

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 2
SUBJECT- English (L & L) (184)
CLASS IX (2023-24)

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.
2. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section A Reading

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

[10]

Read the passage given below:

1. If you're like most kids, you may love snow. Not only can it get you out of school, but it's also fun to play with. Who doesn't love to sled and build snowmen? Snow can also be dangerous, too. You may have heard your parents talk about how difficult it can be to drive in snow. Car accidents aren't the only dangers created by snow, though. If you're ever skiing in the mountains, you'll want to be aware of avalanches. An avalanche is a sudden flow of snow down a slope, such as a mountain. The amount of snow in an avalanche will vary based on many things, but it can be such a huge amount that it can bury the bottom of a slope in dozens of feet of snow.
2. Avalanches can be caused by many things. Some of them are natural. For example, new snow or rain can cause built up snow to loosen and fall down the side of a mountain. Earthquakes and the movement of animals have also been known to cause avalanches. Artificial triggers can also cause avalanches. For example, snowmobiles, skiers, gunshots and explosives have all been known to cause avalanches. Avalanches usually occur during the winter and spring, when snowfall is greatest. As they are dangerous to any living beings in their path, avalanches have destroyed forests, roads, railroads and even entire towns.
3. Warning signs exist that allow experts to predict - and often prevent - avalanches from occurring. When over a foot of fresh snow falls, experts know to be on the lookout for avalanches. Explosives can be used in places with massive snow build-ups to trigger smaller avalanches that don't pose a danger to persons or property. When deadly avalanches do occur, the moving snow can quickly reach over 80 miles per hour. Skiers caught in such avalanches can be buried under dozens of feet of snow. While it's possible to dig out of such avalanches, not all are able to escape.
4. If you get tossed about by an avalanche and find yourself buried under many feet of snow, you might not have a true sense of which way is up and which



way is down. Some avalanche victims have tried to dig their way out, only to find that they were upside down and digging themselves farther under the snow rather than to the top ! Experts suggest that people caught in an avalanche try to "swim" to the top of the moving snow to stay close to the surface. Once the avalanche stops, do your best to dig around you to create a space for air, so you can breathe easier. Then, do your best to figure out which way is up and dig in that direction to reach the surface and signal rescuers.

- (i) Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option:
Avalanche can be caused by _____.
 - a) high altitude
 - b) new snow or rain
 - c) global warming
 - d) heavy winds
- (ii) Comment on warning signs exist which allow experts to predict avalanches in two sentences.
- (iii) Mention two reasons which destroyed the natural scenery.
- (iv) Select the option that conveys the opposite of **Predict**:
 - a) anticipate
 - b) forecast
 - c) doubt
 - d) cast
- (v) The writer will agree with the given statement based on last paragraph—
 - a) People caught in the Avalanche can try to swim to the top.
 - b) Put on an oxygen mask.
 - c) Digging is not possible.
 - d) Should not come close to the surface.
- (vi) Select the option that corresponds to the following relation below:
You may not have an idea of which way is up and which way is down.
 - a) The more the effort, the bigger the gain.
 - b) The crowd will gather at Gate No. 1 and disperse from Gate No. 2.
 - c) Due to the torrential rain, there was a heavy flooding.
 - d) The guest felt uneasy and uncomfortable watching the child's performance.
- (vii) The major causes which do not trigger an avalanche:
 - a) Heavy rain
 - b) Plastic waste



c) Snow fall

d) Earthquakes

(viii) Explosives can be used in places _____. (complete the sentence)

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

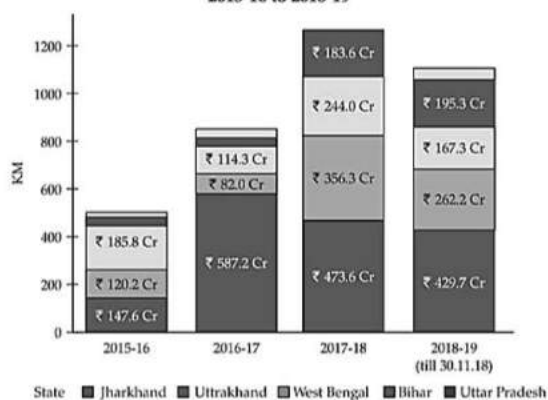
[10]

For millions of people in India, river Ganga is the most sacred river. It is considered as mother and goddess. It is also a lifeline to millions of Indians who live on the banks of its course and depend on it for their daily needs. River Ganga is the third largest river in the world by the amount of water that flows through it. It is the longest river in India. The river water of Ganga is used for irrigation, transportation and fishing.

