

Class XII Session 2025-26

Subject - English Core

Sample Question Paper - 8

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:
2. This question paper has **13** questions. **All** questions are **compulsory**.
3. This question paper contains **three** sections - Section A : **Reading Skills**, Section B : **Creative Writing Skills** and Section C : **Literature**.
4. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
5. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
6. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A – READING SKILLS

1. Read the passage given below:

[12]

1. The role friends play in our lives has become significantly greater now than at any other time in our history. Today many of us live and work great distances from where we were born or have grown up & are separated from our original families. The pain we feel when we are away from our families can be significant.
2. The happiness of the individual relies on friendships that form a necessary human connection. It is perfectly normal to need and want friends and depression is more prevalent among those who lack friends. They lack the intimacy and richness friends can bring into our lives. Frequently friends reflect similar values to us. Yet these values are often different from the ones we grew up with; they are the values we created for ourselves in our adult lives.
3. Communication skills are fundamental in all friendships. The more friends and acquaintances one has, the greater are one's communication skills. Some call these, people skills.
4. Like watering a plant, we grow our friendships (and all our relationships) by nurturing them. Friendships need the same attention as other relationships if they are to continue. These relationships can be delightfully non-judgmental, supportive, understanding, and fun-filled.
5. Sometimes a friendship can bring out the positive side that you never show in any other relationship. This may be because the pressure of playing a 'role' (daughter, partner, or child) is removed. With a friend, you are to be yourself and free to change. Of course, you are free to do this in all other relationships as well but in friendships, you get to have lots of rehearsals and discussions about changes as you experience them. It is an unconditional experience where you receive as much as you give. You can explain yourself to a friend openly without the fear of hurting a family member. How do friendships grow? The answer is simple. By revealing yourself; being attentive; remembering what is most important to your friend and asking them



about it; put yourself in their position; showing empathy; seeing the world through the eyes of your friend, you will understand the value of friendship. All this means learning to accept a person from a completely different family to your own or perhaps someone from a completely different cultural background. This is why we have learned tolerance. In turn, we gain tolerance and acceptance for our own differences.

6. Friendships are made by being considerate which means all the communication skills come into play: active listening skills, questioning skills, negotiation skills, reflecting content skills, reflecting emotion skills and editing yourself.
7. Friendships offer a great opportunity to learn about yourself because a friend can reflect back to you 'how you come across in the world'. They also allow you to practice skills in dealing with 'personal boundaries' by looking after yourself as well as your friend. They help you develop resilience in relation to the wider society that would be beyond your family.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- i. Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option. **(1)**

Friends play a more significant role today than ever before because _____.

- i. In the modern world, people need someone to talk to
- ii. People are distanced from families
- iii. Pain caused by separation from families can be cured by friends
- iv. Having friends is the only way to go ahead in life

- ii. Comment on the writer's reference to friendship as essential human need in paragraph two. **(1)**

- iii. List the two ways how friendship is different from other relationship. **(2)**

(Clue: Think about the limitations of friendship)

- iv. Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'distance', from words used in paragraph five. **(1)**

- i. Empathy
- ii. Background
- iii. Tolerance
- iv. Rehearsal

- v. Which communication skills help in building friendships? **(1)**

- i. Active listening skills
- ii. Negotiation skills
- iii. Reflecting emotion
- iv. All of these

- vi. Friendships offer a great opportunity to learn about yourself. Based on your understanding of paragraph seven, state how friends help in reflecting yourself. **(2)**

- vii. How does friendship brings out a positive side of you? **(1)**

- viii. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following: **(1)**

We gain tolerance in our lives by _____.

- ix. How do friendships grow as suggested in paragraph five? **(1)**

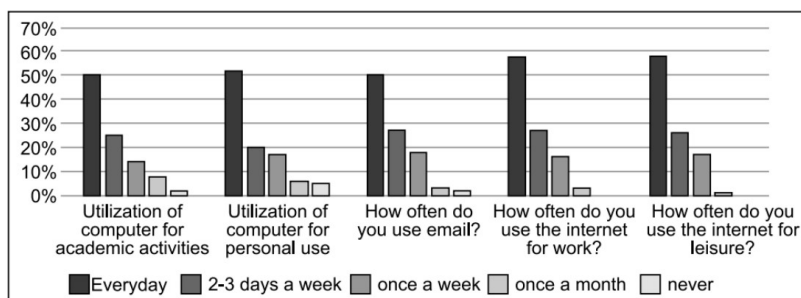
- i. By revealing yourself
- ii. By being attentive
- iii. By showing empathy
- iv. All of these

x. How do friendships help in personal development? (1)

