

# Class XI Session 2025-26

## Subject - English Core

### Sample Question Paper - 4

**Time Allowed: 3 hours**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

#### **General Instructions:**

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

1. This question paper has 15 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains three sections -  
Section A : Reading Skills,  
Section B : Grammar and Creative Writing Skills  
Section C : Literature.
3. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
4. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
5. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

#### **SECTION A : READING SKILLS (26 marks)**

##### **1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:**

**[10]**

Read the passage given below:

1. As a form of expression, graffiti is famously characterized by outlaw values; the creation and display of graffiti countered societal rules and was considered by some as vandalism. Not only was it symbolic of rebel values but was also linked to destruction of property. These links between graffiti culture and rebellion were age-old and some say, were popularized by hip-hop culture.
2. Imagine waking up one morning, to see your walls smeared with black paint names, symbols, messages. The most interesting bit is that these wall artists were never caught red-handed. It was all done stealthily. It was almost as though people were marking their territory using painted symbols and slogans. The change was creeping in. Mobile numbers and captivating phrases gradually became marketing tools for free advertising. Catchy phrases tickled the curiosity and calls were made to those numbers.
3. Over a period of time, there was a shift in perception. Blank walls beckoned invitingly and artists saw whitewashed walls as an opportunity to display their work in free and open settings. The city became one large canvas; the illegal 'gang activity' became an art form on display in walking galleries. Graffiti was gradually being replaced and the stigma of illegality was being dropped. There was a move to embrace rather than condemn.
4. The colours, shapes, and subjects became cultural themes. What was once rebellious expression is artistic talent at its vibrant best, rich in images of plants, animals and unspoiled landscapes. The painted walls



encouraged by residents and governments have created their own ecosystem a reconciliation of nature with man-made forces.

5. The monotony and uniformity of urban life is today infused with human vitality and beauty. Cities speak proudly about the painted walls and clamour to be the first to preserve culture and history through these. Graphic displays of social awareness issues effectively and economically reach out to the common man. Silent art speaks volumes. Be it hygiene, conservation, education, or rights and duties the message is conveyed in an animated, colourful manner without being an imposition.

(a) Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option.

Graffiti in the earlier years was

- a) done by prominent artists.
- b) an expression of rebellion.
- c) considered a valuable legacy.
- d) supported by society.

(b) Comment on the writer's statement, **It was all done stealthily**.

(c) List two reasons why graffiti was not popular among people.

(d) Select the word from para 2 of the passage that conveys the opposite of **boring**.

(e) The writer would agree with all of the following EXCEPT:

- a) Graffiti art was a paid activity.
- b) Graffiti became popular as a marketing tool.
- c) People were curious by what was scribbled on walls.
- d) Wall art was an age-old tradition.

(f) Which word from the following most nearly means **reconciliation** with reference to the given context? (para 4)

- a) cease fire
- b) reunion
- c) resolution
- d) combination

(g) Why does the writer say that the stigma of **illegality** was dropped?

(h) Complete the following sentence with reference to the passage:

The city became one large canvas because \_\_\_\_\_.

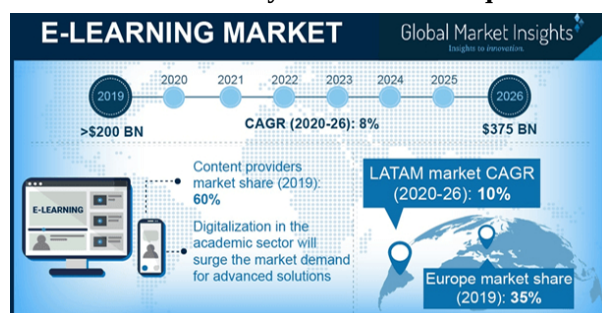
(i) The passage states a shift in attitude. Identify the best option that indicates this shift.

- a) imposition to acceptance
- b) confusion to clarity
- c) rejection to dismissal
- d) dislike to acceptance

(j) List two ways in which wall art is beneficial to society.

2. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[8]



1. E-learning is the process of acquiring knowledge through electronic technologies and resources. A rise in the number of internet users has increased the market demand for sophisticated online learning courses.

According to the Office for National Statistics, nearly all adults in the age group of 10 to 44 years in the UK were recent internet users (99 %) in 2019.

The availability of enhanced network connectivity coupled with the convenience offered by on-demand courses, will drive the market size.

2. According to the World Economic Forum, around 1.2 billion children are out of classrooms with schools shut down globally due to COVID-19 pandemic. Electronic Learning Management Systems such as Google Classroom is helping classes to connect distantly, communicate efficiently and stay organized. Large scale national efforts to leverage technology to the market players in support of distance education, remote, and online learning during the covid-19 pandemic are emerging and evolving rapidly.
3. The virtual classroom technology in the e-learning market is expected to grow at a CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate) of 11% during the forecast timespan. A virtual classroom is a digital environment that enables live interaction between a tutor and a learner. Videos conferencing and online white-board for real-time collaboration are the most common tools used in a digital teaching space. Synchronous and collaborative virtual classes allows active participation of students, reacting an environment similar to a physical classroom.
4. The technique is gaining traction with an increasing number of corporate and academic sectors deploying it for enhanced training sessions. Multilateral organizations and world bodies, such as WHO and G 20, are also deploying e-learning modes to teach healthcare professionals.
5. Content providers segment accounted for around 60% e-learning market share in 2019 E-learning providers share content on a varied range of topics by collaborating with domain experts that help them to develop the learning content. They focus on offering specific and customized content as per the end-user requirements.

