

Class XII Session 2023-24
Subject - English Core
Sample Question Paper - 4

Time allowed: 3 hours

Maximum marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION-A
READING SKILLS (22 MARKS)

1. Read the following text.

(1) From the moment a baby first opens its eyes, it is learning. Sight and sensation spark off a learning process which will determine in large measure, the sort of person it will become.

Language stands head and shoulders over all other tools as an instrument of learning. It is the language that gives man his lead in intelligence over all the other creatures. No other creature can assemble a list of ideas, consider them, draw conclusions and then explain his reasoning. Man can do all this because he possesses language. And if thought depends on language, the quality of an individual's thought will depend on that person's language-rudimentary or sophisticated, precise or approximate, stereotyped or original.

(2) Very young babies are soothed by human voice uttering comforting words close to them. This essentially- emotional response provides early evidence that feeling is an important component of language learning. Children learn to use language in interaction with other human beings and this learning proceeds best against a background of affectionate feedback from the person who is closest to them. This is seen to perfection in the interaction between parent and a baby: eyes locked together, the adult almost physically drawing 'verbal' response from the baby, both engulfed by that unique experience of intimate and joyful 'connecting, which sets the pattern of the relationship between two people.

(3) Thus, long before they can speak, children are involved in a two-way process of communication, which is steadily building a foundation on which their later use of language will be based. Constantly surrounded by language, they are unconsciously building structures in their minds into which their speech and reading will later fit grammatical constructions, tense sequences and so on. The forms of these structures will depend on the amount and complexity of speech they hear. Fortunate are those children who listen to articulate adults, expressing ideas

and defending opinions. They will know, long before they can contribute themselves and understand, that relationships are forged through this process of speaking and listening; that warmth and humour have a place in the process, as have all other human emotions.

(4) Using books is the most important means of ensuring a child's adequate language development. None of us can endlessly initiate and maintain speech with very small children; we run out of ideas or just get plain sick of it. Their lives are confined to a limited circle and they do not have enough experience to provide raw material for constant verbal interaction.

(5) Parents and children who share books share the same frame of reference. Incidents in everyday life constantly remind one or the other of a situation, a character, an action, from a jointly enjoyed book, with all the generation of warmth and well-being that is attendant upon such sharing. All too often, there is a breakdown of communication between parents and children when the problems of adolescence arise. In most cases, this is most acute when the give-and-take of shared opinions and ideas have not been constantly practised throughout childhood. Books can play a major role in the establishment of this verbal give-and-take because they are rooted in language.

(6) Young children's understanding greatly outruns their capacity for expression as their speech strains to encompass their awareness, to represent reality as they see it. Shades of meaning which may be quite unavailable to the child of limited verbal experience are startlingly talked to toddler. All the wonderful modifying words-later, nearly, tomorrow, almost, wait, half, lend, etc. begin to steer the child away from the simple extremes of "Yes" and "No" towards the adult world of compromise from the child's black and white world to the subtle shades and tints of the real world. The range of imaginative experience opened up by books expands the inevitably limited horizons of children's surroundings and allows them to make joyful, intrigued, awestruck acquaintance with countless people, animals, objects and ideas in their first years of life.

(7) Books also open children to new points of view, besides their own as they unconsciously put themselves into other people's places-'if that could happen to him, it could happen to me. This imaginative self-awareness brings apprehensions and fears as well as heightened hopes and joys.

(8) In books, children can experience language which is subtle, resourceful, exhilarating and harmonious; languages that provide the human ear (and understanding) with a pointed and precise pleasure, the searing illuminating impact of good and true words. Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

i. What makes a man superior over all the other creatures?

A. Their way of observing things

B. Their language

C. Their body-language

D. Their skills

ii. What is an important component of language learning?

A. Environment

B. Education

C. Feeling

D. Books of literature

iii. What are the most important means of ensuring a child's adequate language development?

A. Maintaining speech

B. Providing raw material for constant verbal interaction

C. Two-way process of communication

D. Using books

iv. The parents can't rely only on constant verbal interactions because_____

V. What are the advantages of books mentioned in the above passage?

A. It creates self awareness in children.

B. It enables children to see things from other's point of view.

C. Expose children to a wide range of vocabulary.

D. All of these

vi. How can language distinguish between human beings and others?

vii. How do children develop language?

viii. What role do books play?

ix. Read the given headlines and identify the option that does not correspond with the message of the passage.

