

**Class XII Session 2023-24**  
**Subject - English Core**  
**Sample Question Paper - 9**

**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) It is generally accepted that leadership development should be a part of the education system's responsibility for preparing individuals to participate in a democratic and progressive society. Many schools, colleges and universities, across nations, provide their students with leadership courses, curricular programs and co-curricular programs that are designed to develop students' formal knowledge about leadership as well as opportunities and experiences to develop students as leaders and actually practise leadership. Yet, only a handful of studies have sought to understand leader development from the students' point of view, with students describing their own experiences and what they learned from them in their own words.

(2) A 2014 descriptive study sought to understand student leadership with research through key events via the following research questions:

Research Question 1: What key events do student leaders in college, report as significantly impacting their development as a leader?

Research Question 2: What lessons do student leaders in college, report learning as a result of the key events they have experienced?

Research Question 3: Are certain key events more likely to be linked to particular lessons?

Approximately 130 students were contacted and the 72 interested, were interviewed. Two members of the research team were present for each 15-45-minute interview. One member served as the primary interviewer while the second ran the audio equipment. The results for lessons learned (Table 1), were varied, but there were a few that were frequently quoted.



| Table 1                                 |           |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|
| Lessons learned                         | Responses |
| <b>Identity</b>                         |           |
| Self Identity                           | 58        |
| Leadership Identity                     | 54        |
| Professionalism                         | 30        |
| Balancing Roles                         | 19        |
| <b>Individual Competencies</b>          |           |
| Delegation                              | 17        |
| Decision Making                         | 15        |
| Adaptability/Flexibility                | 38        |
| <b>Resilience/Persistence/Hard Work</b> | 18        |
| Taking Initiative                       | 36        |
| Accountability/Responsibility           | 29        |
| Big Picture                             | 27        |
| Learning to Teach/Learn                 | 18        |
| <b>Support Systems</b>                  |           |
| Developing and Using Support Systems    | 36        |
| Being a Support System                  | 28        |
| <b>Working with Others</b>              |           |
| Communication                           | 59        |
| Teamwork                                | 26        |
| Conflict                                | 21        |
| Diversity                               | 32        |
| Inspiring and motivating others         | 17        |
| Other working with others               | 30        |
| <b>Getting the job done</b>             |           |
| Task skills                             | 55        |
| Environment                             | 34        |

(3) This study described the rich array of leadership lessons that students are learning through their experiences. It revealed that student leaders are learning foundational leadership skills and competencies that have positively impacted how to accomplish work, how to work with others and how to be both supported by and support others.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

i. Do you think the researchers of the study aimed to change the students' outlook towards the development of leadership skills, directly or indirectly? Support your answer with reference to the text.

ii. Select the option that displays the most likely reason for including Research Question 3 in the 2014 study. In order to find out if...

A. learning opportunities shape students' overall personality.

B. leadership lessons are the result of the designed learning opportunities.

C. all learning opportunities cater to a specific lesson.

D. certain lessons are common in more than one learning opportunity.

iii. Complete the sentence based on the following statement.

More than 50% of the identified student respondents were keen to participate in the 2014 study.

We can say this because \_\_\_\_\_

iv. Select the option that displays the key event designed with "Balancing Roles" (Table 1) as the objective. (1)

A. Students will be able to debate the issue at hand, with different teams.

B. Students will be able to manage the responsibilities of a mentor, planner, researcher and presenter.

C. Students will be able to surmount minor problems and focus on the final goal.

D. Students will be able to explain concepts and clarify them for peers.

V. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option. The 2014 study attempts to understand student leadership by focussing on \_\_\_\_\_

A. experiences that shaped students' overall personality.

B. lessons gained by students as they grew up.

C. relationship of key events with particular lessons.

D. students in leadership roles.

vi. The lessons for 'Individual competencies' had a range of responses. Give one reason why having the least number of responses for 'Decision Making, is a matter that needs attention.

vii. Complete the sentence appropriately with one/ two words.

In the context of "Working with Others" in Table 1, the lesson of 'Conflict' refers to \_\_\_\_\_

viii. Based on the reading of the text, state a point to challenge the given statement.

