

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 4

English Language and Literature (184)

Class IX (2025-26)

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

1. This question paper comprises 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper contains THREE sections -
 - Section - A : Reading Skills
 - Section - B : Grammar and Creative Writing Skills
 - Section - C : Literature Text Book
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section A Reading

1. Read the passage given below.

[10]

It is an indisputable fact that the world has gone too far with the innovation of new technologies such as mobile phones, the internet and so on, due to which people can tour the cosmos virtually while sitting in one place using their smart devices or other technological gadgets. Though mobile internet access is often hurried and short, it can still provide common internet features like alerts, other data, emails, search engines, instant messages, and game and music downloading.

Due to the easy access to smartphones, communication has been very effective and instant. People can convey their message all around the globe to their loved ones without spending hefty sums of money. Adults are always fond of such gadgets and they always welcome and adopt such new technology readily. Further, young people have been able to broaden their minds and improve their skills by researching on the Internet. For instance, they use smartphones to look up any new word they come across. As we know most of universities have online teaching provisions and smartphones assist students in completing their assignments on time. The mobile phone has been a lifesaver for a lot of people in case of an emergency. Likewise, the use of smartphones can be of vital importance in preventing crimes in society by providing information to the security forces in time.

Nonetheless, for the young, the use of a mobile phone can be like an addiction and they can misuse it. Young people are also prone to getting involved in undesirable activities on the Internet. This might have an adverse effect on their academic performance. Therefore, young people should always be monitored and made aware of their bad outcomes.

Also, a major contributor to its popularity is the availability of prepaid or pay-as-you-go services from a phone shop or an online store. This allows subscribers to load text or airtime credits to their handsets by the use of their credit cards, debit cards or by buying a prepaid card from the network they subscribe to. This plan also



doesn't commit a particular customer to a contract. If prepaid card is not that appealing to you, then you can opt to subscribe using the pay-by-month plan.

(I) In paragraph 1, what does the phrase 'people can tour the cosmos virtually while sitting in one place' suggest about technology? (1)

(II) Complete the following with the correct option from the two given. (1)

Mobile phones have made communication _____.

- (a) complicated and expensive
- (b) efficient and cost-effective (paragraph 2)

(III) Support the writer's idea that mobile phones have a positive impact on students' academic performance. (paragraph 2) (2)

(IV) Select the option that best reflects the importance of mobile phones during emergencies. (paragraph 3) (1)

- (a) They help in saving lives by enabling quick communication.
- (b) They provide entertainment in stressful situations.

(V) State whether the following statement is True or False. (paragraph 4)

Young people are prone to misusing mobile phones, which can negatively affect their academics. (1)

(VI) The writer mentions the popularity of prepaid services. Which of the following is a key reason for their popularity? (1)

- (a) They bind users to long-term contracts.
- (b) They allow flexibility without a contract.
- (c) They are limited to text messaging.
- (d) They are only available in physical stores.

(VII) List any two ways in which mobile phones help in improving communication globally. (paragraph 2) (2)

(VIII) Fill in the blank with the correct option from those given. (paragraph 5)

The phrase "pay-as-you-go" refers to _____. (1)

- (a) A contract-free payment plan allowing users to recharge as needed
- (b) A credit-based system for long-term phone subscriptions
- (c) A method for subscribing to monthly payment plans
- (d) A limited service restricted to text and calls

2. **Read the following text, an excerpt from a case study titled**

[10]

"Scouts and Guides Around the World."

1. Many young people aged between 6 and 25 belong to the Scout movement. It is a worldwide organization, which was set up to help young people achieve their full potential as they grow up.
2. The organization was established in 1907 by a British general called Robert Baden-Powell. While in the army, he wrote a publication about scouting (which means searching and keeping watch) and how to survive in the wild, called 'Aids to Scouting'. He realized how popular this was, and the result was another book, 'Scouting for Boys', which had less emphasis on the military. To test his ideas, he held a week-long camp for 21 boys from various schools in London, Poole and Bournemouth. This took place in August 1907, on Brownsea Island, in Southern England. These boys had the chance to enjoy outdoors, which became another of the movement's objectives.
3. The Scout Movement quickly got established in Europe. It then spread throughout the world, starting in Chile in 1909. To begin with, the focus was on boys aged 11 to 18. However, as the movement grew, it was clear that younger boys, older boys and girls all wanted to be involved. Baden-Powell's sister set up the Girl



Guides in 1910, and in 1914 she started Rosebuds, later renamed Brownies, for younger girls. The movement's intention to help young people play useful roles in society applies equally to girls and boys. By 2010, there were 32 million scouts, and by 2006, there were 10 million guides around the world, from a total of 216 different countries.

