

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 2
SUBJECT- English Communicative (101)
CLASS IX (2023-24)

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.
2. The Question Paper contains FOUR sections-READING SKILLS, WRITING SKILLS, GRAMMAR and LITERATURE TEXTBOOK.
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A : READING SKILLS (20 marks)

1. **Read the text carefully and answer the questions:** **[10]**

One day I hopped in a taxi and we took off for the airport. We were driving in the right lane when suddenly a car jumped out of a parking space right in front of us. My taxi driver slammed on his brakes, skidded, and missed the other car by just inches! The driver of the other car whipped his head around and started yelling at us. My taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. And I mean he was really friendly.

So I asked, 'Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!' This is when my taxi driver taught me what I now call the 'The Law of the Garbage Truck.'

He explained that many people are like garbage trucks. They run around full of garbage, full of anger, and full of disappointment. As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it and sometimes they'll dump it on you. Don't take it personally. Just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. Don't take their garbage and spread it to other people at work, at home, or on the streets.

The bottom line is that successful people do not let garbage trucks take over their day. Life's too short to wake up in the morning with regrets, so ... Show the whole quote on another line and enclose in inverted commas.

Love the people who treat you right.

Forgive the ones who don't.

This attitude will help you sail through life. There will be fewer jerks and bumps.

Learn to take the bad with the good as life can never be perfect. Acceptance of what is, is the solution. Don't react; just accept and you will be a lot more happy.

Life is ten percent what you make it and ninety percent how you take it!

- (i) How did the taxi driver avert an accident?

a) The taxi driver taught the author what he now call the 'The law of the Garbage Truck.

b) Both The taxi driver stamped on his brakes, skidded and missed the other car by just inches and The taxi driver

taught the author what he now call the 'The law of the Garbage Truck.

- c) The taxi driver stamped on his brakes, skidded and missed the other car by just inches. d) None of these
- (ii) The narrator boarded a taxi _____.
- (iii) The taxi driver compared the yelling driver to a _____.
- (iv) The term **garbage** in the context of the passage means _____.
- a) Full of love b) Full of brotherhood
c) Full of fan d) Full of frustration
- (v) The narrator learnt an invaluable lesson from the taxi driver. What was it?
- (vi) Which of the following words from the passage mean the same as **to slide**.
- a) None of these b) skidded
c) slammed d) missed
- (vii) Which of the following words from the passage mean the same as **feeling of defeat**.
- a) missed b) skidded
c) garbage d) disappointment
- (viii) Which of the following words relate to the behaviour of the taxi driver towards the driver of the car?
- a) angry b) disappointed
c) None of these d) friendly
- (ix) Suggest a suitable title for the passage.
- a) The Law of the Garbage Truck b) The Friendly Taxi Driver
c) The Rude Car Driver d) An Interesting Taxi Ride
- (x) _____ of what it is, is the solution

2. **Read the text carefully and answer the questions:**

[10]

1. One of the greatest sailing adventures of the past 25 years was the conquest of the Northwest Passage, powered by sail, human muscle, and determination. In



100 days, over three summers (1986-88), Canadians Jeff MacInnis and Mike Beedell accomplished the first wind-powered crossing of the Northwest Passage. In Jeff MacInnis's words...Our third season. We weave our way through the labyrinth of ice, and in the distance we hear an unmistakable sound. A mighty bowhead whale is nearby, and its rhythmic breaths fill us with awe. Finally we see it relaxed on the surface, its blowhole quivering like a volcanic cone, but it senses our presence and quickly sounds. We are very disappointed. We had only good intentions - to revel in its beautiful immensity and to feel its power. Mike thinks how foolish it would be for this mighty beast to put any faith in us. After all, we are members of the species that had almost sent the bowhead into extinction with our greed for whale oil and bone. It is estimated that as many as 38,000 bowheads were killed off eastern Baffin Island in the 1800s; today there are about 200 left.

