



**Series : EFGH/S**

**Set – 2**

**Q.P. Code**

**2/S/2**

**Roll No.**

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Candidates must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.

## ENGLISH (Language and Literature)

*Time allowed : 3 hours*



*Maximum Marks : 80*

- Please check that this question paper contains **15** printed pages.
- Q.P. Code given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains **11** questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book at the given place before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the candidates will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

#

### **General Instructions :**

*Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :*

- This question paper comprises **11** questions. All questions are compulsory.*
- The question paper contains **three** sections :*
  - Section A – Reading Skills**
  - Section B – Grammar and Creative Writing Skills**
  - Section C – Literature**
- Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*

**2/S/2**

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**P.T.O.**





## SECTION A

### Reading Skills

**20 marks**

1. Read the following passage carefully :

10

- (1) On a Sunday full of possibilities, I'm confused by too many choices. I unlock my phone and innumerable choices pour : movies, music, podcasts, games, and this truly perplexes me. Amidst my indecision, a dust-ridden copy of 'The Bell Jar' falls from the bookshelf. My guilt finds respite in the puddle of addictive videos online.
- (2) In a hyperconnected world, books are left to age pale yellow. Reading is seen by the newer generations as mundane. Though the benefits of reading are common knowledge, the privilege of choice overpowers. Many publishers and bookstores have now shut down.
- (3) 'The blast of the digital' has made everything catering to shrinking attention spans, with overwhelming choices from online poetry to captions to tweets. The reading fabric of Gen Z is brief. They are reading rapidly and recklessly. Reading for sole bliss seems to be a thing of the past. Though digital reading might be a new avenue for words, studies suggest that printed text develops better comprehension.
- (4) The Reading Manifesto of October 2023 rightly argues that digital reading is 'superficial' and confined to mere text decoding. Reading text, on the other hand, helps cultivate better cognitive abilities, attention span and vocabulary. We live in an age where fake news prevails. The much required ability to distinguish between fact and fiction can only be developed by critical reading of printed texts.





Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- (i) In paragraph (1), what causes the indecision in the author's mind ? 1
- (ii) How does the author describe the current state of reading among the new generation ? 1
- (A) They are more engaged with books than ever before.
- (B) They find reading more exciting than digital media.
- (C) They view reading as mundane and prefer digital media.
- (D) They balance their reading between digital media and printed texts.
- (iii) Complete the following with the correct option from the given two. 'Privilege of choice' in paragraph (2) means : 1
- (A) Easy and readily available options
- (B) Rare and valuable opportunities
- (iv) Complete the following suitably and support it with a reason. 2
- The difference between digital reading and reading printed text is \_\_\_\_\_. Paragraph (3)
- (v) The phrases "reading rapidly and recklessly" and "overwhelming choices" convey that Gen Z \_\_\_\_\_. 1
- Paragraph (3)
- (vi) State whether the following statement is True or False : 1
- Reading only for pleasure is a thing of the past. Paragraph (3)
- (vii) The Reading Manifesto states that digital reading \_\_\_\_\_. 1
- Paragraph (4)
- (A) is deep and comprehensive
- (B) is superior to traditional reading
- (C) fosters superficial reading confined to text decoding
- (D) has an impact on cognitive skills
- (viii) Support the writer's idea that reading has many advantages and it can counteract the spread of fake news. Paragraph (4) 2





2. Read the following passage carefully :

10

- (1) Among the most visible effects of environmental global warming are rising seas around the world : since 1880, the global mean sea level (GMSL) has increased by 20 cm. There's no easy way to halt or reverse this change. Earth's oceans and ice sheets respond slowly to changes in the heat they receive from the atmosphere. They hold onto heat for decades to centuries. As a result, sea levels globally will continue to rise well beyond the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- (2) The recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) states that it is very likely that the climate-induced sea level will affect much of the world's coasts in the coming decades. An estimated 800 million people will experience impacts of high tide flooding. In many coastal settings, even a small increase in baseline sea level can increase the frequency and magnitude of flooding during high tides, storm surges and extreme weather.
- (3) The direct impact of all this will be on communities, infrastructure, natural resources and biodiversity on all the world's coastline. It is already unavoidable that many communities will be displaced and forced to migrate as climate refugees. The need for counter measures against the adverse impacts of climate change is imperative.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- (i) What message does the use of the phrase 'visible effects' by the writer, in paragraph (1) send to the reader ?

