

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 1
Communicative English (101)
Class IX (2024-25)

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. This question paper has 10 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains three sections: Section A: Reading Skills, Section B: Writing Skills Section C: Grammar Section D: Literature Textbook
3. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
4. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
5. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions

SECTION A : READING SKILLS (20 marks)

1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[10]

1. No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite. Even in the grimmest times in prison, when my comrades and I were pushed to our limits, I would see a glimmer of humanity in one of the guards, perhaps just for a second, but it was enough to reassure me and keep me going. Man's goodness is a flame that can be hidden but never extinguished.
2. In life, every man has twin obligations - obligations to his family, to his parents, to his wife and children; and he has an obligation to his people, his community, his country. In a civil and humane society, each man is able to fulfil those obligations according to his own inclinations and abilities. But in a country like South Africa, it was almost impossible for a man of my birth and colour to fulfil both of those obligations. In South Africa, a man of colour who attempted to live as a human being was punished and isolated. In South Africa, a man who tried to fulfil his duty to his people was inevitably ripped from his family and his home and was forced to live a life apart, a twilight existence of secrecy and rebellion. I did not in the beginning choose to place my people above my family, but in attempting to serve my people, I found that I was prevented from fulfilling my obligations as a son, a brother, a father and a husband.

3. I was not born with a hunger to be free. I was born free - free in every way that I could know. Free to run in the fields near my mother's hut, free to swim in the clear stream that ran through my village, free to roast mealies under the stars and ride the broad backs of slow-moving bulls. As long as I obeyed my father and abided by the customs of my tribe, I was not troubled by the laws of man or God.

- (i) Is anyone born hating another person because of his colour?
- (ii) Does love come more unnaturally to the human heart than hate?
- (iii) Can man's flame for goodness ever be extinguished?
- (iv) What true obligations does every man have?
- (v) What happened if a man of colour attempted to live as a human being in South Africa?
- (vi) Did the narrator choose to place his people above his family in the beginning?
- (vii) The narrator was born with a hunger to be free.
 - a) True
 - b) False
- (viii) If people can learn to hate, they can be taught to _____.
- (ix) The narrator found out that he was prevented from fulfilling his obligations as a:
 - a) all of these
 - b) son
 - c) father
 - d) husband
- (x) Which word in the passage means the same as **a weak light that is not steady**.
 - a) Glimmer
 - b) Flame
 - c) Grim
 - d) Extinguish

2. **Read the text carefully and answer the questions:**

[10]

Akbar and Birbal, the two historic legends are said to have shared a great bond and have left some incredible stories for the ages ahead of them to hear and learn from. The stories are not only amusing but carry a strong message and pose questions on society, routine, rituals and practices strongly.

Birbal was a really wise and intelligent man, people used to admire him for his

character and rich knowledge he possessed regarding every field. Almost all the decisions of the reign were taken after consulting with him. He was one of the most important ministers and closest to Akbar. Birbal was just so very dear to Akbar, not just because of his skills but because of the way their bond had grown strong over the years.

During Emperor Akbar's reign, there was a poor man in Agra who was thought to bring bad luck. People believed that if anyone looked at his face in the morning, they would have a bad day.

"Get lost, you ugly fellow!" he would be cursed by one and all. "Hide your face before you kill someone with your evil eye!"

The Emperor soon heard of this man's reputation and wanted to see him. The poor fellow, who had not harmed a single person in his life, was brought to Akbar.

Akbar took a look at him and asked him to be brought back in the evening.

That particular day was especially full and tiring day for the Emperor and his courtiers.

So many matters had to be attended to, that Akbar even forgot to eat. By the end of the day, the emperor was exhausted. To make matters worse, Akbar was informed that his favourite child, little Prince Salim, had fallen ill.

Then the Emperor suddenly remembered that he had seen the face of the 'unlucky' man that morning. That was it. It was that man's entire fault, Akbar decided.

Akbar called his courtiers and told them that he was going to have the 'unlucky' man executed. All of them agreed immediately.

All except Birbal. Instead, Birbal let out a short laugh.

"What's the matter, Birbal?" asked the emperor, "You seem to find something funny!"

"Nothing, your Majesty", replied Birbal.

"You say this man brings bad luck because you had to go without food ever since you saw him this morning.