When theoretical knowledge about leadership suffices, it is a waste of funds by educational organisations, to organise leadership camps and programmes.

2. Read the following text.

(1) In the summer of 1967, when I was 10 years old, my father caved into my persistent pleas and took me to get my own dog. Together we drove in the family station wagon far into the



Michigan countryside to a farm run by a rough-hewn woman and her ancient mother. The farm produced just one commodity- dogs. Dogs of every imaginable size and shape and age and temperament. They had only two things in common : each was a mongrel of unknown and distinct ancestry, and each was free to a good home.

(2) I quickly decided the older dogs were somebody else's charity case. I immediately raced to the puppy cage. "You want to pick one that's not timid," my father coached. "Try rattling the cage and see which ones aren't afraid."

(3) I grabbed the chain-link gate and yanked on it with a loud clang. The dozen or so puppies reeled backward, collapsing on top of one another in a squiggling heap of fur. Just one remained. He was gold with a white blaze on his chest, and he charged at the gate, yapping fearlessly. He jumped up and excitedly licked my fingers through the fencing. It was love at first sight.

(4) I brought him home in a cardboard box and named him Shaun. He was one of those dogs that gives dogs a good name. He effortlessly mastered every command I taught him and was naturally well behaved. I could drop a crust on the floor and he would not touch it until I gave the okay.

(5) Relatives would visit for the weekend and returned home determined to buy a dog of their own, so impressed were they with Shaun-or "Saint Shaun", as I came to call him. Born with the curse of an uncertain lineage, he was one of the tens of thousands of unwanted dogs in America. Yet by some stroke of almost providential good fortune, he became wanted. He came into my life and I into his-and in the process, he gave me the childhood every kid deserves.

(6) The love affair lasted fourteen years, and by the time he died I was no longer the little boy who had brought him along on that summer day. I was a man, out of college and working across the state in my first real job. Saint Shaun had stayed behind when I moved on. It was where he belonged. My parents, by then retired, called to break the news to me. My mother would later tell me, "In fifty years of marriage, I've only seen your father cry twice. The first time was when we lost Mary Ann"-my sister, who was stillborn. "The second time was the day Shaun died." Saint Shaun of my childhood. He was a perfect dog. At least that's how I will always remember him. It was Shaun who set the standard by which I would judge all other dogs to come.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i. What advice did the narrator's father have for picking a pet?

ii. What color was the dog's fur?

A. Golden

B. White

C. Golden with a white blaze on his chest

D. Brown

iii. "I quickly decided the old ones were somebody else's charity case". What can you infer from



this statement?

iv. Choose an appropriate title for the given passage.

A. I Love my Pet

B. How I Got my First Dog

C. How I Met Shaun-Love at First Sight

D. How I Lost Shaun

V. Antonym of effortless is \_\_\_\_\_

A. easy

B. smooth

C. onerous

D. plight

vi. What are the two things in common among the dogs in that countryside farm?

vii. State True or False.

The passage perfectly shows how animals and human beings can develop a deep bond of love and connection despite their differences.

viii. Mary Ann was the narrator's \_\_\_\_\_

A. aunt

B. sibling

C. pet

D. mother

ix. Give evidence from the passage that shows how Shaun changed the narrator's life.

### SECTION-B

#### CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18 MARKS)

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

A. You are Josely Mathew, the President of the school book club. The club is organising a drive for promoting reuse of study materials and books. Draft a notice, for the school notice board, addressing students of classes X-XII, informing them about this drive and urging them to contribute to the endeavour. Mention how the donated books would benefit a charitable cause.

**OR**

B An Inter-school Kabaddi competition is organised by your school. Write a notice, requesting the students to be present at the venue to encourage the players. Invent all the necessary details. You are Arjun, the sports captain of your school.

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

A. You are Navin/Neha, the Secretary of the Youth Club of your locality. You are organising an



inter-school group-song competition. Write an invitation to invite a prominent musician to be one of the judges.

