

**CBSE Class 09 English Language and Literature**  
**Sample Paper 05 (2020-21)**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

**Time Allowed: 3 hours**

**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.

**Section A**

**1. Read the passages given below and answer any 10 questions that follow them:**

I rested for a moment at the door of Anand Bhawan, on Market Road, where coffee-drinkers and tiffin-eaters sat still at their tables, uttering low moans on seeing me. I wanted to assure them, "Don't mind me, you hugging the cash box — you are a coward, afraid even to breathe. Go on, count the cash, if that is your pleasure. I just want to watch it, that's all. If my tail trails down to the street, if I am blocking your threshold, it is because I'm told, I'm eleven feet tip to tail. I can't help it. I'm not out to kill — I'm too full. I found a green pasture full of food on my way. I won't attack until I feel hungry again. Tigers attack only when they feel hungry, unlike human beings who slaughter one another without purpose or hunger."

To the great delight of children, schools were being hurriedly closed. Children of all ages and sizes were running helter-skelter, screaming joyously, "No school, no school. Tiger, tiger !" They were shouting and laughing and even enjoying being scared. They seemed to welcome me. I felt like joining them. So I bounded away from the restaurant door. I walked along with them, at which they cried, "The tiger is coming to eat us; let us get back to school!"

I followed them through their school gate while they ran up and shut themselves in the school hall securely. I climbed up the steps of the school, saw an open door at the far end of a veranda, and walked in. It happened to be the headmaster's room. I noticed a very

dignified man jumping on the table and heaving himself up into an attic. I walked in and flung myself on the cool floor, having a special liking for cool stone floors.

As I browsed, I was aware of cautious steps and hushed voices all around. I was in no mood to bother about anything. All I wanted was a little moment of sleep; the daylight was very bright

- i. Where did the narrator rest for a moment?
  - a. School
  - b. Anand Bhawan
  - c. On the street
  - d. In the pasture
- ii. Who is the narrator here?
  - a. A Human Being
  - b. A Tiger
  - c. A Deer
  - d. A Student
- iii. How did the diners at Anand Bhawan react to seeing the narrator?
  - a. Continued having food/coffee
  - b. Sat still and uttered low moans
  - c. Started running here and there
  - d. Locked themselves in the cafe
- iv. When do tigers attack?
  - a. Anytime, without any purpose
  - b. When they are sleepy
  - c. When they are hungry
  - d. In every few weeks
- v. In this context, how are human beings different from tigers?
  - a. Humans slaughter one other with a definite purpose
  - b. Humans slaughter one another when hungry
  - c. Humans slaughter tigers only
  - d. Humans slaughter one another without any purpose/hunger
- vi. Why were children happy and even enjoying being scared?
  - a. Schools were being closed
  - b. They had never seen a tiger before

- c. They wanted to touch the tiger
- d. Schools remained open even on the tiger's arrival
- vii. What was the tiger's opinion about the man at the cash counter?
  - a. He is money-minded
  - b. He is brave
  - c. He is a coward
  - d. He is going to be its prey
- viii. Where did the people shut them from the tiger?
  - a. Restaurant
  - b. Veranda
  - c. School Hall
  - d. Home
- ix. Identify the word which means the same as HUGGING.
  - a. holding tightly in the arms
  - b. rubbing
  - c. hiding
  - d. counting
- x. Identify the word which means the same as DELIGHT.
  - a. pleasure
  - b. fear
  - c. sorrow
  - d. nervousness
- xi. Identify the word which means the same as DIGNIFIED.
  - a. tired
  - b. terrified
  - c. honorable
  - d. tall
- xii. Identify the word which means the same as HEAVING UP.
  - a. hiding
  - b. running away
  - c. climbing
  - d. raising

**2. Read the passages given below and answer any 10 questions that follow them:**



What makes a place sacred? A place where meditation is practised over many years automatically acquires certain powers. The place gets charged with the energy and vibrations from peaceful thoughts. Depending on the intensity of meditators, the sanctity and power of a particular place can thus remain charged, exuding powerful vibrations, for thousands of years. The Parshvanath Hills is one such place. Twenty-two of the 24 Jain Tirthankaras attained nirvana on this hill, and these enlightened persons were separated by thousands of years.

When a Tirthankara leaves his body, the equivalent of an atomic explosion takes place. The energy that the united body and soul is released. This power is dispersed on the hill. The whole atmosphere and surroundings get surcharged. What the Parshvanath Hills are to the Jains, the Ganga is to the Hindus.