Look at his luck. Yours was the first face he saw today and he has to die because of it."

Akbar immediately realised his folly and rewarded Birbal for his wisdom. The above story of a man with unlucky face is one such story where Birbal's quick wit and strong logical reasoning is showcased.

(i) Why had the king not eaten his food?

a) He is sad

b) He was not feeling well.

c) He had seen the face of the unlucky fellow.

d) He was very busy that day.

(ii) Who was not well on that particular day?

a) Birbal

b) Prince Salim

c) King Akbar

d) The King's courtiers

(iii) Which of the following describes Birbal?

a) He had lost his senses.

b) He was a famous merchant.

c) He was very poor.

d) He possessed good logical thinking.

(iv) Choose the word that has most nearly the same meaning as the word folly used in the passage.

a) conflict

b) mistake

c) argument

d) Words

(v) What was Birbal's initial reaction when he heard that the poor man would be executed?

a) He laughed slightly.

b) He was silent and wanted to give a chance to the poor man.

c) He was angry because Akbar had not taken his advice.

d) He smiled a lot

(vi) What was Akbar informed about his favourite child?

(vii) Why did Akbar decide to execute the poor man?

(viii) What was the courtiers reaction when they heard that the poor man would be executed?

(ix) What made Akbar realize his mistake?

(x) Why was Birbal rewarded?

SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS (24 marks)

3. You are Karan/Kanishka. As the Secretary of the Social Service League of your school; you have organised a cultural benefit show in aid of mentally handicapped children of your town, Tirupati. Write a notice in not more than 50 words for your school notice board, giving necessary information about the programme. [4]
4. Write a dialogue between a customer and a shopkeeper of shoes. Opening lines have been given for your help. [5]
Shopkeeper : Hello! What can I do for you?
Customer : Hello! I need a fine pair of shoes.
5. You are Shiv living at H.N 200, Sector 18, Gurugram. Write a letter in about 150-200 words to your friend living at M-18, Hauz Khas, New Delhi, describing your return journey from your ancestral village and the fantastic memories of village life that you still cherish. [7]

OR

You are Poonam living in Chennai. You have just completed your ninth grade under the revamped system of CBSE. Write a letter in about 150-200 words to your friend living in Kolkata telling her about your experience. You may take clues from the notes below:

- Initially doubtful.
 - Less stress and tension but need to study regularly, participation in variety of activities gives confidence.
 - Attendance has improved, classes have become more interactive, fun-filled and enjoyable—
 - No need to burn the midnight oil during exam days—no one-time-paper-pen exam to decide our fate—assessment in wide parameters—gives scope to build up on one's strengths.
 - Grades have cut down narrow competition.
6. Your school organized a free eye camp for the students of your school during autumn break. Well known eye specialists were invited on this occasion. Write a descriptive paragraph of this camp. [8]

OR

Do you know about Project Tiger? Undertake a research on the same and write a paragraph on the need to protect them.

SECTION C : GRAMMAR (10 marks)

7. Complete the tasks, as directed. [10]

- (i) Fill in the blanks (a)-(c) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets. [3]
 Always read the metre dials (a) _____ (from/for/on) the right to the left.
 This procedure is much easier, especially (b) _____ (as/if/for) any of (c) _____ (a/an/the) dial hands are near the zero mark, when finished, mark off the number of units recorded.

- (ii) The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. [4]
 Write the incorrect word and the correction in the space provided against the correct blank number:

		Error	Correction
Walt Disney is our hero. He	e.g.	was	<u>is</u>
left me a legacy that can	(a)	_____	_____
be enjoy time and again. He	(b)	_____	_____
knew who to entertain us so well.	(c)	_____	_____
He developed a process in creating animated films.	(d)	_____	_____

(iii) Do as directed.

- i. Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence. [1]
 Earthquakes can cause fires by damaging electrical power or gas lines.
 Childhood memories are cherished by everyone. I remember my childhood as being generally happy. I can recall some of my free times.
 frightening/remember/I/can/moments/also/my
- ii. Read the conversation given below. Based on your reading, fill in the blanks appropriately. [2]
Mother: Tomorrow is Diwali, so I am going to the market to buy a few things.
Daughter: Shall I come along, mother?
Mother: No, Shreya I want you to do some cleaning.
Daughter: Fine mom, I will stay at home and do the cleaning.
 The mother said to her daughter that (a) _____. The daughter asked if she could come along with her. To this the mother replied (b) _____.