1





- (ii) Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below. 1
- Assertion :* There is no way to reverse the rising global mean sea level.
- Reason :* The oceans hold onto heat for centuries.
- (A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
- (B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is **not** the correct explanation of the assertion.
- (C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
- (D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- (iii) Identify the word that indicates that the writer anticipated an approximate number of people who would face the impact. Paragraph (2) 1
- (iv) The effects of human footprints on the environment are \_\_\_\_\_. 1
- (A) devastating (B) reversible
- (C) adaptable (D) temporary
- (v) Read the given prompt and select the correct option in the brackets to fill in the blank. 1
- In the coming decades almost \_\_\_\_\_ (350, 800, 900) million people will suffer the consequences of high tide.
- (vi) Earth's oceans and ice sheets respond slowly to changes in the heat they receive from the atmosphere. Explain. 1
- (vii) Complete the sentence suitably
- The sea level globally will continue to rise because \_\_\_\_\_. 1
- (viii) Complete the following with a suitable reason.
- Frequent flooding in coastal settings can increase when \_\_\_\_\_. 1
- (ix) In the context of the last paragraph, who are climate refugees and why are they called so ? 2





## SECTION B

### Grammar and Creative Writing Skills Grammar

20 marks

3. Complete any **ten** of the following twelve tasks, as directed. 10×1=10

- (i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket. 1

My sister Mona \_\_\_\_\_ (fall) down when the dog leapt at her.

- (ii) Read the given sentence. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.

In the last five decades, the Rubik Cube has become one of the much absorbing puzzles for children. 1

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

- (iii) Neha and Rudra were doing a theatre presentation. Report Neha's question. 1

Are the costumes and props ready for the rehearsal tomorrow ?

- (iv) Read the dialogue below : 1

Vinay : Did you attend the seminar on "Effective Speaking," yesterday ?

Vineeta : Yes I did. I learnt some valuable skills from the speaker.

Choose the correct option to complete the dialogue.

Vinay asked Vineeta \_\_\_\_\_. Vineeta responded positively and said that she had learnt valuable skills from the speaker.

- (A) whether she had attended the seminar on "Effective Speaking", the day before
- (B) if she had attended the seminar on "Effective Speaking", yesterday
- (C) whether the seminar on "Effective Speaking", the day before was good
- (D) whether she will be attending the seminar on "Effective Speaking" the day after





- (v) Identify the error and provide the correction. 1

A good bookstore not only sells books but also offer a great experience.

| <i>Error</i> | <i>Correction</i> |
|--------------|-------------------|
|              |                   |

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

(Less/Much/Many) \_\_\_\_\_ people wonder why the food processing and packaging industry adds extra oil and sugar to their products.

- (vii) Select the option that identifies the error and provides the correction. 1

The complicated story line of the novel kept me engross.

| <i>Option No.</i> | <i>Error</i> | <i>Correction</i> |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| (A)               | line         | lines             |
| (B)               | of           | for               |
| (C)               | the          | a                 |
| (D)               | engross      | engrossed         |

- (viii) Select the correct option to complete the following sentence from a newspaper article. 1

Most major cities \_\_\_\_\_ significantly over the last 30 years.

- (A) has been growing  
(B) grew  
(C) have grown  
(D) will grow





- (ix) Report the following dialogue between two friends by completing the sentence. 1

*Neena :* The air in Shimla is refreshing.

*Meena :* Since yesterday the temperature has been below 20°C.

Neena said that the air in Shimla was refreshing. Meena added \_\_\_\_\_.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ I was not feeling well, I ventured out for a walk.

- (A) However
- (B) Though
- (C) Through
- (D) Nevertheless

- (xi) Complete the sentence using the correct option.