4. 2007 marked 100 years of the Scout Movement, and events took place around the world to celebrate this centenary. To mark the occasion, a colourful badge was produced for scouts to sew onto their uniforms or bags. The design included the official scout emblem, as well as the phrase, 'one world one promise', and images of doves and the globe.
5. 2007 was also the 150th anniversary of Baden-Powell's birth. To honour both occasions, a flame was lit at Baden-Powell's grave in Nyeri. This is the place in Kenya where he spent the last few years of his life. The flame was then carried through several countries until it reached the UK.

Country	Membership	Population participation	Scouting introduced	Guiding introduced
India	41500000	0.3%	1909	1911
Indonesia	17100000	7.2%	1912	1912
Philippines	21500000	2.2%	1910	1918
Thailand	1300000	1.9%	1911	1957
United States	7500000	2.4%	1910	1912

Answer the following questions based on your reading of the above passage: (10)

- i. Infer one reason for the following, based on the information given in paragraph 4:
'Colourful badge was sewn on to the uniform and bags of the Scouts'. **(1)**
- ii. From paragraph 1, we can infer that Scout Movement was set up _____.
- iii. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from paragraph 4.
10 years: decade:: 100 years: _____
- iv. After reading the passage, bring a contrast between the books 'Aids to Scouting' and 'Scouting for Boys'. **(1)**
- v. What does the writer mean by the following phrase?
'One world one promise.'
- vi. According to the chart, which country took maximum time to introduce 'Guiding' after 'Scouting'? Choose your answer from the options given below: **(1)**
 - A. India
 - B. Indonesia
 - C. Thailand
 - D. Philippines
- vii. List two reasons why a flame was lit at Baden-Powell's grave in 2007. **(2)**
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
- viii. **Assertion (A):** The Scout Movement was established to help young people achieve their full potential and play useful roles in society.
Reason (R): The movement was started in 1907 by Robert Baden-Powell after the success of his book 'Aids to Scouting' and a camp held on Brownsea Island.
A. Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).



B. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

C. (A) is true, but (R) is false.

D. (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Section B Grammar

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed [10]

- (a) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter: [1]

I have just _____ (appear) for my senior secondary board examination and am interested in pursuing a course in Visual Communication.

- (b) Identify the error and supply the correction, for the following: [1]

India Expo Centre Greater Noida	
INDIA'S FOLDING CARTON	
Visit India's only focused FOLDING CARTON event	
PRODUCTS FOR DISPLAY: Carton making equipment, printing machinery, paper packaging, lamination machines, adhesives, carton processing equipment, etc	

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

- (c) Report the dialogue between two friends by completing the sentence. [1]

Rahul: Saheb, what did you like most about your visit to the village?

Saheb: The sense of joy in the simple things of life.

In response to the question about what he liked about his visit to the village, Saheb says _____.

- (d) The manager while assigning a new task to our team asked something about a previous project. [1]

Report the manager's question.

Have you finished the project yet?

- (e) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the slogan: [1]

_____ EDUCATED MIND CAN TEACH MANY.

a) AN

b) THIS

c) A

d) THE

- (f) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report: [1]

The schools have taken several measures to ensure the safety of students like temperature screening of everyone who enter school premises and special sanitization of the school as per WHO guidelines.

Option no.	Error	Correction
A	have	has
B	the	a
C	of	for
D	enter	enters

- (g) Drivers _____ stop when the traffic lights are red. [1]

a) should

b) may



- c) must d) could
- (h) I _____ tennis every Sunday morning. [1]
- a) am play b) play
- c) playing d) am playing
- (i) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. [1]
- We _____ not really change a man's mind and heart with money.
- a) might b) can
- c) may d) could
- (j) **Complete the line from a self-awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option.** [1]
- My Mother is not the sort of Mum
Who'll _____ and faint and shiver,
Darkness doesn't scare her,
When it thunders, she won't _____!
- A. be squealing, quiver
B. squeal, be quiver
C. squeal, quiver
D. be squealing, have been quivered
- (k) The boy who won the two medals _____ a friend of mine. [1]
- a) is b) had
- c) have d) are
- (l) The children of the man who works with me _____ broken the window this morning. [1]
- a) have b) has
- c) were d) had

