

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 1
English Language and Literature (184)
Class IX (2024-25)

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

1. This question paper comprises 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper contains THREE sections -
 - Section - A : Reading Skills
 - Section - B : Grammar and Creative Writing Skills
 - Section - C : Literature Text Book
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section A Reading

1. Read the text given below:

[10]

1. Held every year on 21 May, UNESCO leads the celebration of World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development highlighting not only the richness of the world's cultures, but also the essential role of intercultural dialogue for achieving peace and sustainable development.
2. A recent international emergency has proved the intrinsic value of the cultural and creative sector at generating social cohesion, educational resource or personal well-being in times of crisis. It has also underscored the sector's potential to generate economic growth, something which is too often underestimated.
3. With the adoption in September 2015 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the United Nations, and the resolution on Culture and Sustainable Development adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2015, the message of the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development is more important than ever. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can best be achieved by drawing upon the creative potential of the world's diverse cultures and engaging in continuous dialogue to ensure that all members of society benefit from sustainable development.
4. Bridging the gap between cultures is urgent and necessary for peace, stability and development. Cultural diversity is a driving force of development, not only

with respect to economic growth, but also as a means of leading a more fulfilling intellectual, emotional, moral and spiritual life. This is captured in the culture conventions, which provide a solid basis for the promotion of cultural diversity. Cultural diversity is thus an asset that is indispensable for poverty reduction and the achievement of sustainable development.

5. At the same time, acceptance and recognition of cultural diversity in particular through innovative use of media and Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) are conducive to dialogue among civilizations and cultures, respect and mutual understanding.
6. In 2001, UNESCO adopted the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity. Next, in December 2002, the UN General Assembly, in its resolution 57/249, declared May 21 to be the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, and in 2015, the Second Committee of the UN General Assembly unanimously adopted the resolution on Culture and Sustainable Development, affirming culture's contribution to the three dimensions of sustainable development, acknowledging further the natural and cultural diversity of the world, and recognizing that cultures and civilizations can contribute to, and are crucial enablers of, sustainable development.
7. The day provides us with an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to achieve the goals of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions adopted on 20 October 2005.

Answer the following questions based on the above passage: (10)

- i. Based on the reading and understanding of the above passage, list 2 points to describe the purpose of UNESCO leading the celebration of World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development. **(1)**

(a) _____

(b) _____

- ii. Select the option that corresponds to the meaning of the following sentence from para 2.

The recent international emergency has proved the intrinsic value of the cultural and creative sector at generating social cohesion, educational resource or personal well-being in times of crisis. **(1)**

A. the real worth of cultural sector at generating social cohesion during pandemics

- B. the real worth of creative sector at undermining the social cohesion during an international emergency
 - C. questioning the real worth of creative sector at generating education resource during an international emergency
 - D. highlighting the real worth of cultural and creative sector at generating social cohesion and educational resource during an international emergency
- iii. Based on your reading of the passage, examine in about 40 words how Sustainable Development Goals can be achieved. **(2)**
- iv. What is the tone of the writer in the given line from paragraph 4? Rationalise your response in about 40 words : **(2)**
"Cultural diversity is an asset."
- v. The phrase 'bridging the gap' in paragraph (4) refers to : **(1)**
- A. widening the differences
 - B. connecting two desparate ideas
 - C. supporting the bridging
 - D. filling in the space between two connected things
- vi. In sets a-e below, identify two sets of synonyms. **(1)**
- a. richness and poverty
 - b. intellectual and moral
 - c. reduction and promotion
 - d. essential and intrinsic
 - e. urgent and crucial
- Options:
- A. a and c
 - B. b and e
 - C. d and e
 - D. b and d
- vii. Complete the sentence appropriately : **(1)**
The Second Committee of UN General Assembly in 2015 adopted _____.
- viii. Complete the following sentence : **(1)**
_____ is urgent and necessary for peace, stability and development.