2. The fascinating and sometimes terrifying wildlife keeps us entertained during our explorations. Bearded harp and ring seals greet us daily. The profusion of bird life is awesome; at times we see and smell hundreds of thousands of thick-billed murrelets clinging to their cliffside nests. Our charts show we are on the edge of a huge shoal where the frigid ocean currents upwell and mix nutrients that provide a feast for the food chain. At times these animals scare the living daylight out of us. They have a knack of sneaking up behind us and then shooting out of the water and belly flopping for maximum noise and splash. A horrendous splash coming from behind has a heart-stopping effect in polar bear country. We have many encounters with the "Lords of the Arctic," but we are always cautious, observant, and ever so respectful that we are in their domain. In some regions the land is totally devoid of life, while in others the pulse of life takes our breath away. Such is the paradox of the Arctic; It's wastelands flow into oasis' that are found nowhere else on the face of the earth. Many times we find ancient signs of Inuit people who lived here, superbly attuned to the land. We feel great respect for them; this landscape is a challenge at every moment.
3. We face a 35 mile open water passage across Prince Regent Inlet on Baffin Island that will take us to our ultimate goal - Pond Inlet on Baffin Bay. The breakers look huge from the water's edge. Leaning into the hulls, like bobsledders at the starting gate, we push as hard as we can down the gravel beach to the sea. We catch the water and keep pushing until we have plunged waist deep, then drag ourselves aboard. Immediately, we begin paddling with every ounce of effort. Inch by agonizing inch, Perception moves offshore. Sweat pours off our bodies. Ahead of us, looming gray-white through the fog, we see a massive iceberg riding the current like the ghost of a battleship. There is no wind to fill our sails and steady the boat, and the chaotic motion soon brings seasickness. Slowly the wind begins to build. Prince Regent Inlet now looks ominous with wind and waves. The frigid ocean hits us square in the face and chills us to the bone.
4. We were on the fine edge. Everything the Arctic had taught us over the last 90 days was now being tested. We funneled all that knowledge, skill, teamwork,



and spirit into this momentous crossing... If we went over in these seas we could not get the boat back up. Suddenly the wind speed plummeted to zero as quickly as it had begun.... Now we were being pushed by the convulsing waves toward sheer 2,000 foot cliffs. Two paddles were our only power. Sailing past glacier capped mountains, we approached the end of our journey. At 05:08 on the morning of our hundredth day, speeding into Baffin Bay, the spray from our twin hulls makes rainbows in the sun as we complete the first sail powered voyage through the Northwest Passage. We have journeyed through these waters on their terms, moved by the wind, waves and current. The environment has always been in control of our destiny; we have only tried to respond in the best possible way. We've been awake for nearly 23 hours, but we cannot sleep. The joy and excitement are too great. Our Hobie Cat rests on the rocky beach, the wind whistling in her rigging, her bright yellow hulls radiant in the morning sunlight. She embodies the watchword for survival in the Arctic - adaptability.

- (i) Why does the author feel disappointed to see the bowhead whale disappear into the ocean?
- (ii) What reason does the author give for a thriving wildlife in the Arctic?
- (iii) What is the paradox of the Arctic?
- (iv) What skills helped the author and his partner survive the adventure?
- (v) What is the author's sailing vessel an embodiment of?
- (vi) The passage is about the _____.
 - a) author's sailing adventure through the Northwest Passage
 - b) survival skills needed while sailing
 - c) saving the Arctic
 - d) flora and fauna of the Arctic
- (vii) **Lords of the Arctic**, (Para 2) refers to _____.
 - a) Icebergs
 - b) Wind breakers
 - c) Innuits
 - d) Polar Bears
- (viii) The author's sailing vessel is named Prince Regent.
 - a) True
 - b) False
- (ix) **We were on the fine edge** refers to _____.
 - a) the ominous sail
 - b) the Prince Regent Inlet
 - c) their expedition
 - d) the frigid ocean

- (x) The author's journey to the Arctic does not refer to _____.
- a) sports b) skills
c) teamwork d) spirit

SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS (24 marks)