Section B Writing

4. You are Priyanka. You visited **The Green Gardens Resort** during the holidays. Write a paragraph for your school magazine about why the place attracted you. [5]

OR

Write a short paragraph on the following personality: Narendra Modi

5. Your friend has behaved very selfishly in the canteen today and so you are very upset. Write a diary entry expressing your feelings. [5]

OR

You have been preparing for the National Talent Search Examination for the last one year and have got a very good rank. Write your story using the following clues.

humble family background-ambition to be something-scholarship, a means to that-preparation-help from the teachers-use of library-examination-result.

Section C Literature

6. **Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.** [5]
- (a) **Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:** [5]
- High above the city, on a tall column, stood the statue of the Happy Prince. He was gilded all over

with thin leaves of fine gold, for eyes he had two bright sapphires, and a large red ruby glowed on his sword hilt. One night there flew over the city a little swallow. His friends had gone away to Egypt six weeks before, but he had stayed behind; then he decided to go to Egypt too. All day long he flew, and at night time he arrived at the city. "Where shall I put up?" he said. "I hope the town has made preparations." Then he saw the statue on the tall column. "I will put up there," he cried. "It is a fine position with plenty of fresh air." So he alighted just between the feet of the Happy Prince.

- i. Which of the following is NOT a description of the Happy Prince's statue in the story? **(1)**
 - A. He was gilded all over with thin leaves of fine gold.
 - B. His eyes were two bright sapphires.
 - C. He held a large red ruby in his hand.
 - D. He had a diamond-studded crown on his head.
- ii. Why did the little swallow decide to stay in the city instead of joining his friends in Egypt?
Answer in about 40 words. **(1)**
- iii. Read the following descriptions (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract: **(1)**
 - a. The story of a young swallow who flew over the city and landed on a statue.
 - b. The tale of a gilded statue with precious gemstone eyes.
 - c. A description of a city preparing for the arrival of a special visitor.
- iv. If you were the Happy Prince in the story, what actions would you take in your elevated position?
Explain briefly. **(1)**

(b) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: [5]

Margie was disappointed. She had been hoping they would take the teacher away altogether. They had once taken Tommy's teacher away for nearly a month because the history sector had blanked out completely. So she said to Tommy, "Why would anyone write about school?"

- i. State one inference about Tommy's teacher from the given context: "They had taken away Tommy's teacher away for nearly a month". **(1)**
- ii. State True or False **(1)**
None of the reasons (a)-(d) below, can be applied to the question - Why was Margie disappointed?
 - a. She had not prepared her lesson.
 - b. She had failed in her test.
 - c. She wanted to go out and have fun.
 - d. She hated going to school.
- iii. Margie says, **Why would anyone write about school?** Elaborate Margie's dislike for school in about 40 words, with reference to the extract. **(2)**
- iv. Which phrase or word would correctly substitute 'blanked out', in the given sentence from the extract? **(1)**
history sector had blanked out completely.

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [5]

(a) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. [5]

There midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,
And evenings full of the linnet's wings.



- a. What makes the midnight glimmer? (1)
 - i. the bright sunshine
 - ii. the glow worms
 - iii. the dim village lights
 - iv. the moon and the stars
- b. How does the poet describe the different phases of a day? (2)
- c. These lines are a beautiful example of _____ imagery. (1)
- d. What do mean by glimmer? (1)

(b) **Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.**

[5]

He came to the door of a cottage,
In travelling round the earth,
Where a little woman was making cakes,
And baking them on the hearth;

- a. He refers to _____. (1)
- b. Why did **he** travel around the earth? (1)
- c. How did **he** come to the little woman's cottage? (2)
- d. In the stanza provided, what was the little woman doing when the traveler arrived at the cottage? (1)
 - i. Reading a book
 - ii. Making cakes
 - iii. Sleeping by the hearth
 - iv. Singing a song

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

[12]

- (a) What is the belief of the people at Pashupatinath temple? [3]
- (b) How does the Earth unite us? Write your answer in the context of No Men Are Foreign. [3]
- (c) Why does Kalam say he had a secure childhood, both materially and emotionally? [3]
- (d) Why did the doctor run away from his house? [3]
- (e) What is the most important thing to do while killing a tree? Write your answer in the context of the Poem 'On Killing a Tree'. [3]

