



(ii) Fill in the blanks with suitable words from those given in brackets:

1. He is opening the garden..... (gate, gait)
2. If a man is not ..... he can hardly expect to succeed.  
(industrious, industrial)
3. He fell a .....to disease. (pray, prey)
4. Newton formulated the .....of gravitation.  
(principal, principle)
5. He wanted to ....an educated girl. (marry, merry)
6. Make a list of all the ....members in our staff.  
(male, mail)
7. She never lost her..... (tamper, temper)
8. ....out the damp clothes. (ring, wring)
9. He is in the .....of smoking after meals.  
(custom, habit)
10. Do not ....in the class. (doze, dose)

## 8.2 Idioms

1. Above board (without trickery: frank and fair) :  
I have no patience with a man who is not fair and *above board*.
2. Adam's ale (simple and pure water) :  
*Adam's ale* is the nectar of life.
3. An eye wash (only pretence) :  
This enquiry is only *an eye wash*, nothing will come out of it.
4. At par (on equal level) :  
Death treats *at par* the rich and the poor.
5. In the air (found everywhere) :  
Terrorism is *in the air* all over the world.





6. All in all (all powerful) :  
The Chief Minister is *all in all* in his state.
7. At a discount (rated low) :  
Honesty is *at a discount* these days.
8. Apple of one's eye (valuable thing) :  
My little son is the *apple of my eye*.
9. Apple of discord (Something which causes strife) :  
This house is an *apple of discord* between the brothers.
10. All Greek (beyond one's comprehension) :  
His lecture was *all Greek* to the villagers.
11. At a stretch (continuously) :  
He lectured on the subject for hours *at a stretch*.
12. At low ebb (declining) :  
Public charity is *at low ebb* these days.
13. As easy as ABC (very easy) :  
Our teacher made us feel that studying science was *as easy as ABC*.
14. Again and again (repeatedly) :  
The drowning man asked for help *again and again*.
15. All of a sudden (without warning) :  
*All of a sudden* the packed stair case gave way.
16. At large (free) :  
The escaped convict is still *at large*.
17. At length (in detail) :  
The management discussed the problem *at length*.





18. Behind one's back (in one's absence) :  
Why should you abuse him *behind his back* ?
19. A bed of roses (an altogether agreeable position) :  
Life is not a *bed of roses*.
20. Borrowed plums (ornaments) :  
*Borrowed plums* do not win respect.
21. Blue blood (aristocratic; decent) :  
Prince Charles has *blue blood* in his veins.
22. A bosom friend (a very intimate friend) :  
I told him everything because he is my *bosom friend*.
23. To beat about the bush (to avoid a direct statement of what must be said) :  
*Do not beat about the bush* ; come to the point.
24. By virtue of (on account of) :  
He got the job *by virtue of* his father's influence.
25. By leaps and bounds (at a great speed) :  
The country has advanced by *leaps and bounds*.
26. On the cards (probable) :  
It is *on the cards* that India will make a hydrogen bomb.
27. To carry the day (to prove superior) :  
In spite of the initial reverses we will *carry the day*.





28. A cat and dog life (a life of petty quarrels and bickering) :  
The husband and wife are leading *a cat and dog life*.
29. To call a spade a spade (to speak plain and open) :  
Only a man of moral strength can *call a spade a spade*.
30. A clean slate (make a fresh beginning) :  
After the marriage both the partners start with a *clean slate* in their relations.
31. A close shave (narrow escape) :  
The other day I had a *close shave* when my scooter was hit by a speeding car.
32. A cock and bull story (an absurd tale) :  
Your *cock and bull story* proves nothing.
33. To come to light (to become public) :  
During the course of the enquiry, many strange facts *came to light*.
34. To come to pass (to happen) :  
What you told me before has *come to pass*.
35. Crocodile tears (false tears) :  
He shed *crocodile tears* at the death of his step mother.
36. Call it a day (stop doing something for time being) :  
When the search went unrewarded the police decided to *call it a day*.
37. Call the shots (take the decision) :  
In the company, the Chairman usually *calls the shots*.







38. Charity begins at home (to look after one's own self interest) :

The officer believes in the dictum of *charity begins at home* and offers every vacant post to his relatives.

39. Clear the deck (Make everything ready) :

With the arrival of the Foreign Minister, *decks were cleared* for further negotiation.

40. Close-fisted person (miser) :

Do not expect monetary help from your grandfather. He is a *close-fisted person*.

41. Coin money (make a lot of money) :

He has really *coined money* from his business of publishing.

42. Cry wolf (warn of danger that does not exist) :

A person who *cries wolf* is never trusted by people.

43. Cut one's coat according to one's cloth (try to do within available resources) :

You have spent too lavishly on the party. It is always wise to *cut your coat according to your cloth*.

44. Dark Horse (a person of unknown capabilities) :

The independent candidate proved a *dark horse* when he won the election.

45. To go to the dogs (to go to ruin) :

His business has *gone to the dogs* and his family is starving.

46. Down to earth (realistic) :

His *down to earth* proposal attracted immediate popularity.





47. A dead language (language no longer in use) :  
Persian is now just a *dead language*.
48. Die by inches (die a slow death) :  
The helpless woman *died by inches*.
49. Do a good turn (do good to someone) :  
Without expecting any reward, he *did me a good turn*.
50. To give ear (to listen to) :  
Friends *give ear to* what I say.
51. To make both ends meet (to make one's income level with his expenditure) :  
My uncle *made both ends meets* with great difficulty but he never accepted bribe.
52. To end in smoke (to come to nothing) :  
All my efforts to reform him has *ended in smoke*.
53. An eye opener (something which brings one to senses) :  
His failure in the examination proved *an eye opener* for him.
54. Every now and then (frequently) :  
I keep on visiting him *every now and then*.
55. Early bird (who gets up early in the morning) :  
He is an *early bird*. He gets up to practise yoga.
56. To lose face (to lose prestige) :  
After having *lost face*, he is trying to rebuild his reputation.
57. To save face (to maintain prestige) :  
In order to *save face*, the culprit started making baseless excuses.





58. Face to face (in the presence of each other) :  
I turned the street and found myself *face to face* with my old friend.
59. To find fault with (to blame) :  
If anything goes wrong, we should not *find fault* with others.
60. With flying colours (splendidly) :  
Our team came off *with flying colours* and won the gold medal.
61. To foot the bill (to pay the bill) :  
Let us all go for dinner in a hotel and I will *foot the bill*.
62. Tooth and nail (to strongly oppose something) :  
We shall oppose corruption *tooth and nail*.
63. To gain ground (to make progress) :  
The Indian army *gained ground* in spite of all hardships.
64. To throw out of gear (to disturb the working of) :  
The terrorist activities *threw* the government machinery *out of gear*.
65. To grind one's teeth (feeling of rage) :  
The player *ground his teeth* when he missed the catch.
66. To grease the palm (to bribe) :  
He *greased the palm* of the officials to get his work done.
67. Go up in flames (to be destroyed) :  
The manager's plan for promotion *went up in flames*.





68. A hen-pecked husband (a man who is dominated by his wife) :  
He is a *hen-pecked husband* as he lives on the earnings of his wife.
69. A Herculean task (work requiring great effort) :  
To climb Mount Everest is a *Herculean task*.
70. To lay hands on (to seize) :  
We will not allow the enemy *to lay hands on* our motherland.
71. Hat trick (three continued successes) :  
The bowler performed a *hat trick* by taking three wickets in three successive balls.
72. Over head and ears (completely) :  
He has suffered loss and is in debt *over head and ears*.
73. To take heart (to become hopeful) :  
After failure *he took heart* afresh.
74. To take to one's heels (to run off) :  
The thief *took to his heels* at the sight of the policeman.
75. Hard and fast (rigid) :  
The rules of the traffic are *hard and fast*.
76. To hush up (to suppress) :  
Rave bribed the officer *to hush up* the matter.
77. Ins and outs (detail) :  
He knows the *ins and outs* of cloth business.
78. Ill at ease (uncomfortable) :  
The child was *ill at ease* in the new atmosphere.





79. To keep an eye on (to watch) :

*Keep an eye on* the servant.

80. To look sharp (to hurry) :

*Look sharp*, otherwise you will miss the train.

81. In a nutshell (briefly) :

The teacher explained the lesson *in a nutshell*.

82. To cry over spilt milk (useless regrets) :

It is no use *crying over spilt milk*.