Nitya is so intelligent that she \_\_\_\_\_ solve the puzzle in less than a minute. 1

- (A) may
- (B) ought
- (C) might
- (D) can

- (xii) Identify the error and provide the correct answer. 1

The background music and sound effects plays a major role in the film's success.

| <i>Error</i> | <i>Correction</i> |
|--------------|-------------------|
|              |                   |





## Writing

**Note :** All details presented in the questions in writing section are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

4. Attempt any **one** from (a) and (b) given below :

5

(a) In the recent years, there has been a spurt in the commercialization of residential properties. This is a cause of great nuisance and annoyance to the residents in the adjoining areas. Write a letter to the editor of a national newspaper, in about 120 words, drawing attention to the growing problem in the city and the inconveniences that follow. You are Ritika/Ritik, residing at 46, New Town, Roshnipur.

**OR**

(b) Write a letter in about 120 words to the Chairman, Sports Authority of your city. Draw his attention to the poor sports facilities for the public. Mention the disadvantages of the situation, and give suggestions on how sports infrastructure can be improved. You are Sujata/Shreyas, residing at 8-A, Sea View Apartments, Samudrashahar.



5. Attempt any **one** from (a) and (b) given below :

5

- (a) Aarti/Aarav of class X is preparing for her/his exams and members of her/his study circle wish to learn how to manage their time well. Aarti/Aarav prepares the notes below on the principles of time management.

- \* Principles of Time Management
- \* Prioritize — identify important tasks
- \* Plan — create timelines
- \* Expect change in routine
- \* Anticipate problems
- \* Delegate tasks — gather resources

Write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words either accepting or rejecting Aarti's/Aarav's plan.

**OR**

- (b) Read the given details of a new mall that has recently opened in your area.

- Location
- Physical description
- Number of stores, food courts, cafés, entertainment zone
- Amenities – escalators, wheelchair ramp
- Congestion on roads, traffic jams

Analyse the details and write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words.





**SECTION C**  
**Literature**

**40 marks**

6. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two, (a) or (b) : 5

(a) NOODLE : *(bowing)* O Great and Mighty Think-Tank, most powerful and intelligent creature in the whole universe, what are your orders ?

THINK-TANK : *(peevishly)* You left out part of my salutation, Apprentice Noodle. Go over the whole thing again.  
(The Book That Saved the Earth)

- (i) According to the extract, Noodle is a \_\_\_\_\_ to Think-Tank. 1  
Select the correct option :  
(A) carpenter (B) subordinate  
(C) master (D) friend

- (ii) What does the above extract reveal about the character of Think-Tank ? 2

- (iii) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the brackets. 1

The use of the word 'peevishly' suggests that Think-Tank was feeling \_\_\_\_\_ (elated/annoyed).

- (iv) How does Noodle describe Think-Tank in his salutation ? 1

**OR**

- (b) NATALYA : Forgive us, Ivan Vassilevitch, we were all a little heated.  
I remember now: Oxen Meadows... really are yours.

LOMOV : My heart's beating awfully. My Meadows... My eyebrows are both twitching....

NATALYA : The Meadows are yours, yes, yours. Do sit down.  
[*They sit*] We were wrong. (The Proposal)

- (i) 'We' refers to \_\_\_\_\_. 1  
(ii) Why was Lomov's heart beating 'awfully' ? 1  
(iii) Fill in the blank with a correct word from the brackets. 2

The use of the phrase 'twitching eyebrows' adds to the sense of \_\_\_\_\_ (agitation/pleasure).

- (iv) Why does Natalaya say "Forgive us, Ivan... We were wrong" ?  
Substantiate in about 40 words from the given extract. 1

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# P.T.O.