Lord Krishna said, "Among the armed, I am like Ram; I am like a crocodile among fish and the Ganga among rivers. Dear Arjuna, I am the beginning, the end and even the middle of existence". The symbolism of the Ganga is worth understanding. Take away the Ganga from India and all the literature of India will become incomplete. Take away the Ganga and the names of many sages will perish; the spirit of pilgrimage will be lost. The Ganga has become the symbol of our collective spirit.

What is so special about the Ganga? There are rivers that are much longer, wider, larger, than the Ganga on this planet - the Brahmaputra, the Amazon, the Nile and the Hwang Ho. There is something unique about the Ganga that is not found in any of these great rivers: despite all the pollutants being pumped into the Ganga, it has somehow managed to maintain its relative purity. Chemically, it contains extraordinary properties - its water does not putrefy or deteriorate even if kept bottled for long, unlike the water from other rivers. It is interesting to know that the water of the Ganga has properties different from those of other rivers but which seem to undergo a mystical change once they flow into the Ganga's waters. This is a mystery that even science has not been able to understand, as of yet.

- i. The Ganga symbolizes
  - a. purity
  - b. faith
  - c. collective spirit
  - d. all of the these
- ii. The place which acquires certain powers is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. where music is played
  - b. where meditation is practised
  - c. where there are statues idols
  - d. where bells keep ringing
- iii. The four rivers as mentioned in the passage are:
- a. The Ganga, the Brahmaputra, the Amazon, and the Nile
  - b. The Ganga, the Brahmaputra, the Amazon, and the Thames
  - c. The Ganga, the Brahmaputra, the Krishna, and the Nile
  - d. The Thames, the Saryu, the Yamuna, and the Nile
- iv. Complete the analogy. What the Parshvanath Hills are to the Jains,
- a. the Yamuna is to the Hindus
  - b. the Ganga is to the Hindus
  - c. the Brahmaputra is to the Hindus
  - d. the Saryu is to the Hindus
- v. All the literature of India will become incomplete if we take away:
- a. the Brahmaputra
  - b. the Yamuna
  - c. the Ganga
  - d. the Sarasvati
- vi. Find the word from the passage which means the same as **to become worse**.
- a. improve
  - b. upgrade
  - c. tweak
  - d. deteriorate
- vii. How many Tirthankaras attained nirvana on Parshvanath hill?
- a. 22
  - b. 24
  - c. 20
  - d. 26
- viii. The mystery of which river that even science has not been able to understand?
- a. The Amazon river
  - b. The Sarasvati river
  - c. The Ganga river

- d. The Nile river
- ix. Who said I am the beginning, the end and even the middle of existence?
  - a. Arjuna
  - b. Tirthankaras
  - c. Lord Krishna
  - d. Lord Ram
- x. When a Tirthankara leaves his body, the equivalent of an \_\_\_\_\_ takes place.
  - a. powerful vibrations
  - b. powerful thunder
  - c. intense meditation
  - d. atomic explosion
- xi. Antonyms of word **exude**:
  - a. discharge
  - b. absorb
  - c. emit
  - d. drain
- xii. Antonyms of word **perish**:
  - a. abide
  - b. fall
  - c. vanish
  - d. deteriorate

3. **Read the extract given below and answer the following questions:**

When the humid shadows hover  
Overall the starry spheres,  
And the melancholy darkness  
Gently weeps in rainy tears,  
What a bliss to press the pillow  
Of a cottage-chamber bed  
And like listening to the patter  
Of the soft rain overhead!

- i. Name the poet of the given lines.
  - a. Coates Kinney
  - b. Robert Frost



- c. Ruskin Bond
- d. Stephen Spender
- ii. What do the humid shadows refer to?
  - a. The lightening
  - b. The dull stars
  - c. The no moon night
  - d. The dark clouds
- iii. How does the melancholy darkness weep in rainy tears?
  - a. Gently
  - b. Loudly
  - c. Wildly
  - d. Inconsolably
- iv. What is bliss for the poet?
  - a. To lie on his bed on a rainy day
  - b. To swim in the river on a rainy day
  - c. To go out and exercise on a sunny day
  - d. To party with his friends on a bright sunny day
- v. Which poetic device is used in the phrase, **like lightning**?
  - a. Transferred Epithet
  - b. Oxymoron
  - c. Alliteration
  - d. Metaphor

OR

**Read the extract given below and answer the following questions:**

Gerrard: You're not particularly decorative.