(a) Fill in the blanks:

Select the option that is true for the two statements given below.

1. According to the World Economic Forum, around 1.2 billion children are out of classrooms.
2. Schools are shot down due to COVID-19 pandemic.

- a. (1) is the result of (2).
- b. (1) is the reason for (2).
- c. (1) is independent of (2).
- d. (1) contradicts (2).

(b) Multilateral organizations and world bodies are \_\_\_\_\_ to teach healthcare professionals.

(c) Select the option that lists the INCORRECT statement from the ones given below.

- (I) E-learning is the process of acquiring knowledge through electronic technologies and resources.
- (II) All adults in the age group of 16 to 14 years in the UK were recent internet users (99%) in 2019.
- (III) A rise in the number of internet users has increased the market share physical classroom.
- (IV) Content providers segment accounted for around 60% e-learning share in 2010.

- a. (III)
- b. (IV) and (II)
- c. (II) and (I)
- d. (I)

(d) State the common tool used in digital teaching space.

(e) What is the process of acquiring knowledge, through electronic technology and resources?

(f) Select the appropriate option to fill in the blank.



\_\_\_\_\_ is gaining attention in the academic sectors.

- a. Paperback
- b. Virtual classrooms
- c. E-books
- d. Offline classes

(g) Pick the option that gives the correct meaning of the following statement from the options given below.

**The online market of learning is supposed to be maximized by 2026.**

(I) Nearly all adults in the age group of 16 to 44 years in the LK were recent internet users (99 %) in 2018.

(II) A virtual classroom is a sophisticated environment that enables live interaction

(III) The E-Learning market size is expected to reach \$357 billion by 2026.

(IV) Video conferencing and online whiteboard are the most common tools used in the World Economic Forum.

- a. (I)
- b. (IV)
- c. (II)
- d. (III)

(h) E-commerce providers share content on a varied range of topics. (True/false).

3. **Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.**

**[8]**

The most alarming of man's assaults upon the environment is the contamination of air, earth, rivers and sea with lethal materials. This pollution is for the most part irrevocable; the chain of evil it initiates is for the most part irreversible. In this contamination of the environment, chemicals are the sinister partners of radiation in changing the very nature of the world; radiation released through nuclear explosions into the air comes to the earth in rain, lodges into the soil, enters the grass, or corn or wheat grown there, and reaches the bones of a human being, there to remain until his death. Similarly, chemicals sprayed on crops lie long in soil, entering living organisms, passing from one to another in a chain of poisoning and death. Or they pass by underground streams until they emerge and combine into new forms that kill vegetation, sicken cattle, and harm those who drink from once pure wells.

It took hundreds of millions of years to produce the life that now inhabits the earth and reached a state of adjustment and balance with its surroundings. The environment contains elements that were hostile as well as supporting. Even within the light of the sun, there are short-wave radiations with the power to injure. Given time, life has adjusted and a balance reached. For time is the essential ingredient, but in the modern world there is no time.

The rapidity of change and the speed with which new situations are created follow the heedless pace of man rather than the deliberate pace of nature. Radiation is no longer the bombardment of cosmic rays; it is now the unnatural creation of man's tampering with the atom. The chemicals to which life is asked to make adjustments are no longer merely calcium and silica and copper and all the rest of the minerals washed out of the rocks and carried in the rivers to the sea; they are the synthetic creations of man's inventive mind, brewed in his laboratories, and having no counterparts in nature.

a. On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings.

Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary-minimum four) and a format you consider suitable.

Also supply an appropriate title to it.

b. Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words.



### Section B : Grammar (7 Marks)

4. Answer any SEVEN of the following questions: [7]
- (a) We are \_\_\_\_\_ (wait) for you. (Fill tense correctly) [1]
  - (b) Last night the residents \_\_\_\_\_ (assemble) to discuss the occurrence of theft in the locality. (Fill tense correctly) [1]
  - (c) Please ask mom \_\_\_\_\_ we're having for dinner. (who/what/which/where) [1]
  - (d) He wore a shirt \_\_\_\_\_ looks nice. (who/what/which/where) [1]
  - (e) It was very cold, so I wore a sweater. (use so ... that) [1]
  - (f) No other metal is as costly as gold. (use superlative degree) [1]
  - (g) Lake/is/for/the/popular/boating/and swimming. (reorder correctly) [1]
  - (h) actually/I/busy/actually/am/very (reorder correctly) [1]

### Section - B Creative Writing Skills (16 Marks)

5. You need to buy a flat. Draft a suitable advertisement to be published in the classified columns of a local newspaper, giving all your requirements of a 2-bedroom set - park-facing, near market, etc. You are Kiran/Kashish, F-105/41, Krishna Park, Rohtak. [3]

OR

Samta Public School in Delhi requires cricket and hockey coaches. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words for the 'Situations Vacant' column of the 'Daily Herald', stating your requirements regarding age, qualification, experience etc. You are Principal of the School.

6. You are a member of the SPCA. Draft a poster in not more than 50 words to create awareness on the need to prevent cruelty to animals. You are Suhas/Suhasini. [3]

OR

You were very upset about the reports on communal riots in various parts of the country. As a concerned social worker, design a poster in not more than 50 words, highlighting the importance of communal harmony. You are Vinay/Vineeta.

