

**SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 2**  
**English Language and Literature (184)**  
**Class X (2024-25)**

**Time Allowed: 3 hours**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

**General Instructions:**

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

1. This question paper comprises 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper contains THREE sections -
  - Section - A : Reading Skills
  - Section - B : Grammar and Creative Writing Skills
  - Section - C : Literature Text Book
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

**Section A - Reading Skills**

**1. Read the following passage carefully:**

**[10]**

1. Happiness is like the sun; it is often hidden by the clouds of thoughts, worries and desires. We have to scatter and dissolve these clouds to experience happiness. You don't have to create it, all you have to do is calm your mind, because when there is a quiet mind and inner peace, there is happiness. It is not something far away and unattainable and does not depend on circumstances, objects or events. Happiness is an inseparable part of our consciousness, of our essence, but hidden and covered from sight by our thoughts, desires, and worries.
2. The mind is always in a constant race from one thought to another, from one worry to another. It constantly moves from one object or task to another. This restlessness hides the happiness that is within you. It is like a choppy sea that hides the bottom. When the sea gets calm, you can see the bottom. In the same way, when the mind gets quiet, you sense the happiness that is within you.
3. You cannot see a treasure at the bottom of a stormy and muddy lake although it is there. However, when the wind stops, the water becomes still and the mud sinks, you can see the treasure. The treasure is there, whether you see it or not. So is happiness. It is always here, only hidden by thoughts, desires and worries.
4. You can experience more happiness in your life. Only your thoughts stand in your way of experiencing it. Next time you feel happy, stop for a moment and

watch the state of your mind. You will be surprised to discover that it is calm, and there are almost no thoughts in your mind. Since the mind is not accustomed to stay in this peaceful state for long, it soon becomes active again, and the sense of happiness disappears.

5. Many people connect happiness to achievement of certain goals. This makes happiness a reward and not an emotion that must be felt. We forget that it is something that comes by looking inward rather than waiting for an external trigger. Once you start looking inwards, you will have to treat yourself as you would treat a valued friend. This will lead to happiness. Take time to appreciate yourself, your work and your accomplishments. Surround yourself with happy people and recall positive memories. It is important to recognise that you have the power to feel happy within you and with practice, it will be felt frequently.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below: (10)**

Here are questions similar to the sample questions provided, based on the new paragraph:

- (i) Based on the reading and understanding of the above passage, list 2 points to describe the nature of happiness according to the passage. (1)

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

- (ii) Select the option that corresponds to the meaning of the following sentence from para 3:

"You cannot see a treasure at the bottom of a stormy and muddy lake although it is there." (1)

(a) The treasure is visible only when the water is clear

(b) The treasure is hidden due to the storm and mud

(c) The treasure is always visible despite the storm and mud

(d) The storm and mud make the treasure unimportant

- (iii) Based on your reading of the passage, examine in about 40 words how one can experience more happiness. (2)

- (iv) What is the tone of the writer in the given line from paragraph 5? Rationalise your response in about 40 words:

"Many people connect happiness to achievement of certain goals." (2)

- (v) The phrase 'hidden by the clouds' in paragraph (1) refers to: (1)

(a) The obscuring of happiness by thoughts and worries

(b) The physical obstruction of happiness by objects

- (c) The deliberate hiding of happiness by others
- (d) The intentional creation of barriers to happiness
- (vi) In sets a-e below, identify two sets of synonyms. (1)

- a. restlessness and calmness
- b. treasure and object
- c. dissatisfaction and contentment
- d. essence and nature
- e. trigger and cause

Options:

- (a) a and c
- (b) b and e
- (c) d and e
- (d) a and d

- (vii) Complete the sentence appropriately: (1)

Happiness is not something far away and unattainable and does not depend on \_\_\_\_\_.

- (viii) Complete the following sentence: (1)

To experience more happiness, one must look \_\_\_\_\_ rather than waiting for external triggers.

