

**Class X  
(CBSE 2019)  
English (Communicative)  
Delhi (Set-1)**

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### Question 1

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.**

1. With eager anticipation we awaited the next stage. A tailor was called in to measure us. five boys and one girl, Mary Lila Rao, for the sports kits. I was filled with happiness, just like a child who had been given a bag full of candy. After all, I would be fulfilling my dream to wear a blazer with INDIA written on it!

2. A week later, we left for Australia. The night before we left I could not sleep. My small suitcase had been packed with my kit and bedding and I waited for the sun to rise. Excited by the prospect of what lay ahead, we boarded the train to Bombay, the first lap of our long journey across the seas to far-off Australia. When we reached Bombay's Churchgate station, we were taken by bus to the Astoria Hotel. It was the first time that I had seen such a grand place, and I could barely believe my eyes. What was I, a simple village boy doing in such a different world? While we were at the Astoria. Commander Rekhi, our manager, showed us how to knot a tie and gave us lessons on table manners.

3. When we reached Santa Cruz, the entire atmosphere at the terminal seemed unreal- its bright lights, the strange sounds, the rush of people. Except for Mary Lila Rao, none of us had flown before. I was scared and confused. I had no bedding and no food. Where would I sleep? What would I eat? How would the plane take off with so many people, their luggage and other cargo? Would it crash under so much weight? I followed my companions towards the huge monster that awaited us, and blindly climbed up the ramp into the cabin. I was asked to fasten my seatbelt, but naturally I did not know what to do and was fumbling with the straps when the air-hostess kindly helped me.

4. When the plane started to taxi along the runway, I closed my eyes and prayed to my God. I had butterflies in my stomach as the plane ascended. And then we were airborne. When I looked out of the window I saw smoke pouring out of the engine, and raised an alarm, thinking that the plane was on fire. The air-hostess calmed me down patiently explaining that it was only the fuel burning. I felt very foolish and laughed with relief.

**(Adapted from the Autobiography of Milkha Singh)**



**1.1 Attempt any eight of the following questions on the basis of the passage you have read.**

- (i)** Why couldn't Milkha Singh sleep a night before they left?
- (ii)** How many people had flown earlier?
- (iii)** What made the atmosphere of Santa Cruz seem unreal?
- (iv)** Give any two reasons responsible for Milkha's worry or confusion?
- (v)** According to him what was a huge monster?
- (vi)** Why was he fascinated by the hotel?
- (vii)** Why did the air-hostess need to help him?
- (viii)** Why did he pray to his God?
- (ix)** Identify and name the figure of speech in para-I?

**Solution**

1.1.

**(i)** Milkha Singh couldn't sleep a night before they left because it was the first time he was going to travel by aeroplane and that too for Australia. He was filled with utter happiness and excitement and questions of curiosity were filled in his mind for his journey.

**(ii)** Except for Mary Lila Rao, none of them had flown earlier. So, only one person had flown earlier.

**(iii)** The atmosphere of Santa Cruz appeared to be unreal because of its bright lights, the strange sounds and the rush of the people.

**(iv)** Milkha Singh was worried and confused, firstly, because he had no bedding and no food and secondly he was wondering how would the plane take off with so many people, their luggage and cargo.

**(v)** According to Milkha Singh, the huge monster was the plane towards which he was making a move to climb it up and get into the cabin.

**(vi)** Milkha Singh was fascinated by the hotel because he was a simple village boy from a village and it was the first time that he had seen such a grand place where the manager taught them to tie a knot and gave lessons on table manners.

**(vii)** The air-hostess had helped him because when he looked out of the plane, he saw some smoke pouring out of the engines, and raised an alarm thinking that the plane was on fire. Then the air-hostess calmed him down informing that it was only the fuel burning.

(viii) He prayed to his God because he was frightened when the plane started to taxi along the runway and started experiencing butterflies in his stomach as the plane ascended.

(ix) Figure of Speech - Simile

It is used in the sentence "just like a child who had been given a bag full of candy".

## Question 2

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

### Peer Pressure

1. Peer pressure is a phenomenon wherein we tend to get influenced by the lifestyle and the ways of thinking of our peers. Peer pressure can prove beneficial but it is most often observed to have negative effects.

