

ENGLISH CORE

Course Structure

Units	Topics	Marks
A	Reading Skills	20
B	Writing Skills and Grammar	30
C	Literary & Long Reading Texts	30
D	Speaking and Listening Skills	20
Total		100

Section A: Reading Comprehension

Two unseen passages (including poems) with a variety of questions including 4 marks for vocabulary such as word formation and inferring meaning.

The total range of the 2 passages including a poem or a stanza, will be around 900-1000 words.

- 550-600 words in length (for note-making and summarising)
- 350-400 words in length (to test comprehension, interpretation and inference)
- An unseen poem of about 28-35 lines

The passages could be of any one of the following types:

- Factual passages, e.g.
 - Illustrations
 - Description
 - Reports
- Discursive passages involving opinion, e.g.
 - Argumentative

- Persuasive
- Literary passages e.g.
 - Extracts from fiction
 - Biography
 - Autobiography
 - Travelogue, etc.

In the case of a poem, the text may be shorter than the prescribed word limit.

SECTION B: Writing Skills and Grammar

Writing

- Short Answer Questions: Based on notice/ poster/ advertisement
- Long Answer Questions: Letters based on verbal/visual input.

Letter types may include:

- business or official letters (for making enquiries, registering complaints, asking for and giving information, placing orders and sending replies)
- letters to the editor (giving suggestions on an issue)
- application for a job with a bio-data or resume
- letter to the school or college authorities, regarding admissions, school issues, requirements /suitability of courses, etc.

Note: Very Long Answer Questions include composition in the form of article, speech, report writing or a narrative

Grammar

The grammar topics that will be tested by using the short answer type and MCQ type questions are:

- Error Correction, editing tasks
- Re-ordering of Sentences

- Transformation of sentences

Note: Different grammatical structures in meaningful contexts will be tested. Item types will include gap filling, sentence re-ordering, dialogue completion and sentence transformation. The grammar syllabus will include determiners, tenses, clauses, modals and Change of Voice.

Section C: Literature and Long Reading Texts

Questions to test comprehension at different levels: literal, inferential and evaluative

- Hornbill: Textbook published by NCERT
- Snapshots: Supplementary Reader published by NCERT
- Very Short Answer Questions - Based on an extract from poetry to test reference to context comprehension and appreciation
- Short Answer Questions - Based on prose, poetry and plays from both the texts
- Long Answer Question - Based on prescribed texts to test global comprehension and extrapolation beyond the texts to bring out the key messages and values
- Long Answer Questions - Based on theme, plot, incidents or event from the prescribed novels
- Long Answer Question - Based on understanding appreciation, analysis and interpretation of the characters

Note: Values-based questions may be given as long answers in the writing or literature sections.

Long Reading Texts / Novels (either one)

With a view to inculcate the habit of reading among the students, CBSE has introduced compulsory reading of a Long Reading Text - Novel in the English Core

Course and will be evaluated in the Term-end Assessments. Schools can opt for either one of the texts:

- The Canterville Ghost by Oscar Wilde (unabridged 1906 Edition)
- Up from Slavery by Booker T. Washington (unabridged 2000 Edition)