(a) Develop new viewpoints through book.

(b) Sight and sensation - The spark of learning.

(c) No role played by adults in children's language acquisition.

(d) Communication - A two way process.

A. (a) and (b)

B. (b), (c) and (d)

C. Only (c)

D. (a), (b), (c) and (d)

2. Read the following text.

(1) Referred to as 'nature's theatre, auroras have long fascinated the human race. During medieval times, the occurrences of auroral displays were seen as harbingers of war or famine. The Menominee Indians of North America believed that the lights indicated the location of giants who were the spirits of great hunters and fishermen. The Inuit community of Alaska believed that the lights were the spirits of the animals they hunted: the seals, salmon, deer, and

beluga whales. Other aboriginal people believed that the lights were the spirits of their ancestors.

(2) The bright dancing lights of the aurora are actually collisions between electrically charged particles from the sun that enter the earth's atmosphere. The lights are seen above the magnetic poles of the northern and southern hemispheres. They are known as 'aurora borealis' in the North Pole and 'aurora australis' in the South Pole. Scientists have learned that, in most instances, northern and southern auroras are mirror-like images that occur at the same time, with similar shapes and colours.

(3) Auroral displays can also be seen over the southern tip of Greenland and Iceland, the northern coast of Norway, and over the coastal waters north of Siberia. Southern auroras are not often seen as they are concentrated in a ring around Antarctica and the southern Indian Ocean.

(4) Auroral displays appear in many colours, although pale green and pink are the most common. Common sightings of the same in shades of red, yellow, green, blue, and violet have been reported. Variations in colour are due to the type of gas particles in the Earth's atmosphere that is colliding with charged particles released from the sun's atmosphere. The most common auroral colour, a pale yellowish-green, is produced by oxygen molecules located about 96 kilometres above the earth. Rare, all-red auroras are produced by high-altitude oxygen, at heights of up to 320 kilometres from the Earth's surface. Nitrogen produces blue or purplish-red aurora.

(5) The lights appear in many forms from patches of scattered clouds of light to streamers, arcs, rippling curtains or shooting rays that light up the sky with an eerie glow.

(6) Auroras are classified as diffuse or discrete. Most aurorae occur in a band known as the auroral zone. Diffuse aurora is a featureless glow in the sky which may not be visible to the naked eye even on a dark night. Discrete aurorae are sharply defined features within the diffuse aurora which vary in brightness from being just barely visible to the naked eye to being bright enough to read a newspaper at night. Discrete aurorae are usually observed only in the night because they are not as bright as the sunlit sky.

(7) Whereas some people still connect various legends with aurorae, the fact remains that it will continue to fascinate people who experience it. Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

i. Pick out the option that is correct according to the above passage.

- A. Inuit community of Alaska believed the lights were the spirits of animals they hunted.
- B. Aboriginal believed that the lights indicated the location of giants.
- C. Menominee Indians believed the lights were the spirits of their ancestors.
- D. North Americans believed that the lights were the spirits of fishermen and hunters.

ii. According to the passage the lights are seen above the magnetic poles of the _____ hemispheres.

iii. Pick out the correct option with reference to the above passage.

A. Red auroras - high-altitude oxygen

B. North pole - aurora australis

C. South pole - aurora borealis

D. Hemispheres-Mirror like images

iv. Pick out the words from the given options that are synonyms of 'eerie'.

1. Earthly

2. Ordinary

3. Bizarre

4. Funny

5. Uncanny

A. 1 and 2

B. 4 and 5

C. 2 and 4

D. 3 and 5

V. Pick out the option that is not true about auroras as given in the above passage.

A. Since very long, auroras have fascinated the human race.

B. Diffuse aurora can be seen with the naked eyes in the night.

C. The pale yellowish-green colour of aurora is produced by oxygen molecules.

D. Auroral displays can also be seen in shades of red, yellow, green, blue and violet.

vi. What are auroras?

vii. Describe about the various colours of auroral displays.

viii. State True or False.

Discrete aurorae are mostly observed in early morning.