2. The thought, behavior, and taste in fashion, music, television and other walks of life of the masses are often seen to have a deep impact on society. We tend to get influenced by the lifestyle of our peer group. The changing ways of life of our peers often force us to change our ways of looking at life and leading it. It's a human tendency to do what the crowd does. Few have the courage to resist the peer pressure and be their own selves rather than being one among the lot. Peer pressure is bound to affect most of us both positively and negatively. The distinction between positive and negative peer pressure lies in a thoughtful analysis of the views of the masses. Following your peers blindly leaves a negative impact on your life while an analytical approach of looking at peer behavior can help you act positively. Peer pressure is not always bad. It can help you analyze yourself and contemplate on your ways of life. Some of the practices that the masses follow may actually teach you the way of living. You may be able to change yourself for the better. Looking at what others do, can help you bring about a positive change in your way of thinking. If you can pick selectively, peer pressure can actually result in positive change in your way of life.

3. Teenage is that phase of life when you are exposed to the world outside. These are the years when you spend most of your friends.

Teenage is the phase of beginning to become independent in life; the years of forming your friend. Teenage is the phase of beginning to become independent in life the years of forming your ideals and principles, the years that shape your personality and the years that introduce you to your own self. As adolescents you often spend most of your daily time with friends and owing to this, you tend to imitate your friends, The people around you are bound to influence you. However, the effect of the influences of the masses is greater during your teen years parents have a vital role to play during this phase of your life. parents and teachers need to be careful while dealing with teenagers, as they are most susceptible to succumb to peer pressure during these years of their

life. Teenage individuals need to be taught to distinguish between the good and the bad, the right and the wrong and should be taught to be thoughtful in life.

4. A strong support from family, and ability to differentiate between the positive and the negative and a skill to choose friends from among the peers this three-pronged strategy is the best way to keep away from negative peer pressure.

**2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any four of the following questions in 30-40 words each:**

- (i) How can changing ways of life of our peers affect us?
- (ii) What needs courage?
- (iii) Name any two factors which can help can help you gain from peer pressure.
- (iv) State any two characteristics of teenage.
- (v) Why are teenagers more likely to be affected by peer pressure?

**2.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, fill in any two of the following blanks with appropriate words/phrases:**

- (i) A negative impact on life can be left by .....
- (ii) A thoughtful analysis of views of masses will lead to .....
- (iii) Selective picking can result in .....

**2.3 Attempt any two of the following. Find out the words that mean the same as under:**

- (i) Affected by (Para 1)
- (ii) Difference (Para 2)
- (iii) Give in to (Para 3)

### **Solution**

**2.1**

(i) The changing ways of life of our peers often force us to change our ways of looking at life and leading it as it's a human tendency to do what the crowd does. This way our peers affect us by bringing a change in the outlook towards life.

(ii) The ability to resist peer pressure needs the courage. Being one's own self rather than being among the lot requires courage.

(iii) Two factors that can help to gain from peer pressure are -

-It can help one to analyse oneself and contemplate on one's own ways of life.

-Looking at what others do, can help one to bring about a positive change in one way of thinking.

**(iv)** Any two characteristics of Teenage are -

-It is the phase of life when one is exposed to the world outside and spend most of the time with friends.

-It is the phase of beginning to become independent in life, the years of forming your ideals and principles, the years that shape your personality and the years that introduce you to your own self.

**(v)** The teenagers are more likely to be affected by peer pressure because it is the phase of life when one is exposed to the world outside and these are the years when one spends most of the time with friends and tend to imitate them and hence they are bound to be influenced by the people who are around them.

## 2.2

**(i)** following the peers blindly

**(ii)** the distinction between positive and negative peer pressure

**(iii)** a positive change in your way of life.

## 2.3

**(i)** influenced by

**(ii)** distinction

**(iii)** succumb

## Question 3

Write a letter in 100-120 words, to the Editor of The Hindu, Chennai Discussing in detail the advantages and disadvantages of ban on crackers. You are Anu/Anuj, 112, Lawrence Road, Kochi

**OR**

Write an article in 100-120 words on the topic. 'Increasing Population in the Cities'. You are Ram/Rama. You may use following clues: Migration from village – more jobs – better educational facilities – effect on living conditions – overcrowding – slums – water and power supply – traffic jams.