7. Write a speech in 150-200 words on the topic, 'A student must know how to manage his time'. It is to be delivered in the morning assembly. You are Karan/Karuna, Head Boy/ Head Girl of the school. [5]

OR

You are Rohit/Rohini of Class XII. You believe that good habits play a crucial role in our life. It is, therefore, essential to cultivate good habits. You decide to give a speech expressing your views on the topic in the morning assembly at school. Write your speech in 150 - 200 words.

8. A number of your classmates (especially those from science and commerce streams) bunk their classes in order to attend coaching centres. Write a debate in 150-200 words on 'Tuition at coaching centres is not essential'. [5]
- School teachers better equipped
  - Philanthropic approach
  - No infrastructure
  - Schools should reorient their teaching process
  - Infrastructure much better at schools
  - Coaching centres—money minting machines
  - Competition oriented education

OR

Some people feel that electronic media (TV news) will bring about the end of print media (newspapers). What are



your views on the issue? Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against this view.

- use of visuals on TV
- not enough news for 24 hours telecast
- become repetitive and dull
- print media-time tested
- editorial comments
- authentic and fast
- may fabricate news
- even scandals become news
- cater to all interests
- analysed, verified news

### Section C : Literature (31 Marks)

9. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[3]

Silence surrounds us. I would have  
Him prodigal, returning to  
His father's house, the home he knew,  
Rather than see him make and move  
His world. I would forgive him too,  
Shaping from sorrow a new love.

- (a) What does the father want from his son?
- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| a) To leave his ego | b) To forgive him    |
| c) To talk to him   | d) To come back home |
- (b) Why does the father call his son prodigal?
- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| a) As he is successful       | b) As he is a professional |
| c) As he is wasting his time | d) As he is a runaway      |
- (c) The literary device used in the given lines is
- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| a) Anaphora     | b) Simile    |
| c) Alliteration | d) Hyperbole |

OR

Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[3]

And who art thou? said I to the soft-falling shower, Which, strange to tell, gave me an answer, as here translated:  
I am the Poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain,

- (a) What is strange in the given extract?
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| a) The rain calling itself the Poem of Earth | b) The rain is answering the question   |
| c) That the poet could translate the voice   | d) The poet asking question to the rain |
- (b) Why does the rain call itself **the Poem of Earth**?
- |                                     |                        |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| a) As it travels back to its origin | b) As it has a purpose |
| c) As it beautifies the Earth       | d) As it is beautiful  |
- (c) **As here translated** indicates that



- a) he was translating these lines for his readers
- b) the rain was talking in our language
- c) someone was translating these lines for him
- d) the poet was making up these lines on his own

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

[3]

She hobbled about the house in spotless white with one hand resting on her waist to balance her stoop and the other telling the beads of her rosary. Her silver locks were scattered untidily over her pale, puckered face, and her lips constantly moved in inaudible prayer. Yes, she was beautiful. She was like the winter landscape in the mountains, an expanse of pure white serenity breathing peace and contentment.

- (a) Here, the word **hobbled** means:
  - a) move with unsteady steps
  - b) move slowly
  - c) relaxed
  - d) ran
- (b) Beads of rosary are helping her:
  - a) to note down her prayers
  - b) to remember her prayers
  - c) to attain peace
  - d) to say her prayers
- (c) How did the grandmother appear like the winter landscape in the mountains?
  - a) Because she always wore white dress.
  - b) Because she was beautiful.
  - c) Because she had a divine beauty.
  - d) Because she has silver locks.

OR

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

[3]

Further on, where the plains became more stony than grassy, a great herd of wild ass came into view. Tsetan told us we were approaching them long before they appeared. "Kyang," he said, pointing towards a far-off pall of dust. When we drew near, I could see the herd galloping en masse, wheeling and turning in tight formation as if they were practising manoeuvres on some predetermined course. Plumes of dust billowed into the crisp, clean air.

- (a) The **pall of dust** has been referred in the above extract as
  - a) Pall
  - b) Herd
  - c) Kyang
  - d) Stony
- (b) The phrase **more stony than grassy** means
  - a) Terrain had become hilly and terrain now had less greenery
  - b) Terrain had become hilly
  - c) Terrain now had less greenery
  - d) Terrain had become slippery
- (c) The synonym of the word **manoeuvres** is
  - a) ignorance
  - b) inactivity
  - c) stoppage
  - d) movement

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

[4]

- (a) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

[4]

And then, as by a miracle, the pigmy chest, which his hands enclosed, gave a short, convulsive heave,



another... and another... Andrew turned giddy. The sense of life, springing beneath his fingers after all that unavailing striving, was so exquisite it almost made him faint. He redoubled his efforts feverishly. The child was gasping now, deeper and deeper. A bubble of mucus came from one tiny nostril, a joyful iridescent bubble. The limbs were no longer boneless. The head no longer lay back spinelessly. The blanched skin was slowly turning pink. Then, exquisitely, came the child's cry.

i. Complete the sentence appropriately.

The author's purpose in giving minute details of the signs of life in the child is to \_\_\_\_\_.

ii. In the given extract, which of the following organs shows the sign of a 'miracle' in the child's body?