1. Increasing traffic congestion every year is causing increasing air pollution, wasting time and productivity and diverse respiratory diseases. Moreover, the cost of solving or reducing traffic congestion is enormous. However, neglecting the traffic jam problem would increase the social problems among citizens.
2. The number of vehicles has increased considerably in the city in the past five years. Due to this increase, the city roads witness frequent traffic congestions, but above all, the vehicles emitting pollutants are affecting the environment adversely.
3. The Capital's vehicular population saw an addition of more than five lakh vehicles last year, registering an increase of over 4%, according to the Delhi Economic Survey 2020-21.
4. In spite of the largest road network, through metro and bus services in major cities the transport system is not being able to keep pace with the growing demand. Consequently, more and more people use their private vehicles, leading to increased congestion on the roads. In spite of these challenges people in India prefer road travel over air and other means of travel. Citizens of Delhi/NCR have, time and again, pondered over the possibilities of how to reduce the traffic congestion in the city, especially during the peak hours. People should use public transport, the government must increase the facilities of public transport, people should avoid the unnecessary collection of vehicles and should use carpool and vehicle sharing.
5. What is required is proper implementation of corrective measures by citizens to get an organized traffic management system.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below: (10)

- i. Infer one reason for the following, based on information in paragraph 1.
Reducing traffic congestion is not easy. **(1)**
- ii. Select the appropriate option to complete the following sentence. The reasons for increased traffic congestion are _____. **(1)**
 1. use of private vehicles
 2. increase in demand for cars
 3. inability to keep pace with population control
 4. travelling by public transport
 5. emission of pollutants

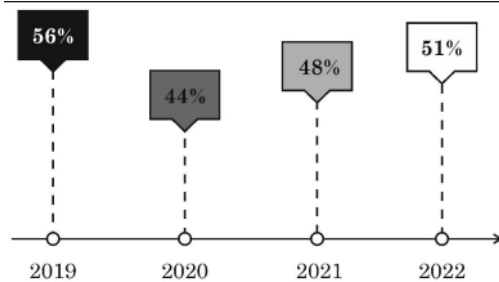
a. 4, 5

b. 1, 5

c. 1, 2

d. 2, 3

iii. Analyze the status of traffic between the years 2019-2022. (2)



What is required to get an organized traffic management system?

iv. Give the reasons for increase in vehicular congestion. (2)

v. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word / phrase from the paragraph 5. organized : chaotic :: lowest : _____ Clue : Just as organized is an antonym of chaotic, lowest is an antonym of _____. (1)

vi. The vehicles emit pollutants which affect _____ badly (1)

vii. Complete the following sentence. Use of public transport will reduce _____. (1)

viii. Select the appropriate option to complete the following sentence. The reasons for increased traffic congestion are _____. (1)

1. start car pooling
2. add electric buses
3. increase in public modes of transport
4. increase car collection points
5. increase taxation

a. 1, 4, 5

b. 3, 5

c. 2, 3, 4

d. 1, 3

Section B Grammar

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed [10]

(i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter: [1]

I have just _____ (appear) for my senior secondary board examination and am interested in pursuing a course in Visual Communication.

- (ii) Identify the error and supply the correction, for the following: [1]

Delhi Government
COVID-19 FAMILY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME
An assistance of ₹50,000/- will be given to all family living in Delhi on each death of any family member due to COVID-19, whether or not they were earning members.

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

- (iii) Raman shared some information with Seema. Report Seema's question. [1]

Can you solve the sum?

- (iv) Elvis went to a shop to mend his watch. The watchmaker asked a few questions [1]

related to the watch. Report his question.

Did you buy this Swiss watch at my place?

- (v) The report concludes sadly that _____ students have _____ knowledge [1]
of nuclear physics.

a) Very few/some

b) every/no

c) none/any

d) Both/whole

- (vi) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the [1]
following line, from the headline of a news report:

TWO CHILD DIE AFTER MASSIVE FIRE BREAKS OUT IN TIRUPATI

Option no.	Error	Correction
A	child	children
B	die	dies
C	breaks	break
D	in	at

- (vii) Are we _____ to feed the animals in this zoo? [1]

a) can

b) might

c) allowed to

d) may

(viii) She _____ me at the meetings only on Sundays as a child. [1]

a) saw

b) had seen

c) was seeing

d) is seeing

(ix) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete a line from an article on depression. [1]

No one _____ make you feel inferior without your consent.

a) could

b) can

c) will

d) may

(x) **Complete the line from a self-awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option.** [1]

An angel writing in a book of gold:

Exceeding peace _____ Ben Adhem bold,

And to the presence in the room he said,

"What writest thou" - The vision _____ is head,

i. makes, raises

ii. had made, raised

iii. had made, raise

iv. makes, raised

(xi) Complete the given narrative by filling in the blank with the correct option. [1]

Summer is an ideal time to take a hike, especially if you _____ the opportunity to explore one of our country's many state and national parks.

a) are having

b) has

c) have

d) will have

(xii) Neither the shoes nor the bag _____ the dress. [1]

a) match

b) matches

c) matched

d) matching

Section B Writing

4. Write a descriptive paragraph on "My Grandmother". [5]

OR

Your school recently celebrated its **Sports Day**. Give a brief account of celebrations.

5. A few days ago you went to Chandigarh with your family members and visited Rose Garden. You were so enchanted with the beautiful roses of different species that you decided to write it as a diary entry. Write a diary entry. [5]

OR

Write a story in 150-200 words based on the given clues.

A poor lady at a traffic red light had a doctor's prescription. She wanted.....

Section C Literature

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [5]

- (i) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: [5]

Next he saw the pseudo-teacher seat himself on a log and become lost in thought with his red cheeks resting on his fists. The woman flung down an axe at his feet, spat angrily, and, judging from the expression of her lips, began to scold him. The beggar irresolutely pulled a billet of wood towards him, set it up between his feet, and tapped it feebly with the axe. The billet wavered and fell down. The beggar again pulled it to him, blew on his freezing hands, and tapped it with his axe cautiously, as if afraid of hitting his overshoe or of cutting off his finger; the stick of wood again fell to the ground.

- i. Which of the following is NOT a description of the beggar's actions in the story? (1)
- A. The beggar becomes lost in thought with his red cheeks resting on his fists.
 - B. The beggar pulls a billet of wood towards him and sets it up between his feet.
 - C. The beggar taps the billet of wood with the axe cautiously.
 - D. The beggar angrily flung axe at women's feet and scolded the woman.
- ii. How does the beggar attempt to chop wood, and what does his approach reveal about his skill and confidence in doing the task? (2)
- iii. Read the following descriptions (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract: (1)

- a. The beggar skillfully and confidently chopped the wood, impressing the woman with his efficiency.
 - b. The beggar struggled to cut the wood properly, displaying hesitancy and caution in his actions.
 - c. The beggar refused to help the woman with the wood, leading to an argument between them.
- iv. As the advocate Sergei, observing this scene from a distance, what assumptions could you make about the beggar's woodworking abilities and the interaction with the woman? (1)

(ii) **Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.**

[5]

I took off my black coat, white shirt and not-so-white vest and hung them up. I opened the two windows in the room. It was an outer room with one wall facing the open yard. It had a tiled roof with long supporting gables that rested on the beam over the wall. There was no ceiling. There was regular traffic of rats to and from the beam. I made my bed and pulled it close to the wall. I lay down but I could not sleep. I got up and went out to the veranda for a little air, but the wind god seemed to have taken time off. I went back into the room and sat down on the chair. I opened the box beneath the table and took out a book, the *Materia Medica*. I opened it at the table on which stood the lamp and a large mirror; a small comb lay beside the mirror.

- a. What item from the room does the narrator NOT interact/engage with during this passage? (1)
 - a. The lamp
 - b. The mirror
 - c. The book (*Materia Medica*)
 - d. The veranda
- b. Why does the narrator describe the wind god as having "taken time off" when he goes out to the veranda for air? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- c. If an actor were to enact this extract, what aspects of his performance should he pay attention to while modulating his voice to convey the character's feelings and surroundings effectively? (1)
- d. Which phrase would correctly substitute 'made my bed', in the given sentence from the extract.

I made my bed and pulled it close to the wall. (1)

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [5]

(i) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. [5]

Then took the other, just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear,
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same

- a. **Other** refers to _____ in the given lines. (1)
- b. Identify the poetic device used in the line, **Because it was grassy and wanted wear.** (1)
 - i. Metaphor
 - ii. Simile
 - iii. Irony
 - iv. Alliteration
- c. Why did the second road present a better claim than the first? Describe in 40 words. (2)
- d. What does the phrase **wanted wear** suggest about the second path? (1)

(ii) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. [5]

No motion has she now, no force
She neither hears nor sees,
Rolled round in earth's diurnal course
With rocks and stones and trees.