The Gangetic plain formed by river Ganga is one of the most fertile lands on earth. This is why almost 10% of the world's population lives here and earns its livelihood. The Ganga, in India, is the most worshipped body of water. The irony here is that in spite of being the most worshipped river, it is also the dirtiest one. It carries metals thrown out by tanneries, waste produced by industries and urban waste from different cities. All this has made river Ganga the fifth most polluted river in the world. Another major reason that adds to the Ganga river pollution is the coal-based power plants on its banks which burn tons of coal every year and produce a lot of fly ash. This ash mixed with domestic wastewater is released into the river. This bad situation calls for an urgent need to make efforts to reduce pollution and revive river Ganga.

To achieve these objectives, the Government of India has started a programme named "Namami Ganga Programme". The main pillars of this programme are sewage treatment, river surface cleaning, afforestation, river front development and public awareness. The importance of the success of "Namami Ganga Programme" can be seen through the following lines: "If Ganga dies, India dies. If Ganga thrives, India thrives. No Ganga, No India".

Money spent on Cleaning Ganga
2015-16 to 2018-19



(i) Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of the passage.

We can say that the situation of Ganga being polluted by those who worship it is



comparable with the tainted politicians who claim to establish the rule of law even because _____.

- (ii) Fill the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of paragraph 2.

The statement that, almost 10% of the world's population lives here and earns its livelihood, is a _____ (fact/ opinion) because it is a _____ (subjective judgement/objective detail).

- (iii) Justify the following, in about 40 words.

If Ganga dies, India dies. If Ganga thrives, India thrives. No Ganga, No India.

- (iv) Based on the statistics, what was the highest/maximum contribution made by any state to the cleaning programme? Was it the same for the successive year too?

- (v) In the given diagram, identify the years when river Ganga was cleaned the maximum and minimum.

- (vi) Select the option that correctly displays the **pollutants** carried by river Ganga as mentioned in the passage. (Reference-Paragraph 2)



- A. (i), (iii) and (v)
B. Only (ii)
C. Only (iii)
D. (ii) and (v)



- (vii) Infer one positive and one negative feature of river Ganga as mentioned in the passage. (Answer in about 40 words)
- (viii) Choose the ODD one about the Namami Ganga Programme.
- A. Sewage treatment and river surface cleaning.
 - B. Afforestation and riverfront development.
 - C. Reduce pollution and revive the river.
 - D. Mass mobilisation and public awareness.

Section B Grammar

3. **Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed** [10]
- (i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter: [1]
- As very little information is available about this course, I _____ (be) extremely grateful if you could send me detailed information about it.

- (ii) 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

- (iii) **Read the conversation between a doctor and his patient. Complete the sentence by reporting the patient's reply correctly.** [1]

Doctor: How do you feel now? Did you take the medicines regularly?

Patient: Better. Yes, I took the medicines on time.

The doctor, while trying to figure out his patient's ailment, asked about his well-being and whether he had taken his medicines on time, to which, the patient affirmed that he felt better and that

- (iv) Tarun was caught flouting the traffic rules. The policeman stationed at the crossing asked him the following question. Report the question.
Don't you know the traffic regulations? [1]

- (v) Fill in the blank with the correct option: [1]
There is something wonderful waiting _____ her, when she reaches home.

a) of

b) for

c) inside

d) about

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

This exams open doors to higher education, improve employment opportunities and increase options.