3. You are Secretary of Health club of your school. You find that after the lunch break school playground and veranda are littered with wrappers, paper/polythene bags, etc. Write a notice in about 50 words advising students to refrain from doing so. [4]
4. Complete the dialogue given below. Write your answers against the correct blank numbers. [5]
- Rajnish: You have purchased a new car. It looks wonderful. Please tell me (a) _____?
- Pummy: (b) _____ from Jaswant Motors.
- Rajnish: (c) _____ located?
- Pummy: It is in Jhilmil Colony.
- Rajnish: (d) _____ Yamuna Sports Complex?
- Pummy: Yes, (e) _____.
5. You are Santosh Rawat of 28, Rose Gardens, Indore. Your friend Abhishek has recovered from a long illness. Write him a letter in about 150-200 words congratulating him on his recovery and telling him how to take care of his health. [7]
- malarial fever
—congratulations
—doctor's advice
—complete rest
—any other point

OR

Your uncle has promised to give you a gift of ₹ 1,000/-. Write a letter thanking him for the offer, tell him how you plan to spend the money and why you wish to spend it in this way.

6. Write a descriptive paragraph on "A Career Fair". [8]

OR

Use the notes in the box to write a paragraph.

Devil's triangle - associated with maritime disasters - triangle - shaped area - 1,140,000 sq. kms ... between the island of Bermuda, the coast of Southern Florida and Puerto Rico-floating masses of gulf weed - area regarded perilous - unexplained disappearances of a number of US planes - no trace
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SECTION C : GRAMMAR (10 marks)



7. Complete the tasks, as directed. [10]

(i) Fill in the blanks (a)-(c) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets. [3]
 Playing outdoors should (a) _____ (became/being/be) a vital part of every kid's growing up years. It is a wonderful way (b) _____ (into/from/to) learn various life skills, (c) _____ (a/the/an) great chance for kids to flourish, run, jump and explore their natural surroundings.

(ii) The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. [4]
 Write the incorrect word and the correction in the space provided against the correct blank number:

		Error	Correction
The king reached a ashram. A sadhu	e.g.	a	<u>the</u>
was watering some plants. A sadhu saw that	(a)	_____	_____
a king was tired. He stopped watering	(b)	_____	_____
the plants; ran up to the king or gave	(c)	_____	_____
him some fruits and cold water. On that time	(d)	_____	_____

(iii) Do as directed.

i. Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence. [1]
 16 children die daily on Indian roads. The chief cause of accidents is violation of traffic rules.
 lack of/the saddest thing/public concern/is/for/the road victims

ii. Read the conversation given below. Based on your reading, fill in the blanks appropriately. [2]
Boy: Mom, I want to buy some new colours for myself.
Mother: You don't keep your things properly. Last month only, I bought you two new packs of colours.
Boy: Mom, I have used them all. You know I love drawing and colouring.
Mother: You can buy one colour box for yourself and after going home I would love to see what all you have drawn and coloured.
 A boy said to his mother that (a) _____. The mother angrily replied that he did not keep his things properly and that she had bought him two new packs of colours the previous month only To this, the boy replied that he has used them all and further told his mother that she knew he loved drawing and colouring The mother told the boy that he could buy one colour box for himself and that after going home (b) _____.

SECTION D : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK (26 marks)

8. **Read the given excerpts and answer the questions briefly, for ANY TWO excerpts, of the three, given.** [8]

(i) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [4]

Will no one tell me what she sings?

Perhaps the plaintive numbers flow

For old, unhappy, far-off things,

And battles long ago:

a. Does the poet know anything about the subject matter of the reaper's song?

b. What is the nature of her song?

c. What does the poet guess about the theme of the reaper's song?

d. Explain, **plaintive numbers**.

(ii) Read the extract given below and answer the questions/complete the sentences that follow: [4]

"But the sign has been hanging on the gate for over a month now and I am beginning to be afraid that the day I bought it was when I was the real fool."

a. What sign has been hanging on the gate for more than a month?

b. Why does the speaker feel that she was a fool?

c. What character traits of the speaker are revealed in the above passage?

(iii) Read the extract given below and answer the questions/complete the sentences that follow: [4]

Thirteen months from the moment he worked full days, Chuck Hooper was promoted as the Regional Manager covering more than four states.

a. What does **the moment** refer to?

b. What helped Chuck Hooper achieve the promotion mentioned here?

c. Who did Chuck owe his success to himself or Duke?