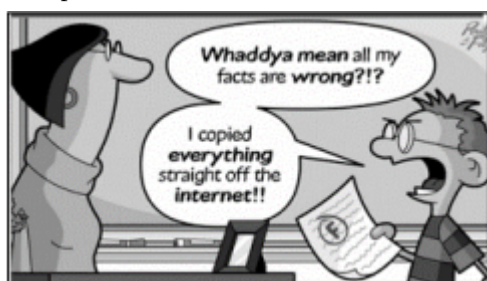
2. Read the following passage carefully :

[10]

1. The present generation is well-updated in the use of the Internet and computers. The rapid development in computer technology and the increase in accessibility of the internet for academic purposes has changed the face of education for everyone associated with it. Let's look at the data arising out of a recent survey that was done to ascertain the time spent on utilisation of the computer and internet:



2. At present, many schools and universities have been implementing internet-based learning, as it supplements conventional teaching methods. The internet provides a wide variety of references and information to academics as well as scientific researchers. Students often turn to it to do their academic assignments and projects.
3. However, research on the Net is very different from traditional library research, and the differences can cause problems. The Net is a tremendous resource, but it must be used carefully and critically.



4. According to a 2018 Academic Student e-book Experience Survey, conducted by LJ's research department and sponsored by EBSCO, when reading for pleasure, almost 74% of respondents said they preferred print books for leisure whereas, 45 % of respondents chose e-books rather than the printed versions, for research or assignments.
5. When asked what e-book features make them a favourite for research, the respondents were clear. Having page numbers to use in citations, topped the list (75%); followed by the ability to resize text to fit a device's screen (67%); the ability to bookmark pages, highlight text, or take notes for later reference (60%); downloading the entire e-book (57%), and allowing content to be transferred between devices (43%) were the varied responses.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- i. Does the following statement agree with the information given in paragraph 4? (1)

About three-quarters of the respondents preferred print books for recreational reading.

Select from the following:

True - if the statement agrees with the information

False - if the statement contradicts the information

Not Given - if there is no information on this

- ii. Do you think the everyday usage of email is more than the everyday usage of computers for personal use?

Support your answer based on the given graphical representation of data in the passage. (2)



iii. "... but it must be used carefully and critically." The idea of being careful and critical while using the internet is mainly a reference to _____ (1)

- a. hardware malfunction
- b. troubleshooting
- c. virus threat
- d. plagiarism

iv. Complete the sentence based on the following statement. (1)

The respondents claimed that having page numbers for citations makes electronic books their preferred choice for research. We can say this because_____.

v. Based on the given graphical chart, select the option that lists the area of zero response from respondents.

(1)

- a. Using the internet for personal tasks once a month
- b. Daily use of the computer for academic activities
- c. Never using the internet for work and leisure
- d. Writing and receiving emails once a week

vi. The present generation is well-updated in the use of the Internet and computers. Give reasons for the recent transformation of education. (2)

vii. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option. (1)

Many schools and universities are currently using internet-based learning to _____ traditional teaching methods.

- a. discourage
- b. supplement
- c. protect
- d. dissuade

viii. Complete the sentence appropriately with one/ two words. (1)

The current times have seen a rise in the convenience of using the internet for _____.

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

3. As the Principal of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kanpur, write a notice in about 50 words informing the students of class XII that their Biology paper in the first term examination shall be conducted on 5th October instead of 29th September. Give a reason for the change. [4]

OR

You are Praveen/Prabha. As the secretary, Science Club of your school writes a notice informing students about an Inter-School Science Exhibition and encouraging them to participate in it.

4. You are Sachin Bansal, the Head Boy of Springdales Public School, Gurgaon. Your school is holding an inter-school T-20 championship from 2 Oct. to 8 Oct 2018. Write a formal invitation to Sh. B.S. Bedi, the legendary cricketer, to inaugurate the championship on 2 Oct. 2018 at 10 a.m. at your school grounds. [4]

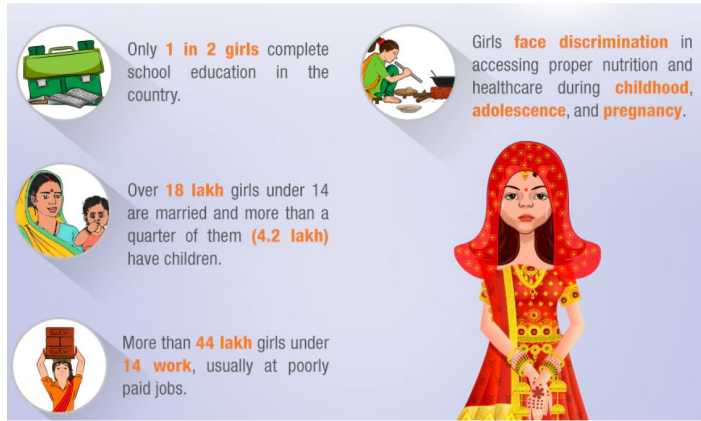
OR

Sunrise Global School, Agra is going to organise a one-act play competition in the school auditorium. You have decided to invite noted stage artist, Nalini, to grace the occasion. Draft a formal invitation for her in about 50 words. You are Karuna/Karan, Cultural Secretary.

