

CBSE Class 10th English Language and Literature
Sample Paper - 03

Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allowed: 3 hours

General Instructions:

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

Section A

1. Read the passage given below and complete the sentences that follow: (8)

A sparrow is a small bird which is found throughout the world. There are many different species of sparrows. Sparrows are only about four to six inches in length. Many people appreciate their beautiful song. Sparrows prefer to build their nests in low places-usually on the ground, clumps of grass, low trees and low bushes. In cities, they build their nests in building nooks or holes. They rarely build their nests in high places. They build their nests out of twigs, grasses and plant fibres. Their nests are usually small and well-built structures.

Female sparrows lay four to six eggs at a time. The eggs are white with reddish-brown spots. They hatch within eleven to fourteen days. Both the male and female parents care for the young. Insects are fed to the young after hatching. The large feet of the sparrows are used for scratching seeds. Adult sparrows mainly eat seeds. Sparrows can be found almost everywhere, where there are humans. Many people throughout the world enjoy these delightful birds.

The sparrows are some of the few birds that engage in dust bathing. Sparrows will first scratch a hole in the ground with their feet, then lie in it and fling dirt or sand over their bodies with flicks of their wings. Many birds, particularly game birds and sparrows, take dust baths as part of their regular preening. The dust helps dislodge parasites and absorbs excess preen oil so feathers are not heavily coated. Birds that

do not bathe in water are more likely to use dust baths frequently, but many birds use both types of bathing. They will also bathe in water, or in the dry or melting snow. Water bathing is similar to dust bathing, with the sparrow standing in shallow water and flicking water over its back with its wings, also ducking its head under the water. Both activities are social, with up to a hundred birds participating at once, and is followed by preening and sometimes group singing.

Answer the following questions :

- a. The chief food for the adult sparrow is ____.
- b. Sparrows live wherever ____.
- c. The word, 'species' means ____.
- d. Sparrows ____ in high places.
- e. ____ take care of the young sparrows.
- f. Sparrows take bath in ____.
- g. Bathing for the sparrows is a ____.
(a) personal activity (b) routine activity (c) social activity (d) difficult task
- h. Bathing is followed by preening and ____.
(a) dancing (b) praying (c) flying (d) group singing

2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (12)

1. On November first, Chandran left his bed at 5 a.m., bathed in cold water, and sat at his study table, even before his mother, the earliest riser the house, was up. He sat there, strengthening himself with several resolutions. One was that he would get up every day at the same hour, bathe in cold water, and get through three hours of solid work before starting for the college. The second resolution was that he would be back home before eight in the evening and study till eleven-thirty. He also resolved not to smoke because it was bad for the heart, and a very sound heart was necessary for the examination.
2. He took out a sheet of paper and noted down all his subjects. He calculated the total number of preparation hours that were available from November first to March. He had before him over a thousand hours, including the twelve hours, preparation on holidays. Of these thousand hours, a just allotment of so many hundred hours was to be made for Modern History, Ancient History, Political

Theories, Greek Drama, Eighteenth-century Prose, and Shakespeare. He then drew up a very complicated timetable, which would enable one to pay equal attention to all subjects. Balance in preparation was everything. What was the use of being able to score a hundred percent in Modern History, if Shakespeare was going to drag you in the mire? Out of the daily six hours, three were to be devoted to the Optional Subjects and three to the compulsory. In the morning the compulsory subjects, and Literature at night. European History needed all the freshness and sharpness of the morning brain, while it would be a real pleasure to read Literature in the evenings. He put down for that day Othello and the Modern Period in Indian History. He would finish these two in about forty-eight hours and then take up Milton and Greek History.

3. And he settled down to his programme with a scowl on his face.
4. The Modern Period in Indian History, which he had to take up immediately, presented innumerable difficulties. The texts on the subject were many, the notes of class lectures very bulky. Chandran sat for nearly half an hour lost in this problem.
5. The household was up by this time. His father was in the garden, minutely examining the plants for evidence of any miracle which might have happened overnight.