SECTION-B

CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18 MARKS)

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 50 words.

A. You are Babul/Bubbli of S.R.M. Vidyalaya, Agra. As Coordinator of Red Cross Society wing of your school, you propose to organise a one day blood donation camp at your school. Draft a notice to be placed on your school notice board appealing to the students to motivate their parents and neighbours to participate in this noble cause.

OR

B. As Student Co-ordinator of the Literary Club of Little Sunshine School, Delhi, draft a notice informing students of the essay writing competition asking them to register their names with the Secretary of the Club within a week.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 50 words.

A. You are Akshay/Amrita, a child psychologist. You have been invited to be the Chief Guest at a seminar on Fundamental Rights of Children organised by the Lions Club of your district. Draft a reply declining the invitation.

OR

B. As secretary of the Literary Club of St. Mary School, Kolkata, draft a formal invitation for the inauguration of the club in your school.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 120-150 words.

A. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, expressing your opinion and views on the increased human dependence on technology. Right from a small child to an adult, or even an old man, everyone wants gadgets only - cell phone, I-pod, laptop, etc. This also has a negative effect on social relationships. You are Rajiv/Ranjana of Krishna Colony, New Delhi.

OR

B. Games and sports are not given so much importance in the country as is given to academics. As a result of this our achievements in the international arena are not very spectacular. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily on the importance of sports and games and on the need to create awareness about it. You are Sunita/Sameer, 8/35, M.G. Road, Bangalore.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 120-150 words.

A. You had an eye opening experience at a Personality Development Workshop organised for the students of Class-XI and XII by your school. Write a report signing yourself as Nandan/Nandini.

OR

B. Write an article about the importance of work-life balance.

SECTION-C

LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 MARKS)

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

A. What a thunderclap these words were to me!

Oh! the wretches; that was what they had put up at the town-hall!

i. What has been put up at the town-hall?

ii. What does the word 'thunderclap' refer to?

iii. The narrator mumbled- "Oh the wretches" - he said so because after the announcement he finds

himself

- A. inadequate
- B. unfortunate
- C. confident
- D. courageous

iv. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE, with reference to the extract.

V. Franz was excited to learn of the end of the French language class as he had always hated it. Which figure of speech from those given below is being used by the author in the line, "What a thunderclap these words were to me!"

- A. Simile
- B. Personification
- C. Metaphor
- D. Hyperbole

vi. Pick out the option that correctly describes the author's feelings when he heard the news.

- 1. Shocked
 - 2. Surprised
 - 3. Guilty
 - 4. Jealousy
 - 5. Elated
 - 6. Disapproval
- A. 2, 4, and 5
 - B. 1, 3, and 6
 - C. 1, 2, and 3
 - D. 4, 5, and 6

OR

B. Savita, a young girl in a drab pink dress, sits alongside an elderly woman soldering pieces of glass. As her hands move mechanically like the tongs of a machine, I wonder if she knows the sanctity of the bangles she helps make. It symbolises an Indian woman's suhaag, auspiciousness in marriage. It will dawn on her suddenly one day when her head is draped with a red veil, her hands dyed red with henna, and red bangles rolled onto her wrists. She will then become a bride. Like the old woman beside her who become one many years ago.

i. Pick out the option that best describes Savita.

- A. Young and innocent
- B. Old and patient

- D. Old and confused
- C. Young and irritable

ii. "Savita, a young girl ..., sits alongside an elderly woman, soldering pieces of glass." This means that Savita was _____

- A. trying to make the bangles all by herself
- B. trying to help the old woman
- C. hungry and disturbing the old woman in doing the work
- D. getting anxious and thus scolding the old woman

iii. The line, "As her hands move mechanically like the tongs of a machine, ..." is an example of

- A. hyperbole
- B. parody
- C. simile
- D. symbolism

iv. Choose the option that best demonstrates the significance of red colour in Indian Hindu culture.

- A. Aridity and boredom
 - B. Energetic and vibrant
 - C. Auspiciousness and purity
 - D. Calmness and caution
- V. What does "soldering" mean?

vi. What is the figure of speech used in the line "Like the old woman beside her"?

