

**Class X Session 2023-24**  
**Subject - English (Lan & Lit)**  
**Sample Question Paper – 7**

**Time allowed: 3 hours**

**Maximum marks: 80**

**General Instructions:**

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

**SECTION-A**  
**READING SKILLS (20 MARKS)**

1. Read the following text.

(1) Hundreds of thousands of our qualified youngsters take off from different international airports every year for higher studies or highly lucrative jobs in the US, UK, Germany, France and Australia, and most of these Indians prefer to settle down abroad, attracted by the facilities and the higher quality of life provided by these countries. We have been crying hoarse about the brain drain from India over the last five decades or more, without going in for a wellset blueprint to check the counter-productive phenomenon. Some of the public schools in our metros and our IITs (Indian Institutes of Technology) and IIMs (Indian Institutes of Management) are providing world-class education. One might wonder that having spent a lot on infrastructure, training and other facilities and the best teaching staff, can the government and the people of India look away as the talent, assiduously nurtured in India, is utilised by other countries for their development and excellence in different fields?

(2) Critics ask that when other developed countries provide higher facilities, pay packages and perks, how can you dissuade our youngsters from going abroad? What has been our loss has been the gain of the countries where our youth has migrated. Kalpana Chawla, the first Indian-American woman astronaut in space, had been a role model for every woman all over the world including India. Though she became an Indian American, we still lionise her as a citizen who could climb to the summit of excellence, when given a chance. Two distinguished scientists who won Nobel Prize for their meritorious work in Physics and Medicine in 1983 and 1968, were Dr. S. Chandrasekhar and Dr. Hargobind Khorana, respectively. They were working in the US. One might ask had they been working in India, would they have ever got the highly



prestigious prize like the Nobel Prize?

(3) During the decades-long debate on the brain drain, it was said that our youngsters leave India just because excellence is neither recognised nor rewarded in India. This could have been partly true at the beginning of this debate. But today, things have changed beyond recognition and talented people can reach the highest position possible if only they are prepared to work hard.

(4) Youngsters from India-whatever be the field they are working in—are today suitably recognised and rewarded.

(5) Take the field of sports where many of the celebrities are household names - Sania Mirza, Narain Karthikeyan, Sachin Tendulkar, Anju Bobby George, P.T. Usha and several others. Innovation and managerial skill get recognition when Indians can vie with others in excellence from any part of the world.

(6) If there is one individual who has catapulted India to the number one position in milk production in the world, it's none other than Dr. Verghese Kurien, the father of the White Revolution. A top engineer who completed the Konkan Railway in record time, Mr. E. Sreedharan has built up the world class Delhi Metro. Mr. Amitabh Bachchan is no longer a megastar of the Indian screen only. His presentation of Kaun Banega Crorepati and other ventures have made him a living legend of global proportions. Take the story of the Ambani brothers, the Tatas, the Mittals and others who are having their footprints in different continents. We have had so many Indian film and theatre actors who rose to the summit and earned so much acclaim not just in Bollywood, but also globally. In the wake of globalisation, India has produced a galaxy of eminent entrepreneurs in IT; biotechnology, civil aviation, steel production and the like. Just mention a field and we are already in the vanguard or moving ahead at a frantic pace. A time may come when India would be capable of reversing the so-called brain drain to India's supreme advantage.

(7) And happily enough, this is already happening now. A report released by a high-tech lobbying group in the Silicon Valley in 2005 revealed that the highly skilled Indian-born talent that once flocked to the US was returning home, “turning America's brain drain into India's brain gain.” Titled “Losing the Competitive Edge: The Challenge of Science and Technology in the US”, the report said that countries like India and China, through the restructuring of their economies, were dramatically increasing the skill sets of their work force, thereby posing a challenge to the US leadership in the technology domain. Public-private partnerships (in India) have invested in technical universities and communication infrastructure to create cutting edge technology parks in place like Bangalore in Karnataka. This will make India more competitive and alluring to investors and multinational companies. The report further said: “They are dramatically increasing the skill sets of their workforce, investing in research and development, and adapting advanced technologies, all to create wealth and spur economic growth.”



