

SAMPLE **Q**UESTION **P**APER

BLUE PRINT

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 80

Typology	MCQs (1 mark)	SA-I (2 marks)	SA-II (3 marks)	LA (5 marks)	Total
Reading Skills	20	–	–	–	20
Writing Skills	–	–	2	2	16
Literary Text Books and Supplementary Reading Text	20	7	–	2	44
Total	$20 \times 1 = 20$	$7 \times 2 = 14$	$2 \times 3 = 6$	$4 \times 5 = 20$	80

ENGLISH CORE

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 80

General Instructions :

- (i) *This paper is divided into two parts: A and B. 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.*

PART - A (40 Marks)

READING (20 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below.

- (1) “The rules of soccer are very simple, basically it is this: if it moves, kick it. If it doesn’t move, kick it until it does.” ~*Phil Woosnam, 1974*
- (2) Woosnam is a former soccer player and manager in Wales. He moved to the United States, where he was the coach of the American national team. He is now in the United States’ National Soccer Hall of Fame. His quotation describes large variety of games that have been played for at least 3,000 years, finally resulting in the game of soccer.
- (3) Soccer seems to have originated in Asia. The Japanese played a game similar to soccer in about 1000 B.C.E., and it is documented that the Japanese played the first real soccer game in the year 611 A.D. The Chinese played against Japan with a feather or hair-filled soccer ball as early as 50 B.C.E. The Greeks played a game called episkyros. It was similar to soccer. The Romans played a ball game called Harpastum. Somehow soccer made its way to England by the 1300s. King Edward of England did not like the game; in fact, he passed laws banning it. King Henry IV and King Henry VII passed laws against soccer as well. Queen Elizabeth of England had people put in jail for a week for playing soccer, followed by religious penance, or payment for sin. The game was thought to take time away from military drills and archery. At that time, it was very important for young men to practice archery, and soccer competed with archery.
- (4) However, laws, penance, and official censure did not stop the game of soccer. The game was very popular in the British Isles. It was played in many different ways -- sometimes it was played by kicking the ball, but often it was played by kicking members of the opposing team. Sometimes an entire village played against another village. The game was played through streets, fields, and streams. Over time, players agreed on general rules for the game. They also agreed on the size and weight of the soccer ball.
- (5) Then another problem developed. During the 1600s, the Puritans in England took a particular dislike to soccer. This religious group thought that soccer was a “frivolous,” or time-wasting entertainment. They also said that soccer disturbed the peace on Sunday, the Lord’s Day. So, there was a new ban on Sunday soccer.
- (6) Despite the ban, soccer eventually became an accepted sport. It even became part of the school curriculum. In 1863, a meeting of eleven English soccer clubs and schools decided on the official rules of the game. This meeting was the beginning of “The Football Association”. Soon other countries formed football associations.

By 1912, there were 21 countries affiliated with the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA). Today FIFA has 208 member associations. Before the 1970s, soccer was considered to be mostly a men's game. However, FIFA established the Women's World Cup in 1991. The first Women's World Cup tournament was played in the People's Republic of China in 1991. Twelve teams played for the championship. US women's college teams have also begun to receive varsity status, mostly because of the influence of Title IX, a new law which provides more money for schools that include women's sports.

- (7) FIFA estimates that about forty million (40,000,000) women are currently playing football throughout the world. The FIFA "Big Count," a 2006 soccer census, estimates two hundred sixty five million (265,000,000) male and female soccer players worldwide and five million referees, for a total of two hundred seventy million (270,000,000) people – four percent of the world's population – actively engaged in soccer.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the eleven given below. **(1 × 10 = 10)**