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

A. The presidents of the New York Central and the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroads will swear on a stack of timetables that there are only two. But I say there are three, because I've been on the third level of the Grand Central Station. Yes, I've taken the obvious step: I talked to a psychiatrist friend of mine, among others. I told him about the third level at Grand Central Station, and he said it was a waking-dream wish fulfillment. He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it, and that I just want to escape.

i. Pick out the option which is a correct description of the phrase "waking-dream wish fulfillment".

- A. A pleasant wish that makes one forget the past's terrible experiences

- B. A pleasant wish that takes one to the future
- C. A pleasant wish that encourages to work
- D. A pleasant wish that makes one forget the present

ii. What does the 'third level' signify?

iii. Pick out the option that best describes the mental tendency of the narrator.

(1) Disappointed

A. 1 and 3

(2) Escapism

B. 1 and 2

(3) Calm

C. 3 and 4

(4) Satisfied

D. 2 and 4

iv. "The modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry..." signifies that:

A. the world is full of chaos but at the same time means of happiness also for the narrator.

B. the narrator is not at all satisfied with his life.

C. the narrator wanted to explore more about the modern world.

D. the narrator enjoys the feeling of pain and insecurities in his life.

OR

B.Derry: I thought it was empty ... an empty house.

Mr. Lamb: So it is. Since I'm out here in the garden. It is empty. Until I go back inside. In the meantime, I'm out here and likely to stop. A day like this. Beautiful day. Not a day to be indoors.

i. Why do you think Derry entered the garden knowing or thinking it was empty?

ii. The old man's response "Since I'm out here in the garden, [the house] is empty" shows _____

A. his rudeness

B. his annoyance at the unwelcomed guest

C. his anger at the boy

D. the truth that the house is indeed empty as he's not inside it

iii. "In the meantime, I'm out here and likely to stop." What do you think this sentence means?

iv. Assertion (A): Mr. Lamb states it's a beautiful day to be outdoors.

Reason (R): Derry was trying to steal his crab apples.

A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

B. Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

C. A is true but R is false.

D. A is false but R is true.

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

A. looked out at Young Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling out of their homes, but after the airport's security check, standing a few yards away, I looked again at her, wan, pale as a late winter's moon and felt that old familiar ache,.....

i. The phrase "Trees sprinting" refers to

ii. The poet's another glance at her mother's face filled her with the feeling of

A. anxiety and fear

B. only fear

C. sadness and guilt

D. only guilt

iii. The mother's pale face is compared to the _

iv. The literary device used by the poet in the following line is "... as a late winter's moon and felt that old familiar ache,..."

A. personification

B. allegory

C. simile

D. onomatopoeia

V. What did the poet do after the security check?

vi. Which option lists the statement that is not true according to the extract?

A. When the poet looks at the passing green trees and young children, the world around her appears young and energetic.

B. The poet describes the youthful scenery of the world to underscore the nature years of her mother.

C. The beautiful scenery outside distracted the poet from her thoughts for a while.

D. Looking at the sprinting trees, the poet desires for the long life of her mother.

OR

B. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen Bright topaz denizens of a world of green. They do not fear the men beneath the tree; They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.

i. Why are the tigers called 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'?

ii. Match the following correctly:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| (i) Prance | (a) to walk with long steps in a direction. |
| (ii) Pace | (b) move about in a predatory manner. |
| (iii) Stride | (c) to move quickly with exaggerated steps. |
| (iv) Prowl | (d) to walk up and down in a small area many times. |

A. (i)-c, (ii)-d, (iii)-a, (iv)-b

B. (i)-d, (ii)-a, (iii)-b, (iv)-c

C. (i)-b, (ii)-a, (iii)-d, (iv)-c

D. (i)-a, (ii)-c, (iii)-b, (iv)-d

iii. Why are Aunt Jennifer's tigers prancing across the screen?

A. Because they are showing their actions.

B. Because they love her.

C. Because they are real animals.

D. Because they are the product of her imagination

iv. Name the poem and the poet of the given extract.