83. Off and on (at intervals) :

Our Principal addresses the students *off and on*.

### **PRACTICE EXERCISES**

(i) Use the following idioms in sentences of your own :

1. Off and on
2. In the air
3. To come to light
4. Call it a day
5. In a nutshell
6. Early bird
7. To go to the dogs
8. Cry wolf
9. Down to earth
10. To end in smoke
11. Tooth and nail
12. Hat trick





(ii) Match the idioms in column A with their meanings in column B:

A	B
hard and fast	in detail
ill at ease	to happen
go up in flames	to bribe
to lose face	to blame
to foot the bill	rigid
to find fault with	uncomfortable
to grease the palm	to pay the bill
to come to pass	to be destroyed
on the cards	to lose prestige
at length	probable

### 8.3 One word for many and their use in sentences

1. Something that can be heard **audible**.  
She spoke in a barely *audible* whisper.
2. Something written by an unknown person **anonymous**.  
It is an *anonymous* letter as it does not bear the name of the writer.
3. A written declaration made on oath in the presence of a magistrate or a government official **affidavit**.  
The applicant was asked to produce an *affidavit* that he was an Indian citizen.
4. One who does not believe in God **atheist**.  
He does not go to any temple because he is an *atheist*.
5. A government by one person or one party **autocracy**.  
Most of the countries of the world have abolished *autocracy* and have switched on to the democratic form of the government.





6. A word opposite in meaning **antonym**  
The *antonym* of 'hard' is 'soft'.
7. Lifestory of a person written by himself **autobiography**  
The *autobiography* of Mahatma Gandhi is called 'My Experiments with Truth'.
8. Medicine to counteract the effect of poison **antidote**  
Do you know the *antidote* for this poison ?
9. Representative of a government with full authority **ambassador**  
The governor of our state was an *ambassador* in Germany before he joined his post.
10. A word the meaning of which is not clear **ambiguous**  
The minister's statement on the issue was quite *ambiguous*.
11. Place for keeping birds **aviary**  
All types of birds can be seen in this *aviary*.
12. A place for the storage of weapons **arsenal**  
When the *arsenal* in Islamabad caught fire, the Pakistan government had to suffer a great loss.
13. To increase the gravity of a situation **aggravate**  
Scratching a mosquito bite *aggravates* the itching.
14. The crime of setting things on fire **arson**  
*Arson* in this factory caused a loss of property and machinery.
15. A list of things to be discussed at meeting **agenda**  
Here is the *agenda* for the meeting to be held tomorrow
16. State of growth between boyhood and youth **adolescence**  
*Adolescence* is a very critical period in one's life.





17. A carriage for the sick and wounded                    **ambulance**  
The *ambulance* has been called to carry the patient to the hospital as he is in a very critical condition.
18. Objects having life                    **animate**  
It is our sacred duty to safeguard all *animates*.
19. A state where no government exists                    **anarchy**  
After the President lost control of the state, there was complete *anarchy* in the country.
20. Liable to be called to account                    **accountable**  
He is *accountable* to the manager of his company for the losses incurred by him.
21. An assembly of listeners                    **audience**  
The *audience* heard the speech of the leader very attentively.
22. A game or work done for pleasure                    **amateur**  
The players of our college team are *amateurs*.
23. One who lives in a foreign country                    **alien**  
An Englishman is an *alien* in the United States.
24. Government by the officials                    **bureaucracy**  
*Bureaucracy* is more important in offices than the elected government.
25. Marrying two wives/husband                    **bigamy**  
*Bigamy* is considered a sin and a crime in our country.
26. A man who is not married                    **bachelor**  
Although he has attained the age of forty five, he is still a *bachelor* because he has not been able to select a girl of his choice so far.
27. That which can be broken easily                    **brittle**  
Be careful in handling those articles of glass as they are *brittle*.







28. To speak ill of a person in his absence      **backbite**  
You should better say whatever you think about him in his presence; do not *backbite*.
29. A bunch of flowers      **bouquet**  
He presented a *bouquet* to his beloved on her birthday.
30. The science which deals with life      **biology**  
He has studied *biology* so thoroughly that he is sure to stand first in this subject.
31. A girl who is about to be married      **bride**  
At the time of her marriage, the *bride* was wearing attractive jewellery.
32. A boy who is going to be married      **bridegroom**  
The *bridegroom* was so happy at the time of his marriage that he willingly rode the mare even though he dreaded horse-riding.
33. One who believes everybody      **credulous**  
He is so *credulous* that he will never doubt anything that you say.
34. A place where you can buy drinks and simple meals      **cafe**  
Alcohol is not usually served in Indian Cafes.
35. A list of names of books      **catalogue**  
I have brought a *catalogue* of books recently published by the NCERT.
36. A period of one hundred years      **century**  
Dinosaurs inhabited the earth *centuries* ago.
37. A piece of machinery used for mathematical calculations      **calculator**  
*A calculator* is not allowed to be used for arithmetical calculations during examination.





38. The peak point of a story or a plot **climax**  
When the story reached its *climax*, he stopped narrating it, saying that he would complete it the next day.
39. A place where dead are buried **cemetery**  
The dead body was carried to the *cemetery* for burial.
40. The art of beautiful writing **calligraphy**  
He has been given appointment in the editorial staff of this newspaper because he is adept at *calligraphy*.
41. Musical entertainment given in a public hall **concert**  
Mrs. M. Subalaxmi gave many *concerts* in foreign countries and won applause from the audience.
42. One who eats human flesh **cannibal**  
All the giants in old stories were *cannibals*.
43. One who is at home in many lands **cosmopolitan**  
He is a statesman with a *cosmopolitan* outlook.
44. Government of the people, by the people, for the people **democracy**  
Like many other countries of the world, India also has *democracy*.
45. One who drinks too much **drunkard**  
On my way back home, I saw a *drunkard* lying senseless on the road.
46. Government by one man **dictatorship**  
There was *dictatorship* in Germany when Hitler was all powerful.
47. Money or gifts given to a girl in her marriage **dowry**  
The bride was given almost every useful thing in *dowry*, yet her in-laws were not satisfied.
48. To injure one's reputation **defame**  
Many enemies tried to *defame* me in all possible ways, but my friends knew that everything said about me was cooked up.





49. Place of permanent residence **domicile**  
In this application perform for the job of an assistant,  
he has to mention his *domicile*.
50. The art of management practised by statesmen **diplomacy**  
He is adept in *diplomacy* and will satisfy you by his  
talks.
51. A speech made without preparation **extempore**  
He made an *extempore* speech with sound arguments  
and we were impressed by his oration.
52. A book containing every kind of information **encyclopedia**  
You can get a wide range of information from  
*encyclopedia* Britannica.
53. A person who examines **examiner**  
The *examiner* has examined all the answer books  
allotted to him.
54. A thing which is fit to be eaten **edible**  
Only the outer part of the peach is *edible*.
55. To root out an evil **eradicate**  
Small pox has been *eradicated* from our country.
56. A person in charge of the affairs of an organization **executive**  
A good *executive* is expert in supervising the work of  
others.
57. Articles sent out of the country **export**  
The *export* of sugar and tea to many European  
countries has increased this year.
58. One who loves his own religion and hates other  
religions **fanatic**  
He will not attend any religious congregation except the  
one in which he believes as he is a *fanatic*.





59. Murder of a brother **fratricide**  
The Mughal princes often practised *fratricide* in order to usurp the kingdom from their brothers.
60. One who is not easily pleased **fastidious**  
He is very *fastidious* about his food and dress.
61. A period of two weeks **fortnight**  
I am going to Mumbai and will be back in a *fortnight*.
62. That which ends in death **fatal**  
He met with a *fatal* accident.
63. A man interested in the welfare of women **feminist**  
He works whole-heartedly for the welfare of women as he is a *feminist*.
64. A person who eats too much **glutton**  
You *glutton*! You have eaten all the apples.
65. Makeup room behind the stage **green room**  
The actress is getting ready for the show in the *green room*.
66. Money paid to an employee after his retirement **gratuity**  
The college management paid to the retiring professor his *gratuity* on the day he was relieved of his services.
67. Place for storing grains **granary**  
The *granary* is full of wheat.
68. A medicine that kills germs **germicide**  
Phenyl is a powerful *germicide*.
69. A post for which no salary is paid **honorary**  
He is holding an *honorary* post in this office.
70. To cause eggs to produce young **hatch**  
The hen *hatched* all the eggs.
71. A place of shelter or safety **heaven**  
The weary travellers found *heaven* at the inn.