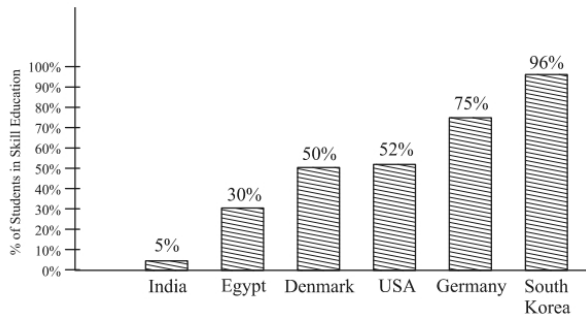
2. **Read the extract given below:**

**[10]**

1. The National Education Policy 2020 proposes the revision and revamping of all aspects of education, including the educational structure, regulations and governance, to create a new system which is aligned with the aspirational goals of 21st century students. According to the policy, by 2025, at least 50 % of learners through the school and higher education system shall have exposure to skill education, for which a clear action plan with targets and timelines are to be developed.
2. The policy aims to overcome the social status hierarchy associated with skill education and integration of skill education into mainstream education in all educational institutions in a phased manner. Beginning with skill exposure at early ages in middle and secondary school, quality skill education will be integrated smoothly into school and higher education.
3. Every child will learn at least one skill and is exposed to several more. This would lead to emphasizing the dignity of labour and importance of various vocations involving Indian arts and artisanship.

4. The development of skill capacities will go hand-in-hand with the development of 'academic' or other capacities. To achieve this objective, secondary schools will have to collaborate with Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), Polytechnics, Local Industry, etc. Skill labs will also be set up and created in the schools in a Hub and Spoke model, which will allow other schools to use the facility. Higher education institutions will offer skill education either on their own or in partnership with industry and other institutions.

The Global Scenario of Students in Skill Education Sector.



For visually challenged students only:

Percentage of students in Skill Education in various countries is as follows:

India - 5%

Egypt - 30%

Denmark - 50%

USA - 52%

Germany - 75%

South Korea - 96%

**Based on your understanding of the extract, answer the questions given below: (10)**

- Based on the reading of the extract, list 2 objectives of NEP 2020. (2)
- Fill in the blank with appropriate option from those given in the brackets, based on the understanding of paragraph 4.

**The statement:**

"The development of skill capacities will go hand-in-hand with the development of academic or other capacities" is a / an \_\_\_\_\_ (fact / opinion) because it is a / an \_\_\_\_\_ (subjective judgement / objective detail)  
(1)

- Select the option that corresponds to the meaning of the statement given below:  
"According to the policy, by 2025, at least 50% of learners through the school and higher education system shall have exposure to skill education." (1)  
A. Maximum 50% learners shall have exposure to technical education.

- B. Minimum 50% learners shall have exposure to technical education.
- C. Minimum 50% learners shall have exposure to skill education.
- D. Maximum 50 % learners shall have exposure to skill education.
- iv. Based on the understanding of the passage, complete the following statement appropriately: **(1)**  
The benefit of the hub and spoke model will be \_\_\_\_\_
- v. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word / phrase from paragraph 3.: **(1)**  
Racism: condemn:: \_\_\_\_\_ : respect
- vi. As per the Global Scenario which country has the maximum percentage of students in Skill Education and what can be the possible reason **(2)**
- vii. Fill in the following blank choosing the most appropriate option from the ones given below:  
As per NEP 2020, skill exposure will begin at \_\_\_\_\_. **(1)**  
A. middle and secondary school  
B. primary school  
C. higher school  
D. senior secondary school
- viii. Justify the statement - 'The NEP will create an awareness and appreciation of Indian arts and artisanship.' **(1)**

### **SECTION B GRAMMAR**

3. **Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed** **[10]**
- (i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter: **[1]**  
Dear Sir  
It was agreed that the teacher would \_\_\_\_\_ (organize) the science fair for the students of grade 8.

- (ii) Identify the error in the given sentence, from an e-zine report and supply the correction. [1]

Anxiety is a manifestation of the mind being afraid of venture into the unknown.

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

- (iii) Read the conversation between the Chief Guest and the student. Complete the sentence by reporting the reply correctly. [1]

**Chief guest:** Who inspired you to learn classical dance.

**Student:** I was inspired by my grandfather who was a renowned dancer.

The Chief Guest asked the student who had inspired the student to learn classical dance. The student replied \_\_\_\_\_.