A. Answer any four of the following questions:

- A. Why did he have a scowl on his face?
- B. Why did he prefer literature for the evening health and how much time did he decide to devote to this compulsory subject?
- C. Why did he form a very complicated time-table? Which subjects did he choose for the morning hours?on this compulsory subject?
- D. Why did he resolve not to smoke?
- E. What was Chandran's resolution?

B. Select the correct word/phrases from the given options which mean the same as the following:

- a. not optional
- i. resolution

-
- ii. compulsory
 - iii. preparation
 - iv. immediately
 - b. very difficult
 - i. strengthening
 - ii. necessary
 - iii. evidence
 - iv. complicated
 - c. determination
 - i. resolution
 - ii. freshness
 - iii. sharpness
 - iv. innumerable
 - d. gloomy expression
 - i. drag
 - ii. scowl
 - iii. bulky
 - iv. pleasure

Section B

3. You are Amit/Amrita residing at 12, Nepeon Sea Road, Mumbai. Taking help from the information given below, write a letter to the Editor of a national daily showing your concern at the rising number of vehicles on the roads of big cities in India. This causes not only a great inconvenience to the people but also has become a great health hazard for others. Give your suggestions for checking the number of vehicles and roads and promotion of a vehicle and affordable public transport. **(8)**

OR

You are Rekha/Rohit. You have seen the following news item in the newspaper:

Video games, Internet, Cell phones and other high-tech gear are just part of growing up in a digital world. But parents are concerned about the amount of time their children spend with these and worry that it might be distracting and cramping

academic and social development.

Write an article in about 100-150 words describing both the benefits and drawbacks of using these high-tech devices.

4. Write a story in 150-200 words based on the given clues. **(10)**

An injured old man was lying on the road in a pool of blood. People surrounded him and a kind-hearted lady came out of the crowd.....

OR

Imagine how the elephant got its trunk or how a giraffe got its long neck and put your imagination in about 150-200 words:

5. **Read the passage given below and fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate words from the given options. (4)**

Last year, a group of tourists (a) _____ to India and they decided to (b) _____ Goa. At Calangute, they were swept off their feet by the beauty (c) _____ the beach. They stayed (d) _____ for a week.

- a. (i) had come (ii) came (iii) have come (iv) are coming
b. (i) visit (ii) visited (iii) visiting (iv) visits
c. (i) on (ii) in (iii) about (iv) of
d. (i) their (ii) there (iii) near (iv) far

6. **The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line against which a blank has been given. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer-sheet against the correct blank number. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied. (4)**

		Error	Correction
Tenali Ram was a naughty boy which lived	(a)
in the village of Tenali. Her mother	(b)
did not know what to do of him	(c)

since he refused to study or did any work.	(d)
--	-----	-------	-------

7. **Look at the words and phrases given below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences as given in the example. (4)**

Example: to be broken / health myths / that need / are / a few / there /

There are a few health myths that need to be broken.

- a. contains / only animals / no plant food / cholesterol, / manufacture it /
- b. and / are / cholesterol / free from / all dry fruits / oil seeds / so / are
- c. cholesterol / free from / made from plants / is / any oil / always /
- d. one of the / oil / mustard / best / oil / the / oils / such / best / olive / healthiest /
among / etc / are / and

Section C

8. **Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (1×4=4)**

Custard the dragon had big sharp teeth,
And spikes on top of him and scales underneath,
Mouth like a fireplace, chimney for a nose,
And realio, trulio, daggers on his toes.

- a. The mouth and nose of Custard, the dragon were like what?
- b. What were Custard's toes like?
- c. What is the rhyming scheme of the above stanza?
- d. Who has composed these lines?

OR

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (1 × 4 = 4)

Freedom is indivisible; the chains on any one of my people were the chains on all of them, the chains on all of my people were the chains on me. I knew that the oppressor must be liberated just as surely as the oppressed. A man who takes away another man's freedom is a prisoner of hatred; he is locked behind the bars of prejudice and narrow-mindedness. I am not truly free I am taking away someone else's freedom, just as surely as I am not free when my freedom is taken from me. The oppressed and the oppressor alike are robbed of their humanity.

