
CBSE Class 10th English Language and Literature
Sample Paper - 09

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.
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Section A

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

An e-card is similar to a postcard or greeting card, with the primary difference being that it is created by using digital media instead of paper or other traditional materials. E-cards are made available by publishers, usually on various internet sites, where they can be sent to a recipient usually via e-mail or social media apps. It is also considered more environment-friendly as compared to traditional paper cards. E-card businesses are considered environment-friendly because their carbon footprint is generally much lower as compared to paper card companies and because the paper is not used in the end product.

E-cards are digital content, which makes them much more versatile than traditional greeting cards. For example, unlike traditional greeting cards, e-cards can be easily sent to many people at once or extensively personalized by the sender. Conceivably they could be saved to any computer or electronic device or even viewed on a television set, and digital video e-cards have begun emerging.

Typically an e-card sender chooses from an online catalogue of e-card made available on a publisher's website. After selecting a card, the sender can personalize it to various degrees by adding a message, photo or video. Finally, the sender specifies the recipients' e-mail address and the website delivers an e-mail message to the recipient on behalf of the sender.

This concept of e-cards is innovative and delivers an intrinsic pleasure to both the sender and the receiver.

Answer the following questions briefly:

- a. An e-card is similar to a _____ or greeting card in digital format.
- b. How are the e-cards different from the regular cards?
- c. Where are the e-cards available?
 - a. books stores
 - b. internet sites
 - c. Gift shops
 - d. Schools
- d. E-cards are delivered via _____
 - a. email and social media apps
 - b. Postman
 - c. Courier
 - d. email and books stores
- e. Select a word from the passage that means, 'to come out of a hidden place'.
- f. E-cards are eco-friendly as _____.
- g. E-cards are digital _____.(content/books)

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

Once upon a time, there was a 92-year old lady. She was fully dressed each morning by eight o'clock, with perfect makeup, even though she was blind, had moved to an old age home. Her husband recently passed away making the move necessary. After many hours of waiting patiently in the lobby, she smiled sweetly when she was told that her room was ready.

She was escorted there by one of the attendants and she proceeded along with a great deal of alacrity. Her room was a simple one, comprising of the basic elements with a small window, overlooking the backyard of the building. The arrangement was vividly described to her, citing every little detail, for her convenience.

Her response, to the attendant. was the most unexpected and considering the conditions under which she had to shift there. "I love it," she stated with the enthusiasm of an eight-year-old who had just been presented with a new puppy. "But....but Mrs. Jones, you hadn't seen the room," stammered the astonished

attendant. "That doesn't have anything to do with it, she replied. "Happiness is something you decide. I have already decided to love it. It's a decision I make every morning when I wake up. I can spend the day in bed, recounting the difficulty I have with the parts of my body, that does not work, or get out of the bed, and be thankful for the ones that do. Each day is a gift, and as long as I am alive, I'll focus on a new day and on all the happy memories, that I've stored away, just for this time of my life."

The attendant was greatly touched by the elderly woman's, sense of cheer and boundless enthusiasm. Such a positive attitude towards life and the difficulties that form a part and parcel of it represents a philosophy called 'The art of living'. It is a survival instinct that enables the individual to sail smoothly through the sea of despair and through the turbulence, created in the times of sorrow. Such an outlook is a source of strength to the learner, as well as an inspiration for others to follow it.

On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer any four of the following questions :

- a. Why was her response to the attendant, unexpected?
- b. The attendant's description of the room cited every detail for her convenience'.
What do you think is the significance of 'for her convenience'?
- c. How do you interpret the philosophy, 'The art of living'?
- d. What was the attendant greatly touched by?
- e. What is your opinion for being optimistic?

Answer the following questions:

- a. Which word in the first paragraph represents 'eager quickness'?
 - i. alacrity
 - ii. turbulence
 - iii. escorted
 - iv. proceeded
- b. The attendant stammered in astonishment, at the reaction of the old lady. Here the word 'stammered' reflect which state of his mind?
 - i. shock
 - ii. confusion
 - iii. joy

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- iv. sorrow
 - c. Find another word in the passage that is a synonym for dumbfound.
 - i. attitude
 - ii. inspiration
 - iii. enthusiasm
 - iv. astonishment
 - d. Which word in the first paragraph represents 'eager quickness'?
 - i. inspiration
 - ii. happiness
 - iii. despair
 - iv. violent disruption

Section B

3. You are Shrawan of C-2, Janakpuri, Delhi, you wish to make a pilgrimage to Badrinath, Kedarnath, and Haridwar with your family of five. Write a letter to S.S. Travels Station Road, Delhi, enquiring about the schedule of their conducted tour by Deluxe buses to these places. Ask about the charges, boarding and lodging arrangements and the total time needed for the tour. **(8)**

OR

Man is basically a social-animal. He depends on others for his survival and existence. He has to work with others and must know how to get the best out of a team. Taking these ideas, write an article on How to Get the Best Out of A Team in about 100-150 words.