**OR**

B. You are Rohan / Rani. You have been invited to participate in a seminar on 'Fundamental Rights of Women, organised by the Rotary Club of your district. Respond to the invitation by writing a letter to the Secretary of the club.

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

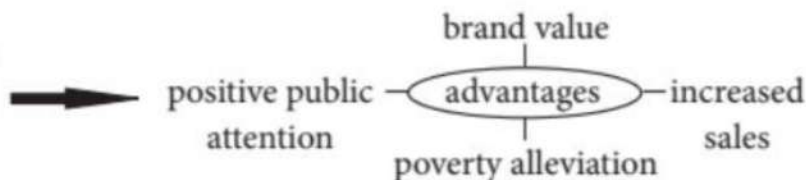
A. You are Sam/Sanya of DTCA Apartments, Noida. You have seen an advertisement in 'The Hindu' for the post of Assistant Storekeeper at Hamley's Children Bookshop. Apply for the job with complete bio-data.

**OR**

B. You are Minu Sen, an intern in a software company in Hyderabad. You feel that the growing relationship of companies with non-profit organisations have made Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) the buzzword today. Your own involvement in one such project for your company has convinced you that CSR looks beyond the company profits and focuses on benefiting the greater community. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, sharing your opinion about CSR and its advantages and provide suggestions to make it an integral part of every organisation. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter.

**4 types of CSR efforts :-**

- environmental initiatives
- charity work
- ethical labor practices
- volunteer projects



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

A. Write an article on the pressure that students face today. Talk about how parents can play an important role in saving their mental health.

**OR**

B. You are Mansi/Manav of St. George Sr. Secondary School, Nainital. Your school has recently organised a Blood Donation Camp on Gandhi Jayanti. Write a report as an editor for your school magazine on this widely acclaimed activity.



**SECTION-C**  
**LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 MARKS)**

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

A. Those who prepare green wars,  
wars with gas, wars with fire,  
victory with no survivors,  
would put on clean clothes  
and walk about with their brothers -  
in the shade, doing nothing.

i. Name of the poet.

- A. John Keats
- B. Kamala Das
- C. Pablo Neruda
- D. Adrienne Rich

ii. What does the poet mean by green wars?

iii. "victory with no survivors" means

- A. Celebration of war
- B. The war won with a lot of gain
- C. War won with loss from both sides
- D. War won with the help of soldiers

iv. What does the poet want from the lovers of the war?

V. The stanza has been taken from the poem:

- A. A Roadside Stand
- B. A Thing of Beauty
- C. Aunt Jennifer's Tigers
- D. Keeping Quiet

vi.

What literary device is used in the line?

'victory with no survivors,  
would put on clean clothes  
and walk about with their brothers'

**OR**

B. When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie.  
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.



The tigers in the panel that she made  
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.

i. Why are Aunt Jennifer's hands terrified?

- A. Due to the ordeals and hardships she has had to face being in a patriarchal society.
- B. Due to old age, her hands were shaking.
- C. Due to the terror she spread while alive.
- D. Due to her own insecurities.

ii. Why did she make the tigers?

- A. Because she wanted the tiger's design in the embroidery.
- B. Because she has created tigers which are symbols of confidence and fearlessness as she wants to be like them.
- C. Because tigers will take care of the bad people.
- D. Because tigers were lucky for Aunt Jennifer.

iii. How are the tigers that Aunt Jennifer created?

iv. "ringed with ordeals" signifies

- A. The ring on her hands
- B. The burden of marriage and patriarchy
- C. Aunt Jennifer's happy life
- D. The tiger

v. Do you think Aunt Jennifer will be able to escape the oppressive society she lives in? Why?

vi. Name the poet of "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers".

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

A. Barring the office boys and a couple of clerks, everybody else at the Studios radiated leisure, a pre-requisite for poetry. Most of them wore khadi and worshipped Gandhiji but beyond that they had not the faintest appreciation for political thought of any kind. Naturally, they were all averse to the term 'Communism. A communist was a godless man-he had no filial or conjugal love; he had no compunction about killing his own parents or his children; he was always out to cause and spread unrest and violence among innocent and ignorant people. Such notions, which prevailed everywhere else in South India at that time also, naturally, floated about vaguely among the khadi-clad poets of Gemini Studios. Evidence of it was soon forthcoming.

i. The notion of \_\_\_\_\_ prevailed everywhere else in South India among the khadi-clad poets of the studio.

ii. Based on the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

Statement 1: At Gemini Studios, the poets had a profound knowledge about Communists.