Intruder: No! Well, that goes for you, too. I've only got to wear specs and I'll be enough like you to get away with it.

Gerrard: What about your clothes? They'll let you down if you're not careful.

Intruder: That'll be all right. Yours will fit me fine.

- i. Name the chapter from which the given lines have been taken?
  - a. If I were you
  - b. The fun they had

- c. A truly beautiful mind
  - d. The Bond of love
- ii. Find the word from the extract that is opposite of **simple**.
  - a. Decorative
  - b. Careful
  - c. Particularly
  - d. Fine
- iii. What did Gerrard tell the intruder about his clothes?
  - a. That his clothes were of good quality
  - b. That his clothes appeared to be very expensive
  - c. That his clothes were very cheap
  - d. That his clothes could let him down if he was not careful
- iv. What was the Intruder required to wear to look similar to Gerrard?
  - a. Spectacles
  - b. Hat
  - c. Watch
  - d. Long boots
- v. Who was the intruder by profession in the plot?
  - a. A criminal
  - b. A physician
  - c. An artist
  - d. A cop

4. **Read the extract given below and answer the following questions:**

The wind blows out weak fires

He makes strong fires roar and flourishes

His friendship is good

We praise him every day.

- i. What does it do with strong fires?
  - a. It makes them roar
  - b. It makes them flourish
  - c. It makes them rise higher
  - d. All of these
- ii. Whose friendship is termed to be good in the given lines?



- a. Fire
  - b. Water
  - c. Wind
  - d. Sun
- iii. Write the word opposite in meaning to the word **friendship**.
- a. Hatred
  - b. Enmity
  - c. Rivals
  - d. Love
- iv. What is the wind symbolic of?
- a. Adversities
  - b. Challenges
  - c. Obstacles
  - d. All of these
- v. Name the poet.
- a. Subramania Bharati
  - b. Vikram Seth
  - c. Gieve Patel
  - d. Sarojini Naidu

OR

**Read the extract given below and answer the following questions:**

Every tinkle on the shingles  
Has an echo in the heart;  
And a thousand dreamy fancies  
Into busy being start,  
And a thousand recollections  
Weave their air-threads into woof,  
As I listen to the patter  
Of the rain upon the roof.

- i. What makes an echo in the poet's heart?
- a. The sound of raindrops on the roof
  - b. The ringing bells of the church

- c. The melodious voice of a little girl
  - d. The chirping of the birds
  - ii. What rises in the poet's mind?
    - a. Fancies
    - b. Confusion
    - c. Hatred
    - d. Agony
  - iii. What does the word **shingles** mean?
    - a. Raindrops
    - b. Dark clouds
    - c. Tiles used on roofs
    - d. Window sills
  - iv. What does the poet listen to?
    - a. The sound of music
    - b. The bird's song
    - c. The pattering sound of the rain made on the shingles
    - d. The news broadcasted on the television
  - v. Name the poet of the given stanza.
    - a. Robert Frost
    - b. Ruskin Bond
    - c. Coates Kinney
    - d. William Wordsworth
5. **Fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate words/ phrases from the given options :**

IT sector is witnessing (a) ..... boom in contemporary times. Success (b) ..... be difficult. If one fails (c) ..... keep himself updated with the technical innovation. Today IT training is crossing beyond the confines of the media and entertainment industry.

- a. (i) an (ii) a (iii) the (iv) some
  - b. (i) can (ii) will (iii) would (iv) could
  - c. (i) to (ii) at (iii) in (iv) for
6. **Read the conversation given below and complete the paragraph that follows:**
- Reena: I called you yesterday. Where were you?

Arya: I went to visit my grandmother. Why did you call?

Reena: I called to tell you that our results will be out next week.

Arya: Are you sure?

Reena: I saw the news in yesterday's newspaper.

Reena told Arya that (a) ..... and asked her where she had been. Arya told her that (b) ..... grandmother and enquired why she had called. Reena told her that she (c) ..... results would be out next week. When Arya asked whether she was sure Reena told her that she had seen the news in yesterday's newspaper.