The daughter agreed to it and said that she would stay at home and do the cleaning.

SECTION D : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK (26 marks)

8. **Read the given excerpts and answer the questions briefly, for ANY TWO excerpts, of the three, given.** [8]

(i) Read the extract given below and answer the questions/complete the sentences that follow: [4]

"Alone she cuts and binds the grain;
And sings a melancholy strain;
Listen for the vale profound
Is overflowing with the sound."

- a. Who is **she** in the above lines?
- b. What kind of a song is she singing?
- c. What does the expression **vale profound** mean? Explain.

(ii) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [4]

They want a cook in the film as well. They asked me if I knew of anybody suitable. You said just now. Madame, that times were hard. ...Would you like me to get you the engagement?

- a. Who were **they** and what did they want?
- b. Who had said that **times were hard** and to whom?
- c. What did the speaker say about the **engagement**?
- d. Name the speaker of these lines.

(iii) Read the following extract and answer the questions briefly: [4]

Those who saw it said the dog knew instantly. He never jumped on Chuck again. From that moment, he took up a post beside his master's bed around the clock.

- a. What was it that the dog knew instantly?
- b. What was the name of the dog?
- c. What had happened to the master?

9. **Answer ANY SIX of the following seven questions in about 30- 40 words each** [12]

- (i) What consequences did the narrator face on neglecting her teeth? Answer to the context of the poem **Oh I Wish Id Looked After Me Teeth.** [2]
- (ii) Why have the lines **For men may come and men may go, But I go on forever** been repeated in the poem several times? What is the significance of these lines? Answer to the context of the poem **The Brook.** [2]
- (iii) How is the arrival and the departure of rain announced? Answer to the context of the poem **The Song of the Rain.** [2]
- (iv) What reason did Bramble give to Jerry Fisher, his trainer, for giving up the bout? [2]
- (v) Which qualities of John A. Pescud made him create an impression on the Colonel? [2]
- (vi) How did the Professor behave when he was on cookhouse duties? Did he change himself? [2]
Answer to the context of the chapter **The Man Who Knew Too Much.**
- (vii) I was a man once, I am a beast now. What forces the convict to say these words? Answer to the context of the chapter **The Bishops Candlesticks.** [2]

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120 words [6]

- (i) The Sergeant knows that the Bishop is lying still he chooses to leave the place without the convict. Why? [6]
- (ii) Learning has no age bar. The seemingly incredible decision of the grandmother was not an act of childishness but a determined effort to succeed and get education. How did the narrator's grandmother learn the Kannada alphabet and language? How could she accomplish this almost impossible task in such a short time? Describe the role of the narrator in this regard. [6]

Solution
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SECTION A : READING SKILLS (20 marks)

1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

1. No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite. Even in the grimmest times in prison, when my comrades and I were pushed to our limits, I would see a glimmer of humanity in one of the guards, perhaps just for a second, but it was enough to reassure me and keep me going. Man's goodness is a flame that can be hidden but never extinguished.
 2. In life, every man has twin obligations - obligations to his family, to his parents, to his wife and children; and he has an obligation to his people, his community, his country. In a civil and humane society, each man is able to fulfil those obligations according to his own inclinations and abilities. But in a country like South Africa, it was almost impossible for a man of my birth and colour to fulfil both of those obligations. In South Africa, a man of colour who attempted to live as a human being was punished and isolated. In South Africa, a man who tried to fulfil his duty to his people was inevitably ripped from his family and his home and was forced to live a life apart, a twilight existence of secrecy and rebellion. I did not in the beginning choose to place my people above my family, but in attempting to serve my people, I found that I was prevented from fulfilling my obligations as a son, a brother, a father and a husband.
 3. I was not born with a hunger to be free. I was born free - free in every way that I could know. Free to run in the fields near my mother's hut, free to swim in the clear stream that ran through my village, free to roast mealies under the stars and ride the broad backs of slow-moving bulls. As long as I obeyed my father and abided by the customs of my tribe, I was not troubled by the laws of man or God.
- (i) No, no one is born hating another person because of his colour.
 - (ii) No, love comes more naturally to the human heart than hate.
 - (iii) No, man's flame for goodness can never be extinguished.
 - (iv) A man has twin obligations to his family as well as to his people and community.
 - (v) If a man of colour attempted to live as a human being in South Africa, he was punished and isolated.
 - (vi) No
 - (vii) **(b) False**