V. Match the following stones with their colour characteristics.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| (i) Diamond | (a) Yellow and orange |
| (ii) Topaz | (b) Green |
| (iii) Emerald | (c) Colourless |
| (iv) Ruby | (d) Red |

A. (i)-b, (ii)-c, (iii)-a, (iv)-d

B. (i)-c, (ii)-a, (iii)-b, (iv)-d

C. (i)-a, (ii)-b, (iii)-c, (iv)-d

D. (i)-d, (ii)-c, (iii)-a, (iv)-b

vi. What is the meaning of the word 'denizens'?

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions, in about 40-50 words.

i. How is the bangle industry of Firozabad a curse for the bangle makers?

ii. What did the gift of the rattrap signify?

iii. The poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' is replete with symbols. Interpret any two symbols used in the poem.

iv. What different images does the poet use to convey the idea of her mother's old age?

V. What tempted Franz to stay away from school?

vi. Mention any two long term consequences of the drowning incident on Douglas.

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

i. Why are the youngsters called the future policy makers of the earth?

ii. How did "The World" help Charley to confirm his doubts regarding the existence of a third level?

iii. What considerations influenced the Tiger King to get married?

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in 120-150 words.

A. 'We too are Human Beings' highlights high caste - low caste discrimination in society. How do low caste people suffer on account of this? What advice is given to Bama to overcome this problem?

OR

B. Discuss the qualities of Mr. Lamb which made him overlook the deformity of Derry.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in 120-150 words.

A. Why do you think Gandhiji considered the Champaran episode to be a turning-point in his life?

OR

B. What did the French teacher tell his students in his last French lesson? What impact did it have on them? Why?

SOLUTIONS

1. i. A. discussing the relationship between the size of mammals and the nature of vegetation in their habitats
ii. C. incorrect assumptions on the part of geologists
iii. D. suggest the size of antelope herds
iv. C. prove a hypothesis
v. D. all of these
vi. The prejudice that vitiated the reasoning of geologists is their belief that large animals require dense jungles as their habitat. The prejudice probably originates from India and the Indian islands where troops of elephants are associated with impenetrable jungles and noble forests in everybody's minds.
vii. Dr. Smith calls Africa a sterile country because a large part of it lack any type of vegetation. Only on the southern coasts there are some fine forests. But apart from these, a traveller may pass for days through open plains, covered by a poor and scanty vegetation. However, the animals inhabiting these wide plains is great.
viii. B. I wish there was enough data.
ix. The partial explanation suggested by Darwin states that the underwood vegetation probably are very nutritious and re-grow quickly. He indicates that these may be adequate to feed the large herbivores.
2. i. B. meet her power shortage
ii. C. it lies very deep and the cost of extraction is very high
iii. B. reserves of thorium
iv. C. Radiation
v. there is uncertainty in rainfall.
vi. Radiation can increase the shelf life of vegetables and fruits. It can check the sprouting of onions and potatoes. In tropical countries like India, it is essential to preserve the perishable food items for a long time. Radiation can do it without changing the texture or taste of the fruit.
vii. Nuclear technology can be very helpful in the field of medicine. Radioactive iodine is said to be used for detecting the disease of the thyroid glands. Radiated vaccine can immunize sheep from lungworm disease. viii. True

3. A.

S.R.M. VIDYALAYA, AGRA

3 March, 20xx

NOTICE

One Day Blood Donation Camp

Our school has decided to organise a blood donation camp in association with the Red Cross Society, on Sunday, 5 March, 20xx at the school premises from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. All students are requested to motivate their parents and neighbours to participate in this noble cause. Contact the undersigned for further information.

Babul Bose

(Co-ordinator, Red Cross Society)

OR

B.

LITTLE SUNSHINE SCHOOL, DELHI

21 April, 20xx

NOTICE

Register for Essay Writing Competition

This is to inform all students of classes VI-XII that an Essay Writing Competition will be held this Friday, 25 August, 20xx in the audio - visual room from 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Maximum number of students representing per class is three. Those interested can give their names to the secretary of the Literary Club for registration.

XYZ

(Student Co-ordinator, Literary Club)

4. A.

26, Kothi Road, Mathura

24 February, 20xx

Respected President,

Thank you for your thoughtful invitation as Chief Guest to the seminar on 'Fundamental Rights of Children' in your club. However, I regret to inform you that I would not be able to attend it due to a prior engagement.

I extend my best wishes to you and all those involved in the great event.