- (i) Soccer has its origin in _____.
 (a) Japan (b) China (c) England (d) Asia
- (ii) Chinese filled their soccer balls with _____.
 (a) feather (b) skin (c) hair (d) Both 'a' and 'c'
- (iii) _____ banned soccer in England.
 (a) King Edward (b) King Henry (c) King Henry VII (d) None of these
- (iv) In _____, 'The Football Associations' beginning was marked.
 (a) 1912 (b) 1863 (c) 1970 (d) 2006
- (v) About _____ women are currently playing football.
 (a) 65,000,000 (b) 270,000,000 (c) 40,000,000 (d) many millions
- (vi) _____ soccer associations belong to FIFA.
 (a) 1600 (b) 208 (c) 50 (d) 611
- (vii) A game similar to soccer, called episkyros was played by
 (a) Indians (b) Greeks (c) Romans (d) Chinese
- (viii) When did FIFA established the Women's world cup?
 (a) In 1970 (b) In 50 B.C.E. (c) In 1991 (d) In 2006
- (ix) What other names did soccer have in ancient times?
 (a) Episkyros called by Greeks (b) Harpastum called by Romans
 (c) Hall of Fame called by Indians (d) Both (a) and (b)
- (x) Who disliked soccer during 1600s in England?
 (a) Queen Elizabeth (b) King Henry VII (c) Puritans (d) Henry IV
- (xi) Which of the following words, mentioned in the passage, means the same as 'Punishment'?
 (a) Laws (b) Archery (c) Penance (d) Frivolous

2. Read the passage given below.

- (1) On a serious level, when was the last time you remember keeping your emotions solely to yourself, when a disaster struck? Or was averted? Agreed, humans are social beings who need feedback based on their social interactions. But, in today's times, where people-men and women alike-thrive on social approval, it feels like your happiness is on a leash depending on social media, or society at large. A person could possibly go to any extent to seek attention. Lying, cheating, manipulating, constantly blabbing or being intentionally silent, are all a part of the process to be the centre of attention. Everyone wants to be liked and be popular. Attention gives a pleasurable high and does wonderful things to one's ego and selfworth. It is when, seeking exceeds normalacy that the trouble begins. Both too much of attention and the lack of it are obvious signs of trouble.

- (2) Also known as Histrionic Personality Disorder, attention-seeking is an attempt to desperately attract the attention of other people, typically by disruptive or excessively extrovert behavior. To find an attention-seeker around you, look for someone who says, “I want to kill myself,” after a mere bad day at work, or simply throws a tantrum for not being given enough time. Taking on the role of a victim or a damsel-in-distress is a typical trait of an attention-seeker. Simply put, attention-seekers are the drama queens we come across frequently in our life. According to clinical psychiatrist, Dr Harish Shetty, from Hiranandani Hospital, Mumbai, “Attention-seeking is not exactly a disorder. We all want approval in some way or the other from the people we are around with. It massages our ego and therefore, has a feel-good factor to it. Seeking approval enhances our identity.” He explains how attention seeking, if casual, can be encouraging, “but once out of control, if the person’s obsession sets in, the trouble that follows ruins a person’s relationships and eventually their peace of mind.”
- (3) Attention-seeking generally happens in a large magnitude to people who blame others. The blaming is a type of coping mechanism the attention-mongers feel is essential to justify the mistakes they refuse to own up to. Dr. Shetty elaborates, “People who are narcissistic will seek attention in a larger than life manner like dramatizing even the smallest of things that happens to them. Also, adults who have been spoilt as children will have a lesser sense of responsibility towards other as well as themselves, so are more likely to be narcissistic.” This behavior can be seen in adults who have had an unpleasant past, i.e. they have been ignored, neglected, bullied, or abused in many ways before. They gradually start becoming addicted to it. Their think making up for all the years of unfairness they have faced as a child is best done by seeking attention. Their pre-teen years are extremely significant as they mould the child he or she is to become when they fully grow up. Frustration, anger, and disturbing relationships ensure if there is an excess of this behavior. The person can also grow to be extremely anxious and develop a nervous anxiety. Dr. Shetty adds, “Mostly seen in kids, this behaviour generally tends to die out with age. But as adults, people suffering from a terminal illness, ones who have faced a huge loss in business, break-ups or divorces, also portray such behaviour. If not handled with maturity, it worsens. But, when someone faces a challenge, they think they are incapable of handling, it can amplify uneasiness in them and they resort to playing the victim all the time. A lot of other causes, however are varied and highly subjective.”

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the eleven that follow.