9. **Answer ANY SIX of the following seven questions in about 30- 40 words each** [12]

(i) **If you got a tooth, you got a friend.** What do you understand by this line? [2]
Answer to the context of the poem **Oh, I Wish I'd Looked After Me Teeth**.

(ii) What is the refrain given in the poem **The Brook**? What does it symbolise? [2]

(iii) How is the arrival and the departure of rain announced? Answer to the context of the poem **The Song of the Rain**. [2]

(iv) **It was a constant source of amazement to Mrs. Bramble ...** What was it? [2]

(v) Jessie was proud of her family. Comment. [2]

(vi) What does the dark, sun-dried appearance of the Sergeant suggest about him? [2]
Answer to the context of the chapter **The Man Who Knew Too Much**.

(vii) How does Persome treat Marie? [2]

10. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120 words** [6]

(i) As Bishop, write an entry in your journal regarding the change that has come about in the convict. [6]

(ii) What made the grandmother so much interested in the serial of Kashi Yatre that appeared in the weekly Karmaveera? What happened when the narrator went to attend a wedding in the neighbouring village? [6]

Answers

SECTION A : READING SKILLS (20 marks)

1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

One day I hopped in a taxi and we took off for the airport. We were driving in the right lane when suddenly a car jumped out of a parking space right in front of us. My taxi driver slammed on his brakes, skidded, and missed the other car by just inches! The driver of the other car whipped his head around and started yelling at us. My taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. And I mean he was really friendly.

So I asked, 'Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!' This is when my taxi driver taught me what I now call the 'The Law of the Garbage Truck.'

He explained that many people are like garbage trucks. They run around full of garbage, full of anger, and full of disappointment. As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it and sometimes they'll dump it on you. Don't take it personally. Just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. Don't take their garbage and spread it to other people at work, at home, or on the streets.

The bottom line is that successful people do not let garbage trucks take over their day. Life's too short to wake up in the morning with regrets, so ... Show the whole quote on another line and enclose in inverted commas.

Love the people who treat you right.

Forgive the ones who don't.'

This attitude will help you sail through life. There will be fewer jerks and bumps. Learn to take the bad with the good as life can never be perfect. Acceptance of what is, is the solution. Don't react; just accept and you will be a lot more happy.

Life is ten percent what you make it and ninety percent how you take it!

- (i) **(c)** The taxi driver stamped on his brakes, skidded and missed the other car by just inches.

Explanation: The taxi driver stamped on his brakes on time and prevented the accident.

- (ii) 1. to go to the airport.

- (iii) 1. garbage truck

- (iv) **(d)** Full of frustration

Explanation: The word garbage means dirt that fills the mind, i.e. frustration.

- (v) One must love the people who treat us right and forgive the ones who do not.

- (vi) **(b)** skidded

Explanation: 'Slide' means to move smoothly along a surface.

- (vii) **(d)** disappointment

Explanation: Disappointment' means feeling sad because someone has failed to fulfill your expectations.

- (viii) **(d)** friendly

Explanation: The taxi driver smiled at the other driver and waved at him in a



friendly manner.

(ix)(a) The Law of the Garbage Truck

Explanation: The taxi driver taught the narrator the law of the garbage truck. So, this title is suitable for the passage.

