

# SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER

## BLUE PRINT

**Time Allowed :** 3 hours

**Maximum Marks :** 80

Typology	MCQs (1 mark)	SA-I (2 marks)	SA-II (3 marks)	LA (5 marks)	Total
Reading Skills	20	–	–	–	20
Writing Skills	–	–	2	2	16
Literary Text Books and Supplementary Reading Text	20	7	–	2	44
<b>Total</b>	<b><math>20 \times 1 = 20</math></b>	<b><math>7 \times 2 = 14</math></b>	<b><math>2 \times 3 = 6</math></b>	<b><math>4 \times 5 = 20</math></b>	<b>80</b>

# ENGLISH CORE

*Time allowed : 3 hours*

*Maximum marks : 80*

## *General Instructions :*

- (i) *This paper is divided into two parts: A and B. All questions are compulsory.*
- (ii) *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.*
- (iii) *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

## **PART - A (40 Marks)**

### **READING (20 Marks)**

#### **1. Read the passage given below.**

- (1) We are inching closer to the very first test flight of electric aircrafts that can carry passengers just like in taxis and just as cheaply as a taxi too.

Aircraft manufacturers are developing a flying taxi as part of an effort to alleviate congestion by taking commuting to the skies. An insider said that the cost may estimate between \$1.50 to \$2.50 per mile. So we can estimate globally and rates can be explained in local terms.

If the thought of flying around town isn't mad enough, developers want to make the machine fly autonomously and rely on eight rotors to take off vertically. The first prototype, which will have a range of 50 kilometres (31 miles), is undergoing testing and is expected to be ready by the end of 2017. The final version is set to fly for 100 kilometres (62 miles) and all the developers are satisfied that the range will continue to expand over time.

- (2) This transformation in city transit is set to start coming to reality across the world's major cities by 2021 with fierce competition from several manufacturers. There is one notable country that is looking to get there first, is the UAE. They expect to have people using the machines by the end of 2017. I am sure a lot will be learned from the teething problems they face. Others look set for a 2019 start in Germany perhaps and more cities are waiting until the systems are proved, so are looking beyond 2023. Naturally, trips in flying taxis are bound to last longer than the majority of quick cab rides. But if the price is not much higher and you need to do a longer cross town trio at rush hour you can't beat reaching for the skies. One manufacturer is saying that these machines are potentially safer as there will be a reduction in collisions. They will also be supplying the taxis with parachutes, just in case there is an emergency.
- (3) In principle, here's how it will work: a customer will use an app to summon a taxi at a nearby landing pad. While a passenger takes a taxi to the landing site, the aircraft will automatically conduct a pre-flight test to ensure it's ready for take-off as soon as the user arrives. It is easy to see two huge issues here and that is the driving to and from the landing pads – these will soon become the bottlenecks of the 21st century instead of traffic lights and signals, thankfully in most cities the range of the taxi won't be an issue. To help move the project forward governments have begun looking at and changing laws and regulations so the new machines can be licensed. At present, they are looking closely at the software required particularly in unmanned taxis with vertical take-off. What is important, is that they are trying their best not to stand in the way of progress and are working with developers instead of standing in their way. Whether or not these

aircrafts will be effective at reducing city congestion remains to be seen, considering passengers will likely take single-occupancy vehicles to helipads or whether it's all just pie in the sky still remains to be seen.

**On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the eleven given below.** (1 × 10 = 10)

- (i) The cost of using a flying taxi as compared to normal will be  
(a) about the same (b) more (c) less (d) none of these
- (ii) As per an insider the estimated cost of flying taxi per mile will be  
(a) \$1.50-2.50 (b) \$1-2 (c) \$.50-2.00 (d) \$2.50-3
- (iii) The goal behind developing flying taxis is  
(a) for fun (b) for tourist attraction  
(c) to ease traffic (d) because air tickets are costly
- (iv) The first prototype is expected to be ready by the end of  
(a) 2021 (b) 2020 (c) 2017 (d) 2018
- (v) "a customer will use an app to summon a taxi at a nearby landing pad" replace the word summon for a word with similar meaning  
(a) invite (b) call for (c) deliver (d) reach
- (vi) In order to accommodate the flying taxis the Governments are \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) making new laws (b) changing laws and rules  
(c) asking for license (d) helping the flyers
- (vii) "in unmanned taxis with vertical take-off" meaning  
(a) taxis with no man flying around (b) driverless taxi that can fly  
(c) vertically flying cars (d) man who cannot stand vertical taxis
- (viii) "pie in the sky" is  
(a) a clause (b) an allegory (c) an idiom (d) a proverb
- (ix) Choose a suitable title for the given passage.  
(a) The hurdles of Flying taxis (b) The solution to traffic congestion  
(c) Flying taxis- a reality (d) Why we need flying cars
- (x) Synonym for fierce is  
(a) feisty (b) fearful (c) brutal (d) intimidating
- (xi) Antonym of vertical is  
(a) floor (b) horizontal (c) ground (d) flight