- (iv) He said to them, "Don't make a noise". [1]

**Reported speech:** \_\_\_\_\_

a) He tells them not to make noise.

b) He told them that don't make a noise

c) He told them not to make a noise.

d) He asked them not to make a noise.

- (v) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. [1]

Although she thought she knew \_\_\_\_\_ (many / much / whole) of the subject, the teacher asked a few details she hardly remembered.

- (vi) Identify the error in the given sentence about learning from a mistake and supply the correction. [1]

Have you ever learn from a mistake you have made?

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

- (vii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from the headline of a news report: [1]

TWO CHILDREN DIES AFTER MASSIVE FIRE BREAKS OUT IN TIRUPATI

Option no.	Error	Correction
A	children	child
B	dies	die
C	breaks	broke
D	in	at

(viii) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. [1]

She \_\_\_\_\_ in the middle of his speech.

- a) broke out                                      b) broke down  
c) broke with                                      d) broke

(ix) Ritu and Randeep are talking. [1]

Report Ritu's question.

Ritu - Where are you going?

Ritu asked \_\_\_\_\_.

(x) Read the dialogue between a librarian and a student. [1]

**Librarian:** Welcome back! It's good to see you, young man!

**Student:** Thanks! I was overloaded with assignments, so I have not visited the library this week.

Based on the conversation above, report the dialogue between a librarian and a student by completing the sentence.

The librarian greeted the student warmly, expressing pleasure at his visit. The student thanked her and explained that \_\_\_\_\_ which had limited his recent visits to the library.

Select the correct option from those given below:

- a) he had been overloaded with assignments                      b) he is overloaded with assignments  
c) he was overloaded with assignments                      d) he has been overloaded with assignments

(xi) Complete the line from a self-awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option. [1]

My Mother is not the sort of Mum

Who'll \_\_\_\_\_ and faint and shiver,

Darkness doesn't scare her,  
When it thunders, she won't \_\_\_\_\_!

- A. be squealing, quiver
- B. squeal, be quiver
- C. squeal, quiver
- D. be squealing, have been quivered

(xii) Identify the error and supply the correction, for the following:

[1]

**Pragati Maidan, New Delhi**

**28<sup>TH</sup> CONVERGENCE INDIA EXPO**

Network and interact with industry leaders live and on person.

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

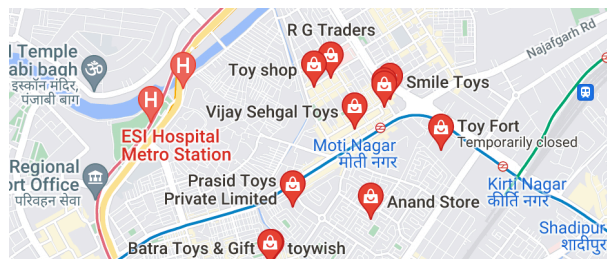
### SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

4. When you think about your city, you feel proud of its historical monuments, places of cultural interest, shopping centres and beautiful parks. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the editor of a national daily expressing your views on **Your City**. Also suggest ways to increase footfall to these places like the government's recent initiative of free entry to all historical monuments on the occasion 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day. [5]

You are Sangeeta/Sanjay, 45 Vijay Nagar, Delhi. (Word limit 100-125 words)

OR

You are Neeraj. You are a Sales Manager of DBM School, Gwalior. You need educational toys and play equipment for kindergarten students. For this, you searched google Maps as below and found that Kirti Nagar, New Delhi is one of the best markets for educational toys. After discussing over a call, you have selected **Quality Toys** company to place your order.



Write a letter to the Manager, Quality Toys, Kirti Nagar, Delhi placing an order.



5. Many out-of-school children are employed in various odd jobs in India. Child labour deprives children of their right to go to school and reinforces intergenerational cycles of poverty. Based on the data given below, write an analytical paragraph, in about 120 words, analysing the situation and circumstances that lead children to become a part of the child labour force. [5]

1. bottles collection	46%
2. shoes polishing	20%
3. car washing	12%
4. cleaning	7%
5. dishwashing	7%
6. selling and wood collection	7%
7. begging	1%

OR

The school library is setting up a section of digital and audio books. However, teachers feel that the touch and feel of a paper book enhance the reading experience. Write an analytical paragraph on the above argument in not more than **120** words.