-
- a. What is the author's opinion about the man who takes away another man's freedom?
- b. What are the two enemies of a person?
- c. Find out a synonym of 'undivided'.
- d. Who are the robbers of one's humanity?
9. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each: **(10)**
- i. Why did Anne provide a brief sketch of her life?
- ii. What is the theme of the poem - **How to Tell Wild Animals**?
- iii. How did Valli react to the elderly woman? What was the reason for her reaction?
- iv. What advice did the lady give to Horace about the treatment of his problem?
- v. What lesson did Ebright learn when he did not win anything at a science fair?
- vi. Why did Madam Forestier not recognise her friend Matilda?
10. In life, people who easily trust others are sometimes made to look foolish. One should not be too trusting. Describe how Oliver Lutkins made a fool of the young lawyer. (The Hack Driver) **(8)**

OR

All parental acts are for the betterment of the children. Justify this statement by taking points from the lesson- "The First Flight".

11. Give a brief character-sketch of Tricki. **(8)**

OR

The hack driver misguided the lawyer and led him on the wrong path. How could the lawyer be proactive?

CBSE Class 10th English Language and Literature
Sample Paper - 03

Answer

Section A

1.
 - a. seeds
 - b. there are humans
 - c. kinds
 - d. rarely build their nests
 - e. Both parents
 - f. dust, water or snow
 - g. social activity
 - h. preening, group singing
2. A.
 - a. Chandran 's took a resolution that he would get up every day at 5 a.m., bathe in cold water and get through three hours of solid work before starting for the college and secondly, he would be back home before eight in the evening and study till eleven-thirty.
 - b. He also resolved not to smoke because it was bad for the heart, and a very sound heart was necessary for the examination.
 - c. Chandran formed a very complicated timetable as he thought that it would enable him to pay equal attention to all subjects. He chose compulsory subjects for the morning hours.
 - d. Chandran preferred literature for the evening because it was rather easier for him to enjoy at that time. He decided to devote three hours to his compulsory subject.
 - e. He had a scowl on his face because the time table was so complicated that it was not as easy to follow it as he thought.
- B.
 - a. compulsory
 - b. complicated
 - c. resolution
 - d. scowl.

Section B

3. 12, Napeon Sea Road

Mumbai

20th March, 20XX

The Editor

The Times of India

Mumbai

Sir,

Sub: Limiting the number of vehicles

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to highlight the serious effect of the growing vehicles and cars on the environment.

The advent of 'Maruti' brought a revolution in the road culture of India. With the liberalization of our economy, many Korean, Japanese, American and European companies started producing lacs of vehicles, trucks, and cars every year. Within the last two decades, the number of vehicles has reached an unmanageable limit. The growing prosperity of the middle classes has added to the craze of owning new Fords, Hyundais, Mercedes, BMWs, and Hondas. The smoke these guzzlers emit pollutes the air making it unsafe for human use. Carbon emission levels have increased tremendously. As a result, respiratory diseases such as asthma have shown a marked rise in recent years. A large number of vehicles on the road also leads to traffic jams and noise pollution. This causes inconvenience and irritation to the people.

I suggest that our Government must limit the number of vehicles on the roads as soon as possible. Only one car should be limited to one family. Those who own numerous and bigger cars, use more petrol or diesel must be taxed. The Government must promote a cheap, comfortable and convenient public transport system. The number of buses and metro-trains should be increased. I hope all these measures would bring order and peace on the roads of India.

Yours sincerely,

Amrita.

OR

High-Tech Devices: Blessing or Boon?

(By Rohit)

We are living in a different and difficult world. High-tech devices shape up our new digital world. It is impractical and undesirable to arrest the march of the times. Children and youth of today are crazy after them. Video games, internet, cell phones and other high-tech gadgets control the life of young people today. No one can deny that these high-tech devices have brought a revolutionary change in our lives. They have opened new avenues for knowledge and entertainment. They have made living much more easy and comfortable. The parents genuinely feel that excessive use of these gadgets will distract the academic and social growth of their children and that they will become their slaves. The need of the hour is moderation. Only the judicious use of these devices can save us from being completely dependent on them.