7. Choose the correct options for ANY FOUR of the six sentences given below.

- i. She \_\_\_\_\_ me at the meetings only on Sundays as a child.
  - a. saw
  - b. had seen
  - c. was seeing
  - d. is seeing
- ii. The swimmer \_\_\_\_\_ to be in difficulty, but he \_\_\_\_\_ to reach the shore in the end.
  - a. seemed / managed
  - b. seemed / has managed
  - c. has seemed / managed
  - d. seems / manages
- iii. After the meeting, he said a great deal of advice \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. had been given
  - b. have been given
  - c. were given
  - d. has been given
- iv. Living cells exist in a variety of shapes; for example, they \_\_\_\_\_ cube-shaped or flat.
  - a. may be
  - b. were
  - c. have been
  - d. must be
- v. You \_\_\_\_\_ so fast on such a busy road. You \_\_\_\_\_ an accident.
  - a. can't have driven, would die
  - b. shouldn't have driven, might have had
  - c. couldn't have driven, could have



- d. mustn't have driven, should have had
- vi. The dogs were \_\_\_\_\_ given a biscuit.
- a. All
  - b. Each
  - c. Much
  - d. Every

### Section B

8. Indian summers are really unbearable. One day the maximum temperature shot up to 47°C. It was the most miserable day of the year for you. Record the experience in your diary, write a diary entry.

OR

Today we see a number of students with cell phones in school. Do you think that they should have cell phones at school? Write a paragraph expressing your opinion about it.

9. Write a story from the outline given below :

One day, I was playing football in a park with my friends. Suddenly I saw an old man, just collapsing on the pavement. All of us rushed to him.....

OR

Bhima started writing a story but couldn't write beyond a line or two. Taking help from the given input and basing your story on the basis of the beginning develop the story.  
The boat capsized but I managed to survive. I walked on and on ...

10. **Answer ANY TWO questions from (a) to (c) and ANY TWO questions from (d) to (f) in 20-30 words each:**

- a. Had Margie ever seen a book before? Write your answer in the context of The Fun They Had.
- b. During his childhood, Einstein did not show any traces of becoming a genius one day. How? Write your answer in the context of A Truly Beautiful Mind.
- c. Why does the poet call harvests 'peaceful' and war as 'winter'?
- d. How was the Kingdom of Fools different from other places?
- e. In what condition did the author go to school after the fire incident?
- f. Why did Sergei feel a little sorry and ashamed of himself?

**11. Answer ANY TWO questions from (a) to (c) and ANY TWO questions from (d) to (f) in 40-50 words each:**

- a. Whose friendship does the poet talk of? Why is it good? Write your answer in the context of the poem 'Wind'.
- b. Why did Kezia go slowly towards the drawing-room when the mother asked her to come downstairs? Write your answer in the context of The Little Girl.
- c. How was Baba trained? Write your answer in the context of The Bond of Love.
- d. What did the ticket-collector classify Toto as? Why did he do so?
- e. What did Prashant and his friend do to save their life? Where did they get their food from?
- f. How did Behrman react to Johnsy's fancy? What sacrifice did he make for her?

**12. Santosh had all the qualities of a good mountaineer. Comment.**

OR

How does a tree grow ? Write your answer in the context of Poem On Killing a Tree.

**13. Why was Happy Prince not really happy? Write your answer in the context of The Happy Prince.**

OR

Write a character sketch of the lost child.

**CBSE Class 09 English Language and Literature**  
**Sample Paper 05 (2020-21)**

**Solution**

**Section A**

1.
  - i. (b) Anand Bhawan.
  - ii. (b) A tiger
  - iii. (b) Sat still and uttered low moans
  - iv. (c) When they are hungry.
  - v. (d) Humans slaughter one another without any purpose/hunger.
  - vi. (a) Schools were being closed.
  - vii. (c) He is a coward
  - viii. (c) School Hall
  - ix. (a) Holding tightly in the arms
  - x. (a) Pleasure
  - xi. (c) Honourable
  - xii. (d) Raising
2.
  - i. (d) all of the these
  - ii. (b) where meditation is practised
  - iii. (a) The Ganga, the Brahmaputra, the Amazon, and the Nil
  - iv. (b) the Ganga is to the Hindus
  - v. (c) the Gang
  - vi. (d) deteriorate
  - vii. (a) 22
  - viii. (c) The Ganga river
  - ix. (c) Lord Krishna
  - x. (d) atomic explosion
  - xi. (b) absorb
  - xii. (a) abide
3.
  - i. (a) Coates Kinney
  - ii. (d) The dark clouds.
  - iii. (a) Gently