Option no.	Error	Correction
A	this	these
B	open	opens
C	to	for
D	options	option

- (vii) I _____ be able to help you, but I'm not sure yet. [1]

a) should

b) might

c) could

d) would

- (viii) The weather conditions _____ throughout the day and now the ground officials are confident that the championship game _____ ahead. [1]

a) are improving / has gone

b) will be improving / will go

c) have improved / was going

d) have been improving / will go

- (ix) _____ you prepare a cup of tea for me, please? [1]

a) Could

b) Can

c) Would

d) Will

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

I would like to _____ (propose) the idea of implementing 'Wholesome Lunch Month' for all school students.

- (xi) The bouquet of red roses _____ so sweet. [1]

a) smelt

b) smells

c) smell

d) smelled

- (xii) Either the sculpture or the paintings _____ in the museum today. [1]

a) are

b) was



c) is

d) has

Section B Writing

4. Use the notes given below to write a paragraph. [5]

The Visit to a Historical Place (Agra)

- o Built in the memory of Shahjahan's beloved wife.
- o A great centre of art and architecture.
- o Fort of Agra.
- o Akbar's majestic palace.
- o 40 km to the South West of Agra-Fatehpur Sikri.
- o Tajmahal on the banks of river Yamuna.

OR

The latest trend of online classes is a bane as well as a boon. The given excerpt is taken from an article. Write a paragraph highlighting the pros and cons of online classes. Provide rationale/evidences to counter or strengthen the given statement.

5. You are Sunlit, a student of class X. Your father has been transferred to another city resulting in a change of school for you. You have been attending your new school for a week now. Write a diary entry on your thoughts and feelings about your old school and new school. [5]

OR

Complete the story in 150-200 words where the beginning is given below:

It was her friend's birthday. Mansi was very happy. She was going to attend such a party for the first time in her life. But she was facing a difficulty.....

Section C Literature

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

- (i) 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?
 - 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.
- iii. Read the following descriptions (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract:
 - 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.

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

[5]

They turned the pages, which were yellow and crinkly, and it was awfully funny to read words that stood still instead of moving the way they were supposed to - on a screen, you know. And then when they turned back to the page before, it had the same words on it that it had had when they read it the first time.

- i. State any one inference about Margie's books from the given context: words that stood still instead of moving the way.
- ii. State True or False
None of the terms (a)-(d) below, can be applied to Margie's books.
 - a. Hand book
 - b. Play book
 - c. Paper book
 - d. Cook book
- iii. The children had a strange experience with the book. Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract.
- iv. What do you understand by the term **crinkly**, use it in another sentence.

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

[5]

- (i) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.
And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow,

[5]



Dropping from the veils of the morning to
Where the cricket sings;

- a. Which place is indicated by 'there' and what does the poet hope to get there?
- b. The 'veils of the morning' that the poet refers to here are
 - i. heat and dust
 - ii. brightness and sunshine
 - iii. fog, mist and dew drops
 - iv. rain and humidity
- c. How does the peace descend on the place described there?
- d. It is clear that 'Personification' is the poetic device used for 'veils of the morning' because _____.

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

They tell them a curious story
I don't believe its true;
And yet you may learn a lesson
If I tell the tale to you.

- a. _____ does not believe in the story.
- b. What motivates the poet to recount this tale even though she has doubts about its truthfulness?
- c. What lesson is imparted by the story?
- d. In the stanza provided, the speaker is:
 - i. Certain that the story is true
 - ii. Doubtful about the truth of the story
 - iii. Eager to share the story with others
 - iv. Uninterested in telling the tale to anyone

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words [12]

- (i) Why does Vikram Seth decide to buy a ticket directly for the homeward journey? [3]
- (ii) Explain: 'Beneath all uniforms....'. Write your answer in the context of poem No Men Are Foreign. [3]
- (iii) Had Abdul Kalam earned any money before that? In what way? [3]
- (iv) What made the doctor narrate his encounter with a snake? [3]
- (v) What is 'the most sensitive' part of the tree? What is it sensitive to and why? Write your answer in the context of Poem On Killing a Tree. [3]

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. [6]

- (i) How did Johnsy associate herself with the falling leaves? [3]
- (ii) Why did Sergei call Lushkoff his 'godson'? [3]
- (iii) Who rescued the lost child? [3]
10. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words** [6]
- (i) How did Kezia's negative attitude towards her father change? [6]
- (ii) Why did the intruder break into Gerrard's cottage? [6]
11. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.** [6]
- (i) How can you say that Toto was a mischievous pet? Write your answer in the context of **The Adventures of Toto**. [6]
- (ii) 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]