- a. She has become motionless and without force for she is _____. (1)
- b. How would you describe the emotional state of the poet? Explain in 40 words. (2)
- c. Explain, '**she neither hears nor sees**'? (1)
- d. What is the literal meaning of the phrase, **Earth's diurnal course**? (1)
 - i. revolution
 - ii. high tides
 - iii. rotation
 - iv. earthquakes

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words [12]

- (i) Why was Einstein's mother against his marriage with Mileva? [3]
- (ii) What is the cloud's birthplace? How does it go upward to heaven? Write your answer in the context of poem Rain on the Roof. [3]
- (iii) Once you decide to change the system, such problems have to be confronted. Who spoke these sentences and to whom? Write your answer in the context of 'My Childhood'. [3]
- (iv) How does the author describe the fight that breaks out between the two monkeys around the temple of Pashupatinath? [3]
- (v) What means of transportation are used in the Northland and why? [3]
9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. [6]
- (i) How did Sue try to revive Johnsy's interest in things around her? [3]
- (ii) Why did the narrator's mother rush back into the house again? Write your answer in the context of the lesson A House is Not a Home. [3]
- (iii) What sets Ishwaran apart from other domestic helps? [3]
10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words [6]
- (i) How is Evelyn Glennie helping others with her popularity and skill? [6]
- (ii) What did Santosh tell her parents regarding her marriage? Write your answer in the context of Reach for the Top. [6]
11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. [6]
- (i) What was foolish about the king's trial of the merchant? [6]
- (ii) What were the things that the boy wanted to possess when he was with his parents? Write your answer in the context of The Lost Child. [6]

Solution
SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 1
English Language and Literature (184)
Class IX (2024-25)

Section A Reading

1. i. a. Highlighting the richness of the world's cultures.
b. Emphasizing the essential role of intercultural dialogue in achieving peace and sustainable development.
ii. (D) highlighting the real worth of cultural and creative sector at generating social cohesion and educational resource during an international emergency.
iii. By drawing upon the creative potential of diverse cultures and engaging in continuous dialogue to ensure all members of society benefit from sustainable development.
iv. Positive and affirmative
v. (b) filling in the space between two connected things
vi. (c) intellectual and moral and essential and intrinsic
vii. the resolution on Culture and Sustainable Development.
viii. Bridging the gap between cultures
2. i. The cost of solving or reducing traffic congestion is enormous.
ii. 1, 2
iii. Proper implementation of corrective measures by citizens.
iv. (1) People prefer to travel on roads
(2) Growth in demand of private vehicles
v. Peak
vi. environment
vii. traffic congestion
viii. 1, 3

Section B Grammar

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed

(i) appeared

(ii) error	correction
all	every

(iii) Seema asked Raman if whether he could solve the sum.

(iv) The watchmaker asked (Elvis) if/whether he had bought that Swiss watch at his place.

(v) (a) Very few/some

Explanation: {

Very few/some

(vi) (A) child - children

(vii)(c) allowed to

Explanation: {

allowed to

(viii)(a) saw

Explanation: {

saw

Simple past, because the action is regular (on Sundays) and no definite time is associated with it.

(ix)(b) can

Explanation: {

can

(x) B. had made, raised

The situation happened in the past.

(xi)(c) have

Explanation: {

have

(xii)(b) matches

Explanation: {

Neither the shoes nor the bag matches the dress.

Section B Writing

4. My Grandmother

I am fortunate to have my grandmother. She's truly an angel. My mother is fond of her and always asks for her advice before doing anything. My grandmother's name is Savitha. She is short and plump, with a slight hunch. Her face is a criss-cross of wrinkles. Her hair is a silver grey and she neatly combs it into a small bun. She's very soft spoken and always has a sweet smile for everyone. My 'nana' as I fondly call her, is very loving and kind. She's loved by all. I always love to visit her for the delicious food, she prepares for us, whenever we are at home. She has a pet dog and cat and a few chickens too. She loves animals. She likes gardening and has many flowering plants and some fruit bearing trees, as well. I love to listen to her stories about her past. She's such a fun-loving person. I'm inspired by her zest for life and the positive approach towards everything. I have learnt many things from her. I cherish the memories of my time spent with her and pray for her good health. It's a blessing to have her with us. I love my 'nana' a lot.

