as she felt that she along with the tree would fall together, her teacher seized Helen's hand and helped her down. This horrible experience taught her a new Lesson, that nature often "wages war against her children" and for a Long time Helen did not ever want to climb a tree.