Answers

Section A Reading

1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

Read the passage given below:

1. If you're like most kids, you may love snow. Not only can it get you out of school, but it's also fun to play with. Who doesn't love to sled and build snowmen? Snow can also be dangerous, too. You may have heard your parents talk about how difficult it can be to drive in snow. Car accidents aren't the only dangers created by snow, though. If you're ever skiing in the mountains, you'll want to be aware of avalanches. An avalanche is a sudden flow of snow down a slope, such as a mountain. The amount of snow in an avalanche will vary based on many things, but it can be such a huge amount that it can bury the bottom of a slope in dozens of feet of snow.
2. Avalanches can be caused by many things. Some of them are natural. For example, new snow or rain can cause built up snow to loosen and fall down the side of a mountain. Earthquakes and the movement of animals have also been known to cause avalanches. Artificial triggers can also cause avalanches. For example, snowmobiles, skiers, gunshots and explosives have all been known to cause avalanches. Avalanches usually occur during the winter and spring, when snowfall is greatest. As they are dangerous to any living beings in their path, avalanches have destroyed forests, roads, railroads and even entire towns.
3. Warning signs exist that allow experts to predict - and often prevent - avalanches from occurring. When over a foot of fresh snow falls, experts know to be on the lookout for avalanches. Explosives can be used in places with massive snow build-ups to trigger smaller avalanches that don't pose a danger to persons or property. When deadly avalanches do occur, the moving snow can quickly reach over 80 miles per hour. Skiers caught in such avalanches can be buried under dozens of feet of snow. While it's possible to dig out of such avalanches, not all are able to escape.
4. If you get tossed about by an avalanche and find yourself buried under many feet of snow, you might not have a true sense of which way is up and which way is down. Some avalanche victims have tried to dig their way out, only to find that they were upside down and digging themselves farther under the snow rather than to the top ! Experts suggest that people caught in an avalanche try to "swim" to the top of the moving snow to stay close to the surface. Once the avalanche stops, do your best to dig around you to create a space for air, so you can breathe easier. Then, do your best to figure out which way is up and dig in that direction to reach the surface and signal rescuers.

- (i) **(b)** new snow or rain

Explanation: new snow or rain

- (ii) Warning signs that allow experts to predict avalanches from occurring are:

When more than a foot of fresh snow falls, avalanches can be predicted. The experts



- lookout for and take preventive measures for minimising the risk of avalanches.
- (iii) Two reasons that have destroyed the natural scenery mentioned in the passage are avalanches and human activities such as skiing, snowmobiles, gunshots, and explosives, which can trigger avalanches and cause damage to forests, roads, and towns.
- (iv) **(c)** doubt
Explanation: doubt
- (v) **(a)** People caught in the Avalanche can try to swim to the top.
Explanation: People caught in the Avalanche can try to swim to the top.
- (vi) **(b)** The crowd will gather at Gate No. 1 and disperse from Gate No. 2.
Explanation: The crowd will gather at Gate No. 1 and disperse from Gate No. 2. (antonym)
- (vii) **(b)** Plastic waste
Explanation: Plastic waste
- (viii) Explosives can be used in places with massive snow build-ups to trigger smaller avalanches that don't pose a danger to persons or property.

2. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

For millions of people in India, river Ganga is the most sacred river. It is considered as mother and goddess. It is also a lifeline to millions of Indians who live on the banks of its course and depend on it for their daily needs. River Ganga is the third largest river in the world by the amount of water that flows through it. It is the longest river in India.

