

Class X Session 2025-26

Subject - English Language and Literature

Sample Question Paper - 01

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 Skills

1. Read the following passage carefully:

[10]

1. Happiness is like the sun; it is often hidden by the clouds of thoughts, worries and desires. We have to scatter and dissolve these clouds to experience happiness. You don't have to create it, all you have to do is calm your mind, because when there is a quiet mind and inner peace, there is happiness. It is not something far away and unattainable and does not depend on circumstances, objects or events. Happiness is an inseparable part of our consciousness, of our essence, but hidden and covered from sight by our thoughts, desires, and worries.
2. The mind is always in a constant race from one thought to another, from one worry to another. It constantly moves from one object or task to another. This restlessness hides the happiness that is within you. It is like a choppy sea that hides the bottom. When the sea gets calm, you can see the bottom. In the same way, when the mind gets quiet, you sense the happiness that is within you.
3. You cannot see a treasure at the bottom of a stormy and muddy lake although it is there. However, when the wind stops, the water becomes still and the mud sinks, you can see the treasure. The treasure is there, whether you see it or not. So is happiness. It is always here, only hidden by thoughts, desires and worries.
4. You can experience more happiness in your life. Only your thoughts stand in your way of experiencing it. Next time you feel happy, stop for a moment and watch the state of your mind. You will be surprised to discover that it is calm, and there are almost no thoughts in your mind. Since the mind is not accustomed to stay in this peaceful state for long, it soon becomes active again, and the sense of happiness disappears.
5. Many people connect happiness to achievement of certain goals. This makes happiness a reward and not an emotion that must be felt. We forget that it is something that comes by looking inward rather than waiting for an external trigger. Once you start looking inwards, you will have to treat yourself as you would treat a valued friend. This will lead to happiness. Take time to appreciate yourself, your work and your



accomplishments. Surround yourself with happy people and recall positive memories. It is important to recognise that you have the power to feel happy within you and with practice, it will be felt frequently.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below: (10)

Here are questions similar to the sample questions provided, based on the new paragraph:

(i) Based on the reading and understanding of the above passage, list 2 points to describe the nature of happiness according to the passage. (1)

(a) _____

(b) _____

(ii) Select the option that corresponds to the meaning of the following sentence from para 3:

"You cannot see a treasure at the bottom of a stormy and muddy lake although it is there." (1)

(a) The treasure is visible only when the water is clear

(b) The treasure is hidden due to the storm and mud

(c) The treasure is always visible despite the storm and mud

(d) The storm and mud make the treasure unimportant

(iii) Based on your reading of the passage, examine in about 40 words how one can experience more happiness.

(2)

(iv) What is the tone of the writer in the given line from paragraph 5? Rationalise your response in about 40 words:

"Many people connect happiness to achievement of certain goals." (2)

(v) The phrase 'hidden by the clouds' in paragraph (1) refers to: (1)

(a) The obscuring of happiness by thoughts and worries

(b) The physical obstruction of happiness by objects

(c) The deliberate hiding of happiness by others

(d) The intentional creation of barriers to happiness

(vi) In sets a-e below, identify two sets of synonyms. (1)

a. restlessness and calmness

b. treasure and object

c. dissatisfaction and contentment

d. essence and nature

e. trigger and cause

Options:

(a) a and c

(b) b and e

(c) d and e

(d) a and d

(vii) Complete the sentence appropriately: (1)

Happiness is not something far away and unattainable and does not depend on _____.

(viii) Complete the following sentence: (1)

To experience more happiness, one must look _____ rather than waiting for external triggers.

2. Read the following passage carefully:

[10]

1. After more than two years of halted travel, India's tourism and hospitality industry is now cautiously hopeful. Tourism constituted almost 3% of India's GDP and generated around 100 million jobs in 2019. But



the sector was severely hit in India - like in other countries - in the past two years.

2. Indians are now travelling with a vengeance - 'revenge travel', as the phenomenon is called. And many, experts say, now prefer to travel within the country instead of flying to more expensive destinations abroad. The industry is also benefitting from new trends borne of the pandemic such as micro-holidays and workcations.
3. According to a survey, 51 percent of Indian travellers believed that international travel remained an important means of expanding their horizons and connecting with other cultures. Over two years, the survey said, Indian travellers are now dreaming about their next international trip and more than 70 percent of Indians are excited about being able to travel internationally.
4. There has also been an increase in the number of students going abroad to study. The increasing desire to study overseas is credited to the pent-up demand from the pandemic's two-year duration. This has got further pronounced because of growing aspirations and affordability among the middle-class students from Tier II and Tier III cities.