Answer the following questions, based on the passage.

i. The author says that there is plenty of talent in our own country and

- A. it's a waste of their talent
- B. it's ok if they want to move to other countries
- C. they must be prevented from leaving their motherland
- D. given a chance, they have made their mark

ii. "What has been our loss has been the other countries' gain". What can you understand about what the author means by this statement?

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.

According to critics, one of the main reason for taking up jobs abroad is. \_\_\_\_\_

iv. The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the given sets, identify a set of antonyms.

- A. Doldrums and Inactivity
- B. Spur and Stimulate
- C. Growth and Stagnant
- D. Horse and Harsh

v. Complete the sentence appropriately.

Things are improving for India now because. \_\_\_\_\_

vi. Based on the reading of the passage examine in about 40 words, which/how countries are posing a challenge to the US?

vii. Choose an appropriate title for the given passage.

- A. India and the Problem of Brain Drain
- B. Youngsters of India
- C. US Stealing the Indian Youth
- D. India's Progress in IT

viii. State whether the following lines display an example of speaker's idea as simple/rational/hopeful/thoughtful.

"A time may come when India would be capable of reversing the so-called brain drain to India's supreme advantage".

2. Read the following text.

(1) Here are some questions to ponder. Do you know why a certain film star received an arsenal of weapons from a gangster terrorist? Do you know why witnesses who turn hostile do not get prosecuted for either perjury or wasting police time, or both? Do you know why it takes a decade or longer to try a criminal case in India? Have you ever thought any solutions to these problems? If you haven't, it might be because of the type of education you received!

(2) Most of us reluctantly accept the way things are because we have been educated to be



accepting. We are not educated to be openly critical. We are not educated to argue, protest or confront. The Brits made no bones about it - in their schools we were educated to accept given values and ways of doing things. We were trained to be loyal servants to the status quo.

(3) Most of us oldies were subjected to the traditional approach to learning that focused on mastery of content, with little emphasis on the development of analytical skills and the nurturing of inquiring attitudes. We were the receivers of information, and the teacher was the dispenser. The passivity

encouraged by teachers was typified by one of my principals who implored all the girls to be like 'limpid water in a crystal vase.'

(4) These days I am kept very busy by schools that are running teacher-training courses to introduce the 'inquiry approach' to learning. Unlike traditional learning, this approach is focused on using and learning content as a means to develop information-processing and problem-solving skills. This system is more student-centered, with the teacher as a facilitator of learning. There is more emphasis on "how we come to know" and less on "what we know". Students are more involved in the construction of knowledge through active analysis and investigation. They are encouraged to ask questions, and give opinions and share what they know. They are encouraged to criticise and argue, and confront the conventional wisdom.

(5) At the moment, this new approach is restricted to a few schools. However, this year, the ability to critically analyse has been introduced as part of the CBSE school syllabus. It is a small start but it is a move towards introducing thinking skills into all of our schools. It is the start of a big change.

(6) Our government and bureaucracy are full of old, well-educated people of a traditionalist background, who also see, read and hear the news reports about hostile witnesses, gangsters and film stars, and murders by politician's sons. Like us they find them outrageous, but they don't know how to change things. Critical analysis, change management and innovation were not part of their schooling, and in adult life they have not become freely critical, outspoken analysts capable of applying the fruits of their analysis to increasingly complex problems.

(7) We often come across the shortcomings of our government, judiciary and media. With very little effort, these shortcomings will become a thing of the past. But they will be a long time coming. Not because our 'leaders' and societal managers are unfeeling, immoral, self-seekers but because they were educated and excelled in consulting a textbook, and regurgitating someone else's opinion and knowledge. As the newly educated might say: we can expect the same for a long time to come.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage.