### SECTION C - LITERATURE

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [5]

- (i) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

Ausable moved to an armchair and sat down heavily. "I'm going to raise the devil with the management this time, and you can bet on it," he said grimly. This is the second time in a month that somebody has got into my room through that nuisance of a balcony!

- Who is Ausable? (1)
- Ausable's annoyance at the balcony when he says, "...nuisance of a balcony..." could be called fake. Why is it so? (2)
- Which word replaces 'sat down heavily' in the sentence - 'Ausable moved to an armchair and sat down heavily'? (1)
  - dumped
  - flumped
  - pumped

d. jumped

iv. Delnaaz is a new tenant in her locality and Mrs. Mehta is the landlady.

Choose the option that lists an action that would require Mrs. Mehta to 'raise the devil' with Delnaaz. (1)

a. She uses the elevator five times a day.

b. She feeds the stray dogs in the street.

c. She works late at night and stays home in the afternoon only.

d. She plays music louder than is necessary late into the night.

(ii) **Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

**[5]**

So, in order not to shake the writer's faith in God, the postmaster came up with an idea to answer the letter. But when he opened it, was evident that to answer it, he needed something more than goodwill, ink, and paper. But he stuck to his resolution: he asked for money from his employees, he himself gave part of his salary and several friends of his were obliged to give something for an act of charity'. It was impossible for him to gather together the hundred pesos, so he was able to send the farmer only a little more than half. He put the money in an envelope addressed to Lencho and with it a letter containing only a single word as a signature: God. The following Sunday Lencho came a bit earlier than usual to ask if there was a letter for him. It was the postman himself who handed the letter to him while the postmaster, experiencing the contentment of a man who has performed a good deed, looked on from his office.

i. What is the significance of the situation where the postmaster decided to help Lencho? Answer in about 40 words. (2)

ii. How did the postmaster collect money to be sent to Lencho? Complete the sentence with the appropriate option. He collected money from his employees and gave \_\_\_\_\_. (1)

A. a part of his salary to send to Lencho.

B. the collected money to Lencho.

C. the contribution to Lencho.

D. his monthly salary to Lencho.

iii. Identify the word from the passage, which is opposite to the phrase 'very few'. (1)

iv. What were the things the postmaster kept in the envelope? State any one inference about the postmaster from the given context: "So, in order not to

shake the writer's faith in God, the postmaster came up with an idea to answer the letter." (1)

7. **Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.** [5]

(i) Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

My head is full of whispers  
which tomorrow will be silent.  
Listen. The glass is breaking.  
The trees are stumbling forward  
into the night. Winds rush to meet them.  
The moon is broken like a mirror,  
its pieces flash now in the crown  
of the tallest oak.

- i. Why would the whispers be silent tomorrow? (1)
- ii. The forest undergoes tremendous transformation overnight. Discuss with reference to the poem "The Trees" (2)
- iii. Which word in the stanza means the same as 'quiet'? (1)
- iv. Which poetic device has been used in the last line 'its pieces flash now in the crown of the tallest oak.' (1)
  - a. Simile
  - b. Alliteration
  - c. imagery
  - d. Personification

(ii) Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

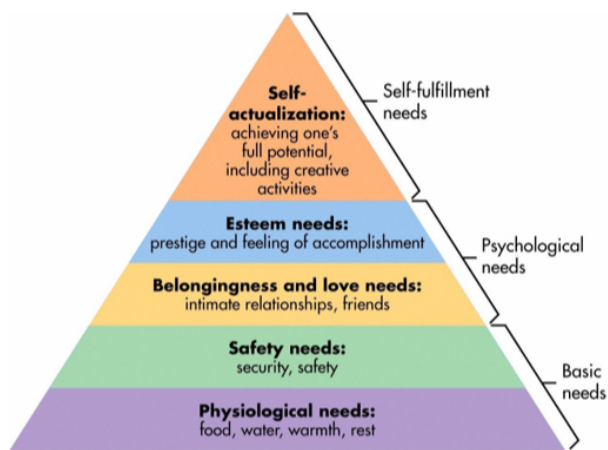
Custard the dragon had big sharp teeth,  
And spikes on top of him and scales underneath,  
Mouth like a fireplace, chimney for a nose,  
And realio, trulio daggers on his toes.