4. You have been preparing for the National Talent Search Examination for the last one year and have got a very good rank. Write your story in 150-200 words using the following clues. **(10)**

humble family background-ambition to be something-scholarship, a means to that-preparation-help from the teachers-use of library-examination-result.

OR

Write a story in 150-200 words from the outline given below and give a suitable title to the story- :

Cold winter night - all sound asleep - a thudding sound - switched on lights - hurried footsteps - followed-

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

It (a) _____ the evening of a cold December day. The hills (b) _____ with snow. All the family members (c) _____ round the big kitchen fire. They had tea (d) _____ snacks beside the fire.

- a. (i) being (ii) is being (iii) was (iv) has been
- b. (i) covered (ii) was covered (iii) were covered (iv) are covered
- c. (i) gather (ii) have gathered (iii) gathers (iv) gathered
- d. (i) but (ii) and (iii) along with (iv) since

6. In the following passage one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the words that come before and after it. The first one has been done as an example. (1x4 = 4 marks)

			Missing	
		Before	Word	After
From very early times, India had been famous	e.g.,	famous	for	species
spices, textiles, jewellery pearls. The Arabs were	(a)	.....	.....	.....
among the first to come to India trade. Later, the	(b)	.....	.....	.....
Portuguese, the Dutch, the French the English	(c)	.....	.....	.....
followed. They fought among themselves to				

control trade.				
The English were most powerful.	(d)	.....	.....	.....

7. **Read the dialogue given below and complete the paragraph that follows: (4)**

Father: Where are you going?

Son: I am going to my friend's house.

Father: Have you completed your homework?

Son: No, I'll do it when I will come back.

Father: This is not the right way to answer.

Father asked his son where he was going. The son replied (a)_____ to his friend's house. The father further questioned (b)_____ his homework. The son said that he would do it when (c)_____. The father disapproved of (d)_____.

Section C

8. **Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow: (4x1=4 marks)**

There is a languid, emerald sea,
where the sole inhabitant is me-
a mermaid drifting blissfully.

- Who does '**me**' stand for?
- How does '**me**' feel?
- Who is '**me**' compared to?
- Which word in the extract means opposite of **sorrowfully**?

OR

Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow:

So, in order to not to shake the writer's faith in God, the postmaster came up with an idea: answer the letter. But when he opened it, it was evident that to answer it he needed something more than goodwill, ink and paper. But he stuck to his resolution: He asked money from his employees.

- Who decided to answer the letter?

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- b. How did the postmaster help the writer of the letter?
- c. Which word in the extract means the same as 'firm decision'?
- d. Write an antonym for 'unnoticeable' from the passage?
9. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each: **(10)**
- i. What shocked the narrator after landing safely?
 - ii. What according to the writer, is the real play of the otter?
 - iii. What do you learn about Natalya from the play, 'The Proposal'?
 - iv. Why did Hari Singh return to Anil, although he had stolen money and escaped easily?
 - v. Did Bill already know the lawyer's purpose of coming to New Mullion?
 - vi. Why was Bholi's father worried about her?
10. How did Peggy and Maddie realize that Wanda liked them? **(8)**

OR

Where did the people of Coorg originate from?

11. What fake story was made by Ausable in the hotel room? What made it a convincing story? **(8)**

OR

How did Peggy and Maddie realize that Wanda liked them?

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Answer

Section A

1.
 - a. postcard
 - b. E-cards are digital images.
 - c. internet sites
 - d. email and social media apps
 - e. E-cards are a convenient, quicker as well as a cost-effect method of conveying greetings. They help to save time as well as resources.
 - f. to emerge
 - g. no paper is used.
 - h. content
2.
 - a. Her response that she loved the room allotted to her, was quite unexpected because being deprived of visual abilities it was difficult to form an opinion without actually seeing it. Moreover, the sorrow of bereavement did not reflect on her attitude.
 - b. Visually challenged people are somewhat compensated by nature by increased sharpness of the sense of hearing as well as the sense of touch. The attendant's detailed description of the room would enable her to carry out her chores independently.
 - c. The philosophy, 'The art of living' signifies that the kind of life one leads depends largely on the individual's attitude towards it. Optimism in life and acceptance of both joys and sorrows with a smile is a way of life that one should adopt. It is an art that should be perfected with practice.
 - d. The attendant was greatly touched by the elderly woman's, sense of cheer and boundless enthusiasm.
 - e. I think we should see the positive aspect of everything to remain optimistic.