- a. Limb
- b. Skin
- c. Nose
- d. Eye

iii. Which trait about the doctor could be discerned in the lines, "Andrew turn giddy" and "it almost made him faint"?

iv. Choose any one line from the given extract that shows the sign of life in the baby.

(b) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

[4]

A lovely name, John Byro said, for a lovely horse. I could swear it is the horse that was stolen from me many weeks ago.

May I look into his mouth?

Of course, Mourad said, the farmer looked into the mouth of the horse.

Tooth for tooth, he said, I would swear it is my horse if I didn't know your parents. The fame of your family for honesty is well known to me. Yet the horse is the twin of my horse. A suspicious man would believe his eyes instead of his heart. Good day, my young friends.

i. What does the line, 'A suspicious man would believe his eyes instead of his heart' suggest?

ii. How was John Byro feeling over his missing horse?

- A. he was sad
- B. he was overwhelmed
- C. he got enraged
- D. he was excited

iii. John Byro didn't suspect the boys. This is because \_\_\_\_\_.

iv. How did John Byro examine the horse and what was his conclusion?

12. Answer the questions from either (a) or (b) in 40-50 words:

[6]

(a) i. Explain the statement, **King Tut is one of the first mummies to be scanned — in death, as in life...**

[3]

ii. What do you think the goldfinch does in the thickness of the laburnum tree?

[3]

(b) i. How did the narrator respond to little Jons words? What do his actions reveal about his character? Answer in context of We are Not Afraid to Die.

[3]

ii. How did the realization of being the master of his own mind helped him? Answer in the context of Childhood.

[3]





13. **Answer ANY ONE of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words** [3]
- (a) Why did the narrator decide to visit Mrs. Dorling's house the second time? [3]
  - (b) Who was Doris? What was it that surprised her about her mother? [3]
14. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.** [6]
- (a) Describe Gangadharpanth's journey by train from Pune to Bombay. [6]
  - (b) Happy moments are short-lived but provide a lifetime memory. They provide a cushion to bear the difficulties which the future has in store for you. Comment in the light of the poem **A Photograph** by Shirley Toulson. [6]
15. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.** [6]
- (a) How does a melon become the ruler of the state? Why are the people happy with him? [6]
  - (b) Husbands, sons, daughters should be taking notice of wives and mothers, not giving them orders and treating them like dirt. What do you think about it? [6]



# Solution

## SECTION A : READING SKILLS (26 marks)

### 1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

Read the passage given below:

1. As a form of expression, graffiti is famously characterized by outlaw values; the creation and display of graffiti countered societal rules and was considered by some as vandalism. Not only was it symbolic of rebel values but was also linked to destruction of property. These links between graffiti culture and rebellion were age-old and some say, were popularized by hip-hop culture.
2. Imagine waking up one morning, to see your walls smeared with black paint names, symbols, messages. The most interesting bit is that these wall artists were never caught red-handed. It was all done stealthily. It was almost as though people were marking their territory using painted symbols and slogans. The change was creeping in. Mobile numbers and captivating phrases gradually became marketing tools for free advertising. Catchy phrases tickled the curiosity and calls were made to those numbers.
3. Over a period of time, there was a shift in perception. Blank walls beckoned invitingly and artists saw whitewashed walls as an opportunity to display their work in free and open settings. The city became one large canvas; the illegal 'gang activity' became an art form on display in walking galleries. Graffiti was gradually being replaced and the stigma of illegality was being dropped. There was a move to embrace rather than condemn.
4. The colours, shapes, and subjects became cultural themes. What was once rebellious expression is artistic talent at its vibrant best, rich in images of plants, animals and unspoiled landscapes. The painted walls encouraged by residents and governments have created their own ecosystem a reconciliation of nature with man-made forces.
5. The monotony and uniformity of urban life is today infused with human vitality and beauty. Cities speak proudly about the painted walls and clamour to be the first to preserve culture and history through these. Graphic displays of social awareness issues effectively and economically reach out to the common man. Silent art speaks volumes. Be it hygiene, conservation, education, or rights and duties the message is conveyed in an animated, colourful manner without being an imposition.

- (i) **(b)** an expression of rebellion.

**Explanation:**

an expression of rebellion.

- (ii)
  - Done secretly without getting noticed.
  - Wall artists were never caught red-handed.
  - Done during nighttime.
  - Done on the sly/quietly.

- (iii) Graffiti was not popular among people because:

- It was considered as an act of rebellion.
- It was linked to destruction of property.
- It countered societal rules.
- It considered as vandalism.
- It was characterized by outlaw values.

- (iv) Interesting/Captivating.

- (v) **(a)** Graffiti art was a paid activity.

**Explanation:**

Graffiti art was a paid activity.

- (vi) **(b)** reunion

**Explanation:**

Reunion.

- (vii) The stigma of illegality was dropped because over a period of time, there was a shift in perception. Blank walls beckoned invitingly, and artists saw whitewashed walls as an opportunity to display their work in free and open settings. The illegal 'gang activity' became an art form on display in walking galleries. Graffiti was gradually being replaced and the stigma of illegality was being dropped.



(viii) The illegal 'gang activity' became an art form on display in walking galleries.