- i. Describe the physical appearance of Custard the dragon. (1)
- ii. Fill in the blank with one word. This extract describes the physical appearance of Custard. He carried all the features of \_\_\_\_\_ that could make him powerful, scary, and brave. (1)
- iii. Which belief about dragons is in contrast to Custard's behaviour in the extract. (1)

- a. Dragons are brave and feared.
- b. Dragons can grant wishes.
- c. Dragons can become invisible at will.
- d. Dragons are soft-hearted and kind.

iv. Comment on the poet's use of language in these lines. (2)

8. **Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words** [12]
- (i) How are the Coorgi people men of valour? [3]
  - (ii) What do you think the tiger would say to you, as a visitor? [3]  
You may begin like this:  
Please stop staring. You have no idea.....  
(continue).....
  - (iii) What reasons does Lomov give for his decision to marry? [3]
  - (iv) Why does Anne need to give a brief sketch about her family? Does she treat **Kitty** as an insider or an outsider? [3]
  - (v) "But if it had to perish twice"; how will the world perish twice? Answer in the context of the poem Fire and Ice. [3]
9. **Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.** [6]
- (i) What was Mr. Herriot's strict advice? Did Mrs. Pumphrey agree to his advice? [3]
  - (ii) How would you have reacted if you were one of the guests witnessing Bholi's wedding when she refused to marry Bishamber Nath? [3]
  - (iii) Why did Griffin decide to become visible and to go to Iping? [3]
10. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words** [6]
- (i) Look at the image of Maslow's hierarchy of needs. [6]  
Abraham Maslow devised a theory of motivation that shows the basic needs at the bottom, and more advanced needs as you move up. It includes the theory that fundamental needs must be met before an individual can be motivated to achieve higher order needs.



Where in this hierarchy of needs, would you locate the young seagull's first flight? Justify your response.

- (ii) Prejudice based on race and colour or any other reason causes profound hurt. [6]  
Write about any one character from the chapters in First Flight who was subjected to such prejudice? Discuss the consequence of this prejudice for the character. Answer in the context of the lesson **Long Walk to Freedom**.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. [6]

- (i) Your teacher conducted an Turn Tables in class, and asked you to put forth your views on **Frugality in Life is the Ideal Way to Live**. [6]  
Write the debate script with points to supplement your stand, both for and against the motion and conclude with your own views. Answer in the context of the lesson **The Necklace**.
- (ii) Who was Anil? How did he transform Hari Singh's character? [6]

**Solution**  
**SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 2**  
**English Language and Literature (184)**  
**Class X (2024-25)**

**Section A - Reading Skills**

1.
  - i. (a) Happiness is an inseparable part of our consciousness and essence, but it is hidden by thoughts, desires, and worries.  
(b) Happiness is not dependent on circumstances, objects, or events; it is within us but often obscured by mental distractions.
  - ii. (b) The treasure is hidden due to the storm and mud
  - iii. To experience more happiness, one should calm their mind and look inward rather than seeking external triggers. By reducing mental distractions and appreciating oneself, happiness can be felt more frequently.
  - iv. The tone is reflective and critical. The writer is pointing out a common misconception that ties happiness to external achievements, emphasizing that true happiness comes from within rather than from fulfilling external goals.
  - v. (a) The obscuring of happiness by thoughts and worries
  - vi. (a) a and d
  - vii. Happiness is not something far away and unattainable and does not depend on circumstances, objects, or events.
  - viii. To experience more happiness, one must look inward rather than waiting for external triggers.
2.
  - i.
    - a. Increase access to skill education
    - b. Integrate skill education into mainstream education
  - ii. a fact, an objective detail
  - iii. Minimum 50% learners shall have exposure to skill education.
  - iv. allowing other schools to access the facility of skill models.
  - v. Racism : condemn :: Skill education : respect
  - vi. South Korea - 96%  
Reason: The possible reason for this could be the emphasis and importance laid on vocational and skill-based education in the country's education system.
  - vii. (A) middle and secondary school
  - viii. The NEP aims to ensure that every child learns at least one skill and is exposed to several more, including Indian arts and artisanship. By integrating skill education into mainstream education and emphasizing the dignity of labor, the NEP will promote awareness and appreciation of Indian arts and artisanship among students, thus preserving and promoting traditional Indian crafts and skills.