72. A writing which cannot be read clearly **illegible**  
Your handwriting is *illegible*; I cannot make out what you have written.
73. One who does not show favour to any one **impartial**  
We should be *impartial* in our treatment.
74. That which cannot be solved or dissolved **insoluble**  
Oil is *insoluble* in water.
75. One who cannot read or write **illiterate**  
An *illiterate* person cannot distinguish between a and b.
76. That which cannot be conquered **invincible**  
They had to confront an *invincible* army.
77. That which cannot be corrected **incorrigible**  
His addiction to tobacco is not an *incorrigible* habit.
78. One who never dies **immortal**  
Nobody in this world is *immortal*.
79. That which is against law **illegal**  
Bigamy is *illegal* in India.
80. That which cannot be cured **incurable**  
Cancer is an *incurable* disease.
81. That which is not proper **inept**  
His choice in this regard is altogether *inept*.
82. A thing that must happen **inevitable**  
Death is *inevitable*.
83. A loss which cannot be repaired **irreparable**  
The injury that you have caused to your friend is *irreparable*.
84. Easily made angry **irritable**  
A baby becomes *irritable* when he is sleepy.
85. That which can be understood **intelligible**  
He had made an *intelligible* speech.





86. Liable to catch fire easily **inflammable**  
Petrol is an *inflammable* liquid.
87. Worship of idols **idolatry**  
He has full faith in *idolatry*.
88. One who is wise **judicious**  
By his *judicious* actions he averted a clash.
89. A special skill or ability **knack**  
He has a *knack* of making friends wherever he goes.
90. Hard to solve **knotty**  
It is a *knotty* problem and I cannot solve it easily.
91. One who can read and write **literate**  
A *literate* person is respected in every society.
92. A hand-written paper **manuscript**  
Have you given the *manuscript* of the book to the press?
93. A disorderly crowd of people **mob**  
Autograph hunters *mobbed* the popular actor.
94. A person with a bad reputation **notorious**  
He is a *notorious* bandit.

### PRACTICE EXERCISES

(i) Fill in the blanks with the words given below:

edible    fanatic    glutton    harmonious    atheist  
concert    brittle    adolescence    aviary    eradicate

1. The food at the hotel was barely.....
2. The government plans to .....Polio from our country.
3. The children reach .....at the age of 13.
4. You..... ! Don't eat so much.
5. The two friends shared a .....relationship.
6. He does not smoke or drink. He is a fitness.....
7. She does not believe in God. She is an.....





8. The birds from different countries were kept in the .....
9. Bones and nails become .....in the old age.
10. The first arrivals at the .....got the best seats.
- (ii) Give one word for the following and use them in sentences of your own :
1. Acting by habit.
  2. One who eats human flesh.
  3. The word whose meaning is not clear.
  4. To increase the gravity of a situation.
  5. To root out an evil.
  6. A period of two weeks.
  7. Liable to catch fire easily.
  8. One who believes every one.
  9. Government by the officials.
  10. One who plays the game for pleasure.

#### 8.4 Common Errors

1. Common errors in the use of nouns:

**Incorrect sentences**

Sita is fond of *vegetable*

Ria's hair *are* black.

She threw *two breads*  
before the dog.

Two of my *brother*  
*in-laws* are staying  
with me.

These *cattles* are mine.

All the *peoples* have gone  
to town.

**Correct sentences**

Sita is fond of *vegetables*.

Ria's hair *is* black.

She threw *two pieces*  
*of bread* before the dog.

Two of my *brothers-*  
*in-law* are staying with me.

These *cattle* are mine.

All the *people* have  
gone to town.





Herds of *swines* lived  
in the forest.

The child learned the  
*Alphabets* before  
he could read.

Her house is full of  
*good furnitures*.

She wrote very good  
*poetries*.

This is a *six-years*  
old horse.

Lara has some grey *hair*.  
She expressed her  
*thank* to her uncle.

Geeta bought two  
*dozens* mangoes.

Sher Singh ran a three  
*miles* race.

Teachers are sitting  
in the *staff's* room.

She goes to her office  
on *feet*.

One of my *friend* is  
a teacher.

Abha is my *cousin sister*.

Herds of *swine* lived in  
the forest.

The child learned the  
*alphabet* before he could  
read.

Her house is full of good  
*furniture*.

She wrote very good  
*poetry*.

This is a *six-year* old  
horse.

Lara has some grey *hairs*.  
She expressed her *thanks*  
to her uncle.

Geeta bought two *dozen*  
mangoes.

Sher Singh ran a three  
*mile* race.

Teachers are sitting in  
the *staff* room.

She goes to her office  
on *foot*.

One of my *friends* is a  
teacher.

Abha is my *cousin*.

## 2. Common errors in the use of adjectives :

### **Incorrect sentences**

She did not eat *many* bread.

### **Correct sentences**

She did not eat *much*  
bread.





Ram ate <i>small</i> honey.	Ram ate <i>little</i> honey.
<i>Every</i> men are mortal.	<i>All</i> men are mortal.
<i>Much</i> men are poor.	<i>Many</i> men are poor.
<i>Little</i> men are rich.	<i>Few</i> men are rich.
Your uncle should take <i>no</i> side	Your uncle should take <i>neither</i> side.
Take the medicine <i>each</i> four hours.	Take the medicine <i>every</i> four hours.
<i>What</i> book do you like the best ?	<i>Which</i> book do you like the best ?
<i>Which</i> nonsense this is !	<i>What</i> nonsense this is!
Buses pass my house <i>each</i> hour.	Buses pass my house <i>every</i> hour.
Sita is <i>beautiful</i> than Radha.	Sita is <i>more beautiful</i> than Radha.
Megha is my <i>oldest</i> daughter.	Megha is my <i>eldest</i> daughter.
Tell me the <i>last</i> news.	Tell me the <i>latest</i> news.
My dress is costlier than <i>you</i> .	My dress is costlier than <i>yours</i> .
Tom is <i>wise</i> for his age.	Tom is <i>wiser</i> for his age.

### 3. Common errors in the use of verbs :

<b>Incorrect sentences</b>	<b>Correct sentences</b>
Vegetables <i>goes</i> bad in summer.	Vegetables <i>go</i> bad in summer.
Either Mohan or Sham <i>are</i> to be promoted.	Either Mohan or Sham <i>is</i> to be promoted.
Neither Tom nor his sister <i>have</i> gone to school.	Neither Tom nor his sister <i>has</i> gone to school.



Seventy miles <i>are</i> a long distance.	Seventy miles <i>is</i> a long distance.
I <i>have finished</i> my play last night.	I <i>finished</i> my play last night.
He <i>finished</i> his work when I met him.	He <i>had finished</i> his work when I met him.
Law and order <i>are</i> to be maintained.	Law and order <i>is</i> to be maintained.
<i>Can</i> I come in, Madam ?	<i>May</i> I come in, Madam?
What <i>will I</i> do next ?	What <i>shall I</i> do next?
She <i>said</i> her friend goodbye.	She <i>bade</i> her friend goodbye.
A snake <i>cut</i> her.	A snake <i>bit</i> her.
She <i>laid</i> in her bed.	She <i>lay</i> in her bed.
I know <i>to play</i> football.	I know <i>how to play</i> football.
The teacher <i>gave</i> a speech.	The teacher <i>made</i> a speech.

#### 4. Common errors in the use of prepositions :

<b>Incorrect sentences</b>	<b>Correct sentences</b>
Manav does not obey <i>to his father</i> .	Manav does not obey <i>his father</i> .
My son does not <i>listen what I say</i> .	My son does not <i>listen to what I say</i> .
Meena was angry <i>upon</i> her daughter.	Meena was angry <i>with</i> her daughter.
He fell <i>from</i> his horse and injured his back.	He fell <i>off</i> his horse and injured his back.
Come and see me <i>at</i> Sunday.	Come and see me <i>on</i> Sunday.