Statement 2: Communists were responsible for anarchy and discontent in the country.



- A. Statement 1 is true but Statement 2 is false.
  - B. Statement 1 is false but Statement 2 is true.
  - C. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 cannot be inferred.
  - D. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 can be inferred.
- iii. Why do you think leisure is a pre-requisite for poetry?
- A. Poetry means freedom of expression.
  - B. One can enjoy poetry when there's free time.
  - C. In order to write poetry, one needs free time.
  - D. Poetry means freedom from work.
- iv. Asokamitran says that leisure is a pre-requisite for poetry. He says this because poets. \_\_\_\_\_
- A. need to relax for a period of time before composing lines
  - B. maintain a leisured pace in all tasks they do
  - C. are creative and need to have free time to weave their thoughts
  - D. begin poetic compositions in rushed way and end in a relaxed manner
- V. What do you mean by the term 'averse' as used in the above extract?
- vi. Pick the option that uses the same figure of speech as A communist is a godless man.
- A. She is as determined as Gandhi when it is a fight against injustice.
  - B. She is a Gandhi when she raises her voice against 'hinsa' or violence.
  - C. She, like Gandhi, feels that the earth is crying for deliverance.
  - D. She lives a life of opulence and calls herself a follower of Gandhi.

**OR**

- B. "It is queer that things have gone downhill with him as badly as that," said the daughter. "Last night I did not think there was anything about him to show that he had once been an educated man." "You must have patience, my little girl," said the father. "As soon as he gets clean and dressed up, you will see something different. Last night he was naturally embarrassed. The tramp manners will fall away from him with the tramp clothes."
- i. Why did the daughter say things are queer?
- A. Because their guest didn't look like an educated man.
  - B. Because their guest didn't interact with them.
  - C. Because their guest asked money from them.
  - D. Because their guest didn't eat the food they offered.
- ii. How did the father react to his daughter's doubts?
- A. The father said he will confront their guest.
  - B. The father said as soon as he gets clean and dressed up, her doubts will be gone.



C. The father scolded his daughter for doubting his old friend.

D. The father was just as confused as his daughter.

iii. According to the father, their guest was \_\_\_\_\_

iv. Which of the words in the passage means 'demeanour'?

A. Queer

B. Educated

C. Patience

D. Manners

V. Who is 'he' in the given extract?

vi. "Things have gone downhill" means \_\_\_\_\_

A. to be removed completely

B. to gradually become worse

C. to get better with age

D. to be terminally ill

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

A. At midnight when the town slept in peace, the dewan and his aged wife dragged the tiger into the car and shoved it into the seat. The dewan himself drove the car straight to the forest where the Maharaja was hunting. When they reached the forest the tiger launched its satyagraha and refused to get out of the car. The dewan was thoroughly exhausted in his efforts to haul the beast out of the car and push it down to the ground. On the following day, the same old tiger wandered into the Maharaja's presence and stood as if in humble supplication, "Master, what do you command of me?" It was with boundless joy that the Maharaja took careful aim at the beast. The tiger fell in a crumpled heap.

i. What happened when the dewan and his wife reached the forest?

A. They hunted the tiger.

B. The tiger protested and refused to get out of the car.

C. The tiger ate the dewan and his aged wife.

D. They were waiting for the king to come and appreciate them.

ii. Select the option that lists the dewan's attitude.

a. Desperate

b. Submissive

C. Servile

d. Dishonourable

e. Flattering

A. b, c and d

B. a, d and e

- C. a, b and c
- D. c, d and e

- iii. What actually happened with the tiger?
- iv. Why did the dewan and his aged wife take the tiger to the forest?