**SECTION B GRAMMAR**

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed

(i) organize/be organizing

(ii) error	correction
venture	venturing

(iii) that she/he was inspired by her/his grandfather who had been a renowned dancer.

(iv) (d) He asked them not to make a noise.

**Explanation:** {

He asked them not to make a noise.

(v) Much

(vi) error	correction
learn	learnt

(vii) (B) dies - die

(viii) (b) broke down

**Explanation:** {

: "Broke down" means to lose control emotionally, often resulting in tears or distress. In this context, it suggests that she became overwhelmed with emotion during the speech.

(ix) Ritu asked **Randeep where he was going.**

(x) (c) he was overloaded with assignments

**Explanation:** {

He was overloaded with assignments.

(xi) A. squeal, quiver

Following the sentence structure, 'will' always follow the base form of verb.

(xii) error	correction
on	in

## SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

4. 45 Vijay Nagar,

Delhi

4 October 2023

The Editor

The Hindustan Times

New Delhi

**Subject: Promoting Tourism and Heritage in Our Beautiful City**

Sir,

I am writing to express my pride in our city's rich cultural heritage, historical monuments, vibrant shopping centers, and serene parks. Delhi boasts a rich tapestry of historical monuments, cultural landmarks, vibrant shopping centers, and breathtaking parks that make it truly exceptional and makes us feel truly blessed.

In light of the government's commendable initiative of offering free entry to historical monuments on the occasion of the 75th Independence Day, I propose further measures to increase footfall. Encouraging school excursions with reduced entry fees, organizing cultural festivals at these sites, and promoting eco-friendly transportation options can attract more visitors. Additionally, enhancing the infrastructure, cleanliness, and safety measures will make these places more inviting to both locals and tourists.

Let's work together to preserve our city's heritage and boost tourism, ensuring that future generations can also take pride in its magnificence.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely

Sanjay/Sangeeta

OR

DBM School

Gwalior

Feb 15, 20XX

The Manager,

Quality Toys,

Kirti Nagar,

New-Delhi - 82,

Sir,

**Subject: Placing Order**

Thank you for the catalogue that you sent along with the latest price list. After going through it, we would like to place an order for DBM school for the following items:

Product	Code	Quantity
Baby slides	ab234	02
Block Puzzles	fb136	07
Stuffed Toys	gh45	08

Along with these, kindly send some educational games and toys as well which will be suitable for kindergarten students.

Attached herewith is a draft of 25% advance payment. Rest of the payment will be made on delivery. All the items should be new and in the best condition. It should be packed properly with foam-covering. Please note that we shall not be responsible for any damages



during transportation.

Thanking You

Yours sincerely,

Neeraj.

5. The data reveals that a significant portion of out-of-school children in India are engaged in various odd jobs, with bottles collection being the most prevalent at 46%. This high percentage suggests that bottles collection is accessible and requires minimal skills, making it a viable option for many children. Shoes polishing (20%) and car washing (12%) are also common, likely due to their visibility and the potential to earn money from passersby. Cleaning, dishwashing, and selling and wood collection each account for 7%, indicating these jobs are somewhat accessible but less common. Begging, at 1%, is the least prevalent, possibly due to its low income potential and social stigma.

The primary drivers of child labour include poverty, lack of access to education, and family indebtedness. These factors force children into work at a young age, depriving them of education and perpetuating cycles of poverty. Addressing these root causes is essential to combat child labor and ensure children can pursue education and better opportunities.