- i. Why do we accept the things reluctantly, according to the author?
- ii. "With very little effort, these shortcomings will become a thing of the past." Which



shortcoming is the author referring to?

iii. Complete the following sentence appropriately:

In the traditional method of learning, the teacher was the dispenser and the students were \_\_\_\_\_

iv. What does the author feel about the ability to critically analyse that has been introduced as part of the CBSE school syllabus?

v. What kind of education did the Brits provide us during their reign?

vi. 'It is the start of a big change? Of which change is the author talking about?

vii. According to the author, all the girls were implored to be like. \_\_\_\_\_

viii. The government and bureaucracy feel the outrage against injustice and other wrong doings but do not challenge it because \_\_\_\_\_

A. they've been taught to accept the status quo

B. they have not become freely critical, outspoken analysts, capable of questioning things

C. they were not educated

D. both A and B

## SECTION-B

### WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)

#### GRAMMAR

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed. (1 × 10)

Choose the correct option to complete the sentence. (1)

It was believed that the Olympic Games \_\_\_\_\_ a Greek hero.

A. were founded by

B. was founded

C. are found

D. were found

ii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply its correction. (1)

Children visiting the park are amused by the monkeys play in the cages.

	ction

iii. Choose the correct option to fill in the blank. (1)

The principal has suddenly called for an assembly at the school auditorium. We \_\_\_\_\_ the junior classes from 5-7.

- A. was asked to inform  
B. were asked to inform  
C. were make to inform  
D. were enquired to inform

iv. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line.

Neither India nor Pakistan have yet acquired the capability to produce nuclear weapons.

(1)

Option No.	Error	Correction
A.	nor	or
B.	have	has
C.	acquired	acquiring
D.	weapons	weapon

v. Fill in the blank by selecting the correct option. (1)

Alex and I went ahead to give the information. I knocked on the door and Alex \_\_\_\_\_ to come forward.

- A. said for the class monitor  
B. told the class monitor  
C. requested the class monitor  
D. ordered the class monitor

vi. Identify the error and supply its correction for the sentence given below. (1)

Twenty miles are a long way to walk.

	ction

vii. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. (1)

What have you \_\_\_\_\_ to discover?

- A. been able  
B. able  
C. were able  
D. had been

viii. Fill in the blank with the most suitable option. (1)

The train \_\_\_\_\_ by the time we reach the station.

- A. was leaving  
B. has left  
C. will have left  
D. had left

ix Choose the correct option to fill in the blank. (1)

You \_\_\_\_\_ check with Kim if he's free this Friday.

- A. would  
B. should  
C. could  
D. will

x. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. (1)

I didn't want to hand over my precious chocolate so I requested, " \_\_\_\_\_?" She smiled and said keep it and have it afterwards.

- A. I will eat it here  
B. May I eat it here  
C. Wouldn't I eat it here  
D. Shouldn't I eat it here

xi. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the headline of a newspaper about global warming. (1)

Increasing global warming led to the death of \_\_\_\_\_ (much/more/many) Australians.

xii Sunaina and Prateek had a conversation about the upcoming event at their college. Report Prateek's question. (1)

Do you have any idea how many of our classmates will be participating?

WRITING (10)

4. A. Roadside vendors occupy most of the space on roads disturbing the flow of traffic and causing difficulties even to the pedestrians. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, expressing your views and suggesting ways and means to curb this problem. You are Rosie, 15, Navkunj Apartments, Delhi.