5. Despite all the incentives the government is providing to encourage education of the girl child, the number of girls in the rural schools is not rising to the desired level. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily giving [5]



your views on the problem. List a few suggestions on how the situation can be improved. You are Rani/Raj, 121 Main street, Kanpur.



OR

You are Sudha / Sudhir resident of A-7, Shanti Park. You read the following advertisements in a newspaper.

SITUATION VACANT

I wanted a young and experienced graduate with fluency in English and Hindi to work as a receptionist at Customer Care booths of NCR Groups of Hotels, Delhi. Contact Manager along with your complete C.V. within 7 days of this advertisement.

Draft an application in response to the advertisement giving your detailed resume.

6. You are Astitva/Ashita. This year students of your school organized many campaigns to create awareness in society towards some of the rampant social evils. The efforts of your school were appreciated by the press and the public alike. Write an article on the Role of Students in National Development for publication in The Indian Express (word limit 150-200). [5]

OR

Write a report in 150-200 words for publication in your school magazine describing how the Teacher's Day was celebrated in your school. You are Priyanka/Piyush of XI A.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

7. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: [6]

Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green,
They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.
Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
The massive weight of uncle's wedding band
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.

- Denizens of the world of green refer to _____.
 - huntsmen
 - Aunt Jennifer
 - uncle
 - tigers
- Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the second line of the extract.
 - heart of stone

- b. trees sprouting
- c. silver spoon
- d. white murder

iii. The men setting beneath the tree are _____.

iv. What quality of uncle can be inferred through these lines?

- a. compassionate nature
- b. courageous
- c. confident
- d. dominating

v. The tigers in the extract are symbolic of

- a. creativity and courage
- b. confidence and gentleness
- c. cruelty and fear
- d. aggression and starving

vi. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across

- (1) the screen
- (2) the fields
- (3) the embroidered tunic
- (4) the cage

Which of the following is the most appropriate choice?

- a. (1) and (2)
- b. (2) and (4)
- c. (1), (2) and (3)
- d. (1) and (3)

OR

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever

Its loveliness increases, it will never

Pass into nothingness; but will keep

A bower quiet for us, and a sleep

Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing."

Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing

A flowery band to bind us to the earth

i. How does a thing of beauty give us everlasting joy?

ii. What is the effect of increase in its loveliness?

- a. It gives a peaceful sleep.
- b. It provides good health.
- c. It allows quiet breathing.
- d. All of these

iii. Which one example of the beauty of nature which the poet has given in these lines?

- a. A sound sleep

- b. Trees and gardens
 - c. A shady place
 - d. Mental peace
- iv. The expression **pass into nothingness** implies that, beautiful things
- a. never increase
 - b. create unhappiness among friends
 - c. always bring unhappiness
 - d. never fade away
- v. The extract highlights the healing quality of the _____.
- vi. Answer in one word/phrase.
- The extract highlights the healing quality of the _____.

8. **Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:**

[4]

I got to wishing that you were right. Then I got to believe you were right. And, Charley, it's true; I found the third level! I've been here two weeks, and right now, down the street at the Daly's, someone is playing the piano, and they're all out on the front porch singing **Seeing Nelly Home**.

- (i) What did the narrator come to believe?
 - (a) That Charley was wrong
 - (b) That he could not find the third level
 - (c) That Charley was right
 - (d) That he should go home
- (ii) What activity is happening at the Daly's according to the narrator?
 - (a) A dinner party
 - (b) A piano performance and singing
 - (c) A game of cards
 - (d) A reading session
- (iii) The narrator has been at the third level for _____ weeks.
- (iv) What song are the people at the Daly's singing?

OR

Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Derry : I....there....I thought this was an empty place. I didn't know there was anybody here....

Mr. Lamb : That's all right. I'm here. What are you afraid of, boy? That's all right.

Derry : I thought it was empty....an empty house.

Mr. Lamb : So it is. Since I'm out here in the garden. It is empty. Until I go back inside. In the meantime, I'm out here and likely to stop. A day like this. Beautiful day. Not a day to be indoors.

Derry : [Panic] I've got to go. (On The Face Of It)

- i. Derry was stammering because of: (1)
 - A. a speech defect.
 - B. excitement.
 - C. anger.
 - D. fear.
- ii. Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

Derry insisted on going back because _____.