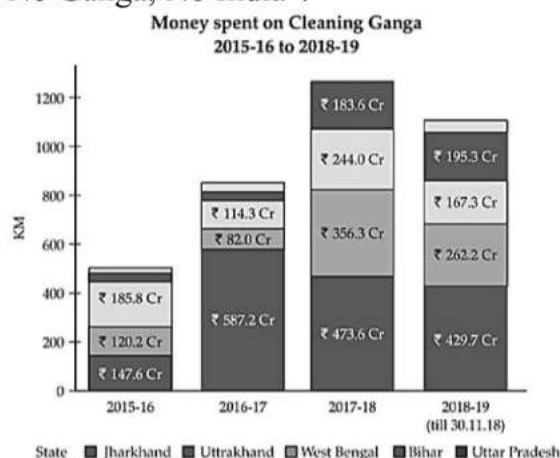
The river water of Ganga is used for irrigation, transportation and fishing.

The Gangetic plain formed by river Ganga is one of the most fertile lands on earth. This is why almost 10% of the world's population lives here and earns its livelihood. The Ganga, in India, is the most worshipped body of water. The irony here is that in spite of being the most worshipped river, it is also the dirtiest one. It carries metals thrown out by tanneries, waste produced by industries and urban waste from different cities. All this has made river Ganga the fifth most polluted river in the world. Another major reason that adds to the Ganga river pollution is the coal-based power plants on its banks which burn tons of coal every year and produce a lot of fly ash. This ash mixed with domestic wastewater is released into the river. This bad situation calls for an urgent need to make efforts to reduce pollution and revive river Ganga.

To achieve these objectives, the Government of India has started a programme named "Namami Ganga Programme". The main pillars of this programme are sewage treatment, river surface cleaning, afforestation, river front development and public awareness. The importance of the success of "Namami Ganga Programme" can be seen through the following lines: "If Ganga dies, India dies. If Ganga thrives, India thrives."



No Ganga, No India".



- because it is an irony that we ourselves defy what we claim to do or show.
- The statement that, almost 10% of the world's population lives here and earns its livelihood, is a fact because it is an objective explanation that the Gangetic plain is one of the most fertile lands on earth. Therefore, it provides livelihood and hence is one of the most densely populated areas of the world.
- Being the longest river in India Ganga serves as its lifeline. It provides livelihood in the form of irrigation, transportation, and fishing. The Gangetic Plains are the most fertile plains for agriculture. Many people depend on it for their daily needs; hence it is very important in every aspect to save the Ganga.
- The maximum contribution for the programme is made by the state of Uttar Pradesh which is 597.2 cr. in the year 2016-17 However, in the successive year, 2017-18 its contribution came down to 473.6 Cr.
- Ganga was cleaned maximum in the year 2017-18 and minimum in 2015-16.
- A. (i - metal waste), (iii - coal-based power plant pollutants) and (v - fly ash)
- Positive: (any one)
 - The river water of Ganga is used for irrigation, transportation, and fishing.
 - It is the longest river in India.
 - Ganga is the most sacred river and is considered as mother and goddess.
 - The Gangetic plain formed by the river Ganga is one of the most fertile lands on earth.
- Negative: (any one)
 - It is the dirtiest river as it carries industrial wastes.
 - It is the fifth most polluted river in the world.
- D. Mass mobilisation and public awareness.

Section B Grammar

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

(i) would be

(ii)

error	correction
for	on

(iii) he had taken the medicines on time

(iv) The policeman wondered/asked if Tarun didn't know the traffic regulations.

(v) **(b)** for

Explanation: for

(vi) **(A)** this - these

(vii) **(b)** might

Explanation: might

(viii) **(d)** have been improving / will go

Explanation: have been improving / will go

(ix) **(a)** Could

Explanation: Could you prepare a cup of tea for me, please?

(x) propose

(xi) **(b)** smells

Explanation: The bouquet of red roses **smells** so sweet.

(xii) **(a)** are

Explanation: Either the sculpture or the paintings **are** in the museum today.

Section B Writing

4. The Visit to a Historical Place (Agra)

Agra is great centre of art and architecture. This city has the famous wonder of the world-The Taj Mahal, which was built in the memory of Shahjahan's beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal. It is build on the banks of river Yamuna. There are many other worth-seeing places in Agra, like the Agra Fort and the majestic palace of Akbar's wife-Jodha Bai which is around 40 kms to the southwest of Agra in Fatehpur Sikri. Agra is a well known historical place. Many tourists visit it every year to see the epitome of love-The Taj Mahal.