Kind regards,

Dr. Amrita Rao

OR

B.

St. Mary School

We cordially invite all staff, students and parents for the inauguration of Literary Club of the school on 28th August between 8 : 30 a.m. to 12 : 00 pm. in the school premises. Well known novelist, Mr. Sandeep Mandal will be our Chief Guest. You all are also requested to join us in the auditorium for refreshment after the inauguration ceremony.

Secretary (Literary Club)

5.A.

215 Krishna Colony

New Delhi

17 Sept. 20xx

The Editor

The Hindustan Times

Subject : Human Dependence on Technology

Respected Sir,

Through this letter, I wish to draw the attention of everyone towards the increased dependence of humans on technology. We use internet for any type of information which we can find only a click away.

Everyone, whether a child or an adult wants gadgets like cell phones, I-pod, laptop, etc. No doubt, technology is a boon to mankind and has a great future ahead. But in my opinion, we should not depend on it as excess of everything is bad. It is making everyone lazy. On the other hand, cyber crimes are also growing. The key word for safety is caution.

We must make judicious use of technology and should not totally depend on it. We must believe in natural and simple living.

I hope you will publish this letter in your newspaper for better future of human beings.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely

Rajni Kataria

OR

B.

8/35, M.G. Road

Bangalore-47

9 March, 20xx

The Editor

The Times of India

Bangalore

Subject: Creating Awareness About the Importance of Sports and Games

Sir,

Through the columns of your esteemed daily, I would like to draw the attention of general public towards the fact that games and sports are not given as much importance in our country as is given to academics. As a result, our achievements in the international arena are not very spectacular.

Sports and games are gradually losing their importance because there is not much awareness, therefore it needs to be created. The recent Olympic Games have proven that India has the potential to perform well in sports. Yet, there are only a handful of athletes representing the country out of which only few win medals.

In an attempt to make a good career with lucrative job, academics is given the most importance in our country. Students are required to score high in all subjects for which they work extremely hard, more often than not, by ignoring sports and games.

Students and parents must understand that sports and games are necessary for all-round development of children. They become fitter, smarter and healthier by playing sports and games. People are so busy running in the rat race that they fail to realise that sports is a great career option as well. Sports people and athletes not only become the face of the country but also they earn well.

With this letter, I wish to create awareness amongst parents and students that involvement in sports and games is not a wastage of time and energy.

I hope that I have been able to highlight the problem in this letter and that, in future, sports and games will be given equal importance as is given to academics.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

Sunita Menon

6. A. Workshop on Personality Development

An interactive workshop on personality development was organised by our school last Saturday. The students of class XI and XII participated in the workshop. The aim of the workshop was to prepare the students for their future and to equip them for the bigger challenges in life. The students were addressed on various topics like self- analysis, body language and etiquettes. Several activities and group discussions were conducted to help the students with their communication and public speaking skills. The workshop was also graced by the presence of eminent personalities like Ms. Sushmita Sen and Mr. Milind Soman. They interacted with the students and spoke to them about the importance of interpersonal skills. The workshop proved to be a great success. The students left the workshop beaming with confidence and optimism.

OR

B. Importance of Work-life Balance - By XYZ

Today, we are living in an age when people are more stressed than relaxed. Due to extreme competitiveness in every aspect of life, there is always a lack of time. This then leads to high level of anxiety, mental tension and of course, the feeling of dissatisfaction. A cut-throat competition starts at school level with parents pressurising children to work extra hard and score high marks in all subjects. Students too feel the pressure of performing better than the rest. Therefore, they get stressed when they are unable to perform according to expectation of their parents and themselves. The stress builds on until it turns into health hazards, which stays on forever. Then there is stress at work front, which is worse than scoring high. Students might acquire highest marks, but this does not guarantee that it would land their desired jobs. Even if they do, there are other reasons for one to feel the stress. Desired salary, timely promotion, material growth, such as own house and car, marriage, etc. often come along with anxiety, stress and lifestyle diseases. Therefore, it is suffice to say that the present day youth is greatly stressed and to some extent, the consumerist culture is to be blamed for this. Fortunately, there is a solution to avoid stress at all times. Regular exercise and yoga improves concentration and keeps the mind healthy. It decreases physical ailments, reduces behavioural problems, reduces depression, stress, thus calming one's mind. One should also spend some quality time with one's family, friends and loved ones, do charity/ community service, adopt pets, go for walks or pursue a hobby in order to de-stress.