I have known him <i>since</i> years.	I have known him <i>for</i> years.
I'd prefer to make the journey <i>with</i> car.	I'd prefer to make the journey <i>by</i> car.
I washed the dirt <i>at</i> my hands.	I washed the dirt <i>off</i> my hands.
This shirt is made <i>with</i> cotton.	This shirt is made <i>of</i> cotton.
We cooked food <i>with</i> an open fire.	We cooked food <i>over</i> an open fire.
She wore a jacket <i>on</i> her dress.	She wore a jacket <i>over</i> her dress.
This cloth costs ₹ 50 <i>each foot</i> .	This cloth costs ₹ 50 <i>per foot</i> .
They tied him <i>with</i> a tree.	They tied him <i>to</i> a tree.
He wore a blue shirt <i>in</i> his coat.	He wore a blue shirt <i>under</i> his coat.
He wanted me to write the preface <i>of</i> his book.	He wanted me to write the preface <i>to</i> his book.
He called me <i>on</i> dinner time.	He called me <i>at</i> dinner time.
I forgot to wish you <i>at</i> your birthday.	I forgot to wish you <i>on</i> your birthday.

5. Common errors in the use of articles :

<b>Incorrect sentences</b>	<b>Correct sentences</b>
<i>The dog</i> is a faithful animal.	<i>Dog</i> is a faithful animal.
<i>Rich</i> should help the poor.	<i>The rich</i> should help the poor.





A <i>sun</i> rises in the east.	<i>The sun</i> rises in the east.
He is <i>a M.A.</i>	He is <i>an M.A.</i>
You kept me <i>in dark.</i>	You kept me <i>in the dark.</i>
He wanted to become <i>teacher.</i>	He wanted to become <i>a</i> <i>teacher.</i>
I have never been to <i>Agra fort.</i>	I have never been to <i>the</i> <i>Agra fort.</i>
She <i>wants house</i> to live in.	She <i>wants a house</i> to live in.
Do not lose <i>the heart.</i>	Do not lose <i>heart.</i>
He wants <i>little</i> sugar for tea.	He wants <i>a little</i> sugar for tea.
He is <i>honourable</i> man.	He is <i>an honourable</i> man.
Bananas are sold by <i>dozen.</i>	Bananas are sold by <i>the</i> <i>dozen.</i>
<i>The singing</i> is my hobby.	<i>Singing</i> is my hobby.
We were <i>first</i> to reach the school.	We were <i>the first</i> to reach the school.
His house caught <i>the fire.</i>	His house caught <i>fire.</i>
Next morning I had <i>a idea.</i>	Next morning I had <i>an</i> <i>idea.</i>
Tom <i>was first</i> to protest.	Tom <i>was the first</i> to protest.
They made him feel <i>little</i> better.	They made him feel <i>a little</i> better.
He will be back in <i>few</i> days.	He will be back in <i>a few</i> days.
<i>Few</i> students are present in the stadium.	<i>A few</i> students are present in the stadium.
I have <i>the</i> headache.	I have <i>a</i> headache.





## PRACTICE EXERCISES

(i) Correct the following sentences :

1. There are plenty of fish here.
2. The flowers are beautiful thing.
3. Bible is holy book.
4. The sun rises in east.
5. She is a M. A.
6. He kept me in dark.
7. She can't help laugh.
8. I enjoy to play hockey.
9. It is no use to cry over spilt milk.
10. He tried cross the river.

(ii) Correct the following sentences :

1. It is too cold today.
2. She is so nice.
3. You are too busy.
4. We are the childrens of India.
5. Work hard lest you may not fail.
6. I saw you long before.
7. I have only finished two stories.
8. Please attend your lesson.
9. She found me lie on the ground.
10. I don't blame to you.

(iii) Correct the following sentences :

1. I know who are you.
2. Why did you let him to go ?
3. I requested him help me.
4. Geeta is a holy book.
5. He will be back in few days.
6. Everybody was in holiday mood.
7. I got chance to show my skill.





8. One must do his duty.
9. Mother gave me many advices.
10. The sun rises in east.

### 8.5 Common Proverbs

1. *A fool and his money are soon parted :*  
One who cannot take care of his money, loses it.
2. *A good beginning makes a good ending :*  
A well begun task ends in a good state.
3. *A house is not a home :*  
A home is known by real love and affection and not by walls alone.
4. *A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step:*  
Every huge project has a humble beginning.
5. *A little knowledge is a dangerous thing:*  
Lesser knowledge leads to damage.
6. *A new broom sweeps clean :*  
A fresh leader or administration gets rid of the old and brings in new ideas and personnel.
7. *A penny saved is a penny earned :*  
Saving is as important as earning.
8. *A picture paints a thousand words :*  
A picture speaks the mind of the painter.
9. *A problem shared is a problem halved :*  
A work or job may be very difficult but if many hands together solve it, it becomes easier.
10. *A prophet is not recognized in his own land :*  
A person may be very talented but cannot get due importance among his own people.
11. *A rolling stone gathers no moss :*  
A person who never settles anywhere will never do well.





12. *A stitch in time saves nine :*  
An action or thing done at the right time saves much trouble.
13. *A volunteer is worth twenty pressed men :*  
A man who does the job willingly is certainly better than many of those persons upon whom the work is thrust upon.
14. *Actions speak louder than words :*  
One is judged by what he does and not by what he says.
15. *All that glitters is not gold :*  
Appearances generally deceive people.
16. *All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy :*  
A man cannot achieve the best by overwork. Recreation is also necessary.
17. *An apple a day keeps the doctor away :*  
A person who takes fruit as an apple per day keeps healthy and does not need to take medicine.
18. *As you sow so shall you reap:*  
As your actions will be, the same kind of reward will be received by you.
19. *Barking dogs seldom bite :*  
Those who boast and talk too much of themselves, are of low and weak might.
20. *Beggars can't be choosers :*  
A person who depends on others cannot have anything of his own choice.
21. *Better safe than sorry :*  
It is better to take precautions than to be regretful.





22. *Birds of a feather flock together :*

Persons of same caliber and position like to mix more with each other.

23. *Blood is thicker than water :*

Humans can depend more on persons of the same parentage even after a generation. They have a natural binding.

24. *Boys will be boys :*

Young boys and some times grown-up men occasionally behave in a childish way.

25. *Charity begins at home :*

A person's first duty is to care and help for his or her own family.

26. *Cleanliness is next to godliness :*

Being clean is a sign of spiritual purity or goodness.

27. *Don't bite the hand that feeds you :*

Do not think ill of the person who helps you.

28. *Don't count your chickens before they are hatched :*

Do not daydream.

29. *Don't put all your eggs in one basket :*

Do not invest all your money at a single place or you can be ruined.

30. *Don't try to walk before you can crawl :*

Do things according to your caliber.

31. *Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise:*

One should sleep early and get up early to remain healthy.

32. *Empty vessels make the most noise :*

One who doesn't have any good quality in him, shows off more.







33. *Every dark cloud has a silver lining :*  
Even the greatest sorrow has some happiness hidden behind it.
34. *Everybody wants to go to heaven but nobody wants to die :*  
Everyone wants luxuries in life but no one wants to work for them.
35. *Fools rush in where angels fear to tread :*  
The inexperienced do something that the more informed people would avoid.
36. *Fortune favours the brave :*  
God helps those who dare.
37. *God helps those who help themselves :*  
One has to do his own work ; Self help is best help.
38. *Handsome is as handsome does :*  
Beauty lies in action, not in 'physical' appearance.
39. *Haste makes waste :*  
If you do a job in hurry, it can be spoiled.
40. *History repeats itself :*  
Man does what his ancestors did.
41. *Home is where the heart is :*  
It is the heart and emotions and not a building that makes a home.
42. *If God had meant us to fly he'd have given us wings :*  
Do not try doing things for which nature does not permit you.
43. *If wishes were horses, beggars would ride :*  
It is easy to wish, but difficult to achieve.
44. *Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery :*  
One is flattered by the thought that he is considered worth imitating.





45. *Into every life a little rain must fall :*  
Everyone should taste a little bit of adversity to admire the good things.
46. *It takes a thief to catch a thief :*  
Thieves are the experts when it comes to thieving. They would know best how to catch other thieves.
47. *It's better to give than to receive :*  
The person who helps others is respected more than the one who asks for help.
48. *It's better to light a candle than curse the darkness:*  
Instead of cursing the bad circumstances, one should try to change them.
49. *It's not worth crying over spilt milk :*  
One should not waste his time lamenting the loss.
50. *It's the early bird that gets the worm :*  
One who comes first is served first.
51. *Jack of all trades, master of none :*  
One who tries to learn many things never becomes a specialist of anything.
52. *Laugh and the world laughs with you, weep and, you weep alone:*  
No one likes the company of a morose.
53. *Laughter is the best medicine :*  
Those who laugh in illness recover quickly.
54. *Let sleeping dogs lie :*  
Do not trouble the troubles until the troubles trouble you.
55. *Life is what you make it :*  
There is no use cursing others for your failures. The success or failure lies entirely on one's own self.