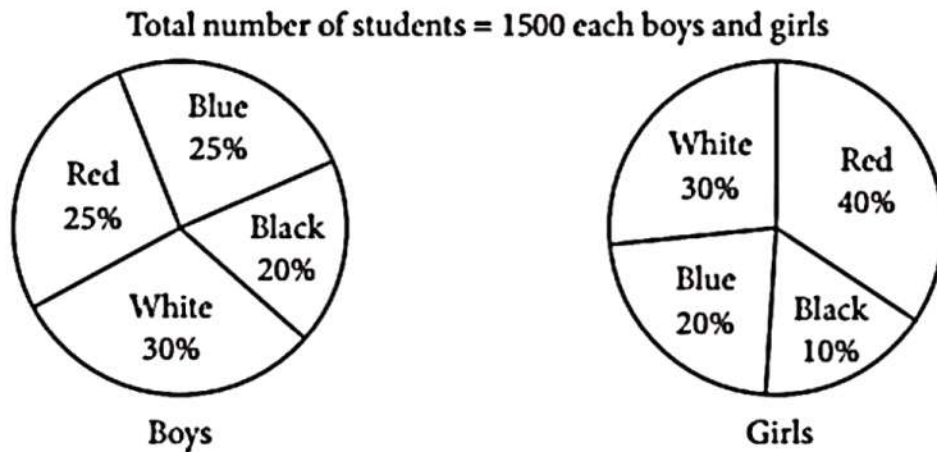
(5)

OR

4. B. You are Rakesh, member of NGO Prakirti. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, for a public movement to clean the Yamuna river. (You must introduce yourself, describe how the people are to be blamed for polluting the river and suggest the need for installing water treatment plant to clean the river.)

(5)

5. A. The given pie chart shows the favourite colours of students of a school. Study it carefully and write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words. (5)



OR

5. B. "Tourism in India means growth of India". (5)

Write a paragraph to analyse the given argument in about 120 words.

You could think about what alternative explanations might weaken the given conclusion and include rationale/evidence that would strengthen/counter the given argument.

### SECTION-C

#### LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 MARKS)

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

(5)

A. "We, who were outlaws not so long ago, have today been given the rare privilege to be host to the nations if the world on our own soil. We thank all of our distinguished international guests for having come to take possession with the people of our country of what is, after all, a common victory for justice, for peace, for human dignity."





i. It is a victory for 'human dignity'. Pick the option that lists the correct answer for what 'human dignity' would include. (1)

- A. (i) equality (ii) liberty (iii) indecency
- B. (i) liberty (ii) indecency (iii) self-respect
- C. (i) immorality (ii) self-respect (iii) equality
- D. (i) equality (ii) liberty (iii) self-respect

ii. Why does the speaker say that it is a 'rare privilege'? (1)

He says this as they have \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. been deprived of this honour
- B. seldom been given this honour
- C. experienced it for the first time
- D. been chosen over other countries, for this honour

iii. Pick the option that showcases the usage of 'host' as in the extract. (1)

- A. He was praised for his hospitality as the host of the party.
- B. She was able to host the event without any hindrance.
- C. She met the host and apologised for her friend's misbehaviour.
- D. He is the best host that one can ever come across.

iv. Why are the guests at the ceremony being called distinguished? Answer in about 40 words. (2)

OR

B. But he never got the chance to begin his plan. By noon a policeman had arrested him for the jewel robbery at Shotover Grange. His fingerprints, for he had opened the safe without gloves, were all over the room, and no one believed him when he said that the wife of the owner of the house had asked him to open the safe for her. The wife herself, a gray-haired, sharp-tongued woman of sixty, said that the story was nonsense. Horace is now the assistant librarian in the prison. He often thinks of the charming, clever young lady who was in the same profession as he was, and who tricked him. He gets very angry when anyone talks about 'honour among thieves'?

i. Based on the extract, choose what you think are the main feelings Horace probably has, for the young lady who tricked him, when he thinks about her?

(1)

- A. Anger and blame
- B. Admiration and respect
- C. Respect and gratitude
- D. Anger and vengeance

ii. Given below are four situations in Mr. Verma's house. Choose the situation that depicts Mr. Verma being sharp-tongued with his family members.