- iii. Mr. Lamb was trying to tell Derry that: (1)
- A. it was a matter of perception.
 - B. Derry could stay with him.
 - C. he spent all his days in the garden.
 - D. he was fond of company.
- iv. From the extract, one can infer that Mr. Lamb was a/an: (1)
- A. compassionate man.
 - B. mysterious character.
 - C. new neighbour.
 - D. unreasonable man.

9. **Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:**

[6]

Trying to scare me, eh? Well, here's to you! Look! And off I'd go for another length of the pool. This went on until July. But I was still not satisfied. I was not sure that all the terror had left. So I went to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire, dived off a dock at Triggs Island, and swam two miles across the lake to Stamp Act Island.

- i. Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately.

The author frowned at his _____.

- a. happiness
- b. pool
- c. old terror
- d. None of these

- ii. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.

The author went to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire, dived into it from Triggs island and swam for two miles, up to Stamp Act island because _____.

- iii. Select the suitable word from the extract to complete the following analogy:

Unhappy: Satisfied :: Uncertain: _____

- iv. Rationalise, to support the given opinion:

The terror returned but the author exuded confidence.

- v. Select the correct option to fill in the blank:

Going for another length of the pool shows that of the speaker was _____.

- a. determined
- b. adventurous
- c. courageous
- d. all of these

- vi. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below

(1) Soon after the author was quite satisfied with his swimming perfection.

(2) The frowning went on until July and he was not sure that all the terror had left.

- a. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.
- b. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.
- c. (1) is true but (2) is false.
- d. (2) is the reason for (1).

OR



Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

Presently, the landlords learned that Germany had developed synthetic indigo. They thereupon, obtained agreements from the sharecroppers to pay them compensation for being released from the 15 per cent arrangement.

The sharecropping arrangement was irksome to the peasants, and many signed willingly. Those who resisted, engaged lawyers; the landlords hired thugs. Meanwhile, the information about synthetic indigo reached the illiterate peasants who had signed, and they wanted their money back.

i. Who came to know that Germany had developed synthetic indigo?

- a. The peasants
- b. The British officials
- c. The landlords
- d. Gandhiji

ii. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.

The landlords obtain the agreements from the sharecroppers to _____.

iii. What happened when the information about synthetic indigo reach the uneducated peasants?

- a. They wanted partnership
- b. They wanted compensation
- c. They wanted their land back
- d. They wanted their money back

iv. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

(1) The British landlords found a cheaper alternative to German indigo.

(2) Chemical indigo was being prepared in Germany.

- a. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.
- b. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.
- c. (1) is true but (2) is false.
- d. (2) is the reason for (1).

v. Replace the underlined word with its antonym from the extract.

The sharecropping system was very helpful.

vi. **Those who resisted engaged lawyers; the landlords hired thugs** - Give one word for **thugs** that is implied in the given context.

10. **Answer any five of the following questions in 40-50 words each:** [10]

- (a) The iron master accuses the peddler of not being quite honest. What does the peddler say to justify the situation? [2]
- (b) What is the significance of the word **but** in 'but all I said was see you soon, Amma? (My Mother at Sixty-Six) [2]
- (c) What is the party in power keeping from these rural poor? (**A Roadside Stand**) [2]
- (d) How did Sophie's father react when Geoff told him about her meeting with Danny Casey? [2]
- (e) Why was the Moral Re-Armament army welcomed at the studio? (**Poets and Pancakes**) [2]
- (f) Did Umberto Eco consider himself a novelist first or an academic scholar? [2]

11. **Answer any two of the following questions in 40-50 words each:** [4]

- (a) What are the significant features of **Students on Ice Programme**? [2]
- (b) What dilemma did Dr. Sadao have about the white man? [2]
- (c) What happened to Gondwana 650 million years ago? [2]

12. In the story Lost Spring, Mukesh who is from a bangle-makers family, aspired to become a car mechanic when he was young, now he owns a shop and has hired workers under him in Firozabad. The local newspaper wants to cover his story under their weekly interview column **From Rags to Tags** where they share a real-life struggle story of a successful local figure. Mukesh faces an interview with the reporter. Taking a cue from the text, **The Interview**, create a conversation between the reporter and Mukesh presenting the details of the various aspects which contribute to a person's success. [5]

You may begin the conversation like this:

Reporter: Congratulations, Mukesh! You have achieved what you aspired for Please share with us your story of struggle that paved the way for your success.

OR

Like Stephen Spender, Pablo Neruda is also invited to Gemini Studios for their **Annual Poets' & Writers' Conclave**.

As Neruda, prepare a speech on **Art & The Contemporary World** referring to the extract from Keeping Quiet.