(1 × 10 = 10)

- (i) What all can a person do to be the centre of attention?
 (a) Lie (b) Cheat (c) Manipulate (d) All of these
- (ii) According to the passage, what are the obvious signs of trouble?
 (a) Too much of attention (b) Lack of attention
 (c) Both (a) and (b) (d) none of these
- (iii) The word ‘averted’ means the same as
 (a) destroyed (b) prevented (c) denied (d) betrayed
- (iv) Attention - seeking is also known as
 (a) Schizotypal personality Disorder (b) Histrionic Personality Disorder
 (c) Paranoid Personality Disorder (d) Obsessive - Compulsive personality Disorder
- (v) According to the passage, to find an attention seeker around you, look for someone who says “_____”.
 (a) I am the best (b) I am all - rounder
 (c) I want to kill myself (d) I want to possess everything
- (vi) A person who has too much admiration for himself or herself is known as
 (a) lazarus (b) narcissist (c) psychopath (d) mendicant

- (vii) In adults, narcissism can be seen in those who have been _____ in many ways before.
 (a) ignored (b) neglected (c) bullied or abused (d) all of these
- (viii) According to Dr. Shetty, in kids narcissistic behaviour generally dies out with
 (a) time (b) strong bondings with others
 (c) education (d) age
- (ix) Attention seeking generally happens in a large magnitude to people who _____.
 (a) help others (b) love others (c) appreciate others (d) blame others
- (x) The word 'magnitude' given in the third paragraph means _____.
 (a) extent (b) smallness (c) insignificance (d) triviality
- (xi) The word 'extrovert' is a synonym of _____.
 (a) egotist (b) autist (c) exhibitionist (d) languid

LITERATURE (20 Marks)

3. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY TWO of the three given by answering the questions that follow. (4 + 4 = 8)

A. I started for school very late that morning and was in great dread of a scolding, especially because M.Hamel had said that he would question on participles, and I did not know the first word about them. For a moment I thought of running away and spending the day out of doors. It was so warm, so bright The birds were chirping at the edge of the woods; and in the open field back of the sawmill Prussian soldiers were drilling. It was all much more tempting than the rule for participles, but I had the strength to resist, and hurried off to school.

- (i) Why was Franz in great dread of a scolding?
 (a) He forgot to do his home work.
 (b) He forgot to bring the grammar book.
 (c) He was late for school.
 (d) He was to be questioned on participles and he knew nothing about them.
- (ii) Which of the following things tempted Franz while he was on his way to school?
 1. The flying birds. 2. The mooing cows.
 3. The warm and bright weather. 4. The soothing chirping of the birds.
 5. The children playing on the street.
 (a) 1 and 2 (b) 3 and 4 (c) 2 and 5 (d) 1 and 3
- (iii) What do the drilling soldiers represent?
 (a) The defeat of Prussia (b) The Dawn of Japan
 (c) The victory of French over Prussians (d) The Dawn of Prussia over the French people
- (iv) What did Franz finally do?
 (a) He went back home.
 (b) He decided to go to his friend's house.
 (c) He resisted all the temptations and hurried off to school.
 (d) He decided to run away and spend the day out of doors.

B. A few years later when I came to know the waters of the cascades, I wanted to get into them. And whenever I did - whether I was wading the Ticton or Bumping River or bathing in warm lake of the Goat Rocks the terror that had seized me in the pool would come back. It would take possession of me completely. My legs would become paralysed. Icy horror would grab my heart.

- (i) What was stopping the narrator to get into the waters of Cascades?
 (a) Memories of California (b) Memories of Germany
 (c) Instructions given by the instructor (d) Memories full of terror in the pool