## Solution

Anu  
112, Lawrence Road  
Kochi – 220022

23rd March 2019

The Editor  
The Hindu  
Chennai – 220099

Dear Sir/ Madam

**Subject:** Advantages and disadvantages of banning crackers

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to bring to the public and the authorities the advantages and disadvantages of putting a ban on crackers. While we all know that bursting of crackers results in noise pollution, air pollution and severe burn injuries, it is also good for certain people in a particular way.

People who work in production factories earn their living from making crackers and if there would be a ban on these, many people would lose their means of livelihood. Specially during Diwali and marriage seasons, the demand for fire crackers goes up and more people get to earn a living or some bonus amount for the betterment of their families.

On the other hand, many children lose their lives and often suffer serious burn injuries or harm their eyes and lungs so badly that they are unable to lead a normal life and hence, die at a very tender age by working in such factories. Thus, it is advisable to produce green crackers instead of putting a complete ban on them for the betterment of both the labourers and the people bursting them and our environment.

I hope you will publish this letter and help me make more and more people aware of the pros and cons of the ban.

Thanking you in anticipation!

**Your truly**

Anu

**OR**

### **Increasing Population in the Cities**

It is a matter of grave concern that the population in the cities is rising at an alarming rate. This however, is not happening without any valid reasons behind it. It is known that facilities and opportunities in cities are better than in rural areas and thus, people from villages often migrate to cities in search of jobs, better educational institutions, medical facilities, etc.

However, this has done more bad than good to the condition of the city and its native population. A rapid and continuous increase in the number of people moving to the cities has led to overcrowding, development of more number of slums, shortage of water and power supply and huge traffic jams apart from various other problems.



When the number of people living on the same piece of land increases by manifolds, it is sure that it would affect the quality of that land and environment adversely. Let us take the example of Delhi, the capital of India and the most promising city in the country. It has been facing a lot of issues such as increasing air and water pollution, traffic and even poor living conditions due to the continuous increase in population. Thus, it has lead to the death of the river Yamuna and migrating to this city comes with a price of deteriorating health conditions of its inhabitants.

#### Question 4

**Write a short story in 200-250 words, with the help of the cues given below. Give a suitable title to the story.**

It is not always true that slow and steady wins the race-this was discovered by Rohan/Renu when.....

OR

Rohan/Renu and his/her pet inseparable – one day – long trek – lost their way – separated from each other – used good sense – reunited returned safely.

#### Solution

##### **Slow and Steady does not Always Win**

It is a well known adage that 'Slow and Steady Wins the Race' but it is not always true and this was discovered by Renu when she saved her house from burning down by beating extremely fast in her actions.

It was the night of Diwali and children in her colony were enjoying bursting crackers. After the prayer, Renu also joined the kids to help them burst crackers. As soon as her neighbour lit a rocket, the bottle in which it was placed lost its balance and the rocket flew in the direction of Renu's house, it hit a curtain and the fire spread through the window quickly.

There were many candles and diyas lit all around her place and Renu without wasting a minute rushed towards the fire alarm and extinguisher. She hurried up the stairs and used the fire extinguisher to put out the fire in time. Had Renu been a little late, she would not have been able to save her house because the wild fire was about to burn down her house had it reached the kitchen area.

OR

##### **Friends Reunited**

Renu and her pet dog Rusty were inseparable. Where Renu used to go, Rusty used to follow her. Renu never ate without Rusty by her side and they even went out for a walk daily. For Renu, Rusty was her best friend who never left her side. One day, Renu went on a long trek and she took Rusty along as usual.



Everything was going well till Renu and Rusty lost their ways. While Renu had stopped to tie her shoe laces, Rusty excitedly moved about and lost its way. Renu frantically looked everywhere for Rusty but could not find it and in turn she lost her way as well. Renu was in tears and Rusty was scared too.