Explanation:

False

(viii). love

(ix)(a) all of these

Explanation:

all of these

(x) (a) Glimmer

Explanation:

Glimmer

2. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

Akbar and Birbal, the two historic legends are said to have shared a great bond and have left some incredible stories for the ages ahead of them to hear and learn from. The stories are not only amusing but carry a strong message and pose questions on society, routine, rituals and practices strongly.

Birbal was a really wise and intelligent man, people used to admire him for his character and rich knowledge he possessed regarding every field. Almost all the decisions of the reign were taken after consulting with him. He was one of the most important ministers and closest to Akbar. Birbal was just so very dear to Akbar, not just because of his skills but because of the way their bond had grown strong over the years.

During Emperor Akbar's reign, there was a poor man in Agra who was thought to bring bad luck. People believed that if anyone looked at his face in the morning, they would have a bad day.

"Get lost, you ugly fellow!" he would be cursed by one and all. "Hide your face before you kill someone with your evil eye!"

The Emperor soon heard of this man's reputation and wanted to see him. The poor fellow, who had not harmed a single person in his life, was brought to Akbar.

Akbar took a look at him and asked him to be brought back in the evening.

That particular day was especially full and tiring day for the Emperor and his courtiers. So many matters had to be attended to, that Akbar even forgot to eat. By the end of the day, the emperor was exhausted. To make matters worse, Akbar was informed that his favourite child, little Prince Salim, had fallen ill.

Then the Emperor suddenly remembered that he had seen the face of the 'unlucky' man that morning. That was it. It was that man's entire fault, Akbar decided.

Akbar called his courtiers and told them that he was going to have the 'unlucky' man executed. All of them agreed immediately.

All except Birbal. Instead, Birbal let out a short laugh.

"What's the matter, Birbal?" asked the emperor, "You seem to find something funny!"

"Nothing, your Majesty", replied Birbal.

"You say this man brings bad luck because you had to go without food ever since you saw him this morning.

Look at his luck. Yours was the first face he saw today and he has to die because of it."

Akbar immediately realised his folly and rewarded Birbal for his wisdom. The above story of a man with unlucky face is one such story where Birbal's quick wit and strong logical reasoning is showcased.

(i) **(d)** He was very busy that day.

Explanation:

Akbar had a very tiring day, hence he couldn't find time to eat.

(ii) **(b)** Prince Salim

Explanation:

Prince Salim, Akbar's son, had fallen ill.

(iii) **(d)** He possessed good logical thinking.

Explanation:

Birbal used to think logically instead of believing in things blindly.

(iv) **(b)** mistake

Explanation:

'Folly' means error or mistake.

(v) **(a)** He laughed slightly.

Explanation:

Birbal laughed at the ignorance of the people who believed in superstitions and illogical ideas.

(vi) Akbar was informed that his favourite child, little Prince Salim, had fallen ill.

(vii) Akbar decided to execute the poor man because he thought that it was because of him that he had a bad day.

(viii) The courtiers agreed immediately.

(ix) Birbal's witty answer made Akbar realize his mistake.

(x) Birbal was rewarded for his wisdom.

SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS (24 marks)

Social Service League
MPS PUBLIC SCHOOL, Tirupati

05 Jan. 20xx

NOTICE

In aid of mentally handicapped children, we are presenting
A CULTURAL SHOW

Date : 14 January 20xx

Time : 4:30 p.m. onwards

Venue : Community Centre, Tirupati

All are cordially invited.

Karan/Kanishka

Secretary

3.

4. **Shopkeeper :** No problem. What kind of shoes do you want?

Customer : Pure leather shoes.

Shopkeeper : With or without laces?

Customer : With laces. Show me a pair of white leather shoes.

Shopkeeper : White leather shoes? Sorry, we have either black or brown.

Customer : OK. Then show me the black ones.

Shopkeeper : Would you like to have the pointed toes?

Customer : No, I don't like the pointed toes. Give me with the flat toes.

Shopkeeper : Here they are. Six thousand and forty.