- (ii) Why would the narrator's leg become paralysed?
 (a) Because of excitement (b) Because of nervousness
 (c) Because of his childhood terror (d) Because he was feeling cold
- (iii) Who is the author of this chapter?
 (a) Asokamitran (b) William Douglas (c) Mahadevi Verma (d) Kamala Das
- (iv) Who is 'T' in the above extract?
 (a) Franz (b) Douglas (c) A fat boy (d) Edla
- C. "Tomorrow, I want you to tell me the story that that wizard took that magic wand and hit that mommy" — her plump arms chopped forcefully — "right over the head".
- (i) Who is speaking the above lines and to whom?
 (a) Jo is speaking these lines to her father.
 (b) Jack is speaking these lines to his wife.
 (c) Roger skunk is speaking these lines to the owl.
 (d) Wizard is speaking these lines to Roger.
- (ii) Who wanted to listen the story?
 (a) Jack (b) Jo (c) Wizard (d) Roger
- (iii) Whom does the word 'mommy' referred to here?
 (a) To the narrator's mother (b) To Jack's mother
 (c) To Roger's mother (d) To the owl
- (iv) What does these lines tell about the speaker?
 1. She wanted a happy ending of the story.
 4. She wanted that wizard should fight with Roger.
 3. She wanted Roger skunk to have many friends.
 5. She didn't like any stories tell by her father.
 (a) Both 2 and 4 (b) Only 1 (c) Both 1 and 3 (d) Only 4
4. **Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE of the two given by answering the questions that follow.** (1 × 4 = 4)
- A. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
 Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.
 They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
 They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.
- (i) Pick out the option that best describes Aunt Jennifer's tigers.
 1. They are golden yellow in colour. 2. They are fearful and scared of human being.
 3. They are trapped in a cage. 4. They prance fearlessly across a screen.
 (a) 1 and 2 (b) Only 3 (c) 1 and 4 (d) 1, 2 and 3
- (ii) Why are the tigers described as denizens of a world of green?
 (a) Because the poet have kept them in a green field.
 (b) It shows poet's love of nature.
 (c) Because they are the natives of dense green forests.
 (d) Because they are embroidered with green colour.
- (iii) What qualities of the tigers make them unafraid of the men?
 (a) They are brave and strong. (b) They are powerful but impatient.
 (c) They are fearless and confident. (d) Both (a) and (c)

(iv) Aunt Jennifer's tigers are symbolic of _____.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. her desire for freedom | 2. her fascination for tigers | | |
| 3. Strength and self confidence | 4. Diffidence and frailty | | |
| (a) 2 and 3 | (b) 1 and 4 | (c) 1 and 3 | (d) 2 and 4 |

OR

B. If we were not so single minded
About keeping our lives moving;
And for once could do nothing,
Perhaps a huge silence
Might interrupt this sadness
Of never understanding ourselves
And of threatening ourselves with death.

(i) 'We' in the above lines refer to

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| (a) the poet | (b) human beings |
| (c) the poet and his mother | (d) both (a) and (c) |

(ii) What poetic style is used in the above stanza?

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| (a) Sonnet | (b) Blank verse | (c) Monorhyme | (d) Free verse |
|------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|

(iii) What is the name of the poem from which the above stanza has been taken?

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| (a) Keeping Quiet | (b) Aunt Jennifer's Tigers |
| (c) A Thing of Beauty | (d) My Mother at Sixty-six |

(iv) What does the word 'sadness' refer to in the poem?

- | |
|---|
| (a) The sadness of losing our childhood. |
| (b) The sadness of people when they fail to understand themselves. |
| (c) The sadness of never spending time to introspect their actions. |
| (d) Both (b) and (c) |

5. Attempt ANY EIGHT questions of following from the ten given below.

(1 × 8 = 8)

(i) In how much time was Gandhi asked to furnish a bail?

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| (a) In five hours | (b) In two days | (c) In two hours | (d) In a week |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|

(ii) What was Shakespeare called by the poet in the poem 'An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum'?

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|-----------------|----------|-----------|------------|
| (a) Intelligent | (b) Wise | (c) Cruel | (d) Wicked |
|-----------------|----------|-----------|------------|

(iii) Aunt Jennifer is suffering from what ?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| (a) Physical and mental trauma | (b) Nostalgia |
| (c) Loneliness | (d) Home sickness |

(iv) What was the initial purpose of story telling?

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| (a) To make the child happy | (b) To make the child sleep |
| (c) Teach morals to the child | (d) To make the child learn the art of story-telling |

(v) Mr. Lamb has a/ an _____ tree.

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|------------|-----------|
| (a) mango | (b) jackfruit | (c) orange | (d) apple |
|-----------|---------------|------------|-----------|

(vi) How much was Saheb paid at the tea stall?