The table below shows foreign travel by Indians for different purposes from 2019 to 2022.

Purpose	2019	2020	2021	2022
Business	14.7 L	2.6 L	1.2 L	4.6 L
Job	25.2 L	7.1 L	8.3 L	21.4 L
Residency	89.5 L	28.9 L	34.6 L	72.5 L
Education	5.8 L	2.6 L	4.4 L	6.5 L
Tourists	63.8 L	13.1 L	12.8 L	30.8 L
Visit	42.1 L	10.1 L	15.1 L	40.9 L
Medical	1,448	390	545	1,253
Pilgrimage	8.8 L	1.1 L	4,139	4.6 L
Others	2.6 L	54,775	58,767	1.6 L
Total	2.5 Crore	66.2 L	77.2 L	1.8 Crore

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage:

- i. Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of paragraphs 1 and 2. **(1)**

We can say that the situation when people were travelling with a vengeance is comparable to people going out to dine in hordes, because _____.

- ii. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of paragraph 1. **(1)**

The statement that, 'Tourism constituted almost 3% of India's GDP and generated around 100 million jobs in 2019', is a/an _____ (fact/opinion) because it is a/an _____ (subjective judgement/objective detail).

- iii. Justify the following in about 40 words. **(2)**

After being cooped up inside their houses for more than two years, Indians are now excited about being able to travel internationally.

- iv. Based on the given table, for which 'purpose' did Indian foreign travel increase in 2022 as compared to 2019? **(1)**



- v. 'The industry is also benefitting from new trends borne of the pandemic such as micro-holidays and workcations.' Which 'industry' is being talked about here? **(1)**
- vi. As per the given table, for which purpose did maximum number of Indians undertake foreign travel in 2019 and in 2022? **(1)**
- State any one inference that can be drawn from this.
- vii. Why are students today choosing to go abroad to study? (Answer in about 40 words.) **(2)**
- viii. **Assertion (A):** The tourism and hospitality industry in India is experiencing a recovery due to domestic travel and new trends like micro-holidays and workcations.
- Reason (R):** The pandemic has created pent-up demand, with Indians eager for both domestic and international travel opportunities, along with an increased interest in studying abroad.
- 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 _____ (request) you to have this faulty lot replaced by a new one, with the best quality at the earliest and would appreciate if you initiated action in this matter fast.
- (b) Identify the error and supply the correction for the following note in a mobile phone's user guide. [1]
To maintaining the water-resistant and dust-resistant features of your device, make sure that the SIM card tray openings are free of dust and water.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- (c) Read the conversation between two friends Ravi and Reena. Complete the sentence by reporting Reena's reply correctly. [1]
Ravi: "Reena, lend me hundred rupees".
Reena: "I don't have it right now, but I will arrange it for you".
Ravi asked Reena to lend him hundred rupees, to which Reena replied that _____.
- (d) "You can't bathe in this sea," he said to me, "it's very rough." [1]

Reported speech: _____

- a) He said that you couldn't bathe in the sea if it was very rough. b) He said that I couldn't bathe in that sea as it was very rough.
- c) He said that I can't bathe in this sea because it's very rough. d) He said that you can't bathe in this sea since it was very rough.
- (e) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. [1]
Both players in the tennis match have been warned by the referee but _____ (either / neither / every) of them seems to take it seriously.
- (f) Identify the error in the given sentence, from a report from the *News for Kids* site and supply the correction. [1]

The gardens are filled with flowers and plants chosen to attract bees and butterflies. In the UK, The



Use the given format for your response.

(g) Identify the error and supply the correction. [1]

Use the given format for your response.

(h) It _____ a nice day, therefore we went swimming. [1]

d) would be

In response to the question of the mother, the daughter replied that _____.

Reported speech: _____

d) He said he would go as soon as it was possible.

When it thunders, she won't _____!

D. be squealing, have been quivered

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Use the given format for your response.

SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

[5]

layman is facing hardship on account of it. Write a letter to the editor of a reputed daily requesting him to highlight the difficulties faced by the common man due to the rise in prices. Sign yourself as Pranjal/Praneeta living at 124, Vivek Vihar, Delhi.

OR

You are Shyam/Shobha of 88, Jal Vihar, Wazirabad, New Delhi. You are disturbed by the increasing level of pollution of the river Yamuna. Household sewage and industrial waste are thrown into the river. Even leftovers from the religious ceremonies (flowers etc.) are dumped into it. As a result living beings in the river are dying. Water is not fit for drinking or even bathing and washing. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper giving your views on the problem in 100 - 150 words.

5. In the technology-driven world, children are spending longer hours of screen time leading to concerns regarding health and social skills. Write a paragraph of not more than 120 words analyzing the given information: [5]

iPad	Mobile phone	Laptop	Internet	Social media	Online classes	Research	Entertainment
		Screen Time					
Effects							
Obesity	Weakening eyesight		Poor social skills		Increasing isolation		Sedentary lifestyle

OR

The school authorities view eating junk food as a strong reason for the rising obesity among school children. There is a move to change canteen food to healthier options.

Students on the other hand have spoken strongly against such a move.

Write a paragraph in not more than 120 words analysing the above argument.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

6. 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]

And as the light came on,
Fowler had his first authentic thrill of the day.
For halfway across the room,
a small automatic pistol in his hand stood a man.
Ausable blinked a few times.

- Who was standing in the room with a pistol in his hand? (1)
- Ausable blinked because he: (1)
 - was getting adjusted to the light.
 - got afraid of the man with a pistol.
 - was thrilled to have reached his room.
 - started thinking of how to get rid of the man.
- Fowler was thrilled because what he saw looked like a _____. (2)
- Which word in the extract means the same as 'genuine/real'? (1)

- (b) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

He wrote "To God" on the envelope, put the letter inside and, still troubled, went to town. At the post office, he placed a stamp on the letter and dropped it into the mailbox. One of the employees, who was a postman and also helped at the post office, went to his boss laughing heartily and showed him the letter to God. Never in his career as a postman had he known that address. The postmaster- a fat,



amiable fellow- also broke out laughing, but almost immediately he turned serious and, tapping the letter on his desk, commented, "What faith! I wish I had the faith of the man who wrote this letter. Starting up a correspondence with God!"

- i. What made the postman laugh heartily, suggest? (1)
- ii. Why did the postmaster become serious suddenly? Which of the following best describes the postmaster's attitude towards the situation given in the extract? (1)
 - A. Mocking
 - B. Serious
 - C. Indifferent
 - D. Respectful
- iii. Comment on the author's use of language in the above extract with reference to the situation of 'letter writing'. (2)
- iv. In what way would you describe Lencho's act of dropping the letter to god? (1)

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

[5]

- (a) Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow:

[5]

The trees inside are moving out into the forest,
the forest that was empty all these days
where no bird could sit
no insect hide
no sun bury its feet in shadow
the forest that was empty all these nights
will be full of trees by morning

- a. Complete the sentence appropriately.(1)

It is clear that personification is the poetic device used for 'No sun bury its feet....

- b. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE. Also, provide an explanation. The extract uses trees as a symbol for conservative people. (1)

- c. Which of the following best describes the idea of a forest that has been 'empty all these days' is _____.

- a. unnatural
- b. scary
- c. magical
- d. legendary

- d. Which three things cannot happen in a treeless forest? (2)

- (b) Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow:

[5]

Custard the dragon had big sharp teeth,
And spikes on top of him and scales underneath,
Mouth like a fireplace, chimney for a nose,
And realio, trulio daggers on his toes.