7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two, (a) or (b) :

5

(a) The trees inside are moving out into the forest,  
the forest that was empty all these days  
where no bird could sit  
no insect hide  
no sun bury its feet in shadow

(The Trees)

- (i) Where are the trees moving out from ? 1
- (ii) How does the author's use of descriptive language enhance the impact on the reader ? 1
- (iii) Complete the following suitably :  
The emptiness of the forest is highlighted by \_\_\_\_\_. 1
- (iv) Explain the phrase "no sun bury its feet" with reference to the extract. 2

**OR**

(b) Belinda embraced him, Mustard licked him,  
No one mourned for his pirate victim.  
Ink and Blink in glee did gyrate  
Around the dragon that ate the pirate.

(The Tale of Custard the Dragon)

- (i) Complete the following suitably : 1  
Belinda's and Mustard's reaction reflected a sense of \_\_\_\_\_. 1
- (ii) 'Embraced' in this context means : 1
- (A) to accept
- (B) to feel awkward and sheepish
- (C) to put your arms around someone
- (D) to show disagreement





(iii) Select the option that applies the same rhyme scene as the lines of the given extract.

1

(A) I have a cat

I have a house

I have a mouse

I have a hat.

(B) She went there

The house was bare

Not a sound was heard

Except the tweet of a bird.

(C) People along the sand

all turn to look one way.

The wetter ground like glass

swept their gaze away.

(D) The bird flew

to the sky blue

It was beauty true

I have to say

(iv) What is the irony in the behaviour of the characters in the given extract ?

2





8. Answer any **four** of the following five questions in 40 – 50 words each :  $4 \times 3 = 12$

(i) How, according to Robert Frost, will the world end twice in the poem “Fire and Ice” ?

(ii) Why was Rajvir in “Glimpses of India” excited ? Why did Pranjol not share his excitement ?

(iii) Why does the poem “For Anne Gregory” use the reference of ‘an old religious man’ ?

(iv) Why did Maxwell call the airhostess ‘the very queen of her kind’ ?  
(Mijbil the Otter)

(v) Describe Anne’s relationship with her grandmother.  
(From the Diary of Anne Frank)

9. Answer any **two** of the following three questions in 40 – 50 words each :  $2 \times 3 = 6$

(i) What did Mrs. Pumphrey do to bring Tricki to normal health ? Was she successful ?  
(A Triumph of Surgery)

(ii) Describe Griffin’s room as seen by the Hall couple.  
(Footprints without Feet)

(iii) What changes came into the life of the Loisels after the necklace was lost ?  
(The Necklace)





10. Answer any **one** of the following two questions in 100 – 120 words : 6

- (a) What challenges do Siddhartha in 'The Sermon at Benares' and Valliammai in 'Madam Rides the Bus' face ? How do their journeys reflect on the themes of human experience and self-realisation ?

**OR**

- (b) The protagonist in 'The Ball Poem' and the young seagull in 'His First Flight' face challenges. Discuss with reference to the two texts.

11. Answer any **one** of the following two questions in 100 – 120 words : 6

- (a) 'The devil is in the details' captures the power of unexamined details and how it results in unforeseen difficulties. Discuss the statement in context to "The Midnight Visitor".

**OR**

- (b) The chapter 'Bholi' enables the readers to question values and customs prevailing in society. With reference to the text, discuss the above statement.