Soon Renu got up and decided to start dropping Rusty's food on her way while she moves ahead in search of Rusty. She knew that Rusty was a smart dog and it could smell its favourite food from kilometers away. Soon Rusty found the first piece of his food and started following the trail till he finally saw Renu sitting on a rock with an empty packet. Renu and Rusty were then reunited and they returned home safely.

### Question 5

Fill in any four of the following blanks choosing the most appropriate options from the ones given below.

- A. Politeness is said to (a) ..... one of the important characteristics of a person.
- B. The (b) .....enemy of politeness is ego.
- C. To be a polite person, you (c)..... to sacrifice your ego.
- D. It is difficult (d)..... an egoist to be polite.
- E. Polite actions (e)..... fine results.

- |     |                |                 |                |              |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| (a) | (i) is         | (ii) be         | (iii) are      | (iv) being   |
| (b) | (i) less great | (ii) more great | (iii) greatest | (iv) greater |
| (c) | (i) have       | (ii) had        | (iii) has      | (iv) must    |
| (d) | (i) by         | (ii) of         | (iii) since    | (iv) for     |
| (e) | (i) give       | (ii) gave       | (iii) gives    | (iv) giving  |

### Solution

- A. (a) (ii) be
- B. (b) (iii) greatest
- C. (c) (i) have
- D. (d) (iv) for
- E. (e) (i) give

### Question 6



In the following paragraph one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before it and the word that follows it. (any four).

	Word before	Missing word	Word after
In 2018, Indian Women's cricket team a	e.g. team	played	a
T-20 match Pakistani team,	(a) .....	.....	.....
India won toss and	(b) .....	.....	.....
chose field first. The Pakistani team	(c) .....	.....	.....
lost three wickets no time.	(d) .....	.....	.....
The fourth wicket tried level	(e) .....	.....	.....
best to save the match.			

### Solution

Word Before	Missing Word	Word After
(a) match	against	Pakistani
(b) won	the	toss
(c) chose	to	field
(d) wickets	in	no
(e) tried	its	level

### Question 7

Rearrange any four of the word clusters to make meaningful sentences.

- (i) stormy / scary / a / was / and / night / dark / it
- (ii) to / the visibility / road / drive / on the / was / too poor
- (iii) way / fallen / obstructing / a / the / tree / was
- (iv) to / the / be / driver / needed / careful / very
- (v) succeed / only / driver / an / would / experienced

### Solution

- (i) It was a dark, scary and stormy night.
- (ii) The visibility was too poor to drive on the road.

- (iii) A fallen tree was obstructing the way.
- (iv) The driver needed to be very careful.
- (v) Only an experienced driver would succeed.

### Question 8

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

If thou dost bend and pray and fawn for him,  
I spurn thee like a cur out of my way

- (i) Identify the speaker of the above extract.
- (ii) Who was bending, praying and fawning?
- (iii) In what context have the above words been spoken?
- (iv) What do these words reveal about the character of the speaker?

OR

"They will be useful to you, and they can never be to me, But will you do one thing?"  
"What?"

What do you see up there? said Ali, pointing to be sky.

- (i) Identify the person spoken to.
- (ii) What does the word 'They' refer to?
- (iii) Why did Ali say 'They' can never be useful to him?
- (iv) What opinion do you form of Ali on the basis of the given extract?

### Solution

- (i) The speaker of the above extract is Caesar.
- (ii) Metellus Cimber was bending, praying and fawning.
- (iii) Metellus cimber's brother Publius Cimber had been imprisoned and he pleads to Caesar to forgive his brother and revoke his banishment.
- (iv) These words tell us that the speaker is strong-willed and does not show mercy to traitors.

OR

- (i) The person being spoken to is the Clerk.
- (ii) The word 'they' refers to five golden guineas.

(iii) Ali said 'they' can never be useful to him because it was his last day and he had not been able to put the five guineas to their proper use, he had not been able to buy happiness from them.

(iv) The given extract tells us that Ali was a changed man, he had understood the pain of separation & longing and the triviality of material things.