SECTION-C

LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 MARKS)

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

A. What a thunderclap these words were to me!

Oh! the wretches; that was what they had put up at the town-hall!

- i. What has been put up at the town-hall?
- ii. What does the word 'thunderclap' refer to?
- iii. The narrator mumbled- "Oh the wretches" - he said so because after the announcement he finds himself
 - A. inadequate
 - B. unfortunate
 - C. confident
 - D. courageous
- iv. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE, with reference to the extract.
V. Franz was excited to learn of the end of the French language class as he had always hated it.
Which figure of speech from those given below is being used by the author in the line, "What a thunderclap these words were to me!"
 - A. Simile
 - B. Personification
 - C. Metaphor
 - D. Hyperbole
- vi. Pick out the option that correctly describes the author's feelings when he heard the news.
 - 1. Shocked
 - 2. Surprised
 - 3. Guilty
 - 4. Jealousy
 - 5. Elated
 - 6. Disapproval
 - A. 2, 4, and 5
 - B. 1, 3, and 6
 - C. 1, 2, and 3
 - D. 4, 5, and 6

OR

B. Savita, a young girl in a drab pink dress, sits alongside an elderly woman soldering pieces of glass. As her hands move mechanically like the tongs of a machine, I wonder if she knows the sanctity of the bangles she helps make. It symbolises an Indian woman's suhaag, auspiciousness in marriage. It will dawn on her suddenly one day when her head is draped with a red veil, her hands dyed red with henna, and red bangles rolled onto her wrists. She will then become a bride. Like the old woman beside her who become one many years ago.

i. Pick out the option that best describes Savita.

- A. Young and innocent
- B. Old and patient
- D. Old and confused
- C. Young and irritable

ii. "Savita, a young girl ..., sits alongside an elderly woman, soldering pieces of glass." This means that Savita was _____

- A. trying to make the bangles all by herself
- B. trying to help the old woman
- C. hungry and disturbing the old woman in doing the work
- D. getting anxious and thus scolding the old woman

iii. The line, "As her hands move mechanically like the tongs of a machine, ..." is an example of

- A. hyperbole
- B. parody
- C. simile
- D. symbolism

iv. Choose the option that best demonstrates the significance of red colour in Indian Hindu culture.

- A. Aridity and boredom
 - B. Energetic and vibrant
 - C. Auspiciousness and purity
 - D. Calmness and caution
- V. What does "soldering" mean?

vi. What is the figure of speech used in the line "Like the old woman beside her"?

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

A. The presidents of the New York Central and the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroads will swear on a stack of timetables that there are only two. But I say there are three, because I've been on the third level of the Grand Central Station. Yes, I've taken the obvious step: I talked to a psychiatrist friend of mine, among others. I told him about the third level at Grand Central Station, and he said it was a waking-dream wish fulfillment. He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it, and that I just want to escape.

i. Pick out the option which is a correct description of the phrase "waking-dream wish fulfillment".

A. A pleasant wish that makes one forget the past's terrible experiences

B. A pleasant wish that takes one to the future

C. A pleasant wish that encourages to work

D. A pleasant wish that makes one forget the present

ii. What does the 'third level' signify?

iii. Pick out the option that best describes the mental tendency of the narrator.

(1) Disappointed

A. 1 and 3

(2) Escapism

B. 1 and 2

(3) Calm

C. 3 and 4

(4) Satisfied

D. 2 and 4

iv. "The modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry..." signifies that:

A. the world is full of chaos but at the same time means of happiness also for the narrator.

B. the narrator is not at all satisfied with his life.

C. the narrator wanted to explore more about the modern world.

D. the narrator enjoys the feeling of pain and insecurities in his life.

OR

B.Derry: I thought it was empty ... an empty house.