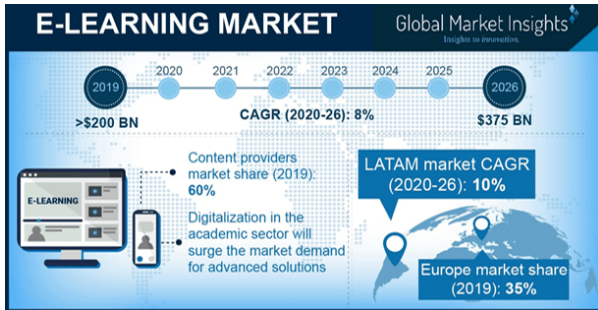
(ix) (d) dislike to acceptance

**Explanation:**

dislike to acceptance

- (x) ■ Wall art helps to preserve cultural history.  
■ It creates a social awareness/message conveyed in an animated colorful manner without being an imposition/reaches out to the common man.

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



1. E-learning is the process of acquiring knowledge through electronic technologies and resources. A rise in the number of internet users has increased the market demand for sophisticated online learning courses. According to the Office for National Statistics, nearly all adults in the age group of 10 to 44 years in the UK were recent internet users (99 %) in 2019. The availability of enhanced network connectivity coupled with the convenience offered by on-demand courses, will drive the market size.
2. According to the World Economic Forum, around 1.2 billion children are out of classrooms with schools shut down globally due to COVID-19 pandemic. Electronic Learning Management Systems such as Google Classroom is helping classes to connect distantly. communicate efficiently and stay organized. Large scale national efforts to leverage technology to the market players in support of distance education, remote, and online learning during the covid-19 pandemic are emerging and evolving rapidly.
3. The virtual classroom technology in the e-learning market is expected to grow at a CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate) of 11% during the forecast timespan. A virtual classroom is a digital environment that enables live interaction between a tutor and a learner. Videos conferencing and online white-board for real-time collaboration are the most common tools used in a digital teaching space. Synchronous and collaborative virtual classes allows active participation of students, reacting an environment similar to a physical classroom.
4. The technique is gaining traction with an increasing number of corporate and academic sectors deploying it for enhanced training sessions. Multilateral organizations and world bodies, such as WHO and G 20, are also deploying e-learning modes to teach healthcare professionals.
5. Content providers segment accounted for around 60% e-learning market share in 2019 E-learning providers share content on a varied range of topics by collaborating with domain experts that help them to develop the learning content. They focus on offering specific and customized content as per the end-user requirements.

(i) (a) (1) is the result of (2)

**Explanation:** It is clearly given in paragraph 2 of the passage that according to the World Economic Forum, around 1.2 billion children are out of classroom as schools are shut down due to COVID-19 pandemic. Hence, (a) is the right answer.

(ii) Deploying e-learning modes

(iii) (a) (III)

(iv) Online whiteboard

(v) E-learning

(vi) (b) Virtual classrooms

(vii) (d) (III)

(viii) False

**Explanation:** E-learners providers share content on a varied range of topics, not e-commerce.

## 3. Title: Man's Assault on Environment

Notes

### I. Earth's adjustment and balance in disarray

- i. humans resp for disbalancing nature
- ii. envn full of hostile as well as supptg elements
- iii. natural sunlight full of short-wave radiation
- iv. can cause injury
- v. time, an essential element to maintain balance, missing
- vi. rapidity of change - main cause of disturbing nature

## II. Pollution/ contamination of earth

- i. pltn irreversible and irrevocable
- ii. chemicals evil partners of
- iii. radtn nuclear explsns cause radiation
- iv. it affects grass, crop
- v. mixes with rain, goes inside soil
- vi. consumption of such food affects humans
- vii. kills vegetation
- viii. sicken cattle
- ix. harm those who use that water.

## III. Pollution of water

- i. chemical sprayed on crops - cause poisoning and death
- ii. pollute underground streams
- iii. combine in new forms
- iv. spoil vegetation, cattle and humans
- v. well water gets poisoned
- vi. adjustment with nature
- vii. balance the surroundings

## IV. Natural chemicals replaced by synthetic chemicals

- i. man-made chemicals more deadly
- ii. adjustment possible with natural chemicals
- iii. with synthetic chemicals- no balancing act possible
- iv. causes mass destruction
- v. invented by humans
- vi. brewed in labs
- vii. no counterpart in nature.

### ◦ Key to Abbreviations

respl	responsible
envn	environment
supptg	supporting
pltn	pollution
explsns	explosions
radtn	radiation

## 2. Summary:-

Our environment is slowly being destroyed by humans, mainly air, water, earth and the main culprit being chemicals and harmful radiations from nuclear explosions. We are exposed to them through a 'poison and death chain'. The radiation released through nuclear explosions into the air comes to the earth in rain, lodges into the soil, enters the grass, or corn or wheat is grown there and reaches the bones of a human being, there to remain until his death. The chemicals enter the soil through rain or repeated sprinkling on crops and enter our body. The environment has always been exposed to these challenges. Every organism has fought and evolved to adjust with nature, as these atrocities came from nature itself. Even the light of the sun has short-wave radiation that can be harmful too. But man-made challenges are difficult to deal with. It took hundreds of millions of years to produce the life that now inhabits the earth and has reached a state of adjustment and balance with its surroundings.

## Section B : Grammar (7 Marks)

4. Answer any SEVEN of the following questions:

- (i) waiting
- (ii) assembled
- (iii) what
- (iv) which
- (v) It was so cold that I had to wear a sweater.
- (vi) Gold is the costliest metal.
- (vii) The lake is popular for boating and swimming.
- (viii) Actually, I am very busy.