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

You may use the given value points to present a resolution:

- Exploitation of nature
- War for the territorial benefit
- Problems like Plastic Pollution, Ocean Acidification, and Deforestation
- Promoting brotherhood, peace, and unity

13. The king of Pratibandapuram was warned of danger from the hundredth tiger and so he kills them in order to avoid dying. In his tiger killing feat he used dewan at many places. [5]

As the dewan of Pratibandapuram, create a diary entry, as a testimony of your reluctant cooperation in the heedless tiger-killing episode due to your administrative limitations.

You may begin like this:

Being in an administrative position, I could be held equally responsible for the wrong done to the tigers and the people of Pratibandapuram by the most conceited king. The Tiger King had resolved...

OR

The incident of getting her hair shingled forcefully made Zitkala-Sa feel that she had ultimately submitted to her herders like a tamed animal.

Create a diary entry as Zitkala-Sa, expressing her feeling soon after the incident who is missing her mother badly.

You may begin like this:

I tried really hard today but I couldn't prevent this from happening...

Solution

SECTION A – READING SKILLS

1.
 - i. (iii) Pain caused by separation from families can be cured by friends
 - ii.
 - i. The happiness of individuals relies on their friendships
 - ii. Depression is more prevalent among people with fewer friends
 - iii. Friends bring in the intimacy and richness of values in life (any two points)
 - iii. These relationships can be delightfully non-judgmental, supportive, understanding, and fun-filled. (any two points)
 - iv. (i) Empathy
 - v. (i) Active listening skills
 - vi. Friendships offer a great opportunity to learn about yourself because a friend can reflect back to you 'how you come across in the world'. They also allow you to practice skills in dealing with 'personal boundaries' by looking after yourself as well as your friend. They help you develop resilience in relation to the wider society that would be beyond your family.
 - vii. There is no pressure of playing a 'role' (daughter, partner, or child) in friendship. With a friend, you are to be yourself and free to change.
 - viii. accepting people's differences
 - ix. (iii) All of these
By revealing yourself; being attentive; remembering what is most important to your friend and asking them about it; put yourself in their position; showing empathy; seeing the world through the eyes of your friend, you will understand the value of friendship.
 - x. Friendships help in personal development by reflecting how you come across to others, allowing you to practice setting personal boundaries, and building resilience in relation to society beyond your family.
2.
 - i. True. The statement agrees with the information. Almost 74% of respondents said they preferred print books for leisure.
 - ii. No, I do not agree. Based on the given graphical representation of data in the passage, the everyday usage of email is less than the everyday usage of computers for personal use.
 - iii. d. plagiarism
 - iv. When asked what e-book features make them a favourite for research, the respondents were clear. Having page numbers to use in citations, topped the list (75%)
 - v. c. Never using the internet for work and leisure
 - vi. The rapid development in computer technology and increase in accessibility of the internet for academic purposes has changed the face of education for everyone associated with it.
 - vii. b. supplement
 - viii. academic purposes

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA, KANPUR

NOTICE

Class XII Biology Paper Postponed

22nd September 20XX

Students of class XII are hereby informed that their first term Biology examination scheduled for 29th September shall now be conducted on 5th October as 29th September has been declared a gazetted holiday. Apart from this change, the first term examination date sheet remains the same.

3. Principal

OR

Science Club

GOENKA PUBLIC SCHOOL, NEW DELHI

15th July 2019

NOTICE

Bright, enterprising and intelligent science students are invited to participate in the Inter-School Science Exhibition to be held in Sophia School next month.



Submit your charts, models, projects by 30th July. Appear before the screening committee on 30th July 2019 at 11 a.m. in the Activities Room.

Praveen/Prabha

Secretary

4. Springdales Public School

Gurgaon

25 Sept 2018

Sh. B.S. Bedi

2/27 Jorbagh

New Delhi

Sir

Sub: For Inaugurating of Cricket Championship

Our school is organizing an inter-school T-20 cricket championship from 2nd Oct. to 8th Oct. 2018 in our school premises. All the Schools of the area are invited to participate. Your presence in our midst will motivate and inspire all of us. You are requested to inaugurate the championship on 2nd Oct. 2018 at 10 a.m. in our school's sports ground and to enlighten all of us with your inspiring words.

We will be glad by your presence. Kindly inform us by 30th Sept. 2018.

Yours faithfully,

Sachin Bansal

Head Boy

OR

Sunrise Global School, Agra

22nd April, 20XX

Dear Ma'am,

We take pleasure to invite the noted stage artist Ms Nalini to grace the one-act play competition organised by our school. It will be held in the school auditorium hall where a number of students from several different schools are likely to participate. We solicit your benign presence on 30 November 20XX at 11:00 am. We shall be eagerly awaiting your confirmation.