| <b>Marking Scheme</b><br><b>Strictly Confidential</b><br><b>(For Internal and Restricted use only)</b><br><b>SECONDARY SCHOOL SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION, 2025</b><br><b>SUBJECT NAME : ENGLISH (LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE) (SUB. CODE-184)</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>General Instructions: -</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | You are aware that evaluation is the most important process in the actual and correct assessment of the candidates. A small mistake in evaluation may lead to serious problems which may affect the future of the candidates, education system and teaching profession. To avoid mistakes, it is requested that before starting evaluation, you must read and understand the spot evaluation guidelines carefully.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 2.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>“Evaluation policy is a confidential policy as it is related to the confidentiality of the examinations conducted, Evaluation done and several other aspects. Its’ leakage to public in any manner could lead to derailment of the examination system and affect the life and future of millions of candidates. Sharing this policy/document to anyone, publishing in any magazine and printing in News Paper/Website etc may invite action under various rules of the Board and IPC.”</b>                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 3.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Evaluation is to be done as per instructions provided in the Marking Scheme. It should not be done according to one’s own interpretation or any other consideration. Marking Scheme should be strictly adhered to and religiously followed. <b>However, while evaluating, answers which are based on latest information or knowledge and/or are innovative, they may be assessed for their correctness otherwise and due marks be awarded to them. In class-X, while evaluating two competency-based questions, please try to understand given answer and even if reply is not from marking scheme but correct competency is enumerated by the candidate, due marks should be awarded.</b> |
| 4.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | The Marking scheme carries only suggested value points for the answers These are in the nature of Guidelines only and do not constitute the complete answer. The students can have their own expression and if the expression is correct, the due marks should be awarded accordingly.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 5.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | The Head-Examiner must go through the first five answer books evaluated by each evaluator on the first day, to ensure that evaluation has been carried out as per the instructions given in the Marking Scheme. If there is any variation, the same should be zero after deliberation and discussion. The remaining answer books meant for evaluation shall be given only after ensuring that there is no significant variation in the marking of individual evaluators.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |



|     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6.  | Evaluators will mark( ✓ ) wherever answer is correct. For wrong answer CROSS 'X' be marked. Evaluators will not put right (✓)while evaluating which gives an impression that answer is correct and no marks are awarded. <b>This is most common mistake which evaluators are committing.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 7.  | If a question has parts, please award marks on the right-hand side for each part. Marks awarded for different parts of the question should then be totaled up and written in the left-hand margin and encircled. This may be followed strictly.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 8.  | If a question does not have any parts, marks must be awarded in the left-hand margin and encircled. This may also be followed strictly.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 9.  | If a student has attempted an extra question, answer of the question deserving more marks should be retained and the other answer scored out with a note <b>“Extra Question”</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 10. | No marks to be deducted for the cumulative effect of an error. It should be penalized only once.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 11. | A full scale of marks _____(example 0 to 80/70/60/50/40/30 marks as given in Question Paper) has to be used. Please do not hesitate to award full marks if the answer deserves it.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 12. | Every examiner has to necessarily do evaluation work for full working hours i.e., 8 hours every day and evaluate 20 answer books per day in main subjects and 25 answer books per day in other subjects (Details are given in Spot Guidelines).This is in view of the reduced syllabus and number of questions in question paper.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 13. | <p>Ensure that you do not make the following common types of errors committed by the Examiner in the past:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaving answer or part thereof unassessed in an answer book.</li> <li>• Giving more marks for an answer than assigned to it.</li> <li>• Wrong totaling of marks awarded on an answer.</li> <li>• Wrong transfer of marks from the inside pages of the answer book to the title page.</li> <li>• Wrong question wise totaling on the title page.</li> <li>• Wrong totaling of marks of the two columns on the title page.</li> <li>• Wrong grand total.</li> <li>• Marks in words and figures not tallying/not same.</li> <li>• Wrong transfer of marks from the answer book to online award list.</li> <li>• Answers marked as correct, but marks not awarded. (Ensure that the right tick mark is correctly and clearly indicated. It should merely be a line. Same is with the X for incorrect answer.)</li> </ul> <p>Half or a part of answer marked correct and the rest as wrong, but no marks awarded.</p> |
| 14. | While evaluating the answer books if the answer is found to be totally incorrect, it should be marked as cross (X) and awarded zero (0)Marks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |



|     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 15. | Any unassessed portion, non-carrying over of marks to the title page, or totaling error detected by the candidate shall damage the prestige of all the personnel engaged in the evaluation work as also of the Board. Hence, in order to uphold the prestige of all concerned, it is again reiterated that the instructions be followed meticulously and judiciously. |
| 16. | Every Examiner should acquaint themselves with the guidelines given in the “ <b>Guidelines for spot Evaluation</b> ” before starting the actual evaluation.                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 17. | Every Examiner shall also ensure that all the answers are evaluated, marks carried over to the title page, correctly totaled and written in figures and words.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 18. | The candidates are entitled to obtain photocopy of the Answer Book on request on payment of the prescribed processing fee. All Examiners/Additional Head Examiners/Head Examiners are once again reminded that they must ensure that evaluation is carried out strictly as per value points for each answer as given in the Marking Scheme.                           |