OR

In traditional classrooms, teachers can give students immediate face-to-face feedback. Students who are experiencing problems in the curriculum can resolve them quickly and directly either during the lecture or during the dedicated school hours. Personalized feedback has a positive impact on students, as it makes learning processes easier, richer, and more significant, all the while raising the motivation levels of the students.

Due to the lack of face-to-face communication between peers, students and teachers in an online setting, the students might find that they are unable to work effectively in a team setting. Neglecting the communicational skills of the students will inevitably lead to many graduates who excel in theoretical knowledge, but who fail to pass their knowledge on to others.

The E-Learning methods currently practised in education field tend to make participating students undergo contemplation, remoteness and a lack of interaction. In schools and colleges, students have a proper environment for study. They are committed to learning with discipline and ready to explore creativity. To explore creativity and discipline we need to provide an environment for students to learn. When taking online classes at home there are fewer chances to create an environment for study.



It required support from other family members. That's not possible in joint families. This is a big disadvantage to study at home. Even getting the notification and mobile calls also disturb students to focus on study. Offline class in front of the teacher is highly focused on the topic and no one can disturb the classroom.

5. 7th May 2014

Sunday 9 pm

Dear Diary,

Shifting to a new city and a new school, in the mid-session, had left me very unhappy. I badly missed my old school, teachers and friends. But today, my new classmates went out of their way to help me when I fell down the stairs in the school. They took me to the first-aid room and even did my written work. It has been just one week, but I have started to feel comfortable already.

Sumit

OR

A Wonderful Surprise

Mansi was very happy. It was her friend's birthday. She was going to attend such a party for the first time in her life. But she was facing difficulty in going to her friend's party. The problem was that she didn't have the money to buy a present for her friend. So she decided to share this problem with her mother. She mentioned her problem to her mother. Her mother came out with a wonderful solution to her problem. Actually, her father was a baker. His job was to prepare and supply cakes for one of the famous shops of the city. As soon as Mansi's mother handed her the cake, she became overwhelmed with joy. Then she reached the party venue with other friends. On reaching there, she was surprised to see the beautiful decoration. She saw the stalls laid out with mouth-watering dishes. All the children were waiting and wondering as to when they were going to eat them. But to her surprise, she saw the confusion on her friend's face. When she asked her the reason, she told that the birthday cake was spoiled by her two-year-old brother and without cake cutting, the celebration couldn't move ahead. At that moment Mansi presented her gift to her friend. It was a beautiful and delicious chocolate cake. So Mansi's gift became hit. Her friend became mad with joy and started dancing. Without wasting even a minute, the candles were blown out and the cake was cut. All the children sang a birthday song for her. The cake was cut into slices. After enjoying the cake, all of them enjoyed snacks and food. They, all, sang, danced on a DJ and played different games. Then her friend opened her birthday presents. Many of them were grand and expensive. But to her, Mansi's gift was the previous one. It was an unforgettable moment for Mansi.

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. The books that Margie and Tommy read were online in the form of e-books. Unlike paper books, the text in such books kept moving and was not still.
- ii. TRUE. [Margie's book was in the form of a digital book, maybe an e-book.]
- iii. The children had a strange experience with the real tangible book because the paper books have the same kind of text in all the pages. Like if you turn a page the same thing would be written. While on the e-books text keeps on changing whenever you go back.
- iv. **Crinkly:** With many folds or lines, something that is crushed.
Sentence: The leaves turned brown and crinkly.

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

- (i) a. 'There' refers to the Isle of Innisfree- a place where the poet longs to go to.
- b. (iii) fog, mist and dew drops
- c. Peace dawns upon the island of Innisfree early in the morning as there is the melodious music of the crickets.
- d. 'veil' is worn by a woman and using 'veils' the poet presented the morning as a woman wearing the veil of the hues of the light.
- (ii) a. The poet.
- b. Despite the poet's skepticism regarding the story's authenticity, she chose to share it because she believed it conveyed a significant lesson that everyone should grasp.
- c. The story imparts a valuable moral lesson, emphasizing the importance of selflessness and considering the well-being of others. It encourages us to exhibit generosity and extend assistance to those in need whenever we have the means to do so.
- d. (ii) Doubtful about the truth of the story.