Karan/Karuna

(Cultural Secretary)

5. 121, Main street

Kanpur

16th February, 20XX

The Editor

The Hindustan Times

Kanpur

Subject: Need to encourage the education of girl child

Sir,

Through the columns of your esteemed daily, I would like to draw the attention to the lack of girl education which is still prevailing in the remote areas of our modernising and westernising country. The fact that the number of girls in rural schools is not rising to the desired level disturbs me from within. For many past years, the government of India has been planning, launching and implementing various schemes to attract more and more girls to get basic education but it is rather unfortunate that despite all the incentives the government is providing to encourage the education of the girl child, their number has not risen to the desired level in rural areas. Although there are many obstacles to overcome, issues like gender disparity need to be addressed over and over again. There should be schemes like awarding the villages which show the largest proportional enrolment and an average attendance of girls in school. Such families who send their daughters to school can also be rewarded. Moreover, a strong public opinion on girls' education needs to be created in rural India. I am sure that by taking up these few simple steps, the situation of education of girls in rural India will come up to the desired level.

Yours sincerely

Ram

OR

A-7, Shanti Park

Delhi

16 December 2019
The Manager
NCR Group of Hotels
Delhi

Subject: Application for the Post of Receptionist

Sir,

In response to your advertisement in the Hindustan Times dated December 20, 2019, for the post of a receptionist, I hereby offer my candidature for the same.

I possess the requisite qualifications and experience. I want to join your hotels to fully utilize my potential.

You may call me for an interview on any date at your convenience. I shall be able to join my duties at one month's notice if appointed. I am enclosing my detailed resume for your perusal.

Thank You

Sudha/Sudhir

Enclosure: Detailed Resume

Resume / Bio Data

- Name: Sudha / Sudhir
- Father's Name: Mr. Subhas
- Age: 25 Years
- Address: A-7, Shanti Park, Delhi
- Hobbies: Music, Net Surfing, Photography, Sports
- Languages Known: Hindi, English
- Nationality: Indian
- Educational Qualifications:
 - Passed Secondary Exam. from CBSE with 8.5 CGPA
 - Passed Senior Secondary Exam. from CBSE with distinction
 - Passed Graduation from Delhi University with first division
- Professional Qualification:
 - Diploma in Computers from Aptech with first division
- Experience:
 - Worked as a receptionist with the ABC group of companies for 2 years
- Expected Salary: Negotiable
- References:
 - i. Dr. Mohit Aggarwal
(Surgeon), GTB Hospital, Delhi
 - ii. Mr. Ashok Kumar
Principal
AB Public School, Delhi

6. **ROLE OF STUDENTS IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

(by Astitva/Ashita)

Students are the pride and glory of a nation. They can play a very constructive role in the progress, uplift, and development of a country. In the new millennium information technology has turned the world into a global village. Our educated youth have a tremendous responsibility on their young shoulders. Our country is overpopulated and beset with poverty, ignorance, illiteracy, and superstitions. The young students can play a positive and constructive role in every field of national development. They can enlighten the villagers about new techniques in agriculture. By making them literate, the students can provide them with valuable guidance in establishing cooperative societies. This will help in generating money through self-employment. In short, they can bring a transformation in society.

OR

TEACHER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

(by Priyanka, XI-A)

Teacher's Day was celebrated by us in our school on the 5th of September. All the teachers were our honoured guests. We, the students, organized the entire day's program. First of all, we decorated the school with banners and posters. This year's celebration was a special one because Mr. R.C. Mathur, our physics teacher had received a national award for the best teacher. We invited him to the stage, read out the citation and honoured him with a bouquet and a shawl. Then we paid our respects to the other teachers.



After the assembly, came the most interesting part. Students of class XII went to the other classes and 'taught' the children. There was a party for teachers during the break. Our teachers were touched by our love and affection. They appreciated our concern, and care for them.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

7. i. tigers
ii. heart of stone (metaphor has been used)
iii. the hunters
iv. dominating
v. confidence and gentleness
vi. (1) and (3)

OR

- i. A thing of beauty increases loveliness.
ii. All of these
iii. A shady place
iv. never fade away
v. Nature
vi. Nature/Thing of beauty
8. (i) (c) That Charley was right
(ii) (b) A piano performance and singing
(iii) The narrator has been at the third level for **two** weeks.
(iv) The song being sung is "Seeing Nelly Home."

OR

- i. Derry was stammering because of: (D) fear.
ii. Derry insisted on going back because - he was taken by surprise when he saw Mr. Lamb as he thought it was an empty house.
iii. Mr. Lamb was trying to tell Derry that: (B) Derry could stay with him.
iv. From the extract, one can infer that Mr. Lamb was: (A) compassionate man.
9. i. old terror
ii. He wanted to be sure that all of the fear had left him.
iii. Sure
iv. The terror returned in small phases but now, as he (the author) knew how to swim, he faced the terror with confidence. He swam another length of the pool.
v. All of these
vi. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.