### Section - B Creative Writing Skills (16 Marks)

#### 5. Classified Advertisement

##### **Wanted: 2-Bedroom Flat**

I am looking to buy a 2-bedroom flat in Rohtak. The flat should be newly built, ventilated, park-facing, centrally located, near a market, and in a safe, well-connected area. Preferred amenities include a balcony and parking space.

Contact:

Kiran/Kashish

F-105/41, Krishna Park, Rohtak

Phone: 9876XXXXXX

Email: kiran.kashish@example.com

OR

#### **SITUATIONS VACANT**

Samta Public School, Delhi is looking for young, dynamic and energetic cricket and hockey coaches between 27-32 years of age. Candidates should have at least three years of experience in a reputed school and a degree or recognition in the above mentioned fields. Interested candidates can Email their resume within seven days to principal@samtapublicschool.com

The Principal

Samta Public School

+91-99834XXXXX

#### **PREVENT CRUELTY TO ANIMALS**

**Don't just get angry-Get Active**



- Animals are beaten and neglected daily
- They struggle for survival
- They aren't provided with food or water and are left in unsanitary conditions
- Know whom to call to report animal cruelty
- Contact local Police Station or SPCA to fight this crime
- Together we need to build a better world
- Let us sympathise towards those who remain mute and neglected for animals too deserve care

#### **SPCA**

96, Mayapuri, Delhi-56

Ph: 968575XXXX, 256545XX

6.

**Issued in Public Interest by Suhas, SPCA**

OR

#### **LIVE AND LET LIVE**

**COMMUNAL HARMONY - THE NEED OF THE HOUR**



- Prevent communal riots
- Help people to pursue their daily occupations without interruption
- Prevent personal and property loss



- Respect others and their way of life
- Communal harmony - the need of the hour
- Develop tolerance and spread brotherhood

Let not narrow mindedness affect our lives.

**Let's Unite and Fight this Monster!**

**Issued in Public Interest by Vinay**

## 7. **Importance of Time Management for Students**

Good morning everyone. Respected Principal Sir, honourable teachers and all my dear friends! Today I, Karan, of class XII A, stand before you to speak on the topic 'A student must know how to manage his time.

Time management plays a very important role in the life of every individual, and more so, in the life of a student. It is very essential for a student to use his time wisely, plan things, prepare schedules and work accordingly.

A student should have his priorities set in his life. Anything that interferes with the student's school and his overall growth should be given up or replaced by some alternative. It is crucial to have a balance in life. Only setting priorities and goals cannot provide success, but a well-planned use of time can definitely guarantee success and happiness. A student should find a balance in time that he spends with family, friends and having fun. He should make sure that his personal life must not come in the way of meeting educational obligations.

Each and every minute counts for a student. Therefore, it is very important to develop a sense of responsibility. Unnecessary activities and an idle, careless behaviour kill time. Time once passed never returns. There are times in our lives when everything seems to be going out of control. In such critical times, time management can go a long way in bringing things back in place. Hence, a student must know how to manage his time in order to live a fuller and balanced life.

Thank you!

OR

## **Importance of Cultivating Good Habits**

By Rohit/Rohini, Class XII

Good morning, respected Principal, teachers, and my dear friends,

Today, I would like to share my thoughts on a topic that is fundamental to our personal growth and success: the importance of cultivating good habits.

Good habits are the building blocks of a successful and fulfilling life. They shape our character, influence our behavior, and determine our future. From waking up early to maintaining a healthy diet, from being punctual to practicing kindness, good habits help us lead a disciplined and balanced life.

One of the most significant benefits of good habits is that they create a positive routine. When we consistently follow good habits, they become second nature, making it easier to achieve our goals. For instance, regular study habits lead to academic excellence, while consistent exercise promotes physical and mental well-being.

Moreover, good habits instil a sense of responsibility and self-discipline. They teach us the value of time, the importance of hard work, and the power of perseverance. These qualities are essential not only for academic success but also for personal and professional growth.

It is never too early or too late to start cultivating good habits. Begin with small, manageable changes and gradually build on them. Remember, the habits we form today will shape our tomorrow.

In conclusion, let us strive to develop and maintain good habits. Let us be mindful of our actions and make conscious efforts to improve ourselves every day. By doing so, we can create a brighter and more successful future for ourselves and those around us. Thank you.

## 8. **For the Motion**

Honourable judges, my worthy opponents and dear students,

Today I, Saurabh of class XII, will speak in favour of the motion, 'Tuition at coaching centres is not essential'.

The popularity of coaching centres among students, particularly from the science and commerce streams, is not hidden from anyone. One of the major reasons that students take tuition at such coaching centres is that their parents feel that they will perform better in their exams by studying at these coaching centres. However, in reality, this is a big misconception. Most coaching centres are literally nothing but money minting machines for their owners. They have no infrastructure. Many centres employ teachers who have been rejected by the schools. The fees of such centres is way too high for middle-class parents. Thus, most coaching centres are not really useful. Besides, attending coaching classes pile pressure on students, and also take away the few recreational hours that they are left with after school.

In contrast, schools have a better infrastructure with proper classrooms, multimedia facilities and all other requirements needed for proper education. The teachers in schools are well-qualified and better equipped with adequate teaching experience. Many



schools, which are run by registered trusts, also have very low fees, because running a school is considered a philanthropic activity by people.