**2. Read the passage given below.**

- (1) Almost all of us have suffered from a headache at some time or the other. For some a headache is a constant companion and life is a painful hell of wasted time.

The most important step to cope with headaches is to identify the type of headache one is suffering from. In tension headaches (two hand headache), a feeling of a tight band around the head exists along with the pain in the neck and shoulders. It usually follows activities such as long stretches driving, typing or sitting on the desks. They are usually short lived but can also last for days or weeks. A headache is usually caused due to the spinal misalignment of the head, due to the posture. Sleeping on the stomach with the head turn to one side and bending over positions for a long time make it worse.

- (2) In migraine headaches, the pains usually on one side of the head may be accompanied by nausea, vomiting irritability and bright spots or flashes of light. This headache is meant worse by activities especially bending.

The throbbing pain in the head worsens by noise and light. Certain triggers for migraines may be chocolate, caffeine, smoking or MSG in certain food items. The pain may last eight to twenty four hours and there may be a hangover for two or three days. Migraines are often produced by an 'aura' which changes in sight and sensation. There is usually a family migraine. In a headache, pain originates from the brain but from the irritated nerves of muscles, blood vessels and bones. These head pain signals to the brain which judges the degree of distress and relays it at appropriate sites. The pain sometimes may be referred to sights other than the problem areas. This is known as referred pain and occurs due to sensation overload. Thus, though, most headache start at the base of the skull referred pain is felt typically behind the eyes. Factors causing headache are understood but it is known that a shift in the level of body hormones chemicals, certain foods and drinks and environmental stress can trigger them. If the headache troubles you often, visit the doctor, who will take a full health history relating to diet, life stresses, the type of headache, triggering factors and relief measures. You may be asked to keep a 'headache diary' which tells you to list – the time headache started and when it ended, emotional environmental and food and drinking factors which may contribute to it. The type and severity of pain and the medications used which provide much relief are also to be listed.

**On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the eleven that follow.**  
**(1 × 10 = 10)**

- (i) Most important step to cope with headache is to :  
 (a) Take any off the counter medicine (b) Get a head massage  
 (c) Identify the type of headache (d) To drink some water
- (ii) Two hand headaches are usually caused by prolonged  
 (a) driving (b) typing (c) bad sleeping position (d) all of these
- (iii) Which of these symptoms are not associated with migraine headaches?  
 (a) nausea (b) vomiting  
 (c) body ache (d) bright spots of flash light
- (iv) The pain that comes with migraine headaches is exacerbated by  
 (a) noise (b) light (c) noise and light (d) smell
- (v) Migraine headache can last up to:  
 (a) 6-24 hours (b) 8-24 hours (c) 8-20 hours (d) 2-3 days
- (vi) "Migraines are often produced by an 'aura'-" the meaning of the word aura used here is  
 (a) energy (b) spiritual state (c) ambience (d) air
- (vii) "These head pain signals to the brain which judges the degree of distress and relays it at appropriate sites."  
 Which combinations in the sentence are synonyms of each other.  
 (a) Brain-head (b) pain-distress (c) judge-appropriate (d) a and b
- (viii) "occurs due to sensation overload" meaning  
 (a) Happens due to overwhelming emotional state (b) Happens due over the top sensation  
 (c) Happens due to overload of information (d) Happens due to senses being overwhelmed
- (ix) Choose a suitable title for the given passage.  
 (a) Headaches and how to deal with it (b) Migraines - a headache  
 (c) Headache and its types (d) How to cure headache
- (x) Synonym for judge is  
 (a) gauge (b) witness (c) hear (d) clear
- (xi) Antonym of relief is  
 (a) release (b) heal (c) suffering (d) comfort

**LITERATURE (20 Marks)**

- 3. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY TWO of the three given by answering the questions that follow. (4 + 4 = 8)**

**A.** Food is more important for survival than an identity. "If at the end of the day we can feed our families and go to bed without an aching stomach, we would rather live here than in the fields that gave us no grain," say a group of women in tattered saris when I ask them why they left their beautiful land of green fields and rivers. Wherever they find food, they pitch their tents that become transit homes.