OR

- i. The landlords
ii. seek compensation for being released from the 15% arrangement
iii. The uneducated peasants wanted their **money back**
iv. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.
v. The sharecropping system was very irksome.
vi. cheats/bully
10. Answer any five of the following questions in 40-50 words each:
- (i) The peddler stood up in defence of himself when the ironmaster accused him of not being entirely honest and said he had never pretended to be anything else but a poor trader. He didn't attempt to pass himself off as the ironmaster's friend and therefore, he wasn't at fault. He pleaded and begged to be allowed to stay in the forge. His presence, though, had not caused any harm. He was prepared to don his rags once more and leave as a result.
- (ii) The word "but" underscores a contrast, revealing the speaker's complex emotions. Despite reflecting on her mother's age and its impact, the speaker maintains a brave facade, bidding farewell with a stoic "see you soon, Amma." The use of "but" emphasizes the divergence between the narrator's inner sentiments and her spoken words, hinting at unspoken tension with her mother.
- (iii) The government, and the civic authorities who appear to help them but actually end up harming them are relocating them to the vicinity of the towns near the theatre and the shops which is a great disservice to the people. They will be thus, robbed of their voices and their freedom and ability to find solutions to their problems.



- (iv) When Geoff told his father about Sophie's meeting with Danny Casey, he expressed disdain and didn't believe her. He knew her nature very well. So he warned her to stop making up such stories as it would land her into trouble someday.
- (v) Frank Buchman's Moral Re-Armament army was welcomed at the studio mainly because of their political association. The people at the Gemini Studios were averse to Communism, and hence, were ready to play host to the MRA. Apart from that, the studio people hardly had any occupation and suffered from boredom. The MRA came as a welcome change to their monotonous days at the studio.
- (vi) Umberto Eco is a writer whose narrative is creative and appealing both to adults as well as children. He considers himself an academic scholar first and then a novelist. He participates in academic conferences and not meetings of writers and pen clubs. He considers himself as a university professor who writes novels on Sundays.

11. Answer any two of the following questions in 40-50 words each:

- (i) The **Students on Ice** program aimed to provide high school students with inspiring educational opportunities to take them to the ends of the world and foster a new understanding and respect for our planet. The program's main goal was to inspire the upcoming generation of policymakers to take up environmental issues. One of the main benefits of participating was an increased understanding of the real hazards that global warming poses.
- (ii) Dr. Sadao faced a moral dilemma about the wounded white man: whether to save him, defying national loyalty, or return him to the sea, prioritizing duty to his country. He wrestled with conflicting duties as a doctor and a patriot, compounded by the risk of betraying his nation or his medical ethics.
- (iii) Around 650 million years ago, long before humans arrived, Earth was home to a variety of flora and fauna. About 500 million years later, or 150 million years ago, Gondwana land began to break apart due to a meteorite impact on Earth. The fragmented pieces of Gondwana eventually drifted and formed new continents. As a result, we now have seven continents in the world.

12. **Reporter:** Congratulations, Mukesh! You have achieved what you aspired for. Please share with us your story of struggle that paved the way for your success.

Mukesh: Thank you. My journey has indeed been a challenging one, but it has taught me valuable lessons and shaped me into who I am today. Growing up in Firozabad, I witnessed the harsh reality of child labor and the limited education opportunities. However, I was determined to break free from that cycle.

First and foremost, education played a crucial role in my success. Despite the odds, I pursued my studies and gained knowledge about car mechanics, which was my passion. I worked hard to develop my skills and expertise in this field.

Reporter: Being from the family of bangle-makers, how difficult it was to not opt for bangle-making as your *karam* or fate in Firozabad?

Mukesh: Yes, it was a great challenge for me. As you know I belong to a family of bangle makers and had a dream of becoming a car mechanic since my childhood. On the contrary, my family is traditionally engaged in bangle-making, and the children born in the family are expected to accept it as their destiny.

However, I had a different goal and somehow managed to convince my parents that this profession was challenging us in two ways. Firstly, it harms us physically as it made us prone to ailments like lung cancer and loss of vision. Secondly, we hardly earn any money out of it. And this way, I was able to win their trust.

So, the support from my family also played an instrumental in my journey. They believed in me and encouraged which kept me going during difficult times.

Reporter: So, what would your message be to the ones who cannot handle failure? How did you handle your rough times?

Mukesh: When my family members came to know that I did not intend to join the family business, they were mad at me. Also, I had to face many tooting problems being a greenhorn in this field. Moreover, I believe that having a positive mindset and resilience are key factors in achieving success. I faced setbacks and failures, but I never let them define me. Instead, I used them as stepping-stones to learn and grow.