56. *Like father, like son :*  
Children tend to do the same as their parents do.
57. *Live for today for tomorrow never comes :*  
We should not worry about future.
58. *Look before you leap :*  
One should think of the consequences before doing anything.
59. *Man does not live by bread alone :*  
We should eat to live and not live to eat.
60. *Marry in haste, repent at leisure :*  
One should be careful while choosing his life partner.
61. *Money doesn't grow on trees :*  
One makes money by working hard so it must not be wasted.
62. *Money makes the world go round :*  
One can do anything and go anywhere if he has money.
63. *Necessity is the mother of invention :*  
You make new things only if you need them.  
Ingenuity is stimulated by difficulty.
64. *Never judge a book by its cover :*  
Do not rate the things at face value.
65. *Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today:*  
Tomorrow never comes, so one must do his work today.
66. *No man is an island :*  
Man is a social animal and cannot live alone.
67. *No one can make you feel inferior without your consent:*  
If you hold your head high, no one can let you down.
68. *Nothing is certain but death and taxes :*  
Death comes to all and everyone has to pay his dues.





69. *Oil and water don't mix :*  
People of different tastes and nature do not mix up with each other.
70. *Opportunity only knocks once :*  
You cannot get chances again and again.
71. *Out of sight, out of mind :*  
You are likely to forget what you don't see more often.
72. *People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones:*  
If you do something bad yourself, never forbid others to do it.
73. *Power corrupts; absolute power corrupts absolutely :*  
A person's sense of morality lessens as his or her power increases.
74. *Practice makes a man perfect :*  
One becomes an adept by doing a work again and again.
75. *Pride comes before a fall :*  
If one becomes proud of his success, he is likely to fall.
76. *Rome wasn't built in a day :*  
It takes time and patience to do great work.
77. *Spare the rod and spoil the child :*  
The children study only if they have some fear.
78. *Still waters run deep :*  
A person who has an extraordinary quality does not show it off.
79. *The Devil finds work for idle hands to do :*  
People who have no work to do, often do wrong things.





80. *The cobbler always wears the worst shoes :*  
One who makes the things himself, does not get time to use them.
81. *The ends justify the means :*  
Being successful is the most important thing.
82. *The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world :*  
Women are very powerful because they have most influence over the way in which children develop into adults.
83. *The pen is mightier than sword :*  
The written word is more powerful than any physical weapon.
84. *There's no smoke without fire :*  
If people are saying that someone has done something bad but no one knows whether it is true, it probably is true.
85. *Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it :*  
The people who do not learn from their past mistakes are ruined.
86. *Those who sleep with dogs will rise with fleas :*  
Those who live in bad company face bad results.
87. *Time and tide wait for no man :*  
One who does not do the work in time, can never do it.
88. *Time is a great healer :*  
All the wounds heal with time.
89. *To err is human, to forgive divine :*  
Human beings commit mistakes but one should gracefully forgive and forget.





90. *Too many cooks spoil the broth :*

Too many persons involved in managing an activity can ruin it.

91. *When the cat's away the mice will play :*

When someone in charge is away, subordinates will take advantage of it.

92. *Where there's a will there's a way :*

If one is determined to do something, he finds a way of doing it.

93. *You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink :*

You can give someone the opportunity to learn or to do something, but you can never force him to accept that opportunity.

94. *A friend in need is a friend indeed :*

He who helps in trouble, is a real friend.





## Chapter- 9

### READING SKILLS

#### 9.1 Comprehension of unseen passages (prose/poetry)

The word, comprehension means the ability to understand. The aim of this section is to assess the students' level of understanding and their ability of expression.

How to comprehend a given passage:

1. How well you comprehend depends on how well you read.  
Read the passage/poem carefully twice or thrice until the meaning of the passage is totally clear to you.
2. Read silently.
3. Do not move your head or index finger along the text.
4. Try to guess the meanings of difficult words from the context in which they are used.
5. Read the questions and try to find out the sentences in the passage which contain answers to these questions.
6. Answers should be brief and to the point.
7. Revise your answers and correct the mistakes in grammar and spellings.

**SAMPLE 1 :** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

One evening a boy of three was out for a walk with his father. There was also an elderly man with the father. Chatting they walked on and went beyond the village. Green crop delighted the eyes. The elders were walking along the edge of a field. Not hearing the footsteps of the boy, the father looked back. The boy was sitting on the ground and





seemed to be planting some thing. The father became curious. "What are you doing?" said he. "Look, Father, I shall grow guns all over the field," was the innocent reply of the boy. His eyes shone with the strong faith that guns would grow in the field. Both the elders were struck with wonder at the little boy's words. The boy was Bhagat Singh who later fought like a hero for India's freedom and sacrificed his life.

#### Questions:

Q1. Where were the elders walking?

Q2. What was the boy doing?

Q3. What faith did the boy have?

Q4. Complete the following sentences:

(a) Father looked back because.....

(b) Bhagat Singh sacrificed his life for.....

Q5. Match the words in column A with their synonyms in column B:

A	B
edge	surprise
curious	boundary
innocent	inquiring
wonder	blameless

#### Answers :

1. The elders were walking along the edge of the field.
2. The boy was sitting on the ground and planting something.
3. The boy had the faith that guns would grow in the field.
4. (a) Father looked back because *he did not hear the footsteps of his son.*  
(b) Bhagat Singh sacrificed his life for *the freedom of India.*







5.	<b>Words</b>	<b>Synonyms</b>
	edge	boundary
	curious	inquiring
	innocent	blameless
	wonder	surprise

**SAMPLE 2:** Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow :

**A Nation's Strength**

Not gold, but only men can make  
A people great and strong-  
Men who, for truth and honour's sake,  
Stand fast and suffer long.

Brave men who work while others sleep,  
Who dare while others fly,  
They build a nation's pillars deep,  
And lift them to the sky.

(R.W.Emerson)

**Questions:**

- Q1. What makes a nation great and strong?  
Q2. What do the brave men do while others sleep?  
Q3. How can they lift a nation to the sky?  
Q4. (a) Give the other word that rhymes with 'fly'.  
(b) Explain "They build a nation's pillars deep".  
Q5. Match the words in column A with their synonyms in column B:

A	B
truth	endure
suffer	challenge
dare	raise
lift	reality





**Answers:**

1. Men make a nation great and strong.
2. Brave men work while others sleep.
3. They can lift a nation to the sky by working and daring.
4. (a) 'Sky' rhymes with 'fly'.  
(b) Brave people make their nation strong and powerful.

5.	<b>Words</b>	<b>Synonyms</b>
	truth	reality
	suffer	endure
	dare	challenge
	lift	raise

**SAMPLE 3 :** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

Dr. C.V.Raman was the genius who won the Nobel Prize for Physics, with simple equipment barely worth Rs. 300. He was the first Asian scientist to win the Nobel Prize. He was a man of boundless curiosity and a lively sense of humour. His spirit of inquiry and devotion to science laid the foundation for scientific research in India. And he won honour as a scientist and affection as a teacher and a man. Raman was studious. He kept in touch with the latest developments in science in the world around him. He had personal contact with many scientists. He used to read new books and research papers from different centres. "The equipment which brought me the Nobel Prize did not cost more than three hundred rupees. A table drawer can hold all my research equipments," he used to say with pride. It was his conviction that if the research worker is not inspired from within any amount of money cannot bring success in research.