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

[6]

- (a) Behrman has a dream. What is it? Does it come true? [3]
- (b) Why did Sergei feel a little sorry and ashamed of himself? [3]
- (c) How was the child separated from his parents? Write your answer in the context of **The Lost Child**. [3]

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

[6]

- (a) How did the little girl start understanding her father? Write your answer in the context of The Little Girl. [6]
- (b) What did Gerrard tell the intruder about himself? Was he telling the truth? Why or Why not? [6]

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

[6]

- (a) Describe the situation in which the grandfather found himself at the Saharanpur railway station. [6]
- (b) Describe the title A House is not a Home. Write your answer in the context of the Poem A House is Not a Home. [6]



Solution

Section A Reading

1. (I) It suggests that technology allows people to explore and learn about the world without needing to physically travel.
(II) (b) efficient and cost-effective
(III) Mobile phones help students by enabling them to:
1. Research new concepts, such as unfamiliar words, using the internet.
 2. Access online teaching resources and complete assignments on time.
- (IV) (a) They help in saving lives by enabling quick communication.
(V) True
(VI) (b) They allow flexibility without a contract.
(VII) Answer is
1. Mobile phones enable instant communication with loved ones worldwide.
 2. They allow users to convey messages efficiently without incurring high costs.
- (VIII) (a) A contract-free payment plan allowing users to recharge as needed
2. i. One reason for sewing the colourful badge onto the uniforms and bags of the Scouts could be to commemorate the 100 years of the Scout Movement and to create a sense of unity and belonging among the members.
ii. From paragraph 1, we can infer that the Scout Movement was set up to help young people achieve their full potential as they grow up.
iii. 10 years: decade :: 100 years: century
iv. 'Aids to Scouting' focused more on survival skills and military aspects, while 'Scouting for Boys' had less emphasis on the military and aimed to provide a broader set of skills and activities for young boys.
v. The phrase "One world one promise" signifies the unity and solidarity among Scouts worldwide, emphasizing their commitment to a shared set of values and ideals regardless of geographical or cultural differences.
vi. Thailand
vii. a. To honor the 150th anniversary of Baden-Powell's birth.
b. To commemorate the 100 years of the Scout Movement.
viii. A. Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Section B Grammar

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed

(i) appeared

(ii)	error	correction
	for	on

(iii) In response to the question about what he liked about his visit to the village, Saheb says that he likes the sense of joy in the simple things of life.

(iv) The manager asked us whether we had finished the project yet.

(v) (a) AN

Explanation:

AN

(vi) (D) enter - enters

(vii) (c) must

Explanation:

must

(viii) (b) play

Explanation:

play



(ix) (b) can

Explanation:

can

(x) A. squeal, quiver

Following the sentence structure, 'will' always follow the base form of verb.

(xi) (a) is

Explanation:

is

(xii) (a) have

Explanation:

have

Section B Writing

4.

The Green Gardens Resort

During the autumn vacation, I visited the Green Gardens Resort near Ooty. Situated in the Nilgiri hills, it is really a wonderful resort. It is about ten kilometres from Ooty on the Wellington road. The Green Gardens Resort is spread out in approximately ten acres. It is a luxury resort that caters to the middle and upper-middle class tourists. It offers boarding and lodging with all modern amenities and comforts. The place is surrounded by terraced tea-gardens. Wherever eyes go, one can see only green tea plantations and hills. In the middle of the resort, the main source of attraction is the swimming pool. It has two tennis courts, a one-foot ball court, a card room and a couple of billiard tables. The environment is divine and the ambience is excellent. It offers a peaceful environment.

OR

Our Prime Minister, Narendra Damodardas Modi is the 14th Prime Minister of India. He remained the Chief Minister of Gujarat from 2001 to 2014. He was elected as the member of Parliament from Varanasi. Narendra Modi was born on 17th September, 1950 in a family of grocers in Vadnagar of Mehsana district. His father's name was Damodardas Mulchand Modi and his mother's name is Heeraben. As a child Modi helped his father in selling tea at Vadnagar Railway Station. Modi left home at the age of 17 and joined Ramkrishna Mission Ashram in Rajkot. Narendra Modi joined the Pro Hindu Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh (RSS) in the early 1970s and he took a conscious decision to devote his life to serve the nation. In 1974, he became an active participant in the Navnirman Movements; a youth movement. In 1978 the RSS appointed him as Vibhag Pracharak in Vadodara and Central Gujarat.