- iv. (a) To lie on his bed on a rainy day
- v. (c) Alliteration

OR

- i. (a) If I were you
  - ii. (a) Decorative
  - iii. (d) That his clothes will let him down if he is not careful
  - iv. (a) Spectacles
  - v. (a) A criminal
4. i. (d) All of these
- ii. (c) Wind
  - iii. (b) Enmity
  - iv. (d) All of these
  - v. (a) Subramania Bharat

OR

- i. (a) The sound of raindrops on the roof
  - ii. (a) Fancies
  - iii. (c) Tiles used on roofs
  - iv. (c) The pattering sound of the rain drops made on the shingles
  - v. (c) Coates Kinney
5. a. (ii) a
- b. (i) can
- c. (i) to
6. a. she called her yesterday and asked her where she had been.
- b. she went to visit grandmother and enquired why she had called.
- c. wanted to tell her that the results would be out next week.
7. **Choose the correct options for ANY FOUR of the six sentences given below.**
- i. (a) saw  
**Explanation:** saw
  - ii. (a) seemed / managed  
**Explanation:** seemed / managed
  - iii. (a) had been given

**Explanation:** had been given

iv. (a) may be

**Explanation:** may be

v. (b) shouldn't have driven, might have had

**Explanation:** shouldn't have driven, might have had

vi. (b) Each

**Explanation:** Each

### **Section B**

8. Jhansi

20th July, 20XX

Friday, 8:00 pm

Dear Diary,

Indian summers can be really unbearable. And who can live in peace and comfort when the heat waves start blowing over the plains of north India. It was the 20th of July, 20XX, the most miserable day of my life. It was certainly the hottest day of the season. By noon the heat became unbearable. To avoid dehydration, we had already had several litres of cold water. I had to go to the market. I forgot to wear a cap. By the time I reached home, I was very miserable and started vomiting. To make things still worse, there was a breakdown of electric power during most part of the night. Without the working of fans and air-conditioners, we felt miserable. We spent a sleepless and miserable night.

Swaragini

OR

### **Should Students be Allowed Cell Phones at School**

There is no doubt that cell phones are regarded as one of the most common means of communication. Young generation nowadays uses cell phones like an indispensable commodity that goes along with them at any pace of life, even at schools or in classrooms. Although cell phones bring everyone many benefits and conveniences, in my opinion, the use of cell phones at school is unacceptable for some following reasons. Firstly, the use of cell phones in class can make students lazy in brainstorming and making use of creativity in the case they deal with difficult problems. Secondly, it impacts detrimentally on student's process of attention. Sometimes due to small problems, students easily take action without thinking carefully, such as fighting, gathering into small gangs, bullying



each other. Students often use cell phones to call the assistance of outsiders which leads to the serious effects later. Kids are always under pressure to do well in school. As a result, the occasional student may cheat on a test. Mobile phones are capable of more than just calling and texting. Students can easily gain Internet access through their phones during an exam. Additionally, they can listen to recorded information. Allowing cell phones in schools invites the risk of theft. Many cell phones, and especially smartphones, can be particularly appealing targets to criminals who can remove or extract user data and then resell the phones. Keeping students' phones out of the school eliminates the risk of theft, and prevents the need for costly replacement of the phones.

9.

### **A WRONG DECISION**

One day, I was playing football in the park with my friends. Suddenly I saw an old man, just collapsing on the pavement. All of us rushed to him, tried to call him and wake him up. But he was unconscious. Sensing the need of the hour, I ran back, took out the water bottle from my bag and sprinkled some water on his face. After a few moments, he opened his eyes. With gestures, he told us that he was very thirsty and starving with hunger. We gave him water to drink along with a packet of biscuits and two bananas. After having all that, the old man looked quite pleased. Then we asked him about his whereabouts so that his family members might be informed about his state. But to our surprise, on hearing the word family, he started crying bitterly. We tried to soothe him and asked what had made him suffer. Then he told us his story. He had two sons. After the death of his wife, his sons persuaded him for the division of his property. Both of them assured him that he would live with them turn-wise, i.e., for one month, he would live with his younger son and then next month, he would live with his elder son. And he agreed to do so. But this decision had befallen upon him as a curse. For two-three months everything went quite okay. Then, he fell ill. None of his sons wanted to bear the expenses, incurred on his illness and medicines. Then they made a plan. One day both of them asked him that they would take him to an expert doctor so that he would get cured very soon. And they did a blunder. They brought him to that strange city and asked him to wait there as they had to search out the address of the doctor. He agreed and waited for them, sitting outside the bus station, with no money or assets with him. When both of them didn't return till evening, he realized that his sons had abandoned him. He wept a lot and blamed himself for agreeing for the division of his property. Even then he tried to