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| (a) ₹1000 | (b) ₹1500 | (c) ₹800 | (d) ₹500 |
|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|

- (vii) Who is the writer of Deep Water?
 (a) Shakespeare (b) Sarojini Naidu (c) William Douglas (d) Susan Hill
- (viii) What did M. Hamel wear on the last day of school?
 (a) A blue shirt and a white pant (b) A black trouser and a blue coat
 (c) A special green coat (d) A grey three-piece
- (ix) The story of 'The Third Level' begins _____.
 (a) in a jovial manner (b) in an aggressive manner
 (c) on a happy note (d) in a serious manner
- (x) Sadao made the prisoner dress-up in _____.
 (a) Indian clothes (b) Western clothes
 (c) Japanese clothes (d) Chinese clothes

PART - B (40 Marks)

WRITING (16 Marks)

- 6. Attempt ANY ONE of the following :** (1 × 3 = 3)
- A. Due to incessant rains, cases of dengue and few other water borne diseases are on the rise. As health teacher of Alps Convent School, Mathura Road, write a notice in not more than 50 words informing your students to wear full sleeve shirts and trousers in the school for a period of one month and also to take all the necessary precautions.

OR

- B. Olive Girls Hostel, New Gurgaon, Haryana needs the service of a warden. Draft an advertisement for publication in a local daily asking deserving candidates to appear for a walk-in-interview on 26 and 27 October from 9 am to 2 pm at B-3/62 (first floor) Sahara Enclave, Haryana.

- 7. Attempt ANY ONE of the following :** (1 × 3 = 3)
- A. Write an informal invitation to your childhood friend Vishal, who is in the same town, inviting him for dinner at your residence. You are Neha/Nehal.

OR

- B. You are Akshay/Amrita, a child psychologist. You have been invited to be the Chief Guest at a seminar on Fundamental Rights of Children organised by the Lions Club of your district. Draft a reply declining the invitation. (50 words)

- 8. Attempt ANY ONE of the following :** (1 × 5 = 5)
- A. You are Simar/ Smriti of 10-A, Krishna Nagar, Lucknow. Having recently completed your graduation in Mass Media Studies, you are looking for a job as a Radio Jockey in a reputed radio station. Surfing through the newspaper, you have come across an advertisement in a national daily. Apply in response to the advertisement giving your detailed bio-data. (120-150 words)

OR

- B. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, expressing your opinion and views on the increased human dependence on technology. Right from a small child to an adult, or even an old man, everyone wants gadgets only - cell phone, I-pod, laptop, etc. This also has a negative effect on social relationships. Using your own ideas and the unit, 'Science', write a letter in 120-150 words, you are Rajiv/ Ranjana of Krishna colony, New Delhi.

- 9. Attempt ANY ONE of the following :** (1 × 5 = 5)
- A.** You are Arpit/Arpita of Zenith Public School, Mumbai. You went to Gateway of India with your friends for an outing where you observed the local guides following and pestering the foreign tourists. You could see the irritation and disgust in the eyes of the tourists. It made you so disturbed that you decided to write an article for a local newspaper sharing your views and concerns over the image of your city and country being tarnished by such acts. (120-150 words)

OR

- B.** You had an eye opening experience at a Personality Development Workshop organised for the students of Class-XI and XII by your school. Write a report in 120-150 words. You are Nandan/Nandini.

LITERATURE (24 Marks)

- 10. Attempt ANY FIVE out of the six questions given below, in 30-40 words each.** (2 × 5 = 10)
- (i) At the crofter's home, why did the peddler feel very happy?
- (ii) Stephen Spender in his poem, 'An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum' paints a dismal picture of poverty. Comment.
- (iii) Is it possible for Mukesh to realize his dream? Justify your answer.
- (iv) How was Gandhiji able to influence the lawyers at Champaran?
- (v) What was the mood in the classroom when M. Hamel gave his last French lesson?
- (vi) Describe the tigers created by Aunt Jennifer.

- 11. Attempt ANY TWO out of the three questions given below in 30-40 words each.** (2 × 2 = 4)
- (i) Hana told Yumi to wash the soldier's wounds. How did Yumi react?
- (ii) Why did Evans not take off his hat when Jackson ordered him to do so?
- (iii) What peculiar things does Derry notice about the old man, Mr. Lamb?

- 12. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 120-150 words.** (1 × 5 = 5)
- A.** The order from Berlin aroused a particular zeal in the school. Comment.

OR

- B.** How is Mukesh's attitude towards his situation different from that of Saheb? Why?

- 13. Attempt ANY ONE out of the following questions in 120-150 words** (1 × 5 = 5)
- A.** Discuss Dr Sadao as both a patriot and a dedicated surgeon.