In October 2001, he became the Chief Minister of Gujarat. After this, Modi's political career remained a mixture of deep controversy and self promoted achievements. Narendra Modi is making his stern efforts to make India a prosperous country. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana and Krishi Amdani Bima Yojana have been launched for farmers. 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' was launched by Modi on 22nd January, 2015 at Panipat, Haryana. Modi said that our destiny is to serve Maa Ganga so he started a mission to clean it. Rural Electrification is also on the move at a rapid pace. He is working on a plan to introduce a universal health care system known as the National Health Assurance Mission. Modi has started "Make in India Programme" in which he advises us to make things in India and not to use foreign products. Thus we can say that our Prime Minister, Narendra Modi will give a new shape to our country. His dream of making our motherland a developed country will be successful soon.

5. Tuesday

10 February, 20XX

11:00 PM

Dear Diary,

The pace of the world cannot be judged by a simple person. Generally, friends are considered the best people, and friendship the best relationship on earth. However, today's incident left me upset. My friend and I had the chance to drink tea in the canteen, which made me glad. We were discussing various issues when suddenly my friend's behaviour changed. He accused me of complaining to the teacher against him. I assured him that I had never done such a thing, but he refused to accept my explanation and left after humiliating me. His actions have hurt my feelings deeply. I am at a loss for how to solve this problem. It is hard to believe that my one and only friend could behave in such a manner. He has never acted this way before. Nevertheless, I am angry and upset with him today. Tomorrow, I will try once again to make him understand.

Good Night Diary

Arjun

OR

Ambition Knows No Bound



Everyone has one ambition in life. He or she has that one desire to achieve that one objective, i.e. to be successful in line one likes to follow in life. As many ambitions as many people' goes an old saying. Many people gave me many suggestions in this regard, i.e., some wanted me to become a scientist, a doctor, a teacher and so on. But I was very clear in my mind. I wanted to become an engineer as it was according to my taste, interest, aptitude and bent of mind. The only hurdle was that it didn't go with the available means as I had a very humble family background. My father was a peon. He couldn't afford the expenses for it. But if there is a will, there is a way. A golden opportunity turned out in my life in the form of NTSC, i.e., National Talent Search Examination. They provided scholarship to students who performed well. I decided to take this opportunity and clear National Talent Search Examination. Along with the preparation of class XII, I started the preparation for NTSC. For nearly one year, I burnt the midnight oil because I wanted to leave no stone unturned in my venture. My teachers were of great help in this regard. They also knew the seriousness of my ambition. I made the maximum use of library books. With the help of my best friend, I prepared notes, which were cross-checked by my teachers. Yesterday the result was announced. My joy knew no bounds when I saw that I had topped the list of the girl candidates. Even overall, I got a very good rank. Finally, my hard work paid me well. Now, I could fulfil my dream with the aid of this scholarship. I would be an engineer. and would lessen some burden off my father.

Section C Literature

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

- (i)
 - i. (D) He had a diamond-studded crown on his head.
 - ii. The little swallow stayed behind when his friends went to Egypt, but he later decided to join them. However, upon arriving in the city, he found the statue of the Happy Prince and decided to stay there because it offered a fine position with plenty of fresh air.
 - iii. (b) The tale of a gilded statue with precious gemstone eyes.
 - iv. As the Happy Prince, I would use my gold and gems to help the needy and address the city's problems, spreading kindness.
- (ii)
 - i. What we understand from the given line is that Tommy's teacher was not a human teacher, it was a mechanical teacher that had been taken away for repair.
 - ii. TRUE [Margie was disappointed because she did not want to learn, she did not want to study from this machine teacher. And she wanted the country inspector should take it away.]]
 - iii. Margie disliked going to school, which took place in a room in her home, primarily because her instructor was a robot. It kept offering her test papers that required punch code responses. The results were available right away. She disliked school and so she said that what was there to write about it that an entire book is written about school.
 - iv. Block/draw a blank/forget/blank over/shut out

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

- (i)
 - a. (iv) the moon and the stars
 - b. The midnight is marked by a glimmer of the moon and the stars, and the noon time by a purple hue of the light. The evening makes a beautiful sight as the birds like linnets can be seen in the sky.
 - c. visual
 - d. some light
- (ii)
 - a. Saint Peter
 - b. He travelled around the Earth to preach and impart knowledge. Also, he wanted to spread Christianity.
 - c. Too much travelling made him exhausted and hungry. He needed food and rest badly. Therefore, he came to the cottage of a little woman who was making cakes. He asked the woman to give one from her store of cakes to him.
 - d. (ii) making cakes