locate them empty stomach but nothing to avail. On hearing his saga, we became very downhearted. Then one of my friends suggested that he should be taken to an old age home where his father was a manager and he would be treated kindly there. Since then, he has been living there but his sons never returned. His sons should feel ashamed of themselves. In fact, the manager asked that old man to sue his sons but he denied as he couldn't spend his leftover life in courts. But one day, they will reap, what they sow for themselves.

OR

### **My First Day in the Land of Lilliputians**

The boat capsized but I managed to survive. I walked on and on till I could walk no more. I was completely exhausted. I collapsed on the short, soft grass and fell into a deep sleep. It was daylight now. I woke up. I tried to get up but couldn't stand. I found my arms and legs tied down to the ground with strings. I found myself in a hopeless and helpless situation. I could hear the noises around me. They were faint human voices. Then I felt something moving on my body. It came near my face. He was a tiny little man of 3 inches. He was dressed like a soldier. Forty more followed him. I was amazed to see such tiny men. I couldn't understand what they wanted to do with me. Then I felt as if a thousand needles were pricking my body. The little men were shooting arrows at me. Then I lay still without moving. One of the elders, perhaps their leader, stood on a raised platform near me. I indicated for food and water. He seemed to understand me. He sent hundreds of men up to my face. I had my dinner. After the generous dinner, I went to sleep again. This was my first day among Lilliputians. it shows that even if a giant man looks like a threat to the people of the Lilliputians. but after considering his miserable condition, the people of the Lilliput offered him food and shelter. Because he was no longer a threat for Lilliputians, Lilliput is a place of small human-like creatures who have a normal size of 3 inches, they encounter normal size humans frequently. Also sometimes they create problems for them, hence whenever an outsider comes to the land of Lilliputians, they readily attack him and capture him so that he could not harm the land of Lilliput.

10. **Answer ANY TWO questions from (a) to (c) and ANY TWO questions from (d) to (f) in 20-30 words each:**

- a. No, Margie had never seen a book before till she saw the one that Tommy had found a "real book!" in the attic of his house. She was scornful and contemptuous about the



old school. It was a sort of adventure for her, reading that book was like a fairy tale for her. Turning the pages was funny, it was printed and had words as they were centuries ago. Before that, she had only heard about books from her grandfather who himself had not seen any. He too had heard about a printed book from his own grandfather.

- b. Einstein had a much large head and did not start to speak until he was two-and-a-half years old. Finally, when he did speak, he used to utter everything twice. He could not interact freely with his playmates either. When he was sent to school, his headmaster too had a very poor opinion about his success. All this showed the absence of any traces in him of becoming a genius one day.
- c. Harvests are called 'peaceful' because they bring abundance and prosperity. War, on the other hand, is like the severe and harsh 'winter' that ruins the crops and starves people. It is only the peaceful times that bring harmony and contentment. War brings about death, destruction, deprivation, starvation and pollution. Wars should be shunned forever.
- d. The Kingdom of Fools was entirely different from other places. Since the king and his minister were idiots, things were done differently there. As per the king's order, people worked in the dark at night and slept during the day. Even the cattle were made to sleep by day. In this kingdom, everything was cheap and cost the same, whatever may be its quantity. Everything cost a single duddu, whether you bought a measure of rice or a bunch of bananas.
- e. After the fire incident, the author went to school wearing the dress that he had worn to church on that fateful Sunday morning. As he had not been wearing his shoes when the fire broke out he had to wear a pair of tennis shoes that he had borrowed from his aunt. His shoes, clothes, books, homework, and backpack had all been destroyed in the fire.
- f. Sergei felt sorry for setting a sick man to work as menial labour in the cold. He also felt sorry and ashamed of himself when he realized that he had set such a man to work who was spoiled and drunken.

**11. Answer ANY TWO questions from (a) to (c) and ANY TWO questions from (d) to (f) in 40-50 words each:**

- a. The poet talks about the friendship of people with the wind. This friendship is possible only when people are so healthy and strong, both mentally and physically,



that they play bravely with the wind like a friend instead of falling prey to its destructive force. The poet says that this friendship is possible only when we build strong bodies, make our minds strong and our will steadfast willpower.