Reporter: How do you look at the workers who you hire to work under you?

Mukesh: Since I run a service, so for me the trust of my customers is of utmost priority. So, I always want my worker to learn so that there is a minimum complaint from the customer. I look at my workers as my young reflection and try my best to impart to them the skill needed here. I intentionally don't look for skilled or experienced workers because for me training a fresher is easier as they would do the type of work I want. Besides, these young boys give up their traditional professions for better opportunities, so I love to give them a chance to learn and grow, a chance for which I had to struggle. Providing employment opportunities to my younger brothers gives me great satisfaction.

Reporter: Do you want to convey any message to the young children of Firozabad through your journey?

Mukesh: I faced numerous challenges along the way, including financial constraints and societal expectations. However, I never let these obstacles deter me. I remained focused on my goal and persevered through hard work and dedication.



To the younger generation, I would say that my journey from aspiring to become a car mechanic to owning a successful shop has been a result of firm determination, education, support from loved ones, overcoming challenges, networking, maintaining a positive mindset, and delivering excellent service. I hope my story inspires others to pursue their dreams and overcome any obstacles they may face.

Reporter: Thank you, Mukesh, for sharing your inspiring story of struggle and success. Your journey is truly remarkable and serves as an inspiration to many.

OR

Ladies and gentlemen,

I stand before you today as a poet, but also as a voice for the contemporary world. In my poem "Keeping Quiet," there is a phrase called "green war" which refers to the exploitation of the green wealth of nature by deforestation, mining, or fishing in the deep seas. I would mention the problems of plastic pollution, ocean acidification, and deforestation to add a few. These issues are not isolated incidents but are interconnected and require our immediate attention.

We live in a world where some individuals, driven by greed and power, wage wars for territorial benefits that leave no survivors. They destroy our environment, disregarding the consequences for future generations. But we have the power to change this narrative. We can choose to put on clean clothes and walk with our brothers and sisters in the shade, doing nothing in the traditional sense, but rather, taking a moment of introspection and reflection.

Art has the ability to transcend boundaries and bring people together. It has the power to promote brotherhood, peace, and unity. Through our words, our paintings, our music, we can inspire change and raise awareness about the pressing issues that plague our world. We can use our creativity to ignite a sense of responsibility and urgency.

But art alone is not enough. We must also act. We must come together as a global community, recognizing that we are all interconnected. International cooperation is crucial in achieving peace and sustainable development.

We must work hand in hand, sharing knowledge, resources, and ideas to find innovative solutions to the challenges we face. Let us embrace this interdependence and strive for a world where nature is respected, wars are replaced with dialogue, and the problems of plastic pollution, ocean acidification, and deforestation are tackled head-on. Together, we can create a future where art and the contemporary world coexist harmoniously, paving the way for a better tomorrow.

Thank you.

13. Being in an administrative position, I could be held equally responsible for the wrong done to the tigers and the people of Pratibandapuram by the most conceited king. The Tiger King had resolved to kill one hundred tigers. During ten years he killed seventy tigers in his kingdom.

Once the king rejected a request that I had brought to him on behalf of a high-ranking British officer Durai who wished to hunt tigers. He then requested for getting a photograph with a tiger killed by Maharaja and he disapproved even this request. We had to hold deliberations over this issue to prevent losing our kingdom to them.

Then the tigers became extinct in the forests of Pratibandapuram. But nothing could stop the king from killing one hundred tigers. He then delegated me the duty of finding the right girl based on the statistics of the state which had the highest tiger population. I complied with the orders of the Maharaja, as a mute bystander.

After successfully killing ninety-nine tigers, King was unable to find the one last tiger. The king doubled the tax of the villagers wherefrom he had got the news of the tiger being there. When I tried to dissuade him, he in a fit of craziness, warned me to find the hundredth tiger if I wanted to save my job. Since I did not want to lose my job, I did even that.

I along with my wife, somehow managed to find a tiger in Madras and brought it to the king's kingdom. He then informed the king about it and fulfilled the king's pledge to kill the hundredth tiger.

I could see that he did nothing for the sake of the people in the capacity of a king but I was bound by my duties towards the throne.

OR

I tried really hard today, but I couldn't prevent this from happening. They forced me to cut my hair, and I feel like I have lost a part of myself. My hair was a symbol of my identity, and now it's gone. I feel like I have submitted to my herders like a tamed animal. I miss my mother badly. I wish she was here to comfort me and tell me that everything will be alright. But I know that's not possible. I have to be strong and face the reality of my situation. I have to find a way to reclaim my identity and show the world that I am not just a tamed animal. I am a proud Native American woman, and I will not let anyone take that away from me.