OR

- B.** Derry sneaked into Mr. Lamb's garden and it became a turning point in his life. Comment.

SOLUTIONS

1. (i)(d) Asia
(ii) (d) both (a) and (b)
(iii) (a) King Edward
(iv) (c) 1970
(v) (c) 40,000,000
(vi) (b) 208
(vii) (b) Greeks
(viii) (c) In 1991
(ix) (d) both (a) and (b)
(x) (c) Puritans
(xi) (c) Penance
2. (i)(d) All of these
(ii) (c) both (a) and (b)
(iii) (b) prevented
(iv) (b) Histrionic Personality Disorder
(v) (c) I want to kill myself
(vi) (b) narcissist
(vii) (d) All of these
(viii) (d) age
(ix) (d) blame others
(x) (a) extent
(xi) (c) exhibitionist
3. A.(i) (d) He was to be questioned on participles and he knew nothing about them.
(ii) (b) 3 and 4
(iii) (d) The Dawn of Prussia over the French people
(iv) (c) He resisted all the temptations and hurried off to school.
- B. (i)(d) Memories full of terror in the pool
(ii) (c) Because of his childhood terror
(iii) (b) William Douglas
(iv) (b) Douglas
- C. (i)(a) Jo is speaking these lines to her father.
(ii) (b) Jo
(iii) (c) To Roger's mother
(iv) (b) Both 1 and 3
4. A.(i) (c) 1 and 4
(ii) (c) Because they are the natives of dense green forests.
(iii) (d) Both (a) and (c)
(iv) (c) 1 and 3
- B. (i)(b) human beings
(ii) (d) Free verse
(iii) (a) Keeping Quiet
(iv) (d) Both (b) and (c)
5. (i)(c) In two hours
(ii) (d) Wicked
(iii) (a) Physical and mental trauma
(iv) (a) To make the child happy
(v) (d) apple
(vi) (c) ₹800
(vii) (c) William Douglas
(viii) (c) A special green coat
(ix) (d) in a serious manner
(x) (c) Japanese clothes

6. B.

WANTED LADY WARDEN

Olive Girls Hostel, New Gurgaon, Haryana requires a lady warden. She must be graduate and age limit is 40 years and above.

Experience : min. 5 yrs.

Salary : Decent salary with perks and accommodation.

Interested candidates may appear for Walk-in Interview on 26 & 27 October.

Timing is 9 am to 2 pm

venue : B-3/62 (First Floor) Sahara Enclave, Haryana.

7.B. 26, Kothi Road, Mathura
24 February, 20××
Respected President,
Thank you for your thoughtful invitation as Chief Guest to the seminar on 'Fundamental Rights of Children' in your club. However, I regret to inform you that I would not be able to attend it due to a prior engagement.
I extend my best wishes to you and all those involved in the great event.
Kind regards,
Dr. Amrita Rao

8.B. 215 Krishna Colony
New Delhi
17 Sept. 20××
The Editor
The Hindustan Times
Subject : Human Dependence on Technology
Respected Sir,
Through this letter, I wish to draw the attention of everyone towards the increased dependence of humans on technology. We use internet for any type of information which we find only a click away. Everyone, whether a child or an adult wants gadgets like cell phones, I-pod, laptop, etc. No doubt, technology is a boon to mankind and has a great future ahead. But in my opinion, we should not depend on it as excess of everything is bad. It is making everyone lazy. On the other hand, cyber crimes are also growing. The key word for safety is caution.
We must make judicious use of technology and should not totally depend on it. We must believe in natural and simple living.
I hope you will publish this letter in your newspaper for better future of human beings.
Thanking you.
Your sincerely
Rajni Kataria

9. B. Workshop on Personality Development

by Nandan, XII-C

An interactive workshop on personality development was organised by our school last Saturday. The students of class XI and XII participated in the workshop. The aim of the workshop was to prepare the students for their future and to equip them for the bigger challenges in life.

The students were addressed on various topics like self-analysis, body language and etiquettes. Several activities and group discussions were conducted to help the students with their communication and public speaking skills. The workshop was also graced by the presence of eminent personalities like Ms. Sushmita Sen and Mr. Milind Soman. They interacted with the students and spoke to them about the importance of interpersonal skills. The workshop proved to be a great

success. The students left the workshop beaming with confidence and optimism.