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

- (i) It is the belief of the people at Pashupatinath temple that when a small shrine emerges fully on the river Bagwati, the goddess inside will escape and the evil period of the *Kalyug* will come to an end on the earth.
- (ii) The Earth unites us in many beautiful ways. We eat and drink the things that grow on the Earth. It is Earth we walk and play on and after our lives come to an end, we all lie hidden inside it according to our destiny. While we are alive, we walk on the same Earth and upon our death, we will lie in our graves in the same Earth.
- (iii) Though not very well off, Kalam's father made sure that he provided his family with all the necessities in terms of food, medicine and clothes. Apart from this, Kalam got all the love and parental guidance from them during his childhood.
- (iv) As the snake was absorbed in looking at the mirror, the doctor used the opportunity to save his life. He held his breath, rose from the chair and quietly slipped out of the room. From there he passed through the verandah and the yard and ran to finally reach the house of a friend.



- (v) The most important thing to do while killing a tree is to ensure that the roots are pulled out of the earth. The roots are the strength of the tree. They anchor deep into the earth and are the most sensitive part of the tree hidden for years.

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

- (i) Behrman had a dream to paint a masterpiece in his life. He kept waiting for the opportunity to give it a practical shape. Yes, he could materialize his dream when he painted the last leaf of the ivy creeper.
- (ii) Sergei felt sorry for setting a sick man to work as menial labour in the cold. He also felt sorry and ashamed of himself when he realized that he had set such a man to work who was spoiled and drunken.
- (iii) The boy was attracted to toys, balloons and sweets in the fair. He got fascinated with the flute music being played by the snake charmer. While watching the roundabout swing, he got separated from his parents.

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

- (i) Kezia was a little girl. She was very afraid of her father. He spoke very loudly in the house. He looked like a giant to her. So she always avoids him. One day she tore up an important speech written by her father. He became very angry and beat her with a stick. Kezia started weeping. She wondered why God had made fathers. One day Kezia's mother was ill. She was taken to the hospital. Kezia was alone in the house. She had a bad dream at night. She cried with fear. Her father took her to his own bed. She laid beside him. She felt secure and protected as she snuggled up to him. Then her view of her father underwent a change for the better when she realised that her father was not a cruel giant but a large-hearted, hard-working man who got extremely tired by the end of the day and hence, could not play with her.
- (ii) Gerrard told the intruder that as a child, he was stolen by the Gipsies and now in his thirties, he was all alone in life. He was not telling the truth; he was just being funny as he wished to make it clear that he was not afraid of a gun-toting criminal. In fact, Gerrard had already started concocting stories about himself.

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

- (i) The grandfather had to go to Saharanpur to get his pension. He decided to take Toto along with him. He got a big black canvas bag and put Toto into it. Some straw was put at the bottom of this bag to make it comfortable. The bag was strong enough to prevent Toto from escaping. At the gate, as the ticket-collector was checking the grandfather's ticket, Toto put his head out of the bag and grinned at the ticket-collector. He told the grandfather that there was a dog with him. The grandfather made an attempt to convince the collector but had to finally pay three rupees as fare for Toto. Irritated, the grandfather took out his pet tortoise from his pocket and asked the collector to charge for it as well. The ticket-collector said that it was not a dog and hence there would be no ticket for it.
- (ii) The title of the chapter is a universal truth. The foundation of the house lay upon the concrete materials while the foundation of a home lay upon love and bonding among the members of the family. Life without love is not life. Human relationship is based on love. The title itself indicates that a house is not a home without love. The author had to face adverse circumstances in his life. He was a fatherless boy. He led a satisfactory life with his old friends, teachers, mother and his cat. But when he changed his school, he could not adjust himself in the new environment. He felt alienated. Later on, his house caught fire and he lost all the things including his cat. He started feeling dejected and isolated. He felt himself like a zombie. Life had no interest in him anymore. He started building a new house. But it was not home, as a house is a home only when there are love and happiness. The author did not have any attachment to the new house. His reunion with his cat, his new friends, and the new house made his house a home. His life again came to normality with friends and members of the family, who brings happiness in one's family.