OR

The argument that the touch and feel of a paper book enhance the reading experience is common among book enthusiasts. While digital and audio books provide convenience and accessibility, they lack the tactile sensation of holding and turning the pages of a physical book. For many readers, the physicality of a book contributes to their engagement and enjoyment of the reading experience. Additionally, some studies suggest that reading a physical book may lead to better comprehension and retention of the material compared to reading digitally. However, it's important to note that everyone's reading preferences and experiences are different, and what works for one person may not work for another. Therefore, having a variety of reading options, both in physical and digital formats, is a better option. As it can accommodate diverse learning styles and preferences.

### SECTION C - LITERATURE

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

- (i) i. a secret agent
  - ii. It is so because he later admitted that there was no balcony at all.
  - iii. Option (b) is correct - flumped
  - iv. (d) She plays music louder than is necessary late into the night. (to raise the devil means to cause a commotion or to make a noisy disturbance)
- (ii) i. The postmaster decided to help Lencho because he didn't want to shake Lencho's faith in God.

- ii. He collected money from his employees, friends and himself gave a part of his salary to send to Lencho.
- iii. several.
- iv. He was a good, sensible and compassionate person who was impressed by the depth and sincerity of Lencho's faith in God.

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

- (i) i. The whispers will be silent because the trees will move outside to the forest.
- ii. The trees of the forest were cut down by man for selfish purposes. The forest was turned into a barren land as the trees were captivated inside the house as a part of interior decoration. However, the trees struggled very hard to free themselves from the confines of the house and return to their natural habitat which is forest. The roots of these trees are engaged in the cracks of the veranda floor. At night, these roots try to free themselves from the cracks. The leaves try to move towards the glass. Twigs become hardened and the boughs try to expand under the roof. Thus, Andreine Rich tries to convey in his poem "The Trees" that trees should be kept alive not by imprisoning them inside the house merely to beautify indoors.
- iii. The word is 'silent'.
- iv. Option (c)- imagery
- (ii) i. Custard, the dragon had big sharp teeth and spikes on its back that could easily scare anyone away. It had ability to spit fire which made his mouth like a fireplace and thus his nose became a chimney. The toes were so pointed and sharp, that it could cut anything like a dagger.
- ii. dragon
- iii. (a) Dragons are brave and feared.
- iv. The language used in these lines is simple and straightforward. The words and phrases are easy to understand and the poem is written in a conversational tone. Realio and Trulio words are creating poetic effect. This is a humorous poem.

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words

- (i) Coorgi homes have a tradition of hospitality, and they are more than willing to recount numerous tales of valour related to their sons and fathers. The Coorg Regiment is one of the most decorated in the Indian Army, and the first Chief of the Indian Army, General Cariappa, was a Coorgi. Even now, Kodavus are the only people in India permitted to carry firearms without a licence.
- (ii) Please stop staring. You have no idea how uncomfortable and restless your stare is to me. I'm trying to ignore each one of you as I consider you humans to be devoid of

feelings. None had ever tried to help me out to make me free from this cage. My freedom has been curtailed by you humans. I'm forced to live in a cage which is so small. I'm just fed up of this situation and these visitors.

- (iii) Though Lomov was not in love with Natalya, he wanted to marry her because she was suffering due to a weak and sleep sickness. He wanted a companion who could look after him. He considered Natalya to be a very good housekeeper who may help him in his illness.
- (iv) Anne was a thirteen-year-old girl. She did not have a true friend with whom she could share her thoughts, personal feelings and experiences. She named her diary 'Kitty', which became an insider and her close friend. She highlighted her feelings in the diary. Since no one would understand a word of her stories to Kitty, she thought it was better to give a brief sketch of her family so that people could understand her better.
- (v) According to the poet, the world will end due to the 'fire', which symbolises 'desire' but if the world has to end twice then it will be due to the hatred which is symbolised by 'ice'. The poet feels that there is enough hatred spreading among the people in the world to perish the world twice because unlike fire, ice or hatred affects slowly and gradually and souls of people insensitive to anybody's pain.

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.