(x) 1. Acceptance

2. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

1. One of the greatest sailing adventures of the past 25 years was the conquest of the Northwest Passage, powered by sail, human muscle, and determination. In 100 days, over three summers (1986-88), Canadians Jeff MacInnis and Mike Beedell accomplished the first wind-powered crossing of the Northwest Passage. In Jeff MacInnis's words...Our third season. We weave our way through the labyrinth of ice, and in the distance we hear an unmistakable sound. A mighty bowhead whale is nearby, and its rhythmic breaths fill us with awe. Finally we see it relaxed on the surface, its blowhole quivering like a volcanic cone, but it senses our presence and quickly sounds. We are very disappointed. We had only good intentions - to revel in its beautiful immensity and to feel its power. Mike thinks how foolish it would be for this mighty beast to put any faith in us. After all, we are members of the species that had almost sent the bowhead into extinction with our greed for whale oil and bone. It is estimated that as many as 38,000 bowheads were killed off eastern Baffin Island in the 1800s; today there are about 200 left.
2. The fascinating and sometimes terrifying wildlife keeps us entertained during our explorations. Bearded harp and ring seals greet us daily. The profusion of bird life is awesome; at times we see and smell hundreds of thousands of thick-billed murrelets clinging to their cliffside nests. Our charts show we are on the edge of a huge shoal where the frigid ocean currents upwell and mix nutrients that provide a feast for the food chain. At times these animals scare the living daylights out of us. They have a knack of sneaking up behind us and then shooting out of the water and belly flopping for maximum noise and splash. A horrendous splash coming from behind has a heart-stopping effect in polar bear country. We have many encounters with the "Lords of the Arctic," but we are always cautious, observant, and ever so respectful that we are in their domain. In some regions the land is totally devoid of life, while in others the pulse of life takes our breath away. Such is the paradox of the Arctic; It's wastelands flow into oasis' that are found nowhere else on the face of the earth. Many times we find ancient signs of Inuit people who lived here, superbly attuned to the land. We feel great respect for them; this landscape is a challenge at every moment.
3. We face a 35 mile open water passage across Prince Regent Inlet on Baffin Island that will take us to our ultimate goal - Pond Inlet on Baffin Bay. The breakers look huge from the water's edge. Leaning into the hulls, like bobsledders at the starting gate, we push as hard as we can down the gravel beach to the sea. We catch the water and keep pushing until we have plunged waist deep, then drag ourselves aboard. Immediately, we begin paddling with every ounce of effort. Inch by agonizing inch, Perception moves offshore. Sweat pours off our bodies. Ahead of us, looming gray-white through

the fog, we see a massive iceberg riding the current like the ghost of a battleship. There is no wind to fill our sails and steady the boat, and the chaotic motion soon brings seasickness. Slowly the wind begins to build. Prince Regent Inlet now looks ominous with wind and waves. The frigid ocean hits us square in the face and chills us to the bone.

4. We were on the fine edge. Everything the Arctic had taught us over the last 90 days was now being tested. We funneled all that knowledge, skill, teamwork, and spirit into this momentous crossing... If we went over in these seas we could not get the boat back up. Suddenly the wind speed plummeted to zero as quickly as it had begun... Now we were being pushed by the convulsing waves toward sheer 2,000 foot cliffs. Two paddles were our only power. Sailing past glacier capped mountains, we approached the end of our journey. At 05:08 on the morning of our hundredth day, speeding into Baffin Bay, the spray from our twin hulls makes rainbows in the sun as we complete the first sail powered voyage through the Northwest Passage. We have journeyed through these waters on their terms, moved by the wind, waves and current. The environment has always been in control of our destiny; we have only tried to respond in the best possible way. We've been awake for nearly 23 hours, but we cannot sleep. The joy and excitement are too great. Our Hobie Cat rests on the rocky beach, the wind whistling in her rigging, her bright yellow hulls radiant in the morning sunlight. She embodies the watchword for survival in the Arctic - adaptability.
- (i) The bowhead whale was able to sense the presence of the author and quickly sounds. In fact, he had good intentions. But he realised that the it had no trust in the human beings. Therefore, he felt disappointed.
 - (ii) The author finds that the frigid ocean currents upswell and mix nutrients on the edge of a huge shoal. They provide a feast for the food chain.
 - (iii) In some regions of Arctic, the land is perfectly devoid of life. On the contrary there are some regions where the plume of life takes away our breath. Moreover, the wastelands flow into oasis which are found nowhere else on the earth.
 - (iv) The skills such as knowledge, teamwork and spirit helped the author and his partner survive the adventure.
 - (v) The author's sailing vessel is an embodiment of adaptability.
 - (vi) **(c)** saving the Arctic
Explanation: saving the Arctic
 - (vii) **(d)** Polar Bears
Explanation: Polar Bears
 - (viii) **(b)** False
Explanation: False
 - (ix) **(a)** the ominous sail
Explanation: the ominous sail
 - (x) **(a)** sports
Explanation: sports



SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS (24 marks)

**National Public School, Ramnagar
NOTICE**

24th July 20XX

Keep the School Premises Clean!