- b. Kezia was quite afraid of her father. She did not look forward to greeting him when he came home. She never enjoyed the company of her dominating father. He always scolded her for one thing or the other and never appreciated or loved her. She was so frightened of him that she went very slowly towards the drawing-room when she was asked to come downstairs to take off his shoes.
  - c. Baba responded to commands easily and was trained easily too. At the respective commands, he would tackle anyone who came near him for a tumble or would point the stick at people and hold it like a gun or would produce a stump of wood and cradle it like a baby etc. He ate everything, from porridge to vegetable, nuts, curry, rice, eggs, chocolates and ice cream and more. He was playful and loved by all.
  - d. The railway ticket-collector classified Toto as a dog. Actually, the monkey had looked out of the bag to give the ticket-collector a wide grin. As a rule, only a dog was allowed to travel by train and was charged for it. That is why Toto was termed as a dog.
  - e. Prashant and his friend's family in order to save their life from raging cyclone waves sat in the open on the roof of the house. There was freezing cold and continuous rain. Prashant was anxious to meet his parents that two days seemed to Prashant like two years. They got their food from the two coconut trees, which was a blessing in disguise. They fed upon tender coconuts from that two trees and thus were able to keep body and soul together.
  - f. Johnsy had a fancy that she would die the moment the last leaf on the ivy creeper fell. When Behrman heard it he found it totally absurd. But in order to save her life, he decided to paint a leaf on the wall. He succumbed to pneumonia and died soon while he succeeded in his motto.
12. Mountaineering is a challenging career which demands great physical and mental strength. It requires boldness, fearlessness, sturdiness and faith in one's abilities. Santosh Yadav was, in fact, made for mountaineering as she was endowed with all the qualities that are pre-requisites for this career. Just within a span of four years of her training in climbing, Santosh successfully scaled Mt. Everest. Again she repeated this feat in less than a year's time and became the only woman in the world to have scaled the Everest twice. All this was made possible with her climbing skills, physical fitness and mental strength.



Her iron will, physical endurance and mental toughness infused her with immense confidence. Her resistance to cold and altitude proved to be added advantages. All these qualities, coupled with her team-spirit and her concern for her fellow climbers made her not only a good mountaineer but also a very popular one among her superiors and her fellow climbers.

OR

The growth of a tree is a wonder of nature. A tree takes years to grow to its full size. After sprouting from the surface of the earth from a seed it grows gradually, its root nurtures it by drawing nutrients from deep under the earth. Sunlight, air and water provide nourishment to it. Out of its bark, the tender green branches shoot out and leaves grow all over them. In due course of time the tree stands strong and sturdy and it can survive anything even the wounds inflicted with a knife by humans. In fact, chopping and hacking are not sufficient to kill it as the wounds get healed and branches appear again even from the stumps and in due course attain their original size. As long as the root of the tree remains intact under the earth, the tree keeps growing and nature continues to nourish us. The poem through the symbolism of cutting the tree is trying to tell us that nature has the capability of healing itself even though humans feel that they are more powerful than nature.

13. The prince was not happy because he saw ugliness and misery of his city from his high position. This made him sad. He wanted to do something for the poor and the needy but he could not. His heart was made of lead, still, he could not choose but weep. The courtiers call the prince the 'Happy Prince' because he lived a happy life during which no sorrow could enter his palace. However, the prince was not actually happy because he had never got the chance to witness the misery and plight of his people. By keeping him away from sorrow, his heart was never given a chance to feel the virtues of pity and compassion. So, when his statue was placed at a point from where he could see the city laid before him, he saw pain, hunger, want, and suffering all around. Even his lead heart could not help but weep at this site.

OR

The child in the chapter had a very restless nature. He went to the fair with his parents and liked almost everything as any child would showing his innocence. The child knew

that his parents would not accept his request. He kept following his parents quietly. He wanted to enjoy the roundabout. So he stood near it. But when he moved back, he found his parents nowhere. He became panic-stricken and cried for them. A man from the crowd tried to help him by offering him different things. The sole desire of the child was to see his parents. Although the child was very understanding. He did wanted to buy all the things he saw but knew it was a very irrelevant demand to make so accepted the denial to all his requests. By the end of the story we learn how the child loved his parents so much as he denied all the other things he wanted earlier just because he couldn't find his parents around him.