Mr. Lamb: So it is. Since I'm out here in the garden. It is empty. Until I go back inside. In the meantime, I'm out here and likely to stop. A day like this. Beautiful day. Not a day to be indoors.

i. Why do you think Derry entered the garden knowing or thinking it was empty?

ii. The old man's response "Since I'm out here in the garden, [the house] is empty" shows _____

A. his rudeness

B. his annoyance at the unwelcomed guest

C. his anger at the boy

D. the truth that the house is indeed empty as he's not inside it

iii. "In the meantime, I'm out here and likely to stop." What do you think this sentence means?

iv. Assertion (A): Mr. Lamb states it's a beautiful day to be outdoors.

Reason (R): Derry was trying to steal his crab apples.

A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

B. Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

C. A is true but R is false.

D. A is false but R is true.

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

A. looked out at Young Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling out of their homes, but after the airport's security check, standing a few yards away, I looked again at her, wan, pale as a late winter's moon and felt that old familiar ache,.....

i. The phrase "Trees sprinting" refers to

ii. The poet's another glance at her mother's face filled her with the feeling of

A. anxiety and fear

B. only fear

C. sadness and guilt

D. only guilt

iii. The mother's pale face is compared to the _

iv. The literary device used by the poet in the following line is "... as a late winter's moon and felt that old familiar ache,..."

A. personification

B. allegory

C. simile

D. onomatopoeia

V. What did the poet do after the security check?

vi. Which option lists the statement that is not true according to the extract?

A. When the poet looks at the passing green trees and young children, the world around her appears young and energetic.

B. The poet describes the youthful scenery of the world to underscore the mature years of her mother.

C. The beautiful scenery outside distracted the poet from her thoughts for a while.

D. Looking at the sprinting trees, the poet desires for the long life of her mother.

OR

B. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen Bright topaz denizens of a world of green. They do not fear the men beneath the tree; They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.

i. Why are the tigers called 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'?

ii. Match the following correctly:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| (i) Prance | (a) to walk with long steps in a direction. |
| (ii) Pace | (b) move about in a predatory manner. |
| (iii) Stride | (c) to move quickly with exaggerated steps. |
| (iv) Prowl | (d) to walk up and down in a small area many times. |

A. (i)-c, (ii)-d, (iii)-a, (iv)-b

B. (i)-d, (ii)-a, (iii)-b, (iv)-c

C. (i)-b, (ii)-a, (iii)-d, (iv)-c

D. (i)-a, (ii)-c, (iii)-b, (iv)-d

iii. Why are Aunt Jennifer's tigers prancing across the screen?

A. Because they are showing their actions.

B. Because they love her.

C. Because they are real animals.

D. Because they are the product of her imagination

iv. Name the poem and the poet of the given extract.

V. Match the following stones with their colour characteristics.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| (i) Diamond | (a) Yellow and orange |
| (ii) Topaz | (b) Green |
| (iii) Emerald | (c) Colourless |
| (iv) Ruby | (d) Red |

A. (i)-b, (ii)-c, (iii)-a, (iv)-d

B. (i)-c, (ii)-a, (iii)-b, (iv)-d

C. (i)-a, (ii)-b, (iii)-c, (iv)-d

D. (i)-d, (ii)-c, (iii)-a, (iv)-b

vi. What is the meaning of the word 'denizens'?

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions, in about 40-50 words.

i. How is the bangle industry of Firozabad a curse for the bangle makers?

ii. What did the gift of the rattrap signify?

iii. The poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' is replete with symbols. Interpret any two symbols used in

the poem.

iv. What different images does the poet use to convey the idea of her mother's old age?

V. What tempted Franz to stay away from school?

vi. Mention any two long term consequences of the drowning incident on Douglas.

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

i. Why are the youngsters called the future policy makers of the earth?

ii. How did 'The World' help Charley to confirm his doubts regarding the existence of a third level?

iii. What considerations influenced the Tiger King to get married?

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in 120-150 words.

A. 'We too are Human Beings' highlights high caste - low caste discrimination in society. How do low caste people suffer on account of this? What advice is given to Bama to overcome this problem?

OR

B. Discuss the qualities of Mr. Lamb which made him overlook the deformity of Derry.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in 120-150 words.

A. Why do you think Gandhiji considered the Champaran episode to be a turning-point in his life?

OR

B. What did the French teacher tell his students in his last French lesson? What impact did it have on them? Why?