### Questions :

- Q1. What kind of a man was Dr.C.V.Raman ?  
Q2. What is he famous for ?  
Q3. What was his conviction ?  
Q4. Complete the following sentences :  
(a) The equipment that won him the Nobel Prize .....  
(b) A research worker is successful only if he is.....  
Q5. Match the words in column A with their antonyms in column B:

A	B
curiosity	doubt
affection	apathy
conviction	failure
success	dislike

### Answers :

1. Dr.C.V.Raman was a man of boundless curiosity and a lively sense of honour.
2. He is famous for being the first Asian scientist to win the Nobel Prize.
3. It was his conviction that if the research worker is not inspired from within any amount of money cannot bring success in research.
4. (a) The equipment that won him the Nobel Prize *did not cost more than three hundred rupees.*  
(b) A research worker is successful only if he is *inspired from within.*

5.	Words	Antonyms
	curiosity	apathy
	affection	dislike
	conviction	doubt
	success	failure





**SAMPLE 4 :** Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow:

### **My Books**

I love my books  
They are the homes  
of queens and fairies  
Knights and gnomes.  
Each time I read I make a call,  
On some quaint person large or small,  
Who welcomes me with hearty hand  
And leads me through his wonderland.  
Each book is like  
A city street  
Along whose winding  
Way I meet  
New friends and old who laugh and sing  
And take me off adventuring

#### **Questions:**

- Q1. Why does the poet love his books?  
Q2. How does the quaint person welcome the poet?  
Q3. Where do the new and old friends take the poet?  
Q4. Select the right answer:  
(a) The poet is lead through a .....each time he reads a book.  
1. home  
2. wonderland  
(b) In the books the poet meets new and old friends in the.....  
1. city streets  
2. wonderland





Q5. Match the words in column A with their antonyms in column B:

A	B
quaint	straight
winding	foe
hearty	modern
friend	feeble

Answers :

1. The poet loves his books because they are homes of fairies, queens, knights and gnomes.
2. The quaint person welcomes the poet with a hearty hand.
3. The new and old friends take the poet off adventuring.
4. (a) The poet is led through a *wonderland* each time he reads a book.  
(b) In the books the poet meets new and old friends in the *city streets*.

5.	Words	Antonyms
	quaint	modern
	winding	straight
	hearty	feeble
	friend	foe

### PRACTICE EXERCISES

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

Early rising leads to health and happiness. The man who rises late can have little rest in the course of the day. Anyone who lies in the bed late is compelled to work till late hours in the evening. He has to go without the evening exercise which is so necessary for his health. In spite of all his efforts, his work will not produce as good results as that of an early riser. The





reason for this is that he cannot take advantage of the refreshing hour of the morning. Some people say that the quiet hours of midnight is the best time for working. Several great thinkers say that they can write best only when they burn the midnight oil. Yet it is true to say that few men have a clear brain at midnight when the body needs rest and sleep. Those who work at that time soon ruin their health. Bad health must in the long run, have a bad effect on the quality of their work.

Questions :

- Q1. What leads to health and happiness?  
Q2. What is a late riser compelled to do?  
Q3. Why can't we have a clear brain at midnight?  
Q4. Complete the following sentences:  
(a) The man who rises late cannot take advantage of.....  
(b) Some thinkers can write best when.....  
Q5. Match the words in column A with their synonyms in column B:

A	B
compelled	benefit
necessary	destroy
advantage	forced
ruin	essential

2. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow :

### **Stone Walls Do Not A Prison Make**

Stone walls do not a prison make  
Nor iron bars a cage:  
Mind's innocent and quiet take  
That for a hermitage.  
If I have freedom in my love,





And in my soul am free'  
Angels alone that soar above  
Enjoy such liberty.

(R. Lovelace)

Questions :

- Q1. What does not make a prison?  
Q2. According to the poet what does not make a cage?  
Q3. Which quality of the mind makes a hermitage?  
Q4. Complete the summary of the poem after filling in the blanks:

A prison is not made of .....walls, neither is a cage of  
.....bars. it is only an .....and.....mind that makes  
a..... . Such liberty is enjoyed only by.....

- Q5. Match the words in column A with their  
meanings in column B :

A	B
prison	spirit
soar	freedom
soul	jail
liberty	rise

3. Read the passage given below and answer the  
questions that follow :

Each one of us should have a hobby. Sometimes boys and girls are encouraged in schools to take up hobbies. They work at certain things in schools such as collecting stamps, or carpentry, but their so called hobby is a thing for the schools only. They do not pay any attention to it in their homes. Sometimes this is because of poverty, sometimes because of lack of interest. But a hobby is not really a hobby unless we are so interested in it that we want to carry it on whenever we have a spare time. The dictionary tells us that a hobby is a





favourite subject or occupation that is not one's main business. That is, it is something in which we are more interested than in anything else.

Questions :

- Q1. What is the dictionary meaning of hobby?  
Q2. When does the hobby become a thing for schools only?  
Q3. Name the hobbies mentioned in the passage.  
Q4. Complete the following sentences:  
(a) We should carry on our hobby whenever we have.....  
(b) Sometimes the students cannot pay attention to their hobbies due to.....

Q5. Match the words in column A with their antonyms in column B:

A	B
interested	discourage
lack	disinterested
spare	have
encourage	occupied

4. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow:

### **A Child's Evening Prayer**

Ere on my bed my limbs I lay,  
God grant me grace my prayers to say:  
O God! preserve my mother dear  
In strength and health for many a year;  
And, O! preserve my father too,  
And may I pay him reverence due ;  
And may I my best thoughts employ  
To be my parents' hope and joy;







And O ! preserve my brothers both  
From evil doings and from sloth,  
And may we always love each other  
Our friends, our father, and our mother:  
And still, O Lord, to me impart  
An innocent and grateful heart,  
That after my great sleep I may  
Awake to thy eternal day! Amen !  
(Samuel Taylor Coleridge)

Questions :

- Q1. When does the child pray?  
Q2. What does the child pray to God for his mother?  
Q3. What does he ask for himself?  
Q4. Tick the right answer:  
(a) The child pays .....to his father.  
1. reverence  
2. strength  
(b) The child wants to be the hope and joy of .....  
1. God  
2. his parents  
Q5. (a) Give the rhyme scheme of the last four lines.  
(b) Give the other word that rhymes with 'employ'.

5. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

Ashoka, the most trusted son of Bindusara and the grandson of Chandragupta Maurya, was a brave soldier. He was the most famous of the Mauryan kings and was one of the greatest rulers of India. Ashoka extended the Maurya Empire to the whole of India, reaching out even into Central Asia. Ashoka succeeded in conquering Kalinga after a bloody war in which 100,000 men were killed, 150,000 injured and thousands were captured and retained as slaves. The sight of





the slaughter involved in his conquest deeply affected his mind. This was a turning point in his life. He renounced war and sought peace in Buddha's preachings of love and non-violence. So he gave up hunting and became a strict vegetarian.

**Questions:**

Q1. What was the name of Ashoka's grandfather?

Q2. What happened in the war of Kalinga?

Q3. Write the changes in Ashoka's life after the war.

Q4. Complete the following sentences:

(a) Ashoka was one of the .....

(b) For Ashoka, the war of Kalinga was a .....

(c) The extent of Ashoka's empire was spread over  
to.....

Q5. Match the words in column A with their  
synonyms in column B:

**A**

famous

involved

conquest

renounce

**B**

give up

well-known

take-over

drawn-in

6. Read the poem given below and answer the  
questions that follow :

**The Rainbow**

Boats sail on the rivers,  
And ships sail on the seas;  
But clouds that sail across the sky  
Are prettier than these.  
There are bridges on the rivers,





As pretty as you please;  
But the bow that bridges heaven,  
And overtops the trees,  
And builds a road from earth to sky,  
Is prettier far than these.

(Christina Rossetti)

- Q1. Where do boats and ships sail?  
Q2. What is prettier than boats and ships?  
Q3. Where does the rainbow build a road?  
Q4. Select the right answer :  
    (a) According to the poet, the .....is the prettiest.  
        1. bridge  
        2. rainbow  
    (b) The rainbow bridges.....  
        1. river  
        2. heaven  
Q5. (a) The word 'bow' in the 7th line refers to .....  
    (b) 'These' in the last line refers to.....

7. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

"Brothers and sisters, the long night is at last drawing to a close. Miseries and sorrows are disappearing. Ours is a sacred country. She is gradually waking up, thanks to the fresh breeze all around. Are you prepared for all sacrifices for the sake of our motherland? If you are, then you can rid the land of poverty and ignorance. You should develop a strong physique. You should shape your mind through study and meditation. Only then will victory be yours. I loved my motherland dearly before I went to America and England. After my return, every particle of the dust of this land seems sacred to me." Do you know who carried this message to the whole continent of Asia? It was Swami Vivekananda.





**Questions :**

- Q1. How can we rid the land of poverty and ignorance?  
Q2. How can you shape your mind?  
Q3. Where did Swami Vivekananda carry the message?  
Q4. Complete the following sentences:  
(a) We should make sacrifices for the sake of.....  
(b) India is gradually.....  
Q5. (a) Who speaks the above written lines?  
(b) Name two places visited by Swami Vivekananda.

8. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow :

**The Noble Nature**

It is not growing like a tree  
In bulk, doth make man better be;  
Or standing long an oak, three hundred year,  
To fall a log at last, dry, bald and sere:

A lily of a day  
Is fairer far in May,  
Although it fall and die that night  
It was the plant and flower of light.  
In small proportions we just beauties see:  
And in short measures life may perfect be.  
(Ben Jonson)

**Questions :**

- Q1. What does not make a man a better being ?  
Q2. Which thing in nature can live up to three hundred years ?  
Q3. How long does a lily live ?  
Q4. (a) What message is conveyed through this poem ?





(b) The life of an oak tree is .....

Q5. Match the words in column A with their synonyms in column B:

A	B
bulk	faultless
bald	largeness
proportion	hairless
perfect	amount

## 9.2 Note-making

Note –making depends upon the reading skill of the students. It is a test of understanding.

While making notes:

1. Read the given passage carefully.
2. Write down the title if there is one.
3. Write the main points.
4. Use numbers to write the main and the sub-points of the passage.
5. Do not write full sentences. Even abbreviations can be used.

Some commonly used abbreviations are:

∴ therefore    *c/o*    care of    *i.e.*    that is

∵ because    *s/o*    son of    *e.g.*    for example

*esp.*    especially    *no.*    number    *w.e.f*    with  
effect  
from





**SAMPLE 1 :** Make notes on the following passage :

### **SOIL EROSION**

Soil erosion, caused by wind and rain, can change land by wearing down mountains, creating valleys, making rivers appear and disappear. It is a slow and gradual process that takes thousands, even millions of years. But erosion may be speeded up greatly by human activities such as farming and mining. Soil develops very slowly over a long period of time but can be lost too quickly. The clearing of land for farming, residential, and commercial use can quickly destroy soil. It speeds up the process of erosion by leaving soil exposed and also prevents development of new soil by removing the plants and animals that help build humus. Today's farmers try to farm in a way that reduces the amount of erosion and soil loss. They may plant cover crops or use a no-till method of farming. Soil is an important resource that we all must protect. Without soil there is no life.

NOTES:

### **SOIL EROSION**

#### **Causes :**

- (a) Natural: wind and rain
- (b) Human: clearing land for---farming---  
residential use----commercial use

**How :** soil exposed by removing plants and animals

#### **Prevention:**

- (a) planting cover crops
- (b) using no-till method of farming.





**SAMPLE 2:** Make notes on the following passage:

### **AIR POLLUTION**

The World Health Organization estimates that 4.6 million people die each year from causes directly attributable to air pollution. Many of these mortalities are attributable to indoor air pollution. Worldwide more deaths per year are linked to air pollution than to automobile accidents. Research published in 2005 suggests that 3,10,000 Europeans die from air pollution annually. Direct causes of air pollution related deaths include aggravated asthma, bronchitis, emphysema, lung and heart diseases, and respiratory allergies. The worst short term civilian pollution crisis in India was the 1984 Bhopal Disaster. Leaked industrial vapours from the Union Carbide factory, belonging to Union Carbide, Inc., U.S.A., killed more than 2,000 people outright and injured anywhere from 1,50,000 to 600,000 others, some 6,000 of whom would later die from their injuries. The United Kingdom suffered its worst air pollution event when the December 4th Great Smog of 1952 formed over London. In six days more than 4,000 died, and 8,000 more died within the following months. An accidental leak of anthrax spores from a biological warfare laboratory in the former USSR in 1979 near Sverdlovsk is believed to have been the cause of hundreds of civilian deaths.

**NOTES:**

### **AIR POLLUTION**

4.6 million people die every year

**How :** aggravated asthma, bronchitis, emphysema,  
lung and heart diseases etc....





### **Major air pollution mishaps.....**

- (a) Bhopal gas disaster (1984) –killed 2000-some  
6000 died later
- (b) Great smog over London (1952)-killed 4000-  
some 8000 died later
- (c) Leakage of anthrax spores USSR (1979)-  
many civilian deaths

**SAMPLE 3:** Make notes for the following passage:

### **EXTINCTION OF SPECIES**

There are a variety of causes that can contribute directly or indirectly to the extinction of a species or group of species. Most simply, any species that is unable to survive or reproduce in its environment, and unable to move to a new environment where it can do so, dies out and becomes extinct. Extinction of a species may come suddenly when an otherwise healthy species is wiped out completely, as when toxic pollution renders its entire habitat unlivable; or may occur gradually over thousands or millions of years, such as when a species gradually loses out competition for food to newer, better adapted competitors. Conservation biology uses the Extinction Vortex model to classify extinction by cause. The question of whether more historical extinctions have been caused by evolution or by catastrophe is a subject of debate. Currently, environmental groups and some governments are concerned with the extinction of species due to human intervention, and are attempting to combat further extinctions. Humans can cause extinction of a species through over harvesting, pollution, habitat destruction, introduction of new predators and food competitors, and other influences. According to the World Conservation Union, 784 extinctions have been recorded since the year







1500, the arbitrary date selected to define “modern” extinctions, with many more likely to have gone unnoticed. Most of these modern extinctions can be attributed directly or indirectly to human effects. Endangered species are species that are in danger of becoming extinct; several organizations attempt to preserve recognized endangered species through a variety of conservation programmes.

**NOTES :**

**EXTINCTION OF SPECIES**

**Causes :**

1. species unable to reproduce in its environment
2. species unable to change its environment

**Human causes :**

1. harvesting
2. pollution
3. habitat destruction
4. introduction of new predators and food competitors

**Solution :** several organizations attempt to preserve endangered species.

**SAMPLE 4:** Make notes for the following passage:

A sophisticated and technologically advanced urban culture is evident in the Indus Valley Civilization. The quality of municipal town planning suggests knowledge of urban planning and efficient municipal governments which placed a high priority on hygiene. The streets of major cities such as Mohenjo-daro or Harappa were laid out in perfect grid patterns. The houses were protected from noise and thieves. As seen in Harappa, Mohenjo-daro and the recently





discovered Rakhigarhi, this urban plan included the world's first urban sanitation systems. Within the city, individual homes or groups of homes obtained water from wells. From a room that has been set aside for bathing, waste water was directed to covered drains, which lined the major streets. Houses opened only to inner courtyards and smaller lanes. The ancient Indus system of sewerage and drainage that were developed and used in cities throughout the Indus Empire, were far more advanced than any found in contemporary urban sites in the Middle East and even more efficient than those in some areas of Pakistan and India today. The advanced architecture of the Harappans is shown by their impressive dockyards, granaries, warehouses, brick platforms and protective walls. The massive citadels of Indus cities that protected the Harappans from floods and attackers were larger than most Mesopotamian ziggurats.

**NOTES :**

**1. Main characteristics of urban culture in Indus Valley Civilization**

- (a) high priority on hygiene
- (b) streets laid out in grid patterns
- (c) urban sanitation system
- (d) waste water directed to covered drains

**2. Advanced architecture shown by**

- (a) dockyards
- (b) granaries
- (c) warehouses
- (d) brick platforms
- (e) protective walls





**SAMPLE 5 :** Make notes for the following passage:

### **EATING DISORDERS**

Anorexia (also known as anorexia nervosa) is the name for simply starving yourself because you are convinced you are overweight. If you are at least 15 percent under your normal body weight and you are losing weight through not eating, you may be suffering from this disorder.

Bulimia (also known as bulimia nervosa) is characterized by excessive eating, and then ridding yourself of the food by vomiting, abusing laxatives or diuretics, taking enemas, or exercising obsessively. This behaviour of ridding yourself of the calories from consumed food is often called purging.

Eating disorders are serious problems and need to be diagnosed and treated like any medical disease. If they continue to go untreated, these behaviours can result in future severe medical complications that can be life-threatening. If you believe you may be suffering from an eating disorder or know someone who is, please get help. Once properly diagnosed by a mental health professional, such disorders are readily treatable and often cured within a few months time. A person with an eating disorder should not be blamed for having it ! The disorders are caused by a complex interaction of social, biological and psychological factors which bring about the harmful behaviours. The important thing is to stop as soon as you recognize these behaviours in yourself, or to get help to begin the road to recovery.