Set 2/S/2

## MARKING SCHEME

### ENGLISH (Language and Literature) (SUB. CODE-184)

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#### SECTION – A (READING SECTION)

1. (i) -Too many choices  
 -Choices of movies, music, podcasts, games etc. 1  
**(Any one point)**
- (ii) (C) They view reading as mundane and prefer digital media. 1
- (iii) (A) easy and readily available options. 1
- (iv) **Digital reading:** 2  
 -shrinks attention span  
 -is rapid and reckless  
**Printed text reading:**  
 -for sole bliss/pleasure/is blissful  
 -develops better comprehension



**(One point from each)**

(v) -shrinking attention span/lacks focus 1

-reading fabric is brief

- lack of patience

**(Any one point)**

(vi) True 1

(vii) (C) fosters superficial reading confined to text decoding 1

(viii) **Advantages of reading:**

-reading helps develop better cognitive abilities (1+1)

-increases attention span

-improves vocabulary

-develops critical reading/critical thinking

**(Any one)**

**Justification:**

-the ability to distinguish between fact and fiction-counteracts spread of fake news. (1)

## Passage-2

2. (i) Global Warming/ Rising sea levels is apparent/ evident/ a reality/ the most significant. 1

(ii) (A) Both the assertion and reason are true. 1

(D) The assertion is false but the reason is true.

**(Either of the two to be accepted)**

(iii) Estimated/likely 1

(iv) (A) Devastating 1

(v) 800 1

(vi) They hold onto heat for decades to centuries. 1

(vii) -earth's ocean & ice sheets hold onto heat for centuries. 1

-Global warming

-melting of ice sheets

-heat from atmosphere

(Any one)

- (viii) There is even a small increase in baseline sea level. 1
- (ix) -Biodiversity/communities on the world's coastline (1+1)  
-Because they are displaced and forced to migrate.

### SECTION-B (GRAMMAR)

2. Full credit- 1 mark for correct answer. No partial credit.

- (i) fell 1
- (ii) **Error** – much; **Correction** – most 1
- (iii) Neha asked Rudra if/ whether the costumes and props were 1  
ready for the rehearsals the day after/next day.
- (iv) (A) Whether she had attended the seminar on 1  
“Effective Speaking” the day before
- (v) **Error** – offer ; **Correction** - offers 1
- (vi) Many 1
- (vii) (D) **Error** – engross **Correction** - engrossed 1
- (viii) (C) have grown 1
- (ix) That since the day before/previous day the temperature had been 1  
below 20° C.

OR

That the temperature had been below 20° C since the day before/previous day.

- (x) (B) though 1
- (xi) (D) Can 1
- (xii) **Error:** plays **Correction:** play/played 1

### WRITING

4. ANY ONE from (a) and (b) given below: (2+1+1+1)=5marks

Formal Letter Writing

Content-2 marks

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**Format-1 mark**

- No mark for format alone if content is irrelevant or missing
- Full credit of 1 mark if all aspects are mentioned
- Partial credit of  $\frac{1}{2}$  mark if one or two aspects are missing
- No credit if more than two aspects are missing

**Organisation of ideas-1 mark** (Effective style, orderly sequence, paragraphed structure and formal tone and vocabulary)

**Accuracy-1mark** (Spelling, punctuation and grammar)

**(a) Value points:**

- Inconveniences caused to residents
  - Noise pollution/air pollution/soil pollution created by vehicles
  - Traffic Jams
  - Anti-social elements/security concerns
- (Any other relevant point)

**OR**

**(b) Value points:**

(At least two points)

- Lack of proper –ample sports facilities
  - Lack of infrastructure- stadium, coaches, equipment etc.
  - Lack of maintenance of sports facilities
  - Disadvantages- Affects fitness level of the students-general public
  - Suggestions-to provide better infrastructure/coaches
- (Any other relevant point)