10. (i) At the crofter's home, the peddler felt very happy because it was for the first time someone had welcomed him into one's house. The lonely crofter fed the peddler warm porridge, shared tobacco with him, played cards and treated him very nicely. The crofter shared his secrets with peddler and even showed him where he kept his money. The crofter gave him a comfortable bed to sleep in.

(ii) Stephen Spender indeed paints a dismal picture of poverty in his poem 'An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum'. He describes the children in the slum school as pale and lacking energy. They are malnourished and heir to gnarled diseases. Stephen Spender links them to the unwanted weeds. The classroom too is dingy, with yellowing walls depicting

images, which are of no significance to these children because they cannot relate to the fascinating sights. However, they can relate to their grim surroundings, cramped living, slag heap and a future that is foggy.

(iii) Mukesh's aim in life is to become a motor mechanic. Yes, it is indeed possible for Mukesh to achieve his dreams through hard work and determination. He is willing to walk all the way to the garage and learn even though the garage is quite far from his house.

(v) The order from Berlin was to teach only German in the schools of Alsace and Lorraine. As this was going to be his last day at the school M. Hamel had put on his best clothes, which he wore only on special occasions. The whole school seemed so strange and solemn. On the back benches that were always empty, the elderly village people were sitting quietly with a sad visage. Some of them were even crying. The students paid a great deal of attention during their last French lesson, even the little ones. Most affected was M. Hamel. Although he taught every lesson with dedication, he looked sombre and pensive with tears in his eyes.

(vi) Aunt Jennifer's tigers are described as bright topaz denizens of a world of green, pacing in chivalric certainty, fearless. They are proud, strong and free.

11. (i) When Hana told Yumi to wash the American soldier's wounds, Yumi refused to touch him. She had a fierce look of resistance as she said she had nothing to do with him. She even threatened to leave the job, which she eventually did.

(ii) The duplicate McLerry who was invigilating the O-Level German examination had short hair. Evans knew this, so he also cut his hair short to pass off as McLerry. The bobble hat was a significant part of the plan in order to conceal Evans' cropped hair as well as his plan of escape.

(iii) Derry notices that Mr. Lamb always leaves the gates open for anybody and everybody so as to welcome strangers. Derry is amazed that unlike others old Mr. Lamb treated him with utmost kindness, that he is not repulsed by Derry's scarred face. Derry also finds it peculiar that Mr. Lamb lives in a huge house with a huge garden but without curtains.

12. A. The order from Berlin, to teach only German in the schools of Alsace and Lorraine from now on, aroused a particular zeal in the school on the day of the last French lesson.

The air that day, was mixed with pride and sorrow. Students as well as elderly members of the village came to attend the class. The ambiance was quite sombre as the children were serious and some of the elders, sitting at the back benches, were crying.

M. Hamel, who was dressed in his best attire, appeared to be in a pensive mood. His students and the village elders too paid great attention to everything that was being taught in the class. They hoped to learn as much as possible. Even Franz seemed to love his books. M. Hamel told those present in the class to hold on to French as it was the most beautiful language in the world. He said that their mother tongue was the key to their freedom.

A feeling of oneness and immense love and respect for the mother tongue showed on everyone's face.

The class ended with M. Hamel writing 'Vive La France!' on the board.

13. B. Derry is a withdrawn and defiant boy. He does not like to be around people because they look at his face and pass uncharitable remarks. Once, one side of his face got burnt by acid, which left a scar on his face. This created a complex in his mind. He thinks that people are afraid of him. Mr. Lamb is a physically challenged man, one of whose legs is made of tin.

Mr. Lamb is a complete contrast to Derry when it comes to his attitude and outlook towards life. He is an optimist who does not allow trivial teasing and name calling do not bother him. In fact, he likes having company. Mr. Lamb is not repulsed by Derry's scarred face. Neither he is angry nor put off by the boy's rudeness. Instead, Mr. Lamb understands Derry's anguish and tries to make him realise that being handicapped is not a drawback.

His meeting with Mr. Lamb becomes a turning point in Derry's life because Derry is ready to overcome his obstacles and face the world. He finds courage and strength to get what he wants.