(i) 'Food is more important for survival than an identity'. Whose identity is being referred here?

- (a) The people who left Dhaka for Seemapuri      (b) The people of Firozabad  
(c) Mukesh's parents      (d) None of these

(ii) "fields that gave us no grain" means

- (a) The land that couldn't produce grain      (b) Their land that couldn't feed them  
(c) Their land that had no grain      (d) Their abandoned land

(iii) Which word in the lines means torn?

- (a) aching      (b) transit      (c) tattered      (d) feed

(iv) What is the main occupation of these women in tattered saris?

- (a) They are bangle makers.      (b) They are farmers.  
(c) They are ragpickers.      (d) They are labourers.

**B.** She looked at him compassionately, with her heavy eyes, and then she noticed that the man was afraid. "Either he has stolen something or else he has escaped from jail," she thought, and added quickly, "You may be sure, Captain, that you will be allowed to leave as just as freely as you came. Only please, stay with us over Christmas Eve."

(i) Who's the she?

- (a) A random woman the peddler met      (d) Elda the daughter of the ironmaster  
(c) The police      (d) The wife of the ironmaster

(ii) What did she observe about the peddler?

- (a) That he was unsure      (b) That he was angry  
(c) That he was afraid      (d) That we was desperate

(iii) She tried to convince the peddler to come to their place by

- (a) Saying he'll be paid for the visit  
(b) threatening him  
(c) bluffing the peddler  
(d) telling him he can leave freely whenever he wants to

(iv) Why did she come there ?

- (a) To invite the peddler for Christmas eve      (b) To make her father happy  
(c) To find a new husband      (d) Both a and b

**C.** Next day, during lunch hour, I drew three hundred dollars out of the bank, nearly all we had, and bought old-style currency (that really worried my psychiatrist friend).

(i) Why did he withdraw the money for?

- (a) To spend on stamps      (b) to convert them into old currencies  
(c) To go for a trip      (d) To lend it to a friend

- (ii) Where was he going with that money?  
 (a) To the third level in Grand Central (b) To his old home town  
 (c) To the subway station (d) To his old school
- (iii) Who was the psychiatrist friend mentioned here?  
 (a) Sam (b) Louisa (c) His grandfather (d) the ticket collector
- (iv) Find a word that has the same meaning as “worried”.  
 (a) Annoyed (b) Irritated (c) Concerned (d) Disturbed
4. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE of the two given by answering the questions that follow. (1 × 4 = 4)

A. it would be an exotic moment  
 without rush, without engines,  
 we would all be together  
 in a sudden strangeness  
 Fishermen in the cold sea  
 would not harm whales.  
 and the man gathering salt  
 would look at his hurt hands.

- (i) Name the poem.  
 (a) A Thing of Beauty (b) Aunt Jennifer's Tigers  
 (c) Keeping Quiet (d) An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum
- (ii) Exotic moment referred here means:  
 (a) Moment of destruction (b) Moment where human activities are suspended  
 (c) moment of anger (d) Moment of war
- (iii) What does the poet want from the fishermen ?  
 (a) To harm the whales (b) Not to harm the whales  
 (c) To abandon the seas (d) To gather salt
- (iv) Which word in the given lines means different?  
 (a) Rush (b) Moment (c) Harm (d) Exotic

OR

B. Unless, governor, inspector, visitor,  
 This map becomes their window and these windows  
 That shut upon their lives like catacombs,  
 Break O break open till they break the town.