**OR**

B. Will the West Antarctic ice sheet melt entirely? Will the Gulf Stream Ocean current be disrupted? Will it be the end of the world as we know it? Maybe. Maybe not. Either way, Antarctica is a crucial element in this debate - not just because it's the only place in the world, which has never sustained a human population and therefore remains relatively 'pristine' in this respect; but more importantly, because it holds in its ice-cores half-million-year-old carbon records trapped in its layers of ice.

- i. What does "Maybe. Maybe not." indicate?

- A. Suspicion
- B. Foretelling
- C. Uncertainty
- D. Pristine

- ii. Synonym of perfect is

- A. crucial
- B. sustained
- C. disrupted
- D. pristine

- iii. Antarctica holds importance because

- iv. What is the significance of the questions asked by the narrator?

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

- 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. Why have the poor farmers put up a new shed on the edge of the highway?
- vi. Why was the legal adviser referred to as the opposite by others?

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

- i. What did Derry's mother think of Mr Lamb?
- ii. What was the second thing that happened in the afternoon? Why did this frighten the doctor's



wife, Hana too much?

iii. Why did the Maharaja ban tiger hunting in the state?

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

A. Given his temperament, Edla's father would have failed in reforming the peddler. How did Edla succeed?

**OR**

B. The prose selections, Deep Water and Indigo, bring out the importance of overcoming fear, in order to be able to lead our lives successfully. Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in 120-150 words elaborating on occurrences from the two texts to inspire your audience and to convince them about the importance of overcoming fear. You may begin like this... Good morning, students! We all know what it's like to be afraid. Fear is our body's natural response to a perceived threat or danger. But when...

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

A. What was Charley's strange experience at the Grand Central Station?

**OR**

B. What explains the attitude of the General in the matter of the enemy soldier? Was it human consideration, lack of national loyalty, dereliction of duty or simply self-absorption?



## SOLUTIONS

1. i. No, the research was aimed at promoting efficiency and the development of leadership programmes in educational institutions.
  - ii. D. certain lessons are common in more than one learning opportunity.
  - iii. out of 130 students, 72 students agreed to be interviewed
  - iv. B. Students will be able to manage the responsibilities of a mentor, planner, researcher and presenter.
  - v. C. relationship of key events with particular lessons.
  - vi. Having the least number of responses for 'Decision Making' is a matter that needs attention because it indicates that the students' experiences with the lessons on leadership did not allow sufficient opportunity for the development of this important skill.
  - vii. conflict resolution
  - viii. I disagree because theoretical knowledge is not the same as practical knowledge and practical knowledge is very important to apply the skills that have been learnt.
2. i. That he should pick a fearless one.
  - ii. C. Golden with a white blaze on his chest
  - iii. The term 'charity case' is generally used to refer to someone who is in need of financial help. So, when the narrator said the old dogs are to be somebody else's charity case, he meant that the older dogs can be taken care of by other people and not him.
  - iv. C. How I Met Shaun-Love at First Sight
  - v. C. Onerous
  - vi. The dogs in that countryside farm have two things in common. One was that they all have an unknown and distinct ancestry, meaning they are of an unknown pedigree. And secondly, they are all free to be taken or 'adopted' by anyone who wanted to provide a free home to these dogs.
  - vii. True
  - viii. B. sibling
  - ix. The narrator called his dog 'Saint Shaun, showing how important or dear he is to him. He also mentioned that 'he came into my life and I into his- and in the process, he gave me the childhood every kid deserves." This line sums up how Shaun had impacted the narrator's life.



3. A.

**HAPPY HEART PUBLIC SCHOOL, DELHI**

**NOTICE**

15 August, 20xx

**A School Book Club Drive**

The School Book Club is organising a drive to promote reuse of study materials and books. All students of classes X-XII are kindly requested to come and participate in this charitable event and donate their old books and study materials so that it can be used by the students who don't have books or can't afford to buy them. Please be a part of the event and become a book donor!

Looking forward to your enthusiastic participation for a good cause.

Date : 20 August, 20xx

Time : 5:00 – 6:00 P.M.