(1)

- A. Mr. Verma's wife shares a life problem with him and her advises her honestly.
- B. Mr. Verma's daughter scores poor marks in her exams and Mr. Verma remains silent.
- C. Mr. Verma's son cooks food for the first time and he is criticised by his father immediately.
- D. Mr. Verma's sister buys a new car to surprise him and he is overjoyed with the news.

iii. 'Honour among thieves' is an example of a/an \_\_\_\_\_ . (1)

- A. idiom
- B. slogan
- C. slang
- D. lyric

iv. What did Horace plan, and what happened exactly? Answer in about 40 words.

(2)

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

(5)

A. If strolling forth, a beast you view,

Whose hide with spots is peppered,

As soon as he has lept on you,

You'll know it is the Leopard.

"Twill do no good to roar with pain,

He'll only lep and lep again.



i. Given below are four examples of activities that Jasmeet does. Choose the option that correctly demonstrates 'strolling'. (1)

- A. Jasmeet runs with a great speed after being chased by a dog.
- B. Jasmeet walks in the garden, relaxing while listening to his favourite song.
- C. Jasmeet skids sharply on the icy skate rink.
- D. Jasmeet rushes to switch off the water pump in the backyard.

iii. The repetition used in "he'll only lep and lep again" is an example of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(1)

iv. How do we know it is a leopard with reference to the given extract? Answer in about 40 words. (2)

OR

B. All night the roots work  
to disengage themselves from the cracks  
in the veranda floor.  
The leaves strain toward the glass  
small twigs stiff with exertion  
long-cramped boughs shuffling under the roof  
like newly discharged patients  
half-dazed, moving  
to the clinic doors.

i. Choose the option that lists the examples of exertion. (1)

- (1) Neha had been up all-night keeping accounts and now she's resting.
- (2) Swati was running for five miles non-stop last evening.
- (3) Hemant is watching his favourite show and having snacks.
- (4) Sachin helped a senior citizen board a flight in the morning.

A. 1 and 2

B. 2 and 3



C. 3 and 4

D. 1 and 4

ii. Choose the correct option that mentions the correct poetic device against the correct example.

(1)

(1)	simile	long-cramped boughs
	metaphor	like newly discharged patients

(2)	personification	small twigs stiff with exertion
	simile	like newly discharged patients

(3)	refrain	under the roof
	simile	leaves strain toward the glass

(4)	personification	like newly discharged patients
	refrain	half-dazed, moving

A. Option (1)

B. Option (2)

C. Option (3)

D. Option (4)

iii. Long-cramped and half-dazed are combination of two words joined together to form compound words. Choose the option that correctly fits the definition of the same.

(1)

1. discharged

2. backstage

3. Comeback

4. toward

5. knighthood

A. 1, 3 and 5

B. 2, 3 and 4

C. 2, 3 and 5

D. 1, 2 and 4

iv. What does the phrase "newly discharged patients" suggest? Justify your answer in about 40 words.

(2)

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words.

i. How does Natalya excite Lomov to the point of verbal fighting? (3)



ii. How has the Coorgi tradition of courage and bravery recognised in modern India?

iii. Why did Lencho become furious when he counted the money? (3)

iv. Why did Prince Siddhartha Gautam leave the palace and become a beggar?

v. What happened after the narrator flew straight into the storm?

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

i. Griffin was a lawless man. Explain.

ii. Why did Sgt. Oop take a bite of the book?

iii. How did Mrs. Pumphrey react when she heard that Tricki could be collected as he had got well?

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.

A. What did the pilot of Dakota encounter 150 km away from Paris? Recount his experience inside the black clouds.

OR

B. Why did Anne Frank think that she could confide more in her diary than in people?

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.

A. Money can't make a man as much as education can. Elucidate the statement and write a paragraph with reference to the chapter "The Thief's Story".