### Question 9

**Answer any four of the following question in 30-40 words each:**

- (i) Why was Nicola not willing to share his 'plans' with the narrator?
- (ii) Why was John Hallock eager to burn the Ouija Board?
- (iii) In what ways had the nightingale's life changed after her arrival in the Bingle Bog?
- (iv) Why did the sailor hail the albatross in 'God's name'?
- (v) Miss Mebbin was a clever opportunist substantiate with reference 'Mrs. Packletide Tiger'?

### Solution

(i) Nicola did not want the narrator to know of their problems because they brothers were strong and courageous kids in the face of adversity, they were proud dignified boys with a lot of self esteem who did not want a stranger to sympathise with them or disclose their problems or personal life with anyone . They were confident kids who would rather work hard and earn in order to find solutions of the same on their own.

(ii) John Hallock was eager to burn the Ouija Board because the board was the root cause of all his problems. Helen the ghost had contacted her to help her get rid of it and thus, his wife had started suspecting him of having an affair. To add to it, the ladies at the party who used the Ouija Board made the situation worse for John and his married life by making Lavinia doubt her husband. Also, their househelp was so scared of the board that she had announced her departure.

(iii) The nightingale's changed drastically after her arrival in the Bingle Bog. At first she enjoyed stardom of being a sensational singer who had provided respite to the creatures of the Bingle Bog by taking on the Sumac Tree and outshining the frog's baritone. But the stardom did not last long as she agreed to admit to the frog's training schedule and in turn she was not on tortured but also led to her sad end.

(iv) In The Rime of the Ancient Mariner, the albatross is called the Christian soul. It was hailed in God's name because it appeared out of nowhere. It seemed like a saviour to the mariners. After the arrival of the albatross, the icebergs started to crack, making way for the ship to move forward.

(v) Miss Mebbin was a clever opportunist indeed. She knew Mrs. Packletide's secret of shooting the tiger and how she had arranged for it by shelling out a huge sum of money. She also knew that Mrs. Packletide had missed her mark and the old tiger had died of a heart attack. Louisa Mebbin blackmailed Mrs. Packletide into buying her the weekend cottage or else she would have told Loona Bimberton that it was not the tiger but a mere goat that Mrs. Packletide had shot.

### Question 10

**Attempt the following question in 100-120 words.**

For Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Jordan greed for money is more important than their love for their father. Comment. **(the Dear Departed)**

OR

In what sense can we call Micheal a true gentleman?

**(Virtually True)**

### Solution

It has been rightly said that for Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Jordan greed for money was more important than the love for their father because when Mrs. Slater discovered that her father was lying almost lifeless, instead of calling the doctor she made arrangements to move his bureau and other valuables to her living room before the arrival of her sister Mrs. Jordan. She did so in order to keep the precious belongings with her and not share them with her sister. Both Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Jordan made elaborate arrangements for their mourning dresses and did not bother to spend much on their father's last rites. Thus, it has been hence proved that they were extremely greedy for their father's possessions and did not love him.

OR

Michael was a kind-hearted young boy who loved adventure, war, pursuits, fights, confrontation and violent games. Like other children of his age he was a computer freak and was really fascinated by psycho-drive games that made one forget the reality. Though a young boy, he was mature beyond his years. Thus, when he received an e-mail from one of the characters in the first game asking for help, he decided to play till the end and rescue the young boy. Michael did not worry about himself and entered every game with complete enthusiasm and fought till the end to rescue Sebastian. Michael did not know who Sebastian was and still agreed to save him without any personal benefits. Thus, he can be called a true gentleman.

### Question 11

**Answer the following question in 200-250 words.**

In "The Diary of a Young Girl," what opinion did Anne have of the adults who lived in the Annexe ?



OR

Attempt a character sketch of Mrs Edith Frank as described in 'The Diary of a Young Girl.'

OR

In 'The Story of My Life', how did Helen's interaction with Dr. Bell change her outlook on the world around her?

OR

Attempt a character sketch of Ms. Anne Sullivan

### Solution

In "The Diary of a Young Girl", Anne had a very critical view about the adults who have lived in the Annexe.

She had this opinion about the adults that they should not fight or quarrel like children. They hold an opinion about themselves but they never listen to hers. She considered them immature and felt that they should not tell her what should be done and what shouldn't be done. She comments on Mrs. and Mr. Van Daan's quarrels saying that ' I think it's odd that grownups quarrel so easily and so often and about such petty matters (Monday, September 28, 1942).