**5. Attempt ANY ONE from (a) and (b) given below: (2+2+1)=5marks**

Analytical Paragraph

Any one from (a) and (b) to be attempted

Content-2 marks

Minimum of four value points of half mark each to be given

Organisation of ideas-2marks

- Effective style, orderly sequence, and formal tone and vocabulary



**Accuracy**-1mark (Spelling ,punctuation and grammar)

(a) Value Points:

Principles of Time Management :

**Accepting the idea-**

- Prioritize – identify important task
- Plan- create timelines
- Expect Change in routine
- Anticipate problems
- Delegate tasks – gather resources

**Rejecting the idea-**

Each child is unique – adheres to different methods/timelines

Boundaries can not be rigid and same for everybody

**(Any other relevant point to be accepted)**

**OR**

(B) Value Points:

2+1+1

- Physical location of the mall
- Physical description of the mall
- Number of stores, food courts, cafes, entertainment zone
- Amenities- escalators, wheel chair ramps
- Congestion on roads, traffic jams

**(Any other relevant point to be accepted)**

**SECTION-C**  
**LITERATURE TEXT BOOK - 40 Marks**

6. **Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any *one* of the given two, (a) or (b) :** **5**

- (a) (i) B – Subordinate 1
- (ii) arrogant/ boastful/ egoistic/ self consumed/ insecure / bossy/ seeks validation / powerful/great/mighty (any other similar word or a phrase) 2
- (iii) annoyed 1
- (iv) He called him great, mighty and most powerful & intelligent creature in the whole universe. 1

**OR**

- (b) (i) Natalya and her father Stephan Chubukov 1

**OR**

- Natalya, Stephan Chubukov and Lomov
- (ii) He was annoyed/the argument agitated him / angered him/health issues like palpitation ,etc. 1
- (iii) agitation 2
- (iv) She wanted to appease/pacify/calm down Ivan/ she wanted to marry Ivan / she wanted to end the quarrel (Any one) 1

7. **Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any *one* of the given two, (a) or (b) :** **5**

- (a) i. From house/room/ confinement (Any one) 1
- ii. Enhances visualization/ Clarifies imagery/ creates a clear picture **(Any one)** 1
- iii. Absence of birds/ insects/ shadows / sun / trees 1
- iv. Reinforces trees breaking out of their confinement– no way for tress to create shadows 2

**OR**

- (b) i. joy/ relief/ happiness/gratitude 1
- ii. (C) to put your arms around someone 1
- iii. (b) She went there
- The house was bare

Not a sound was heard  
Except the tweet of a bird 1

iv.

- Ink and Blink mocked the Dragon but are forced to appreciate his power.
  - The dragon who was laughed at by other animals turns out to be the hero. (2)
- (Both to be mentioned)**

8. Answer any *four* of the following five questions in 40 – 50 words each: 4X3 = 12

Content – 2 marks (at least 2 value points)

**Expression – 1 mark (Effective style, coherence and cohesion)**

- i. According to Robert Frost, the world will end due to ‘fire’ which symbolizes uncontrolled desire  
If the world had to end twice then it will be due to hatred/indifference – symbolized by “Ice” (1+1)

**(Any other relevant point)**

- (ii) Rajveer was excited because he was seeing the tea gardens for the first time and he had much greenery before
- Pranjol was familiar with the sights therefore, he was not excited. He was born and brought up on a plantation (1+1)

**(Any other relevant point)**

- (iii) The religious man is wise/learned on the basis of varied experiences
- He reinforces the argument made by the poet

**(Any other relevant point)**

- (iv) The air hostess exemplified the good behavior of empathy and care - was extremely friendly, helpful and resourceful
- She was taken into confidence about the box
  - She generously suggested him to put the Otter on his knees
  - Placed Otter’s food safely in a cold place
- (Any other relevant point)**

(v) Loving, warm and close relationship.