- (i) What becomes the window for the children?  
 (a) the governor (b) the inspector  
 (c) the map in the classroom (d) the visitor
- (ii) What does the poet want from the governor, inspector and visitors ?  
 (a) To read stories to the children  
 (b) To buy them meal  
 (c) To adopt them  
 (d) To do something for the betterment of the children living in a slum.
- (iii) ‘That shut upon their lives like catacombs.’ Which figure of speech has been used in this line ?  
 (a) hyperbole (b) simile (c) allegory (d) monologue
- (iv) Which word in the lines have the same meaning as block?  
 (a) Shut (b) Windows (c) Catacombs (d) Lives

5. Attempt ANY EIGHT questions of following from the ten given below.

(1 × 8 = 8)

- (i) Mr Lamb lost his leg:  
(a) while trekking (b) because of a road accident  
(c) in the war (d) because of a fall
- (ii) The governor caught Evans in \_\_\_\_\_ after realizing he escaped.  
(a) Oxfordshire (b) Clipping Norton (c) Elsfield (d) his home
- (iii) Gandhi was mistaken to be a \_\_\_\_\_ when he came with Shukla.  
(a) lawyer (b) revolutionary (c) peasant (d) beggar
- (iv) The tone of the poem in A Thing of Beauty is :  
(a) depressing (b) hopeful (c) romantic (d) spiteful
- (v) The living conditions of the people of Seemapuri can be described as  
(a) Humble and clean (b) Rustic and nice  
(c) Dingy and congested (d) Spacious and dirty
- (vi) Kamala Das refers to her mother as late winter's moon because  
(a) she was glowing (b) she was getting smaller  
(c) she was looking pale (d) she was looking rigid
- (vii) When the peddler thought of the world as a rattrap he was:  
(a) Disgusted by it (b) Impressed by it (c) frightened by it (d) amused by it
- (viii) What kind of sky did the poet refer to the children's future in the poem An Elementary School Classroom in a slum  
(a) Blue (b) Clear (c) foggy (d) lead
- (ix) Roger Skunk's story main theme was that of:  
(a) Pleasing the people around you (b) Friendship  
(c) Loving and accepting oneself (d) Bullying
- (x) "Will they make them sing in German, even the pigeons?" This line was said by :  
(a) M Hamel (b) Franz (c) Douglas (d) Mukesh

## PART - B (40 Marks)

### WRITING (16 Marks)

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the following :

(1 × 3 = 3)

- A. You want to sell your TV. Write an advertisement for the 'sale and purchase' column of a local newspaper giving all relevant details. Write the advertisement in about 50 words.

OR

- B. You are Astha secretary of literature club of your school MX Public School. The 16<sup>th</sup> International Book Fair is being held at Pragati Maidan between 7 Feb.-14 Feb 20XX. Write a notice informing students about it.

7. Attempt ANY ONE of the following :

(1 × 3 = 3)

- A. You are Dr Avinash Bhalla. You have received an invitation from the Director, Health Services, Haryana who has invited leading medical practitioners of the state to attend a workshop on 'child care' on 20 May, 20XX at 10 a.m. in Civil Hospital Ambala. Respond to the invitation.

OR

- B. Write a suitable invitation to be sent to the parents of all students inviting them on the Parents' Day. You are Principal of Jain Parivar School, Chhattisgarh.

- 8. Attempt ANY ONE of the following :** (1 × 5 = 5)
- A. You are Preeti of 12-B, P.H. Road, Madurai. Recently you bought a mobile phone from ‘The Tech Station’, 83, Mount Road, Madurai. The device developed a problem within a month of purchase. Write a letter to the dealer giving details of the nature of the problem and asking him/her to rectify the defect or replace the set.

**OR**

- B. Write a letter to the Times of India calling for the need to start recycling our daily used products and how this is the need of the hour to save the planet. You are Ankita from Kailash Colony, New Delhi.
- 9. Attempt ANY ONE of the following :** (1 × 5 = 5)
- A. Write an article against gender discrimination in India in about 120-150 words

**OR**

- B. Recently there was a political protest held in Delhi that turned violent between two communities. Write a report for the Hindu on the incident in about 120-150 words.

**LITERATURE (24 Marks)**

- 10. Attempt ANY FIVE out of the six questions given below, in 30-40 words each.** (2 × 5 = 10)
- (i) What are the difficulties that Aunt Jennifer faced in her life?
  - (ii) Which two incidents in Douglas’ early life made him scared of water?
  - (iii) What does the writer mean when she says, ‘Saheb is no longer his own master’?
  - (iv) How, according to Neruda, can keeping quiet change our attitude to life?
  - (v) What made the lieutenant-governor drop the case against Gandhiji?
  - (vi) How did Franz feel about M Hamel on the last day of his class?
- 11. Attempt ANY TWO out of the three questions given below in 30-40 words each.** (2 × 2 = 4)
- (i) How does Jo want the story to end and why?
  - (ii) What does the third level refer to?
  - (iii) Why does Mr Lamb leave his gate always open?
- 12. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 120-150 words.** (1 × 5 = 5)
- A. How did Jo want the Roger Skunk story to end? Why?