Part -II

- a. alacrity

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- b. confusion
 - c. astonishment
 - d. violent disruption.

Section B

3. C-2, Janakpuri,
Near Jain Temple
New Delhi - 53
April 4, 20XX
The Manager
S.S. Tours and Travels
Station Road,
Delhi
Sir,

Subject: Enquiry about Conducted Tours.

I wish to make a pilgrimage to Badrinath, Kedarnath, and Haridwar with my family of five. Please let me know your terms for conducted tours by Deluxe buses to the places mentioned. The packages of the whole tour including the hotel/motel and travel by bus or another vehicle. The rates should include lodging/boarding charges, fare per km per bus or fare according to the number of people.

I would like to know the kind of boarding and lodging facilities provided by you and the sitting facility of the bus. The food facilities in the tour package. The duration of journey and halting. Also, let me know if any student discount is admissible.

Expecting an early response.

Yours sincerely
Shiva.

OR

How to Get the Best Out of A Team (By XYZ)

Man is a social animal. He has to depend on others to make a living. He has to bond with others and be a part of a team. Working in a team is quite a challenge. One has to

adjust himself to the requirements of his team. All the members of a team must work together selflessly to achieve a common aim or goal. A team must work like a well-oiled machine. Only then it can produce great results. Working in a team is really a healer and a stress buster. Success or failure is not an individual's responsibility. It is a collective responsibility. A strong leadership controls the individuals and goads them to achieve the common goal. A good team work demands perfect and effective communication between all the members of the team. The focus is on unity and cooperation. Mutual jealousy and conflict of interests have no place in a team. Each member should have deep respect and appreciation of others' abilities and skills. Negative attitudes should be discouraged. Only then we can form a formidable and strong team.

4. **Ambition Knows No Bound**

Everyone has one ambition in life. He or she has that one desire to achieve that one objective, i.e. to be successful in line one likes to follow in life. As many ambitions as many people' goes an old saying. Many people gave me many suggestions in this regard, i.e., some wanted me to become a scientist, a doctor, a teacher and so on. But I was very clear in my mind. I wanted to become an engineer as it was according to my taste, interest, aptitude and bent of mind. The only hurdle was that it didn't go with the available means as I had a very humble family background. My father was a peon. He couldn't afford the expenses for it. But if there is a will, there is a way. A golden opportunity turned out in my life in the form of NTSC, i.e., National Talent Search Examination. They provided scholarship to students who performed well. I decided to take this opportunity and clear National Talent Search Examination. Along with the preparation of class XII, I started the preparation for NTSC. For nearly one year, I burnt the midnight oil because I wanted to leave no stone unturned in my venture. My teachers were of great help in this regard. They also knew the seriousness of my ambition. I made the maximum use of library books. With the help of my best friend, I prepared notes, which were cross-checked by my teachers. Yesterday the result was announced. My joy knew no bounds when I saw that I had topped the list of the girl candidates. Even overall, I got a very good rank. Finally, my hard work paid me well. Now, I could fulfil my dream with the aid of this scholarship. I would be an engineer. and would lessen some burden off my father.

OR

A DOOMED NIGHT

It was a cold winter night. Many friends and relatives of mine had come to our house to enjoy the Christmas holidays before that grim trembled our lives. After enjoying, bonfire and sumptuous dinner, we went to bed quite early as singing, dancing and merry-making had made us too exhausted. We all were sleeping when suddenly I heard a thudding sound, I, immediately, switched on the lights. Meanwhile, my father also came there and sensed something wrong. Then, once again, thudding and rumbling sound was heard which sent a shiver down our spine. My father awakened all the family members in the house. It was understood that the energy under our feet had been hit. With hurried footsteps, all of us ran out of the home shouting to alert as many people as we could. People rushed out from their homes. We all were feeling very terrified. The earthquake lasted for two minutes only but those terrible moments had brought death, destruction and doom. Many buildings in the town were collapsed by that destructive earthquake. Even in our colony, 20 people were found missing and many more lay buried under the debris. Many people were crying and looking for their loved ones, but unable to locate them. Cars were left abandoned in the streets, roads were impassably covered by collapsed walls, buildings, telegraph poles and crushed vehicles. The worst-hit victims were the slum dwellers. Thousands of them were rendered homeless as their huts collapsed. Many children became orphans. As usual, the relief team appeared there but quite late. Meanwhile, the people who were fortunate enough like us did the needful. The other day I drove past it and remembered that night and how creepy it was. There were aftershocks still going on from that earthquake. The havoc caused by that earthquake will haunt me forever.

5. a. was
b. were covered
c. gathered
d. and

6.

	Before	Missing Word	After
(a)	jewellery	and	pearls

(b)	India	for	trade
(c)	French	and	the
(d)	were	the	most

7. a. that he was going.
 b. if he had completed.
 c. he would come back.
 d. the son's way to answer.