Customer : Any discount?

Shopkeeper : The price is with 60% discount.

Customer : Thanks. Bye.

Shopkeeper : Welcome. Bye.

5. H.No. 200, Sector 18

Gurgaon

18th August 2022

Dear Rishi

I hope all of you are feeling fine. It is a great pleasure to write to you about the village life and the fantastic memories that I still cherish.

Truly speaking, having a country life amidst the bustle of the city is beneficial. There is no rushed, tense existence there. While visiting my ancestral village, I appreciated the peaceful way of life there. I still have cousins and other relatives in this area. The moment I sat in our home, I was re-awakened to the sweetness of my early recollections. We used to climb fruit trees and love eating them, including our brothers, cousins, and friends.

There used to be flora all around us. We participated in "gilli-danda," "kabaddi," and other

enjoyable activities like swimming in the community pond and cycling.

When I sat with my cousins, women of the neighbourhood came to meet me. They offered me sweets, milk and fruit. We exchanged our memories of the past and of the people who had died and daughters and sons married. There went a kind of sweet sensation arousing out of our 'ownness' with them. Such an affectionate social life is sadly missing in metropolitan cities. I was overwhelmed by the much affection that I received on my return journey from my ancestral village. I shall cherish it forever.

Yours affectionately

Shiv

OR

198, Mansarovar Road

Indore

March 6, 2023

My dear Mansi

I hope everything is fine at your end. I am very glad to write this letter about the new system of CBSE in class IX. We all have a good experience with this system. The only regret is that we didn't have it earlier. I am sharing my experiences in this letter.

Initially, we were very doubtful and afraid about the CBSE syllabus. In fact, we were terrified. But as we started going ahead with it we found it really interesting and tension-free. It needs only to study regularly and with full participation in class-level activities. What a nice thing to enact different characters of the Fiction! I enjoyed acting as Private Quelch in the class. Due to the interest-creating aspects of this system, class attendance improved. Classes became more fun-filled and enjoyable.

We no longer have to study till the wee hours of the morning before exams. No stress, no nights of insomnia. Exams using paper and pencil no longer determine our fate.

Throughout the year, our participation, focus, and involvement in numerous events are evaluated. Our latent skills can be expressed and displayed thanks to this technology. This way we can build our own careers. Through this system, the grades given to us do not build narrow competition. I am sure you'll also enjoy this CBSE revamped syllabus fully.

Yours sincerely

Poonam

6. Free eye camp: During the autumn break, our school organized a three day free eye camp in the school auditorium. More than 150 students and residents living in the vicinity of the school visited the camp for eye-check-up. Dr. Manmohan, Head of the Deptt., Eye Deptt. Civil Hospital, Ujjain and other prominent eye specialists treated the patients. The patients were provided with spectacles and medicines on the spot. The Assistant Commissioner of Bhopal region graced the occasion with her august presence. The camp benefited the

students and the visitors. The services were rendered free of cost. The camp was a great success.

OR

Launched in 1973, Project Tiger is a key conservation effort in India, focusing on protecting the tiger's natural habitat. Recognizing its position at the top of the food chain, the project emphasized the need to sustain the tiger's environment. However, Project Tiger faces several challenges, including insufficient funding, poaching, encroachment, grazing, and staffing issues. Reports of rampant tiger poaching in prominent reserves like Sariska and Ranthambore have surfaced recently, suggesting that the actual increase in tiger numbers might be lower than reported. Nonetheless, Project Tiger has undeniably led to a significant improvement in the tiger's situation. To enhance project management, a National Tiger Conservation Authority was established.

SECTION C : GRAMMAR (10 marks)

7. Complete the tasks, as directed.

(i) (a) from, (b) if, (c) the

(ii)	Error	Correction
(a)	me	<u>us</u>
(b)	enjoy	<u>enjoyed</u>
(c)	who	<u>how</u>
(d)	in	<u>of</u>

(iii) Do as directed.

i. I can also remember my frightening moments.

ii. (a) it was Diwali the next day, so she was going to the market to buy a few things, (b) in the negative and said she wanted her to do some cleaning

SECTION D : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK (26 marks)

8. Read the given excerpts and answer the questions briefly, for ANY TWO excerpts, of the three, given.

(i) a. 'She' in the above lines refers to the solitary reaper.

b. She is singing a sad and melancholic song.

c. The expression "vale profound" means a deep valley. The phrase is used to describe the sound of the young woman's singing, which fills the entire valley with its melancholy tone. The speaker invites the reader to listen to her song, suggesting that it is powerful and moving. The use of this phrase emphasizes how far-reaching and significant her song is, and it adds to the overall theme of solitude and the beauty of nature in the poem.