OR

Sports Day.

The eighth annual sport meet of our school was held on 7th and 12th November this year.

The playground was cleaned and a big canopy was set up on one side for visitors and on the other side for participants. The students participated with full zeal and zest in more than fifty events which included races, shot put throws, long jump, gymnastics etc. There were some mock events also like sack race, spoon & chair race etc. The function was presided over by the District Magistrate. He gave away prizes to the winners. The titles of Best Boy and Best Girl were given to Rahul Sharma of XI B and Kavya of XII A respectively. The sports day ended with a note of thanks from our principal. The next day was declared a holiday.

5. Preet Vihar

10th November, 20XX

Saturday, 5:00 pm

Dear Diary,

I want to share one of the best journeys I ever had! I along with my family went to Rose garden .omg it was so exciting. we enjoyed very much. I feel enthralled to put my experience of seeing Rose Garden in Chandigarh as records. On 8th November, 20XX, my father decided to have a visit to the Rose Garden in Chandigarh. In the evening of the same day, we reached Chandigarh by train. On 9th we went to visit Rose Garden. Really, the beautiful scene of the Rose Garden put an indelible impression on my mind. Earlier I had never seen so many roses of about 1500 varieties. It was indeed a wonderful experience in my life. I desire to visit the place again. I enjoyed so much and this day will be remarkable for me.

Prachi.

OR

An Angel In Disguise

A poor lady, standing at a traffic red light, had a doctor's prescription. She wanted to cross the road and approach the chemist shop. She was weeping. Though she was trying to control her tears, she couldn't succeed. The traffic police inspector, who was on duty at that crossing was observing her. She had a doctor's prescription. It felt like someone close to her might be seriously ill. He couldn't control himself. He went near the lady and addressed her, "Amma! What happened? where are you going?" On hearing the words, full of affection and warmth, she couldn't control herself. She started crying bitterly and embraced the inspector. She told him that she was a widow. She had a son who had met with an accident the previous day. Some people took him to the hospital and he was admitted there. Her son was suffering from serious injuries. A lot of blood had come out. His condition was critical. The doctor had asked her to submit the hospital fees and to bring some particular 'life-saving injection'. To pay the hospital expenses, she had sold her only gold bangle. That bangle was the only connection to her late husband. She couldn't

arrange enough money but she couldn't afford to lose her only son. So she had come to purchase that injection. She couldn't understand how without sufficient money she could get that injection. But she had full faith in God. And God came in the form of an inspector. He consoled her that she need not worry. He was there to help her. He took the prescription from her, bought that injection and accompanied her to the hospital. After the recovery of her son, she realized that God had blessed her with one more son who came to her life as her angel.

Section C Literature

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

- (i) i. (D) The beggar angrily flung axe at women's feet and scolded the woman.
- ii. The beggar attempts to chop wood by pulling a billet towards him and tapping it with an axe. However, his actions are hesitant, and he handles the axe cautiously, as if afraid of injuring himself or damaging his footwear. This suggests a lack of skill and confidence in performing the task.
- iii. (b) The beggar struggled to cut the wood properly, displaying hesitancy and caution in his actions.
- iv. From a distance, I could assume that the beggar lacks woodworking skills, struggles with the task, and experiences tension in his interaction with the woman.

(ii) a. (iv) The veranda

Explanation: In the provided passage, the narrator mentions various interactions with items in the room, such as removing clothing, opening windows, making the bed, sitting on a chair, and opening a box to take out a book. However, there is no mention of the narrator interacting directly with the veranda. Therefore, the correct answer is (iv).

- b. The narrator described the wind God as having "taken time off" to convey a sense of disappointment or frustration because he expected to find a refreshing breeze in the veranda, but it was unusually still, leaving him unsatisfied with the lack of fresh air.
- c. The actor should focus on conveying a sense of discomfort, restlessness, and the grim living conditions in his tone while modulating his voice for this extract.
- d. arranged my bed/ prepared my bed/ straightened my bed.

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

- (i) a. The road that was grassy and less travelled upon.
- b. (iv) Alliteration
- c. The second road presented a better claim because it was (still) grassy and had not worn off due to the walking of the travellers. It held a stronger appeal because it remained covered in lush grass and had not been eroded by the passage of travellers.