However, the schools should reorient their teaching process to make their education competition oriented. This will ensure that schools are considered essential and prioritised before the coaching centres; the coaching centres are not necessary at all.

Thank you!

#### **Against the Motion**

Honourable judges, my worthy opponents and dear students,

Today I, Saurabh of class XII, will speak against the motion, 'Tuition at coaching centres is not essential'.

The schooling system has become increasingly competitive today. Consequently, tuition at coaching centres has become extremely popular among the students and their parents. Parents want their children to excel in every subject, and they strongly believe that a special coaching will help them achieve academic excellence. They are not wrong to a great extent. Some students, despite frequent struggles to learn, often fail to learn. A school classroom today is a large group of 50-65 students, where there is little scope for individual attention. It is also not possible for a teacher to adjust his/her teaching methodology as per the needs of each and every student.

A coaching institute scores above a school classroom in a number of ways. It provides a friendly and cooperative environment according to the needs of the students. A good coaching institute has a team of well-experienced, dedicated, skilled and result-oriented trainers or faculty. It possesses advanced learning tools to tackle the problems faced by the students during learning. The teachers there teach every concept in a simplified way, making the learning process enjoyable for aspirants who lag behind and find difficulty in learning. There are extra sessions for weak candidates. Hence, tuition at coaching centres is essential in order to meet the requirements of today's fierce competition in the field of education.

Thank you!

OR

#### **For the Motion**

Respectable jury members, my fellow opponents and the esteemed audience,

Today, I Priyanka, will speak in favour of the motion, 'Electronic media will bring about the end of print media'.

Over the last century, the world has seen a paradigm shift in the means of obtaining news from newspapers to television. Today, the reception of news is constant and on the go due to the arrival of the 24-hour news format. The entire news landscape has changed as we are subjected to the concept of breaking news, i.e. receiving news about an event or occurring, immediately as it happens, and without waiting for the newspaper to arrive the next day with an account of events that would have already been telecasted by then.

The power of visuals on TV has a far wider reach and a more direct impact on the audience, whereas, the print media (newspapers) still depends on some amount of education and comprehension on the part of readers. An image being a direct message which does not need to be read or deciphered hints towards the power and influence of the television medium.

TV news strives towards authenticity, covering all vantage points for maximum coverage, and it is delivered fresh and fast. In such a case, it contributes towards the redundancy of the print media.

Thank you!

#### **Against the Motion**

Respectable jury members, my fellow opponents and the esteemed audience,

Today, I Priyanka, will speak against the motion, 'Electronic media will bring about the end of print media'.

I am sure everybody must have read the report on the spread of swine flue across the country in this morning's newspaper. It gave the details of the latest tally of the affected and deaths, besides giving a number of personal stories which are truly heart-rending. Many TV channels, despite covering such items of news, have become repetitive and dull today. All the TV news channels have the same source. There is not enough news to telecast during all the 24 hours of a day. Consequently, some channels of electronic media may even take the liberty to fabricate news on their own, create artificial visuals etc. They even air scandals of Bollywood and politicians to fill their time, labelling them as 'news'.

In contrast, the print media will only publish the news that has been verified and analysed. Newspapers and magazines also have editorial comments and quotes from eminent people in the field. Thus, they are able to cater to a spectrum of interests.

Hence, the print media has its own market and will never die out. Besides, it has taken the test of time and has proved its authenticity, reach to wider audience and trust among the audience time and again.

Thank you!

#### **Section C : Literature (31 Marks)**

9. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:



Silence surrounds us. I would have  
Him prodigal, returning to  
His father's house, the home he knew,  
Rather than see him make and move  
His world. I would forgive him too,  
Shaping from sorrow a new love.

- (i) **(d)** To come back home

**Explanation:**

To come back home

- (ii) **(c)** As he is wasting his time

**Explanation:**

As he is wasting his time

- (iii) **(c)** Alliteration

**Explanation:**

Alliteration

OR

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

And who art thou? said I to the soft-falling shower, Which, strange to tell, gave me an answer, as here translated:  
I am the Poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain,

- (i) **(b)** The rain is answering the question

**Explanation:**

The rain is answering the question

- (ii) **(a)** As it travels back to its origin

**Explanation:**

As it travels back to its origin

- (iii) **(a)** he was translating these lines for his readers

**Explanation:**

he was translating these lines for his readers

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

She hobbled about the house in spotless white with one hand resting on her waist to balance her stoop and the other telling the beads of her rosary. Her silver locks were scattered untidily over her pale, puckered face, and her lips constantly moved in inaudible prayer. Yes, she was beautiful. She was like the winter landscape in the mountains, an expanse of pure white serenity breathing peace and contentment.

- (i) **(a)** move with unsteady steps

**Explanation:**

move with unsteady steps

- (ii) **(d)** to say her prayers

**Explanation:**

to say her prayers

- (iii) **(c)** Because she had a divine beauty.

**Explanation:**

Because she had a divine beauty.

OR

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

Further on, where the plains became more stony than grassy, a great herd of wild ass came into view. Tsetan told us we were approaching them long before they appeared. "Kyang," he said, pointing towards a far-off pall of dust. When we drew near, I could see the herd galloping en masse, wheeling and turning in tight formation as if they were practising manoeuvres on some predetermined course. Plumes of dust billowed into the crisp, clean air.