It has been noticed that during the break, students litter verandas and playgrounds with wrappers, paper/poly bags, etc. Please ensure that the waste is disposed in the dust bins only. Disciplinary action will be taken against those who are found littering the premises.

Please cooperate in keeping the surroundings dean and hygienic.

Ranu Mandal

3. (Secretary, Social Activities Club)

4. a. where have you purchased it from

b. I purchased it

c. Where is it

d. Is it near

e. you are right

5. 23, Rose Gardens

Indore (Madhya Pradesh)

12th August, 2022

Dear Abhishek

It was a pleasant surprise to see your letter after a long time. When I read that you were down with malaria, I knew the reason. Anyway by God's grace, you have now recovered well now and so I extend my heartiest congratulations on your recovery.

Looking back I find that you have never taken care of your health. Whatever work you did you devoted to it with body and soul. There is nothing to criticize it. But our bodies are great machines and machines require service to give service to us. You know that a disease weakens one which remains for a long time. A sound mind remains in a sound body. So you must balance your work with the requirements of your body.

Now please take care of your health. Act upon your doctor's advice. Malaria makes one very weak. You need a lot of rest and healthy food to get back to your earlier state of health. Take plenty of fruits, pulses and milk. Do not worry about the pending work. You'll have plenty of time to make up for the deficiency.

Bhopal is a fine place for people recovering from illness as the weather remains neither hot nor cold. The climate is especially good these days. If your doctor permits, please visit us for a few days. We shall enjoy your being with us greatly.

With love

Santosh Rawat

OR

75, Govind Apartment

Govind Puri

Delhi



20th July 20XX

Respected Uncle

I want to thank you for the gift of ₹ 1000/- that you have promised to give me if I score above 90% in my final exams. This offer of yours is motivating me to study very hard and give my hundred percent. My situation is same like the counting of the chicks before they are hatched, as I have already thought about what I am going to do with the money. I will buy two novels by JK Rowling. During vacations, I will read them. With the rest of the money, I will get my printer repaired which is out of order. I need to get it repaired to do the project work for the next class. Thus, I will use the money appropriately.

Please wish me luck and give my regards to Aunty.

Yours affectionately,

Govind

6. A Career Fair

I attended a Career Fair with my parents last month. It was organized by The Australian High Commission, at Bal Bhawan. Many Australian colleges and universities participated. They provided a lot of valid information about their graduate and undergraduate programmes. It provided students with an excellent opportunity, to speak to the Deans of various universities, who could guide them on the panorama of courses being offered. Mass communication, Designing and Biotechnology, were of my interest and I did take interest in finding out, job oriented prospects, in future. In addition to this, the students interacted face to face with major recruiters from the country. The Career Fair was perfectly timed as the exams had just ended. Students also got information about the financial assistance, they could avail of. It was indeed a helping hand onto the career ladder. We also got a first-hand insight of the colleges and the many opportunities provided, during the course.

OR

The Bermuda Triangle.

The Bermuda Triangle, also known as the Devils Triangle is associated with maritime disasters. This place is, in fact, a triangle-shaped area which covers 1,140,000 sq. kms. It lies between the island of Bermuda, the coast of Southern Florida and Puerto Rico. These are all floating masses of gulf-weed. The Devil's Triangle is regarded as dangerous because many unexplained disappearance of a number of US planes have been reported of which there has been no trace.

SECTION C : GRAMMAR (10 marks)

7. Complete the tasks, as directed.

(i) (a) be, (b) to, (c) a

(ii)

	Error	Correction
(a)	A	<u>The</u>
(b)	a	<u>the</u>
(c)	or	<u>and</u>



(d)	On	At
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(iii) Do as directed.