- Anne cherished her memories after her death
- Stayed with her grandmother after her parents moved to Holland

**(Any other relevant point)**

9. Answer any *two* of the following three questions in 40 – 50 words each: **(2X3 = 6)**

Content – 2 marks (at least 2 value points)

**Expression** – 1 mark (Effective style, coherence and cohesion)

i. Mrs. Pumphrey thought Tricky was suffering from malnutrition

- Pampered him with extra food – cod liver oil, bowl of Horlicks etc.
- She was not successful in bringing him back to normal health. It actually worsened his situation. **(1+1)**

**(Any other relevant point)**

(ii) When Mrs. Hall entered griffin's room, the door was open but empty  
-she saw the bed clothes were cold showing the scientist did not sleep

- The clothes and bandages were lying about
- The room was very messy, chairs flying and they were pushed out of the room.

**(Any other relevant point)**

(iii) The Loiseles had to shift to a smaller house

- They had to do away with the maid
- Matilda had to do the household chores herself, carried garbage down to the street
- She ran all the errands by herself
- Mr. Loisel worked harder by taking up part time jobs
- Life of Loiseles became a life of necessity

**(Any other relevant point)**



**10. Answer any one of the following two questions in 100-120 words :**

**Content-** 3 marks

**Expression** ((Effective style, coherence and cohesion)-2 marks

**Accuracy** (Spelling, punctuation, grammar)-1 mark

**(a) Challenges faced by Buddha:**

- Witnessed human sufferings for the first time – old age, poverty, illness, and death
- Couldn't stay in palace comfort after seeing people in pain  
**(any one challenge from Buddha's life)**

**Challenges faced by Valli:**

- Witnessed death for the first time
- Was traumatised by the visuals of dead cow/lying in pool of blood/ legs spread-eagled  
**(any one challenge from Valli's life)**

**Human Experience/Self-Realisation:**

- Realised the inevitability of death
- Realised the pain of death
- Became more aware about the sufferings in the world
- Realised how they were shielded from/unaware about an important human experience (death)  
**(any one human experience/self-realisation)**

**OR**

**(b) Challenges faced by young seagull:**

- Has bigger wings than siblings but can't fly
- Faces severe criticism from his family/gets scolded/mockd/threatened to starve
- Is too afraid to fly
- Left to starve alone on the ledge

**Challenges faced by the boy:**

- Lost his most treasured possession/connection with his childhood
- Couldn't retrieve the ball and lost it forever
- Failed at handling his first responsibility
- Is extremely sad at the loss as he doesn't know yet how to deal with the pain of loss



**(any 3 challenges with at least one from each)**

**11) Answer any one of the following two questions in 100-120 words :**

**Content-** 3 marks

**Expression** ((Effective style, coherence and cohesion)-2 marks

**Accuracy** (Spelling, punctuation, grammar)-1 mark

**(a) “The devil is in the details”:**

- Max doesn't examine the room thoroughly despite reaching there before Ausable
  - He misses the detail that the room had no balcony
  - He doesn't check the authenticity of Ausable's claim about the balcony/police
  - He gets complacent that he had the upper hand in the standoff against Ausable and thus misses on minor details
  - Ausable straight away confirms whether Max came from the window or using the passkey, thus making sure Max didn't know that the room had no balcony
  - Minor detail like being calm in the face of danger, added the credibility to Ausable's claim that the police was outside the door/there was a balcony attached to the room
  - Fowler focussed only on the outer appearance of Ausable and missed minor details that indicated that Fowler was actually quite smart
- (any two points)**

**Unforeseen difficulties when one avoids minor details:**

- Max lost his life because he ignored the minor details in the plan of Ausable (this point needs to be mentioned)

**OR**

**(b) Problems found in the values and customs prevailing in our society with reference to**

**Bholi:**

- Sending only boys for higher education
- Seeing women education as a taboo
- Seeing girls as a burden on the family
- Marrying young girls to older men
- Forcing girls to marry against their will
- Promoting dowry
- Branding people as ugly and beautiful/ dull and bright
- Shaming girls for taking a stand against something wrong



**(any three points)**