OR

B. Write a character sketch of the secret Agent Ausable.

### SOLUTIONS

1. i. C. they must be prevented from leaving their motherland

ii. When highly talented and well qualified Indians move abroad, leaving their motherland, they are a loss for the country. But on the other hand, they are a matter of gain for the countries they go to. Thus, the author meant that when talented Indians move abroad, the country losses while other countries gain from our loss.

iii. higher pay

iv. C. Growth and Stagnant

V. India has been able to reverse the brain drain in the IT field

vi. A report revealed that the highly skilled Indian-born talent that once flocked to the US, was returning home. It was likely to say that now it is turning America's brain drain into India's



brain gain. The report said that countries like India and China, through the restructuring of their economies were dramatically increasing the skill sets of their work force, thereby posing a challenge to the US leadership in the technology domain.

vii. A. India and The Problem of Brain Drain

viii. Hopeful

2. i. We reluctantly accept the things because we have been educated to be accepting. We are not educated to be openly critical or confront things. We were taught to accept given values and ways of doing things. We were trained to be loyal servants to the status quo.

ii. The inability to critically think and question social evils and injustices.

iii. Receivers

iv. The author feels positive about it and calls it the start of a big change.

v. We were trained to be loyal servants to the status quo.

vi. The author is referring to the CBSE school syllabus that has introduced thinking skills in its curriculum. Now, students are more involved in the construction of knowledge through active analysis and investigation. They are encouraged to criticize and argue and confront the conventional wisdom.

vii. limpid water in a crystal vase

viii. D. both A and B

3. i. A. were founded by

ii.	Error	Correction
	play	playing

iii. B. were asked to inform

iv.	Option No.	Error	Correction
	B.	have	has

v. C. requested the class monitor

vi.	Error	Correction
	are	is

vii. A. been able

viii. C. will have left

ix. B. should

X. B. May I eat it here

xi. many

xii. Prateek asked Sunaina if she had any idea how many of their classmates would be participating.

4. A.

15, Navkunj Apartments

Delhi

7 March 20xx

The Editor

The Times of India

New Delhi

**Subject :** Traffic Congestion caused by Roadside Vendors

Sir,

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to draw the attention of the concerned authorities to the appalling condition of the roads leading to the main market.

The entire stretch is full of people. All sorts of traffic can be seen here. Roadside vendors occupy most of the space on roads. They cover the pavements and leave no room for parking. What is worse, they occupy at least one-third of the road and disturb the flow of traffic. The worst hit are the pedestrians. They are virtually caught between the devil and the deep sea. Moving on the road has become a nightmare for them.

We have already brought this problem to the notice of municipal authorities, but no tangible action has been taken so far. I think that certain steps are essential. The vendors must be issued licence and allotted specific space. Those who break the rules must be fined.

Prompt action on the part of the authorities will curb this problem and make the flow of traffic free and safe for the citizens.

Thank you

Yours faithfully

Rosie

OR

4. B.

Prakirti Delhi

20 March 20xx

The Editor

Hindustan Times

New Delhi

**Subject :** Need for people's movement for a clean Yamuna

Dear Editor

I am Rakesh, member of NGO Prakirti. I am writing to you in order to highlight the deteriorating condition of river Yamuna.

The city of Delhi is getting contaminated water from river Yamuna. The residents are to be blamed for this. They pollute the river with garbage, sewage and filth. The river water is full of bacteria, plastic, chemicals and other waste materials. It is unfit for consumption.

The people have been demanding a Water Treatment plant. The authorities have not yet responded to the repeated requests.

I request you to highlight the problem in your newspaper and arouse public interest. We all need to get together in order to get the plant set up in the area.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

Rakesh

(Member Prakirti)

5. A. The given pie charts show the colour preferences of students of a school. The preferred colours are blue, red, black, white and the total number of students participated in the survey is 1500.



The most preferred colour by boys is white which consists of 30% of the total data. Red and blue stand at position two of favourite colours levelling it off at 25% each. And according to the given data black is the least preferred colour choice with only 20% students preferring it.

If we look at the data of girls the majority preferred red colour which consists of 40% of total number. The next preferred colour is white which is chosen by 30% of girl. The least preferred choices are blue and black accounting for 20% and 10% respectively.