She feels that the adults in the annexe continuously give her unneeded advice and suggestions and comments and jokes about her for the time she spends with Peter. Anna feels that the adults should understand that war affects them more as "ideals, dreams and cherished hopes rise within us, only to be crushed by grim reality'. She thinks that these people are responsible for the war happening in the first place.

She feels both worried and sorry for the people in annexe. She had this in her mind that there is very little hope for them to return back to their homes. But at the same time, she thinks it will come as a great relief after living terrible lives for quite a few years now. She feels hopeless and saddened and writes 'there is little that we can do about it.'

OR

'The Diary of a Young Girl' is written by "Anne Marie Frank". It is a book of the writings from the Dutch language diary kept by Anne Frank while she was hiding for two years with her family during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands.

Edith Hollander Frank plays a prominent role in the book due to the fractious relationship that Anne, her daughter, had with her. The resentment and contempt initially exhibited by Anne later developed into a mature acceptance of their differences.

Mrs Frank was a quiet and reserved person: a nervous sort, unambitious and sentimental. She lacked an independence of spirit but stood up for her family whenever



called upon to do so. Anne and Mrs Frank were diametrically different in terms of personality and outlook. Anne's growing disillusionment with her family stemmed from Edith Frank's incompetence as a mother who was unable to reach out to her daughter. The pointed references, sarcasm and rebukes were a part of Edith Frank's inability to comprehend her daughter which resulted in the increasing distances between the two.

Her inadequacies and shortcomings as a person affected their relationship, alienating Anne from her mother. Mrs Frank was more attuned to Margot as a person, trying hard to cope with the stress of possible discovery in the secret annex. She was a peaceful person.

**OR**

Dr. Alexander Graham Bell was an inventor and a teacher of the deaf. Helen met him for the first time in Washington in the year 1886. This meeting was not only the beginning of a long friendship between Dr. Bell and Helen but it also proved to be the foundation of Helen's education and life. Helen's interaction with Dr. Bell changed her outlook on the world around her. In fact, Helen has dedicated her autobiography *The Story of My Life* to him. Helen mentions his sympathetic and tender nature that made her love him from her first visit itself. Dr. Bell was patient and understanding with Helen in a time when not everyone was. It was on his suggestion that Helen's father wrote to Mr. Anagnos and subsequently found Miss Sullivan as a teacher.

Helen and Miss Sullivan were accompanied by Dr. Bell on their visit to the World's Fair in 1893. Helen also visited him at his home and laboratory. He appears to be a wonderful and patient teacher who could instil enthusiasm and interest in his students through his delightful explanations. Helen notes that Dr. Bell was a humorous person and a poet as well. Another endearing quality of Dr. Bell was his love for children, particularly the deaf.

**OR**

*The Story of My Life* is a novel written by Helen Keller. It was published in the year 1903. It is her autobiography dealing with her early especially her experiences with Anne Sullivan. It records the events of Helen's First twenty two years and tells us how she struggled to overcome her disabilities in learning, writing, speaking and acquiring the benefits of education with the help of her teacher and life-long companion, Miss Sullivan.

Miss Sullivan is the teacher and constant companion of Helen. She successfully awakens Helen's soul to light and freedom, and sets her "spirit free". "She is thy spiritual liberator", Whittier has said to Helen about Miss Sullivan.

On the third of March, 1887, Miss Sullivan arrived at the house of the Kellers. From that day on, Helen's life took a completely different turn: from darkness to light, from isolation to friendship. Miss Sullivan was an extremely patient and considerate teacher who never failed to understand Helen's frustration and discontentment. She



methodically taught Helen how to communicate using her fingers and then assisted her in her education through all the institutions that Helen attended.

Miss Sullivan's method of teaching was very effective. She illustrated everything she taught using a poem or a story. Besides, she used to take Helen out-of-doors and teach her in the lap of nature. This way, not only did she help Helen learn lessons, but also developed the bond between Helen and the world she was deprived of. Helen dedicates her success in articulating speech sounds to Miss Sullivan's "genius, untiring perseverance and devotion".