**NOTES :**

### **EATING DISORDERS**

**Types :** 1. Anorexia - starving yourself-losing weight through not eating





2. Bulimia- excessive eating-then ridding yourself of food (purging)

**Causes :** interaction of social, biological and psychological factors

**Solution :** get diagnosed by a mental health professional

### **PRACTICE EXERCISES**

Read the passages given below and make notes :

#### **DEMOCRACY**

The word comes from Latin translations of Aristotle's *demos*, meaning "territory" or "people" as a group, and *kraiten*, which means "rule". But whatever its linguistic roots, democracy as we understand it today is a product of the Enlightenment, based on what Kant termed *autonomy*, again from the Greek, a law (*nomos*) that you impose on yourself. In short, "government of the people, by the people, for the people". This is practically synonymous with sovereignty in the popular imagination, but sovereignty, as the German philosopher Carl Schmitt argued, is the power to suspend the law and to place oneself above the law, or, as Jacques Derrida wrote: "The abuse of power is constitutive of the idea of sovereignty". It is a tribute to the power of the democratic ideal that when governments deny democracy, they feel obliged to claim that it is for some greater good. Suspending elections, for instance, is presented as a bid "to protect democracy". Today, many see democracy as a form of modern civilization. Beyond the mere freedom to vote, it incorporates accountability of government, civic freedoms, the rule of law, and so on. Some see democracy as a form of identity and a byword for market freedom, which is not just to be shared, but protected and spread as a counterweight to tyranny.





## THE BUDDHA

Siddhartha Gautama was born into the house of a wealthy king or feudal baron of the Sakya clan in what is now Nepal. Siddhartha's father sheltered him from the harsh realities of the world by surrounding him with only pleasant things. Siddhartha did not know of human suffering, sickness, advanced age or death until he chanced upon a man suffering from old age. He soon learned of human disease and of death. These things stayed in his mind and he began to think of them as being inescapable. He gave up on his normal life of distractions and went on a personal search for the life where age and death would not matter. Siddhartha Gautama searched the greatest Hindu masters for wisdom in his search for enlightenment. He learned from them all he could but did not find the answer he was searching for. His next step was to join a group of ascetics, to open his mind by sacrificing his body, but that did not work either. He suffered more than his ascetic brothers and almost died as the result of it. This caused him to try another route to his goal of enlightenment, by way of strict thought and concentration. He sat down under a peepul tree (later known as the Bo tree) and with intense concentration and will-power he was able to reach total enlightenment and become the Buddha. The teachings of the Buddha reached thousands in his native India. Siddhartha Gautama was born as a ruler and became the Buddha which made him a priest, he also lived impoverished and begged for food. As an acquaintance of all three castes and able to be comfortable among them all, he was able to give his message to a wide variety of people.





## GOOD MANNERS

Good Manners occupy a unique place in our life. They are to be acquired and cultivated. The sooner it is done the better. Childhood is the best period for learning and imbibing good manners. It is obvious that it is in the formative years that good conduct, behaviour and manners are to be developed and cultivated. As Milton said, “The childhood shows the man as morning shows the day.” Thus manners must be emphasized from childhood. Good manners are the sure keys to success. They are not only social behaviour but also an ideal form of personal conduct and character. They are little courtesies that make the machine of life run smoothly. They are valuable possessions. They help in making friends, winning over people and in gaining appreciation and admiration. Propriety is the basis of all ethics. Manners make men and morals. In business and service they are indispensable. They help us avoid bitter and untoward situations. We should never fail to say sorry if we disturb people. Even in our personal and private lives they are important assets. It is good manners to thank people for a service, guidance or a gift received. To be late for appointments and keep people waiting is indiscipline. To respect elders, to greet them or to give them precedence is always good behaviour. Good manners reflect how properly cultured, civilized and educated we are. They reflect refinement and social enlightenment. They make a lasting and favourable impression on people. Without his manners, man is nothing better than an animal or barbarian.





## *Chapter- 10*

# WRITING SKILLS

### 10.1 Writing Notices

Notices are meant to provide integrated and useful information about events that have happened or about to happen and specific programmes, to public, students or a group of persons. The educational institutions, offices, residential colonies and other establishments have special and prominent places for fixing the notice boards from where everyone can read them.

Notice provides the information about.....

1. Things lost or found.
2. Events happened or about to happen.
3. Arranging or postponing of meetings, functions, tours, exhibitions, camps or fairs.
4. Change of name or address.
5. Announcing a new development or rule.

While drafting a notice, the following points should be kept in mind:

1. The entire content of the notice should be placed within a 'box'.
2. It should be brief and short, of about 50 words.
3. The purpose of the notice should be very clear.
4. The future tense should be predominant over the other tense forms.
5. The language of the notice should be completely impersonal.





NAME OF THE ORGANISATION ISSUING THE NOTICE	(1/2 mark)
DATE NOTICE	(1/2 mark)
HEADING OR SUBJECT OF THE NOTICE	(1/2 mark)
CONTENTS OF THE NOTICE	(2 marks)
SIGNATURES NAME DESIGNATION (of the issuing authority)	(1/2 mark)

6. Name of the organization issuing the notice should be in capital letters.
7. Date should be mentioned.
8. Capital letters can be used in the contents of the notice to highlight important things.
9. The person responsible for issuing the notice should write his name in capital letters below his signatures and his designation below his name.

**SAMPLE 1 :** You are Rajiv Sharma, Head Boy of D.A.V. Public school, Ludhiana. Draft a notice for the House-Captains to attend a meeting with the Vice-Principal for the allocation of duties for maintaining discipline in the school.







D.A.V. PUBLIC SCHOOL, LUDHIANA  
NOTICE

10th August, 20..

IMPORTANT MEETING

House-Captains must attend a meeting with the Vice-Principal on 13<sup>th</sup> August 20.. during recess in his office to in order to decide steps for maintaining discipline in the school.

*Rajiv*  
RAJIV SHARMA  
(Head Boy)

**SAMPLE 2 :** You are Manav Shukla the Secretary, Help All Club of the Navodaya Vidyalya, Kashmiri Gate, Delhi. Prepare a notice for the school students to help the victims of Kashmir earthquake with money, medicine, food and clothes.

NAVODAYA VIDYALYA, KASHMIRI  
GATE, DELHI  
NOTICE

22nd June, 20..

HELP!                  HELP!                  HELP!

The Help All Club of the school proposes to organize a relief camp for the victims of earthquake in Kashmir.

Thousands of buildings have been destroyed





and many people ruined. An epidemic may break out.

Kindly come forward and donate money, medicines, and clothes liberally.

*Manav*

MANAV SHUKLA

Secretary

(Help All Club)

**SAMPLE 3:** Being a Secretary of Sai Baba Society, Somesh Vihar, Delhi, prepare a notice for the residents of the colony giving hints for prevention against Dengue fever. Your name is Sheetal Jain.

SAI BABA SOCIETY, SOMESH VIHAR,  
DELHI  
NOTICE

3rd October, 20..

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM DENGUE

1. Spray insecticides in and around the house and use insect repellents and mosquito nets.
2. Remove water from coolers.
3. Wear clothes that cover arms and legs.
4. In case of high fever, contact your doctor immediately.

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE





*Sheetal*  
SHEETAL JAIN  
Secretary (Sai Baba Society)

**SAMPLE 4:** Rakesh Sharma is a student of class X in Gandhi Public School, Agra. He has lost his pen during the lunch break. Draft a notice for the School Notice Board.

GANDHI PUBLIC SCHOOL, AGRA

NOTICE

15th February, 20..

LOST!

LOST!

LOST!

A Parker Pen has been lost during the lunch break in the school corridors. The pen has a blue refill and a steel grey body. Anyone who finds it should deposit it to with School Head Boy. The finder will be suitably rewarded.

*Rakesh*  
RAKESH SHARMA  
X B





**SAMPLE 5:** You are Mohan Kumar, Sports Secretary, Parvati Jain School, Jalandhar. Some old sports goods have to be put on sale to collect money for donation to the poor cancer patients. Draft a notice inviting the students to help by buying these goods.

PARVATI JAIN SCHOOL, JALANDHAR  
NOTICE

4th January, 20..

EXTEND A HELPING HAND

All the students are invited to buy old Badminton and Tennis Racquets, Cricket Bats, Balls and Leg Guards. All the equipment is in good condition. The sale is organized in the Sports Room. The money collected will be donated to the Poor Cancer Patients. Come forward and participate wholeheartedly.

*Mohan*  
MOHAN KUMAR  
Sports Secretary

**SAMPLE 6:** R.K.M. Public School, Ajmer is organizing a summer camp in school for a month. The activities include theatre workshop and pottery making. Draft a notice for the interested students to get registered by paying a fee of ₹ 1000 to the school clerk. You are J. J .Singh, in-charge of the Art and Craft department of the school.