So, to conclude the given data and draw comparison, it is evident that both the genders preferred different colours as their most favourite. The girls preferred red whereas the boys preferred white. However, the least preferred colour choice of both the genders is same which is colour black. The given pie charts clearly show the colour choices of girl and boy students of a particular school and their specific data.

OR

5. B. The development of tourism industry will definitely lead to development of the country as a whole. India is a land of beautiful landscapes, rivers and places of religious, historical and cultural importance. We have innumerable tourist destinations which if used to their full potential can bring about a lot of development in the country. Tourism being one of the biggest and fastest-growing industries globally, affects the economic, socio-cultural, environmental and educational resources of nations.

Improving tourism industry in India would thus contribute to the development of the nation in many spheres. It will have many positive effects on our economy. It will help in the growth and development of various industries directly linked with the tourism industry such as those pertaining to transportation, accommodation, wildlife, arts and entertainment. It also helps in the creation of new jobs. A lot of revenue will also be generated through foreign exchange on payments received for goods and services provided. The development of tourism also enhances the living conditions of the local people.

6. i. D. (i) equality (ii) liberty (iii) self-respect

ii. C. experienced it for the first time

iii. B. She was able to host the event without any hindrance.

The guests at the ceremony are being called distinguished because they are the eminent world leaders who were present there and witnessed it. Once those who were considered outlaws by whites were given the same rights as them, they became equal to them with their constant fight for equality.





OR

B. i. B. Admiration and respect

ii. C. Mr. Verma's son cooks food for the first time and he is criticised by his father immediately.

iii. A. idiom

iv. The plan devised by Horace was to look for another safe for stealing books, but by noon, he was arrested for the jewel robbery at Shotover Grange by a policeman because his fingerprints were all over the safe, as he was the one who opened it. He thought that the lady he saw on that day was the owner of the house, and he did so on her demand in return for her letting him go without filing any complaint.

7. A. i. B. Jasmeet walks in the garden, relaxing while listening to his favorite song.

ii. A. The poet asks the reader to hide on seeing the leopard.

iii. poetic licence

iv. The extract tells that to identify a leopard, you should know that a leopard has spots on its skin. As soon as it sees someone walking in the forest, it leaps on them, terrorises them, and starts eating. It is a symbol of power and fear.

OR

B. i. A. 1 and 2

ii. B. Option (2)

iii. C. 2, 3 and 5

iv. The phrase "newly discharged patients" in the extract suggests that the trees were once unwell or unhappy and in need of medical help or remedy, but now they are cured and ready to venture out and live their lives.

8. i. Natalya repeatedly insisted that Oxen Meadows are theirs and told Lomov that upto now she considered Lomov as a good neighbour and friend. This excited Lomov to the point of verbal fighting.

ii. The Coorgi tradition of courage and bravery has been recognized by awarding the Coorg Regiment with the greatest number of gallantry awards. Besides, the Coorgis are the only Indians allowed to carry firearms without a licence.

iii. Lencho became furious when he counted the money because the money was not hundred pesos which he had demanded. It was only 70 pesos. Lencho had firm faith in God. Moreover, he knew that God could not make a mistake or deny his request.

iv. Before he had come across the sick man, the aged man, the funeral procession and the monk begging for alms, during his hunting expedition, Prince Siddhartha Gautama lived a life of comfort, unaware of the sufferings of the world. After he chanced upon those sufferings, Siddhartha Gautama left his comfortable life at the palace and wandered off into the world seeking enlightenment, concerning the sorrows he had witnessed.

v. Inside the storm, everything was black, and it was impossible for him to see anything. The compass, the radio and other instruments of the Dakota plane went dead. He could not make contact with Paris control room. The narrator soon realised that he was lost.