Venue : S.R. Auditorium, Main Building

Josely Mathew

(President, School Book Club)

**OR**

B.

**XYZ PUBLIC SCHOOL, NEW DELHI**

**NOTICE**

12 February, 20xx

**Interschool Kabaddi Competition**

An interschool kabaddi competition will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, next week, 9:00 a.m. onwards at our school playground. All students are requested to be present at the venue to cheer and encourage the participants. Contact the undersigned for any query.

Arjun

(Sports Captain)



4. A.

Youth Club

Nainital

5 December, 20XX

Dear Mr Khanna

I shall feel obliged if you could kindly spare some time from your busy schedule and consent to be one of the judges for an inter-school group-song competition to be held on 24th December, 20XX at 2 p.m. in the Community Centre, Dehradun Road.

Kindly confirm your acceptance by 10th December.

Yours sincerely

Neha

(Secretary)

OR

B.

72/B, Raipuri

Mathura

12<sup>th</sup> February, 20xx

Respected Secretary,

Thank you for your thoughtful invitation. I am honoured on being invited to participate in a seminar on 'Fundamental Rights of Women' by your esteemed club.

I accept the invitation and consider that it will be a pleasure to be a part of such a thoughtful event.

Yours sincerely

Rani Jha



5. A.

DTCA Apartments,

Noida,

Uttar Pradesh

The Managing Director,

Hamley's Children's Book Shop

Noida

**Subject :** Application for the post of Assistant storekeeper.

Respected sir,

In response to your advertisement in The Hindu, dated January 4, 20xx, I wish to apply for the post of assistant storekeeper in the mentioned reputed bookstore. I have a total of two years experience in the said field. Currently, I am working as an assistant storekeeper, with XYZ Bookstore. I am enclosing my bio-data and testimonial for your review.

Thank you

Yours faithfully

Sam

Enclosed : Bio-data and testimonial

**Bio-data**

|                           |   |                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name                      | : | Sam Jerald                                                                                         |
| Gender                    | : | Male                                                                                               |
| Date of Birth             | : | 28/10/1984                                                                                         |
| Father's name             | : | Mr. Joseph Jerald                                                                                  |
| Postal Address            | : | DTCA Apartments, Noida, U.P                                                                        |
| Contact No.               | : | 98650xxxxx                                                                                         |
| Educational Qualification | : | B.sc in Business Management from XYZ University, Delhi                                             |
| Work Experience           | : | 2 years with XYZ Booksellers                                                                       |
| Salary Expected           | : | Negotiable                                                                                         |
| References                | : | Mr. Raju, Bookstore owner, XYZ Booksellers.<br>Mr. Harish, Assistant Store Manager, XYZ Bookseller |

**OR**

**B.**

114, Town Road,  
Hyderabad  
14 Jan, 20xx  
The Editor  
The Times of India  
Hyderabad

**Subject :** The growing importance of CSR and its advantages in every organisation

Respected sir,

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to draw the attention of government and other organisations to the importance of CSR. The growing relationship of companies with non-profit organisations have made Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) the buzzword today. My own involvement in one such project of the company has convinced me that CSR looks beyond the companies, profits and focuses on benefiting the community. CSR can prove beneficial to society by means of environmental initiatives, charity work and creating ethical labour practices in the market and encouraging volunteer projects.

There are several advantages of CSR for the organisations involved in it. These advantages include creating a good brand value, creating positive public attention, increase in sales and alleviation of poverty in society. So, CSR is very beneficial to both the company and the society. Therefore it should be an integral part of every organisation.

Thank You

Yours sincerely

Minu Sen

### 6. A. Mental health of Students

Most of the students and their parents are under constant pressure and usually suffer from high levels of stress especially during the time of examinations. This does them no good because it is a parent's duty to reduce stress in their children and help them overcome it. Young students should not be left alone to struggle in the most difficult and significant period of their life. They need to get endless support from their parents. Better interaction between students and parents can help to settle various problems amicably and create a relaxed atmosphere during the time of examination. Moreover, parents have to be practical and realistic in their expectations. They should always remain positive and acknowledge even the minor achievements of their children. A healthy and meaningful parent-ward rapport can help a student overcome stress easily. Every



parent should encourage their child and support them, especially during academically stressful times. Encourage your child to aim to do their best and be assured that it is the earnest effort they make and not the result that matters the most. Students who live in supportive environments, develop a range of coping strategies and become more resilient.