**OR**

- B. Justify the title ‘The Third level’.
- 13. Attempt ANY ONE out of the following questions in 120-150 words** (1 × 5 = 5)
- A. The people in the Last Lesson suddenly realise how precious their language is to them? What shows you this? Why does this happen?

**OR**

- B. The peddler comes out as a person with a subtle sense of humour. How does this serve in lightening the seriousness of the theme of the story and also endear him to us?



# SOLUTIONS

1. (i) (a) about the same  
 (ii) (a) \$1.50-2.50  
 (iii) (c) to ease traffic  
 (iv) (c) 2017  
 (v) (b) call for  
 (vi) (b) changing laws and rules  
 (vii) (b) driverless taxi that can fly  
 (viii) (c) an idiom  
 (ix) (c) Flying taxis- a reality  
 (x) (a) Feisty  
 (xi) (b) horizontal
  2. (i) (c) identify the type of headache  
 (ii) (d) all of these  
 (iii) (c) body ache  
 (iv) (c) noise and light  
 (v) (b) 8-24 hours  
 (vi) (c) ambience  
 (vii) (d) (a) and (b)  
 (viii) (d) Happens due to senses being overwhelmed  
 (ix) (c) Headache and its types  
 (x) (a) gauge  
 (xi) (c) suffering
  3. A. (i) (a) The people who left Dhaka for Seemapuri  
 (ii) (b) Their land that couldn't feed them  
 (iii) (c) tattered  
 (iv) (c) They are ragpickers.  
 B. (i) (d) Elda the daughter of the ironmaster  
 (ii) (c) That he was afraid  
 (iii) (d) telling him he can leave freely whenever he wants to  
 (iv) (c) To invite the peddler for Christmas Eve  
 C. (i) (b) to convert them into old currencies  
 (ii) (a) To the third level in Grand Central  
 (iii) (a) Sam  
 (iv) (c) Concerned
  4. A. (i) (c) Keeping Quiet  
 (ii) (b) Moment where human activities are suspended  
 (iii) (b) Not to harm the whales  
 (iv) (d) Exotic
- OR**
- B. (i) (c) the map in the classroom  
 (ii) (d) To do something for the betterment of the children living in a slum  
 (iii) (b) simile  
 (iv) (a) Shut
  5. (i) (c) in the war  
 (ii) (b) Clipping Norton  
 (iii) (c) peasant  
 (iv) (b) hopeful  
 (v) (c) Dingy and congested  
 (vi) (c) She was looking pale  
 (vii) (d) amused by it  
 (viii) (d) lead  
 (ix) (c) loving and accepting oneself  
 (x) (b) Franz

6.A.

## 40 inch LG TV For Sale

40 inch LG TV for sale, used for only a year, boxing and warranty card intact, top-end model, excellent condition, owner going abroad, 15k non- negotiable price.  
 Contact Anita, 21, Ram Nagar, Delhi between 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

7.A.

Avinash Bhalla

has a great pleasure in receiving the invitation from the Director, Health Services, Haryana to attend a workshop on 'Child Care' on 20 May, 20XX at 10 a.m. in Civil Hospital Ambala.

He confirms his presence with thanks.

Dr. Avinash Bhalla

16 March, 20XX

8.A. 12-B, P.H. Road  
Madurai  
17th January, 20XX  
The Tech Station  
83, Mount Road  
Madurai  
**Subject :** Rectify/Replace Defective Mobile Phone  
Sir  
I had purchased a mobile phone Samsung Galaxy from your showroom vide Bill No. KY00334 on 22nd December. I was using it to my satisfaction since I bought it but for the past few days I have noticed that I now need to charge my phone after every 4-5 hours, unlike earlier when I used to charge my phone after almost 24 hours. Despite the fact that I am using the phone for the same duration as before the battery life has reduced drastically. It is my request to you to rectify this defect with the battery, or replace the handset that comes with a one-year warranty. The Tech Station enjoys a good reputation and goodwill, so I expect you to look into the matter at the earliest so as to enable me to use my mobile phone as conveniently as I was using it before.  
Yours sincerely  
Preeti