4.

A Wise Act

An injured old man was lying on the road in a pool of blood. People surrounded him and a kind-hearted lady came out of the crowd. She went near that old man and gave him the blanket which she was carrying with her. Then she asked him if he would come with her to her house. The poor old man had no choice. He quietly stood up and walked to her house. When they reached home, the girl asked the old man to wait there just for a few minutes. Then she went inside her house and she told her parents the whole story. She wanted their consent to give shelter to that man. Actually, that girl belonged to magnanimous family and her father was one of the richest businessman of the town. He owned a very big house with outhouse for servants. The girl wanted her parents to allow that man live in one of the outhouses. In the beginning, they refused to agree with her proposal because they were confused about how they could let an unknown person stay in their home. Then she asked her parents if they could give him shelter then it would be her best 'birthday gift as it was her birthday that day and she was the only child of her parents. She persuaded them by questioning them on their morality and their ethics. On hearing such words, her parents agreed. They also felt proud of their daughter that she had such great moral values that also at a very little age and they, also, thanked her for making them realize their moral duty towards that old man.

Afterwards, she came out and held the hand of that man and brought him inside the house. After a few days of care and affection, the man became healthy. Then, the

father of that girl employed him as their gardener and he, gleefully, took that job. After his care, flowers bloomed in the garden and happiness bloomed in the family because of the little angel.

OR

How the Giraffe Got Its Long

A long time, the giraffe had a very short neck and short legs. Once summer was going on and there was little water left and almost no grass or leaves on the trees. One day a giraffe told the situation to a rhino. They had no idea how to get food and water. Giraffe suddenly got an idea and remembered that the bush doctor would be able to help him and his friend Rhino. He told the doctor about his problem. The doctor asked to come the next day and he would give them magic medicine to grow their neck and legs. The next morning he and rhino were back at the doctor's office and got magic pills to drink. The doctor said it might take a few days and they would have to drink the pills a few times. The next day rhino told giraffe he was not going with him to the doctor. Giraffe went by himself and the doctor decided he was not going to waste the magic pills and gave a double dosage to a giraffe for 4 days. After few days while giraffe was out looking for food he suddenly felt a strange tingling in his legs and neck and the next moment it just started growing. Giraffe got taller and taller until he could reach the top of the tree and eat the nice leaves. Rhino was very happy for his friend because rhino understood that giraffe did go through all the trouble every day. The Giraffe was a kind animal and he started picking the leaves from the trees and threw for his friends. This was how the giraffe got his long neck and legs.

5. a. came
b. visit
c. of
d. there

6.

	Error	Correction
(a)	which	who
(b)	Her	His

(c)	of	with
(d)	did	do

7. a. No plant food contains cholesterol; only animals manufacture it.
 b. So all dry fruits and oilseeds are free from cholesterol.
 c. Any oil made from plants is always free from cholesterol.
 d. Olive oil, mustard oil etc. are one of the best and the healthiest among such oils.

Section C

8. a. The mouth of Custard, the dragon was like a fireplace and its nose was like a chimney.
 b. His toes were like daggers.
 c. The rhyming scheme of the above stanza is aabb.
 d. Ogden Nash has composed these lines.

OR

- a. A man who takes away another man's freedom is a prisoner of hatred.
 b. Prejudice and narrow-mindedness.
 c. Indivisible.
 d. The oppressed and the oppressor alike are robbers of their humanity.
9. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each:
- Writing in a diary was a really strange experience for someone like Anne. She had never written anything before and it seemed to her that later on neither she nor anyone else would be interested in the musings of a thirteen-year-old schoolgirl. That's why she provided a brief sketch of her life.
 - The theme of the poem is to create humour. The poet creates humour by suggesting dangerous ways of identifying wild animals. Instead of shouting for help or trying to protect yourself, you are busy in identifying the attacker- the idea creates humour such as the Bengal tiger is noble but 'eats you' the moment he notices you.
 - At one bus stop, an elderly woman entered the bus. She came and sat beside Valli. She tried to be friendly with Valli. But Valli did not show any warmth and friendliness to the elderly woman. She spoke to her angrily and started looking

outside the bus. The reason was that she was chewing betel nuts and there was juice on her lips. She also had ugly earrings. She asked Valli if she knew where she was going. So Valli didn't like her.