**OR**

**B. Blood Donation Camp**

October 3: As part of Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations of the school, a Blood Donation Camp was organised in the school hall. It was organised by the N.C.C. unit of the school with the help of the District Red Cross Society. Four doctors and six nurses offered their services for it. A large number of teachers and students donated blood with beaming faces and proud hearts. Some of the guests and visitors were also motivated to donate blood. Two hundred and seventy bottles of blood were collected in the camp. All the collected blood was sent to the Army Hospital to help save the precious lives of our brave jawans. This noble act of our N.C.C. unit was highly appreciated by one and all.

**7. A. i. C. Pablo Neruda**

- ii. The wars which exploit the green wealth of nature by deforestation.
- iii. C. War won with loss from both sides
- iv. The poet wants them to put on 'new clothes' i.e., to adopt a new approach towards life.
- v. D. Keeping Quiet
- vi. Personification

**OR**

- B. i. A. Due to the ordeals and hardships she has had to face being in a patriarchal society.
- ii. B. Because she has created tigers which are symbols of confidence and fearlessness as she wants to be like them.
- iii. Proud and unafraid
- iv. B. The burden of marriage and patriarchy
- v. No, because even after her death, the society will suppress woman.
- vi. Adrienne Rich

**8. A. i. communism**

- ii. D. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 can be inferred.
- iii. C. In order to write poetry, one needs free time.
- iv. C. are creative and need to have free time to weave their thoughts.
- v. 'Averse' means having a very strong dislike for something
- vi. B. She is a Gandhi when she raises her voice against 'hinsa' or violence.



**OR**

- B. i. A. Because their guest didn't look like an educated man.
  - ii. B. The father said as soon as he gets clean and dressed up, her doubts will be gone.
  - iii. embarrassed
  - iv. D. Manners
  - V. The rattrap peddler
  - vi. B. to gradually become worse
9. A. i. B. The tiger protested and refused to get out of the car.
- ii. A. b, c and d
  - iii. The tiger did not actually die. It had fainted due to the sound of the bullet.
  - iv. The fear of losing job and income made the dewan and his wife take the tiger to the forest.
- B. i. C. Uncertainty
- ii. D. pristine

**OR**

- iii. it tells us about the past, present and future of the Earth
  - iv. The questions asked by the narrator signifies the deep concern of the narrator for the world and its environment.
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 years 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 threw 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. The poor farmers have set up a new shed on the edge of the highway because they hoped the city people who commute on that road, will take pity on them and buy things from them. This will get the poor farmers some money.



vi. A lawyer used to be a part of the Story Department at the Gemini Studios. Though, as a legal adviser, he was supposed to be involved in legal matters, his crazy yet stupid idea led to the end of an actress' career. Due to this, he was referred to as the illegal advisor, by the people.

11. i. Derry's mother did not have a good impression of Mr. Lamb for she thought that he was not a good man. She did not want Derry to get acquainted with him or see him for any purpose.

ii. The messenger came to Dr. Sadao to inform him that the old General was in pain again and needed his care. Hana had thought that the servants had betrayed them and the messenger had come to arrest Dr. Sadao for sheltering the American, an enemy soldier.

iii. There were various reasons because of which the Maharaja banned tiger hunting in the state of Pratibandapuram. He vowed to hunt and kill hundred tigers to prove the astrologer wrong who predicted that a tiger would be the cause of his death. However, the tiger population of his kingdom was quickly diminishing because of the Maharaja's hunting spree. This is why he did not want anyone else to hunt or kill tigers.