9. i. Griffin was a completely lawless man because he committed a number of crimes for which he never felt guilty or never regretted. He stole food and clothes from a store, burnt the landlord's house and stole money from the clergyman's house to pay his bills.

ii. Sgt. Oop took a bite of the book because it was an order from Think-Tank who believed that the book was actually a sandwich consumed by the humans on a regular basis. He ordered the space crew members to eat the book to confirm his opinion.

iii. When Dr. Herriot called to tell Mrs. Pumphery that Tricki had recovered and that she could collect him, Mrs. Pumphery drove in there within minutes. She eagerly wanted to know if he was alright. She had tears of joy in her eyes and her lips were trembling too. Tricki was also very happy to go back home because he jumped into his mistress' lap and licked her lovingly.

10. A. The pilot of Dakota airplane was on his way to London. Paris was one hundred and fifty kilometres behind him when the pilot found himself flying straight towards gigantic storm clouds. With insufficient fuel to go above or around the clouds, and the pilot knew he couldn't fly up and over the clouds, there was no way those terrible storm clouds could be avoided. Since he was desperate to reach home by breakfast, the pilot decided to fly his old Dakota plane into the storm. Flying inside the dark clouds was not an easy task. Everything was dark and nothing was visible outside the plane. Gradually, the radio and the compass stopped working as well. Soon, the pilot realised that he had lost his way, and his modes of communication were dead. At that moment, the pilot saw another plane flying next to his through the storm. The other aeroplane had no lights on its wings, and although nothing else was visible, the black aeroplane and its pilot were visible. He waved at the pilot of the Dakota plane and signaled him to follow. Trusting the pilot of the black aeroplane the Dakota pilot followed the former and soon he came out of clouds. He saw the runway waiting for touchdown. He was able to make a

safe landing. The strange black plane disappeared in oblivion as mysteriously as it had arrived. The pilot of the old Dakota was even more surprised to learn that his was the only plane, which was spotted on the radar that night.

OR

B. Anne felt alone, bored and depressed, though she had loving parents, a sister and thirty other people. She was a shy, introvert type of girl, she did not have a friend. She had a happy family but somehow, she could not confide in them. She wanted someone with whom she could share her secrets. At that time, her friend gifted her a red and white diary. She found a real friend in her diary 'Kitty'. Moreover, she realized the truth lying in the fact that paper has more patience than people. So, she could confide more ideas in her diary than in people because people are not always interested in listening to what you are telling them. During the traumatic events that unfolded, it was maintaining her diary that became her tool for survival. In a way, writing down her fears and emotions came easier than talking with the people around her because everyone was fighting their own battle during the tough times.

11. A. Money can't make a man as much as education can. This statement holds true in almost all the aspects of life. Money can certainly buy us all the luxuries one can dream of and fulfil one's needs but it cannot buy us knowledge, pragmatic approach, sensible thinking and abilities to achieve our goals. Education makes a person humane. Education lays the platform for us to act upon our goals according to our abilities. Education helps us to keep up with the fast-paced society and the world. Education leads us to the

opportunities we do not even know exist. Money can assist us to a certain level. It can help in creating ideas but education gives us the knowledge of their execution. Similarly, in the story "The Thief's Story, Hari Singh prioritised the chance of being literate over a few hundred rupees. It was the result of the little education that Hari received from Anil and the future prospects he learned that education can help him in building a brighter future for him. So, we must understand that education can help us to achieve whatever we desire.

OR

B. Ausable was a secret agent. He was a fat and sloppy fellow by looks. In his appearance, he did not seem to be a romantic or ideal personality of a secret agent. He came to Paris from Boston twenty years ago. He could speak French and German passably. He had not completely lost the American accent. Ausable was a very intelligent person. He had a great presence of mind. He did not lose his calm in a difficult situation when he faced a man with a pistol in his hand. He remained cool. He cooked-up a story about the balcony. He made Max nervous by telling him about the police. He got Max killed without any fighting and shooting. Fowler who



was disappointed to meet him at the beginning of the story was very much impressed with his intelligence and presence of mind at the end of the story.