- (ii) a. 'They' were the people at Joinvilla Studio. They wanted someone to play the role of a cook in their forthcoming film.
 - b. Once Juliette, disappointed and dejected, declared that "times were very hard" for her. She was speaking to her maid.
 - c. The speaker told Juliette that she had already talked to the people at the Studio regarding her role as a cook in the film. She was only waiting for her reply.
 - d. Juliette's maid speaks these lines.
- (iii)a. The dog knew that Hooper was sick and it was not good to jump on him again.
 - b. It was 'Duke'.
 - c. The master, that is, Charles Hooper, had met with a serious accident. But he was alive.

9. Answer ANY SIX of the following seven questions in about 30- 40 words each

- (i) The consequences were that her teeth had decayed horribly. There were several cavities, for which she had to pay a visit to the dentist. He worked with a drill on her teeth. The narrator underwent great fear and pain through this experience.
- (ii) The lines "For men may come and men may go, But I go on forever" have been repeated in the poem several times in order to lay emphasis on the brook being immortal. It is ironical that man is so arrogant though he is merely a mortal.
- (iii) The rain is a divine gift of God and it proves to be a blessing for the parched fields. It beautifies, adorns and rejuvenates fields, trees, flowers and spreads vitality everywhere. Since it spreads joy and freshness all around the thunder announces its arrival and the rainbow in the sky announces the departure of the rain.
- (iv) Bramble told Jerry Fisher that his future bout with Jimmy Murphy would be reported in the print media. Harold didn't know of his profession and his shady deeds. But he would come to know of him soon as he was an avid reader of his Mail. Then he would die of shame.
- (v) Pescud's simple-heartedness, frankness and pleasing manners created an impression on the Colonel. Pescud was initially afraid of the Colonel. But he handled his meeting with the Colonel with farsightedness and open-heartedness. These qualities of head and heart pleased the Colonel.
- (vi) Old habits die hard. The Professor was snubbed by Corporal Turnbull. He was nominated for permanent cook-house duties. But the Professor remained unaffected. When he entered the cookhouse, he started sermonising colleagues. He showed his resentment at the most unscientific and unhygienic method of peeling potatoes. He drew their attention to the sheer waste of vitamin values.

(vii) The convict was in jail for ten years. The behaviour of the police had sucked away all the human qualities from the convict, and he became a hardcore criminal. Like a beast, he was just concerned with his basic needs and did not have any compassion or emotion. Hence, he termed himself a beast.

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

- (i) The Bishop was portrayed as someone who always stood for all noble qualities of head and heart within the parish. The Bishop's extraordinary selflessness and generosity extended to all, as he bestowed equal love and affection upon everyone, consequently earning love, faith, and respect from all in return. The Sergeant too has deep regard for the Bishop. He knew well that the Bishop was an epitome of goodness. So he was very well aware of the fact that the Bishop was lying for some noble purpose. Moreover, he couldn't disregard the Bishop's wishes. So he chose to leave the place without the convict.
- (ii) The grandmother took the incredible decision of learning the Kannada alphabet at such an age. She was dependent on her granddaughter to read her the weekly magazine as she could not read it herself. She never had a chance to go to school. The old woman with a wrinkled face and weak eyesight took a tough pledge that surprised her granddaughter. It was an unusual decision at the age of sixty-two. The narrator laughed at her 'childishness' but the old lady, who was determined, just smiled. She chose her granddaughter to be her teacher and proved herself to be a wonderful and hardworking student. The old lady would read, repeat, write and recite. All her efforts were rewarded. She fixed a deadline that she would be able to read a novel on her own on the Saraswati Pooja day during Dassara. On the final day, she called her teacher to the pooja place and touched her feet. The narrator reciprocated and gave a gift to her student. It was a copy of *Kashi Yatre*. The old lady opened it and read immediately. She was now capable of reading on her own. She accomplished what she aimed for.