12. A. The peddler, who has never been treated with kindness and compassion, first comes across it when the lonely crofter welcomes him into his house. Next, it is the ironmaster and his daughter Edla, who are seen showing compassion towards the weary peddler. Although, the ironmaster expresses concern towards him only until he realises that he has mistaken the peddler for an old and close friend, Edla's attitude towards men and matters is different from her father's attitude. The ironmaster behaves rudely with the peddler and questions him about his dishonest behaviour, he even threatens to inform the sheriff about the peddler's actions as he does not want the vagabond in his house anymore. However, Edla empathises with the tired and dishevelled looking peddler. She invites him to celebrate Christmas with them and enjoy the Christmas feast. She is more persuasive than her father; she seems firm yet polite in her approach when she insists that he should stay with them for as long as he wants. She asked him to keep her father's suit, which is given to him to wear and invites him to come back next year for Christmas. The peddler used to be someone with a grudge against the world. However, compassion and understanding shown by Edla transforms this selfish thief into a man with conscience. He not only returns the crofter's money, but also leaves a letter and a gift, a rattrap, for Edla. In the letter he thanks Edla for treating him like a true gentleman, with great honour and respect and assures her that he shall change his old ways. This shows that kindness pays, rudeness never. The peddler was not bad at heart but only a victim of his circumstances.

**OR**

B. Good morning students! We all know what it's like to be afraid. Fear is our body's natural response to a perceived threat or danger. But when we are too afraid of everything and let them dominate us it will hinder us, from achieving our true potential. We can learn valuable lessons



from the lives of people we learn about. Fear is a strange force that immobilizes us and prevents us from progressing. In the text, 'Deep Water, we can observe this in the case of William Douglas. Because Douglas is paralysed by his earlier traumatic experiences in the water, he is unable to lead a normal life and cannot go fishing, canoeing, etc. Similarly, in the case of the struggle of Champaran's peasants, this can also be observed. Due to fear of the Britishers, the peasants of Champaran couldn't take a stand for their rights. They needed to devise a plan in order to work on their fears. They were able to gather around the courthouse in Motihari, by taking steps to overcome their fear. Learning to overcome one's fear requires a lot of persistence, grit and determination. It took Douglas months to overcome his fear while he trained with a coach and finally he was able to overcome his fear of the water and learn swimming. Similarly, it took one year for the peasants of Champaran to get justice. Sometimes it is extremely hard to fight one's fear on one's own. So, we can take assistance and support from others and fight united. Only when the people were united in Champaran, they were able to challenge the government and fight for justice. But once they were able to overcome their fear, they were able to live their life to the fullest. We should all take inspiration from these stories and live our lives to the fullest without fear.

13. A. One night, while in a hurry to catch a subway train from the Grand Central Station, Charley took a path, which led him to the third level of Grand Central Station. On arriving there, he encountered something, which appeared outright strange to him. The information booth was made of wood, the lights were open flame gaslight and therefore dim. There where old fashioned railway engines, men and women in old fashioned clothes, carrying old fashioned accessories, such as the gold pocket watch. There were brass spittoons on the floors. By now Charley had an inkling that the path had brought him to the past. In order to confirm his doubt he decided to check the newspaper. The newspaper was "The world" and the date on it read June, 11, 1894. Publication of the same had been stopped hundred years ago. When Charley went to buy two tickets to Galesberg, Illinois, the clerk refused to sell him tickets because he did not recognise the new currency, which Charley was offering.

**OR**

B. The attitude of the General in the matter of the enemy soldier was strange and unusual. He always portrayed himself as the most patriotic and dutiful General there could ever be. However, when Dr. Sadao told him about treating the American soldier the General did not get Dr. Sadao arrested for treason. He needed the highly skilled surgeon for his own survival. This makes it evident that the General was a self absorbed man, who was concerned only about himself. The fact that he offered to get the American soldier killed by his private assassins, that too as secretly as possible, shows the inhuman side of the General. Dr. Sadao waited for three



consecutive nights for the assassins to show up at his house and do their job, but they did not come. Later, the General admitted to have forgotten all about the enemy soldier and the assassins whom he was supposed to send to get rid of the American, because he was distressed by his own pain. Once again, it proves the self-absorbed nature of the General. It is also dereliction of duty to quite an extent on the General's part because he put himself above his country's safety.