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

- (i) Vikram Seth has been away from home since quite some time. He travels a lot in Kathmandu to visit every place of any significance. He feels very exhausted and homesick. Though his enthusiasm for travelling tempts him to take a longer route to reach back home, his exhaustion and homesickness impel him to buy an air-ticket directly for the homeward journey to Delhi. Hence, he enters a Nepal Airlines office and gets his flight ticket booked to Delhi.
- (ii) The poet is speaking about the dresses or uniforms that armies of different countries wear. Though these 'uniforms' are absolutely different in appearance, the bodies under them are the same. The poet tries to convey that the differences among the people of different countries are superficial. Essentially, all human beings are the same.
- (iii) Yes, Abdul Kalam had earned some money before he started helping his cousin. When the Second World War broke out, there was a sudden demand for tamarind



seeds in the market. He collected the seeds and sold them at a provision shop on Mosque Street. Usually, a day's collection earned him one anna.

- (iv) The doctor and some of his friends happened to discuss snakes. The topic reminded the doctor of his own encounter with a deadly snake and he narrated the incident to his friends. The doctor was frightened when the snake coiled around his body with its taut hood barely three or four inches away from his face.
- (v) The root of the tree is its most sensitive part. It is sensitive to the heat and vagaries of weather if pull out and exposed. It is so because it remains hidden safely under the earth. This part of the tree is described as white and wet, which makes is different from the leprous hide of the tree, which has borne the harsh weather for years together.

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

- (i) The leaves of the ivy creeper on the wall opposite to Johnsy's window were falling gradually. This depressed an already ill Johnsy. She strangely enough associated her falling health with the falling leaves. She believed that she would die when the last leaf would fall.
- (ii) Sergei helped Lushkoff in mending his ways. Now, Lushkoff was no more a beggar and was earning a handsome salary. Sergei felt proud of himself for making Lushkoff a respectable person. So, he called him his godson.
- (iii) A kind-hearted man in the shrine rescued the lost child. He lifted him up in his arms and tried to comfort him. He offered to take him to the roundabout and also offered to buy him flowers, balloons and sweets. He did his best to make the child happy but the child was refusing all those things.

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

- (i) Once Kezia's mother got hospitalised and her grandmother too left to take care of her mother. So, she had to sleep alone at night. She was so scared that she started shouting at night. She had nightmares and trembled a lot with fear. Then her father came to her room and took her into his arms to comfort her. She felt secure in her father's presence. It was then that she realized that her father was too busy with work and had no time to play. She even realized that her father loved her but didn't have the art of expressing it. Thus, her attitude towards her father changed from negative to positive.
- (ii) The intruder, who broke into Gerrard's house, was a criminal. He had murdered a cop and was being chased by the police. He too lived a lonely life and very few people knew him. Intruder wanted to kill him and take on his identity. He learned his expressions, movement, and style. He broke into Gerrard's lonely cottage. He wanted to kill him and live as Gerrard to dodge the police and others. But Gerrard outwitted the intruder. Intruder then announced that he was going to kill Gerrard and later assume his identity as there was a good resemblance between the two of them. In this way, he could evade the police and lead a peaceful life. The intruder further surprised Gerrard by telling him that he had noticed his (Gerrard's) manner of speech and had



taken care to adopt a resemblance to him in looks too. He needed to change his identity because the cops were searching him for having killed one of their colleagues. The intruder got convinced and agreed to help Gerrard. But Gerrard cleverly trapped him in a cupboard and handed him to the police.

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

- (i) Toto tore the wallpapers of the rooms, and also tore the narrator's school blazer. He troubled the other fellow animals. He even managed to get himself into trouble by jumping into half-boiling water in the kettle. He made holes in dresses and curtains. The naughty monkey scared the ticket checker too. He even broke dishes in the narrator's house. He proved to be a big troublemaker for everyone. He was the kind of pet that the narrator's family could not keep for long as they were not very well to do and could not afford the frequent losses that were incurred because of Toto. He was difficult to handle and was quite a menace. Thus, we conclude that Toto was indeed a very mischievous pet.
- (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.