## 9. A. Gender Discrimination

by XYZ

In our male-dominated society the girl child is considered inferior. The birth of a male child is an event for celebration while that of a female child is rued. The bias is more pronounced in rural areas. Daughters are not given good quality food. Milk, eggs, fruit, etc. are reserved for the boys. Girls are sent to schools which have no claim to any quality education or facilities. On the other hand, boys are sent to the most exclusive 'public schools'. After school the daughters stay at home and assist in household work. The boys go out to meet friends, enjoy movies and shows or play games. It is the girls who face all types of restrictions. This discrimination is unjust and harmful. Ultimately it is the society that suffers. There's also the case of dowry in most cases of Indian wedding where a bride is expected to bring hefty amount of money and goods in the name of wedding gift, this practice makes the birth of a girl even more burdensome and unwanted in a middle-lower class families. Even in work places hiring males is more preferred to females due to certain gender related prejudices. Some of the girls do grow up in an environment where they do not receive the same amount of support or encouragement as their male counterparts and end up losing in the competitive spheres later in life. Girls too have intelligence, talent and creativity. Indeed they have more sensibility, affection and love. We should end the evil discrimination against the girl child and give them equal opportunities and support to fly high.

10. (i) Aunt Jennifer was oppressed by rules laid down by her domineering husband. Her life was overburdened by the demands and duties of her married life and the patriarchal society. It lacked self-expression. Although old and weak, she had to face the ordeals of her oppressive marriage all her life, there was no escape from her husband.

(ii) The very first incident was the one at the beach with his father when Douglas was three or four year old. A wave had knocked him over and engulfed him in it completely. The next incident was at YMCA when an eighteen year old boy pushed Douglas into the swimming pool.

(iii) The writer meant that till Saheb was a ragpicker he was a carefree boy, who would work and had time for himself. But from the time he joined the tea stall, he started working under somebody else and had to follow what his master would say. Thus he had no time for himself and was no longer his own master.

(iv) Silence will give us time to think, to introspect, evaluate our actions and act more responsible. According to Neruda, this is how keeping quiet can change our attitude towards life.

(v) Thousands of peasants came in support of Gandhiji. The authorities felt that they could not control them and the condition of law and order could deteriorate. The pressure of the peasants was increasing. On the other hand, Gandhiji refused to have any bail. Therefore the lieutenant-general dropped the case against Gandhiji.

**11.** (ii) The third level refers to another level at the Grand central station. In reality, there were only two levels there but the narrator accidentally finds himself at the third level. The third level had an imaginary old world which eventually proves to be real and very much existing.

(iii) Mr Lamb always left his gate open because he did not mind strangers entering his house or garden. As he lived alone, he hoped someone would come inside whom he could talk to if kept his gate open. It shows his undying optimism towards life.

**12.** In Jack's version of the story, Roger Skunk's mommy hits the wizard on his head with her umbrella, and told him to cast a reverse spell on Roger skunk and give him his original smell back. However, Jo did not agree with this ending and suggested an alternate end for the story. According to her, the wizard should have hit mommy back and not change Roger Skunk.

To Jo, the wizard was a good person who helps 'Roger skunk' when he was in trouble and seeking a way out. Witnessing Mommy Skunk's actions, Jo felt that 'stupid Mommy' should have been punished for her unkind behaviour towards the kind wizard. She believed that Mommy Skunk was imposing her will both on

Roger Skunk and the wizard without considering her son's fear of not getting accepted by his peers. Jo also thought that Roger Skunk should be allowed to choose his own life even if it meant to get rid of the stink.

**13.** The people in this story didn't take the study of their language seriously. They always used to think that they have ample time to learn their language. But in the Franco-Prussian war in 1870, the French districts of Alsace and Lorraine came into the hands of Prussians. They imposed a ban on the teaching and studying of French. They ordered all the teachers of the French languages to leave these districts. They wanted that the people there study only the German language.

Now the people in the story realise how precious their language is to them. Now they regret that they haven't learnt their language well. They realise that they can't learn their language no more. M.Hamel is a teacher of the French language in the villages of Alsace. He is delivering his last lesson of the French language. Not only the students but also the elders of the village come there to attend his class. It shows the people's love for their language.