- i. The saddest thing is lack of public concern for the road victims. / Lack of public concern for the road victims is the saddest thing.
- ii. (a) he wanted to buy some new colours for himself, (b) she would love to see what all he had drawn and coloured

SECTION D : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK (26 marks)

8. Read the given excerpts and answer the questions briefly, for ANY TWO excerpts, of the three, given.

- (i)
 - a. The poet doesn't understand the subject matter of the reaper's song. Perhaps she is singing in a different dialect.
 - b. Her song is sad but melodious.
 - c. Perhaps the reaper is singing about old and unhappy things of the past. Her song may be related to some battles that were fought long ago.
 - d. It means the melancholy songs that the reaper was singing.
- (ii)
 - a. 'Villa for Sale' was the sign hanging on the gate for more than a month.
 - b. The speaker felt that she was foolish to have purchased the villa. She also felt that she had paid more than it was worth.
 - c. The Speaker is a polite and amiable woman.
- (iii)
 - a. 'The moment' when chuck was hit by a car.
 - b. Hooper's strong determination helped him to achieve the promotion.
 - c. Chuck owed his success to both, to himself and Duke. Both were equally responsible. Without Duke he would never have been able to walk again.

9. Answer ANY SIX of the following seven questions in about 30- 40 words each

- (i) The statement means that teeth are like friends. They need to be taken care of like we take care of our friends. The importance of teeth is so much that we lack words to describe it. They are the ornaments of our personality and well-being and add glamour to human personality. They can be like the true friends who add joy to our life.
- (ii) The refrain given in the poem is both meaningful, philosophical and musical. It is that men may be born and die but it goes on forever. In this refrain, the poet is creating music. But he is also symbolising through the brook the basic truths of life. It is : men are mortal but the brook is immortal.
- (iii) The rain is a divine gift of God and it proves to be a blessing for the parched fields. It beautifies, adorns and rejuvenates fields, trees, flowers and spreads vitality everywhere. Since it spreads joy and freshness all around the thunder announces its arrival and the rainbow in the sky announces the departure of the rain.
- (iv) Mrs. Bramble was constantly amazed that she should have brought such a prodigy in her son. Actually, Harold was a prodigy. He had all the qualities that one can feel proud of. He was devoted to books and had admirable behavior and courtesy. He had won the spelling and dictation prize.



- (v) Jessie was proud of her family. They were the biggest men and of the finest quality in the whole of Virginia or anywhere else. Secondly, they were the oldest family in the State. Her father had been a Colonel in the army.
- (vi) The dark, sun-dried appearance of the sergeant suggested that he was hard-working, tough, committed to his job, determined and prepared to face all kinds of dangers.
- (vii) Persome is just opposite in nature of the Bishop. She is cruel and pitiless. She treats Marie very harshly and without any kindness. She even rebukes her when she speaks to her normally. She also accuses her of the things that she does not do.

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120 words

(i) Monday

10 May 20XX

I empathize deeply with the immense suffering present in our world. Recently, I had a distressing encounter when a convict broke into my home and pleaded for food. Overwhelmed with compassion, I fed him, finding solace in my act of kindness. However, upon his departure, he stole my candlesticks. Fortunately, the police apprehended him and sought my assistance in identifying him. Driven by a genuine desire to alleviate his suffering, I urged the authorities to release him, claiming he was my friend and I had gifted him the candlesticks. This unexpected display of trust astonished the convict, instilling newfound confidence, and prompting him to pursue a normal life. I feel happy seeing that he wanted to go to Paris, where he could begin a new life without any fear of being identified by the police. Before departing, he sought my blessing, and as I prayed for him, he shed tears of gratitude. I am elated by the transformative change that has taken hold of him.

(ii) The story of Triveni's novel *Kashi Yatre* dealt with a religious theme relating to an old lady. She wanted to visit Kashi or Varanasi and worship Lord Vishweshwara there. It, for Hindus, was the ultimate *punya*. But she couldn't go there. Instead, she gave all her savings to an orphan girl who couldn't marry her heart-throb due to poverty. The grandmother identified herself with the old lady of the novel as both had a similar outlook and similar sentiments. Then their psychologies and social levels were almost the same. The grandmother's character totally synced in with the novel's character which interested her even more.

When the narrator went to a neighbouring village to attend a wedding she remained there for a week. In her absence, weekly *Karmaveera* arrived and the grandmother wanted to know the story of the serial. But she couldn't read as she was illiterate. This made her feel the worth and value of being literate. When the narrator came she wept before her and urged her (the narrator) to teach her the Kannada alphabet.