When it came to the wear caused by the footsteps of these travellers, both roads had experienced an equal degree of deterioration.

d. The phrase highlighted the fact that the road taken by the poet had not been travelled as much as the first path.

(ii) a. dead.

b. The poet was in deep grief. He was portrayed to be extremely depressed and dejected. The poet was aghast at the death of his loved one and he was not able to come out of it. He was so shocked and sad that he could feel the numbness in his body and he was not able to move. He became numb to all his sensations and also became void of all human fears.

c. In the given line, the poet highlighted the fact that there was no motion left in his beloved's body as death had come over. She could not exhibit any motion or force in her body due to death. She was unable to hear and see.

d. (iii) rotation

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words

(i) Albert wanted to marry Mileva right after finishing his studies. But his mother was against it. She thought Mileva, who was three years elder to Einstein, was very old for him. She was also intelligent to be a wife. Einstein's mother said, "she is a book like you." As his mother was against his marriage with Mileva so Einstein put the wedding off.

(ii) The cloud's birthplace is the water bodies on the Earth. Water evaporates and rises to the sky. It condenses there to form clouds and take on strange shapes. Yet essentially, it remains the same old water.

(iii) The science teacher, Sivasubramania Iyer, uttered these words to Abdul Kalam. He invited Kalam for dinner. He had an orthodox wife who was not comfortable with Kalam's presence as he was a Muslim boy. His teacher sat next to him and ate his meal. Observing Kalam's hesitation, his teacher told him not to get upset and then, he spoke these words.

(iv) When the author visits the Pashupatinath temple in Kathmandu, he observes two monkeys over there. He describes the fight that breaks out between those two monkeys in which one chases the other. The monkey being chased jumps onto a Shivalinga, then runs screaming around the temples and finally goes down to the holy river, Bagmati.

(v) The Northland is situated in a severely cold area which is covered with snow throughout the year. Hence, the means of transportation used here are sledges which are driven by reindeers found in this area. People tie the reindeers to sledges and then the reindeers pull the sledges.

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.

- (i) Sue talked about clothes and fashion to revive Johnsy's interest in things around her. In order to keep Johnsy's mind off her illness, she also brought her drawing-board to Johnsy's room and whistled as she painted.
- (ii) The narrator's mother was in a 'crazed state' when she saw the house engulfed in fire. Without caring for her life she ran into the house to salvage what was important to her. The narrator's father had died when he was very young. He knew that she would want to collect the letters and pictures of her dead husband. She did not want to lose all these reminders of her husband. So, she rushed back into the burning house again.
- (iii) Ishwaran was a class in himself. He was highly resourceful and a big help to Mahendra. He was a trained cook and to top it, he narrated captivating and interesting stories to Mahendra at night.

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words

- (i) In spite of her deafness, Evelyn joined the prestigious Royal Academy of Music and won the "Soloist of the Year" award. Evelyn used to practice for hours learning languages such as Japanese and French. She earned a lot but was kind at heart. In spite of being successful in her performances, she was never rude. She was generous and courteous. She used to give free performances in prisons and hospitals and also proved to be a perfect example of tireless hard work and firm determination. Her charitable outlook made her dear to all. She is truly an inspiration for many who are differently abled apart from being an entertainer for the masses.
- (ii) Santosh was not in favour of early married life. She threatened her parents that she would never marry if she would not get a proper education. She considered marriage the least important thing in her life.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.

- (i) 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.

- (ii) The child went to a village fair with his parents. He liked a beautiful toy. He asked his parents to buy him that toy. But his father called him away from that shop. Then he tried to catch a butterfly. But he did not succeed. After that, he saw a sweets-seller. He wanted to have some Burfi. But his father called him away from that shop. He would get attracted to these things and would stop in his way. Then, his parents would walk ahead and he would be left behind. Then he saw someone selling garlands of Gulmohur flowers. The child wanted to buy a garland. But this demand was also rejected. Then the child saw a juggler. He wanted to stop and hear the music of his flute. But he feared his father. In the end, he wanted to have a ride in a roundabout. He called his parents. But there was no reply. He turned back. His parents were nowhere to be seen. He started weeping.