- (i) Mr Herriot advised Mrs Pumphrey to put Tricki on a strict diet and not to give him any treats or extra food. To cut down on sweets and give Tricki plenty of exercise. Initially, Mrs. Pumphrey agreed but didn't act on it. Her resolve weakened over time, and she struggled to adhere to the strict diet plan for Tricki, leading to humorous and challenging situations in the story.
- (ii) I would have fully supported Bholi if I were present there. As a mature and aware person I feel what she did was absolutely right. She has every right to refuse to marry a person who demands dowry and is of double her age. If I would have a daughter like Bholi, I would be the first person to appreciate her bold more.
- (iii) Griffin set fire to his landlord's house as he wanted him to leave his house. Griffin swallowed a rare drug to become invisible. He had to take off his clothes to become invisible. But it was mid-winter season and he could not live without clothes anymore. So he decided to become visible again. He went to Iping so that no one would recognise him there. He wanted to get away from crowded London. At Iping, he booked two rooms at the local inn.

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words

- (i) The young seagull's first flight can be located in the category of 'Basic Needs' in this hierarchy of needs. These needs are most essential for the very survival and maintenance of self. These include food, warmth and shelter. These needs must be met repeatedly within short time period such as hunger.

The seagull was very hungry. He hadn't eaten anything for last twenty four hours. When he saw his mother bringing food in her beak, he dived towards her. But fell from the brink of the ledge. He screamed with fear. But his fear lasted only for a moment. The next moment, he felt that his wings spread outwards instinctively. He was flying now. Thus, hunger motivated him.

- (ii) Prejudging a person on the basis of race, colour or his & appearance or any other reason is wrong if so we treat the person the same as we think of them in our mind without knowing the right intensions of that person. The character subjected to this prejudice in 'First Flight' was Wanda Petronski from the chapter. 'The Hundred Dresses'. She belonged to a very poor family. She was a polish girl. She came to school in a same faded blue dress daily. It was clean but not properly ironed. Her classmates made fun of her as they found her name funny. They would ask her how many dresses she had in her closet. The girls would suppress their laugh when Wanda replied that she had a hundred dresses and sixty pairs of shoes. Although her claim was not justified. But it is not at all right to judge people on the basis of their social status. Later on, Wanda proud herself by submitting a hundred drawings of dresses. People who judge other with their social-economic background need to understand that such an attitude is not the parameter to judge a person's capabilities.

When people are undervalued by others, their self-esteem suffers and they stop trying to improve themselves. Prejudice can often lead to bullying and other forms of discrimination.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.

- (i) For the motion

You may begin like this...

Being frugal is the quality of a prudent person who is economical in the consumption of resources available to him. These resources can be in any form be it food, clothes money or just about anything. Avoiding wastage of any kind is the greatest virtue of man. We should always remember that resources available to us by mother earth are scanty, we should make judicious use of them. Today, the whole world is hit by deadly Corona, people are out of jobs, some are working from home, some are doing nothing. In such a scenario the prudent use of money becomes all the more important. So, always use money wisely.

Against the motion,

There are no two ways about it that money makes the world go round. It's the power of money that rules the world in today's time. The more we flaunt it, the more progressive we are thought to be. Everybody loves to possess it. So, if we have more why not just show it. After all being thrifty always doesn't pay, one needs to look for one's own comfort as well. Spend what you have today, do not bother for tomorrow. For no one knows what tomorrow has in store for us.

- (ii) Anil was a twenty-five years old man. He was a tall and lean fellow. He looked easy-going, kind and simple. He was a writer by profession, who wrote for a magazine. He was a practical man who transformed the character of a thief. He was the most trustworthy man that Hari Singh, a thief had ever met. Hari Singh's habit compelled him to steal the bundle of money from Anil. But Anil's love, trust and confidence forced him to come back and put the bundle from where he had taken it. Anil's faith in Hari Singh forced him not to rob him. Anil taught him to write his name and also said that he would teach him to write whole sentences and to add numbers. It gave new hope to Hari Singh. He thought that if he could write like an educated man, there would be no limit to what he could achieve. A desire to get educated and follow the path of honesty cultivated in Hari Singh. His interaction with Anil brought a positive change in his character. Thus, Anil's kind behaviour and true faith transformed Hari Singh's character.