- iv. The lady in red advised Horace to cure his hay fever through special treatment. She suggested him to find out the plant that gave him that hay fever. She also suggested him to consult a doctor if he was serious about his work.
 - v. Ebright learnt that he would have to do real experiments to win a prize when he did not win anything at a science fair. When he was in the seventh grade, he took part in a county science fair. There he showed slides of frog tissues while others came up with real science experiments. This motivated him to do more than just a neat display.
 - vi. Madam Forestier did not recognise her friend because she had completely changed in her appearance. She looked like an old, hard and crude woman of a poor household. She had lost all the charm of her youth. She had worked very hard for ten years to pay the debt for the cost of the necklace.
10. Lutkins himself was the hack driver; he showed his presence of mind and the art of befooling innocent people. He was really good at deceiving people. He deceived the lawyer and acted in such a professional way that the lawyer did not doubt his integrity and honesty. The lawyer felt sorry when he was accompanied by someone because it would prevent his loafing all over again with Bill. The hack driver impressed the lawyer with his eloquence. He was also a good story teller. He invented a story and told the lawyer that Lutkins owed him fifty cents on a poker game. The hack driver showed affectionate behaviour. He left a favourable impression on the narrator's mind. But very soon the lawyer was able to realise that the hack driver himself was Oliver Lutkins. It was so foolish to find that a wise person like a lawyer was befooled by a simple country man.

OR

The young seagull's family tried every possible method to encourage him to fly. His parents understood that their little one needed a little more motivation to achieve his goal of flying. Initially, they tried to threaten the young seagull in many ways but to no avail. The mother gull realized that the need to fly would make the little one do so. She took a piece of fish and started approaching him. But, the mother stopped just

beyond his reach. In his eagerness to get the food, the young bird started diving. That made the young seagull fall from the ledge while trying to get the fish. He was able to fly. Thus, the purpose was served. His mother's efforts made him fly. Even though the young seagull's parents starved him, they were succeeded to make his first flight and proved that 'All parental acts are for the betterment of the children'.

11. Tricki was a small dog. His rich mistress pampered him. He had become hugely fat due to overfeeding. He became rheumy and listless. He lost all energy. Dr. Herriot took interest in him and asked his mistress to cut down on sweet things. He was very greedy. He was fond of cream, cakes, and chocolates. He was not given plenty of exercises. A whole wardrobe was full of his clothing.
- His mistress got upset when Tricki left eating, going for walks and doing anything. His mistress bewailed when he was taken to the hospital. He had no energy left. Dr. Herriot took a personal interest in him. He was only given plenty of water for two days. He regained energy and showed interest in other dogs. He enjoyed playing in their company. His mistress sent eggs and wine for him. They built him up and enriched his blood. He licked his mistress's face when he was taken back home. He was a kind, sensible and grateful dog.

OR

The hack driver misguided the lawyer and openly drove him all over the village to find Oliver Lutkins unfortunately, they could not. He took him too many places such as Beninese's Mustafa, a barber shop, Gray's barber shop, Pool room, and his mother's farmyard. He charged him two dollars an hour for all his visits. He himself talked low of Lukens and did not allow him to meet anyone directly.

The lawyer could be more proactive by carrying a picture of Lutkins so that he could easily identify him. Also, the lawyer should not waste so much time with Bill and instead of letting Bill questioned people about Lutkins, he should question them instead. He should talk to more people rather than enjoyed a whole day at the expense of the firm. He should not hide behind the hack driver but should have tried to talk once to the villagers. He should not give the lead to the hack driver. Instead, he should have led this visit himself, inquiring more and more people.