Section C

8. a. 'Me' stands for Amanda.
 b. She feels withdrawn/lonely.
 c. She has been compared to a mermaid.
 d. Blissfully is the opposite of sorrowfully.

OR

- a. The postmaster decided to answer the letter.
 b. The postmaster asked for money from his employees, friends and he himself gave part of his salary to help the writer of the letter.
 c. 'Resolution' means the same as 'firm decision'.
 d. Antonym for unnoticeable is 'evident'.
9. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each:
- The narrator was shocked after landing safely because he was unable to find his friend in the black aeroplane. The sky was empty. He wanted to thank the pilot, who guided him to the airport. So he asked a woman in the control centre about the other pilot. She said that there were no other aeroplanes flying that night. This shocked the narrator.
 - The 'real play' of the otter is when he lies on his back and juggles with small objects between his paws. Marbles are Mij's favourite toys for his pastime. He lies on his back rolling two or more of them up and down his wide, flat belly without ever dropping one to the floor.

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- iii. Natalya is the only daughter of the landowner Chubukov. Though well educated, she does not use her education wisely and thoughtfully. She is a short-tempered lady who quarrels with everyone. She always pinpoints the amount of help she offers to her neighbours. Also, she is very possessive about her land and is very determined not to part with it.
- iv. Hari Singh returned to Anil although he had stolen money and escaped easily because his conscience stopped him from cheating on Anil. He recalled the good times he had spent with Anil and how Anil had treated him with trust and respect.
- v. No, Bill (Oliver Lutkins in actual) did not know the lawyer's purpose of coming to New Mullion. When the lawyer came to him, he asked about Oliver Lutkins and informed that he had to serve a summon over Oliver Lutkins, only then Bill came to know his purpose. Immediately he made a plan to befool him by saying that he knew Oliver and could help him to search him. He also took him to many places where Lutkins visited often.
- vi. Bholi's father was worried because she was the weakest child among her siblings. He was concerned about the pockmarks on her body. She looked ugly and stammered too. He was worried that no one would marry her because of her looks.
10. Peggy and Maddie realised that Wanda liked them very much through her letter and drawings. Wanda wrote a letter to her teacher, Miss Mason and wished everyone a Merry Christmas. In addition to that, she also wrote in the letter that Peggy should be given the drawing of the green dress and Maddie should be given the drawing of the blue dress. Initially, Peggy and Maddie were impressed by the vivid colours in the drawings, Then, Maddie saw that Wanda had drawn her picture in the drawing of the blue dress. Similarly, she had drawn Peggy's face in the picture of the green dress. Wanda was a forgiving person and she drew inspiration from Peggy and Maddie. This surprised the girls but they came to know that Wanda liked them very much.

OR

Coorg or Kodagu, the smallest district of Karnataka, has been home to evergreen rain

forests, spices and coffee plantations. The fiercely independent people of Coorg were possible of Greek or Arabic descent. As one story goes, a part of Alexander's army moved south along the coast and settled in Coorg when return became impractical. These people married amongst the locals and their culture was apparent in the martial traditions, marriage and religious rites, which were distinct from the Hindu mainstream. The theory of Arab origin drew support from the long, black coat with an embroidered waist-belt worn by the Kodavus. Known as Kuppia, it resembled the Kuffia worn by the Arabs and the Kurds.

11. Ausable was a clever secret agent. One day, when he entered his room, he found Max in his room who aimed at him with a pistol. But Ausable was a quick-witted man. He did not lose his courage. He fabricated a story about a balcony which extended under his room window. He said that he had informed the management to block that window as anyone might enter his room using that window but they hadn't yet. And that it was the second time that someone had entered his room through the balcony. Just then there was a knocking at the door and Ausable said that he had called in the police to have extra protection as he was having an important paper with him. This showed that he had the presence of mind. Max took the entire story as gospel, retraced his steps, reached the window-sill and jumped down the balcony which never existed. Ausable's quick wit, presence of mind and persuasion made it a convincing story.

OR

Peggy and Maddie realised that Wanda liked them very much through her letter and drawings. Wanda wrote a letter to her teacher, Miss Mason and wished everyone a Merry Christmas. In addition to that, she also wrote in the letter that Peggy should be given the drawing of the green dress and Maddie should be given the drawing of the blue dress. Initially, Peggy and Maddie were impressed by the vivid colours in the drawings. Then, Maddie saw that Wanda had drawn her picture in the drawing of the blue dress. Similarly, she had drawn Peggy's face in the picture of the green dress. Wanda was a forgiving person and she drew inspiration from Peggy and Maddie. This surprised the girls but they came to know that Wanda liked them very much.