- (i) **(c)** Kyang

**Explanation:**



Kyang

- (ii) (a) Terrain had become hilly and terrain now had less greenery

**Explanation:**

Terrain had become hilly and terrain now had less greenery.

- (iii) (d) movement

**Explanation:**

movement

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

- (i) i. ...evoke dramatic elements in the plot as it was a complicated delivery. These signs of life were a great achievement for a young doctor who had thrown himself in this case even after being emotionally drained in his personal life. Andrew did not only save the child and mother but also won against the odds.
- ii. (d) eye
- iii. As a result of Andrew's persistent efforts, the small chest of the baby heaved up. This short heave was followed by other heart beats. Andrew felt giddy and almost faint after the revival of the child. The sense of life, throbbing under his feelings almost made him faint. After all, the effort coming to fruition beneath his fingers made him ecstatic, the happiness was intoxicating.
- iv. 'The blanched skin was slowly turning pink'; 'A bubble of mucus came from one tiny nostril'; 'the pigmy chest... gave a short, convulsive heave'; 'came the child's cry' (any ONE)
- (ii) i. The statement by John Byro suggests that **a suspicious person is more likely to trust what he sees with his own eyes rather than his intuition or feelings.**
- ii. (a) he was sad
- iii. John Byro did not accuse the boys of stealing his horse because **he knew their family and parents.** He was concerned about their family's integrity and renowned honesty.
- iv. He examined the horse and studied it tooth by tooth. He came to the conclusion that the horse looked identical to his stolen horse.

12. Answer the questions from either (a) or (b) in 40-50 words:

- (i) i. King Tut became a king when he was only a boy of nine years. He reigned for about nine years and died at the age of eighteen. How he became a king and how he died has been a mystery. A lot was speculated about what must have happened to the boy king. When his mummy was found in 1922, it was scanned to know the facts related to his life as well as death. It was one of the first mummies that were used for such a probe.
- ii. As the goldfinch enters the thickness of the laburnum tree there is a spontaneous outbreak of twittering, quavering sounds and tremor of wings. The whole tree seems to shake slightly and is excited.
- (ii) i. He could not find proper words respond. However, he felt inspired to fight the sea with everything he had. He decided to stop the ship and protect the weakened starboard side. He did so with an improvised anchor of heavy nylon ropes and two 22 litre plastic barrels of paraffin. This shows his resourcefulness and determination.
- ii. The realization that he was the master of his own mind, and could use it in any way he liked, filled him with self-confidence. He could now think independently and need not repeat parrot-like thoughts of others.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words

- (i) The narrator grew impatient and her curiosity started troubling her. She wanted to see all those belongings that were once possessed by her mother. She wanted to touch and feel them, so, she decided to visit Mrs. Dorling's house again.
- (ii) She was Mrs. Pearson's daughter. She was surprised to see her mother smoking a cigarette and was even more alarmed at her behaviour.

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

- (i) Professor Gaitonde (Gangadhar Pant) travelled from Pune to Bombay by train. The Jijamata express had its first stop at Lonavala. The ghat section was quite familiar to him. The train passed through Kalyan. He made a plan of action in Bombay. He was a historian. He had written five volumes. He planned to go to a big library and read history books to find out how the present state of affairs had been reached. Thereafter, he would discuss his findings with Rajendra Deshpande.
- The train stopped beyond the long tunnel at a small station, Sarhad. An Anglo-Indian checked the permits. This was the place where the British Raj began. Pant had not been to this Bombay before. He talked with his fellow passenger Khan sahib. The professor got some information on life in British India. He also noticed the words written and the Union Jack painted on the carriage. He had not expected all that.



- (ii) Our life is a mixture of happy as well as adverse times. We must learn to move on with the help of those happy memories which provided us with so much enjoyment and happiness. As life is not a bed of roses, everyone at one stage or another is likely to face difficulties.

At the time of difficulties, happy moments can give us solace and fill us with positivity which is required during difficult times. Happy moments will certainly provide us with a hope that, as happy moments are short-lived, so are difficult times. One must learn to cope with the situation. The memories of happy times can provide us a cushion to bear difficulties with patience and peace.

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

- (i) The king who never applied his own brain went by what others said. When the people demanded somebody to be hanged, the king had to pay a heavy price for his foolishness. He himself was taken to the gallows. According to the state custom, the new ruler was to be chosen by the first person who passed by the city gates. That day an idiot happened to pass by the gates who said “Melon” to any question which people asked him. And the ministers followed the custom mindlessly. They brought a melon and crowned it as their new ruler. The people raised no objection. They only wanted to live in peace and liberty. They accepted the melon king who followed the policy of non-interference in whatever the people did.
- (ii) The problem of wives and mothers have been universal. Husbands, sons, and daughters have always treated them like dirt. They order them about as if they were their servants. Husbands, sons and daughters would go out to enjoy with their friends, leaving the poor mothers and wives alone at home. They think to have done much work during the day while neglecting the hard work of their mothers and wives. Moreover, they want to be served like kings and princes when they come home. It is very unfortunate how husbands and children alike hardly consider the labour that their wives and mothers. All husbands, sons, and daughters must think that poor wives and mothers are also human beings and have the same feelings and desires as they do. They should learn to treat their mothers and wives with love, care and respect which has been nicely revealed in the play.