- i. Describe the physical appearance of Custard the dragon. (1)
- ii. Fill in the blank with one word. This extract describes the physical appearance of Custard. He carried all the features of _____ that could make him powerful, scary, and brave. (1)



iii. Which belief about dragons is in contrast to Custard's behaviour in the extract. (1)

- a. Dragons are brave and feared.
- b. Dragons can grant wishes.
- c. Dragons can become invisible at will.
- d. Dragons are soft-hearted and kind.

iv. Comment on the poet's use of language in these lines. (2)

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

- (a) Explain the Indian legend associated with the origin of tea. (**Glimpses of India**) [3]
- (b) Describe some of the activities of the tiger as stated by the poet. [3]
- (c) How does Chubukov defend **Squeezer**? (**The Proposal**) [3]
- (d) What tells you that Anne loved her grandmother? [3]
- (e) The tone of the speaker contrasts with the seriousness of the subject matter. Justify. [3]

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

- (a) What was Mrs. Pumphrey's reaction after hearing Tricki's good health? [3]
- (b) How would you have reacted if you were one of the guests witnessing Bholi's wedding when she refused to marry Bishamber Nath? [3]
- (c) Why did Griffin decide to become visible and to go to Iping? [3]

10. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words** [6]

- (a) Read the extracts given below and comment on the difference in the nature of help both the characters, of these two stories, received. [6]

a. Suddenly I came out of the clouds and saw two straight lines of lights in front of me. It was a runway! An airport! I was safe! I turned to look for my friend in the black aeroplane but the sky was empty. [**The Black Aeroplane**]

b. All through the night Lencho thought only of his one hope: the help of God...The following Sunday, at daybreak he began to write a letter...It was nothing less than a letter to God...The following Sunday Lencho came a bit earlier than usual to ask if there was a letter for him.... Lencho showed not the slightest surprise on seeing the money, such was his confidence. [**A Letter to God**]

- (b) In the chapter, **Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom**, the swearing-in ceremony represented a shared victory for justice, peace, and human dignity over the most despised apartheid regime based on racial discrimination. Similarly, in the poem **The Tress**, the hard-fought victory for the trees has been achieved. They have been freed from the artificial glasshouse that held them captive. Imagine Nelson Mandela is congratulating trees on their victory in a letter in which he describes what freedom meant to him. [6]

You may begin like this.

Dear Trees,

It is with great joy that I write to you today on the occasion of your freedom ...

11. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.** [6]

- (a) One of your friends has to attend a class party at his/her school and wants to purchase the most expensive clothes and shows. He/She feels that this would make him/her stand out in the crowd. You receive a call from your friend seeking advice on this matter. Write down that telephonic conversation between your friend and yourself. [6]



You may begin this way:

Friend: Hey, I want an honest opinion from you. Will you please help me?

You: ...

Friend: So, there's this class party I have to attend. It's a big deal!

You: ...

Answer in the context of the lesson **The Necklace**.

- (b) Who was Anil? How did he transform Hari Singh's character?

[6]



Solution

Section A - Reading Skills

1.
 - i. (a) Happiness is an inseparable part of our consciousness and essence, but it is hidden by thoughts, desires, and worries.
(b) Happiness is not dependent on circumstances, objects, or events; it is within us but often obscured by mental distractions.
 - ii. (b) The treasure is hidden due to the storm and mud
 - iii. To experience more happiness, one should calm their mind and look inward rather than seeking external triggers. By reducing mental distractions and appreciating oneself, happiness can be felt more frequently.
 - iv. The tone is reflective and critical. The writer is pointing out a common misconception that ties happiness to external achievements, emphasizing that true happiness comes from within rather than from fulfilling external goals.
 - v. (a) The obscuring of happiness by thoughts and worries
 - vi. (a) a and d
 - vii. Happiness is not something far away and unattainable and does not depend on circumstances, objects, or events.
 - viii. To experience more happiness, one must look inward rather than waiting for external triggers.
2.
 - i. We can say that the situation when people were travelling with a vengeance is comparable to people going out to dine in hordes, because both scenarios reflect pent-up demand being released after restrictions.
 - ii. The statement that "Tourism constituted almost 3% of India's GDP and generated around 100 million jobs in 2019" is a/an fact because it is a/an objective detail.
 - iii. Indians, confined by pandemic restrictions for over two years, are eager to explore new destinations, embrace diverse cultures, and enjoy the freedom of international travel, reflecting a strong desire to break free from prolonged isolation.
 - iv. Without the table, I can infer from the passage that Indian foreign travel increased primarily for educational purposes due to pent-up demand and growing aspirations among middle-class students from Tier II and Tier III cities.
 - v. The 'industry' being referred to here is the tourism and hospitality industry.
 - vi. Students are opting to study abroad due to pent-up demand from the pandemic's two-year duration, along with growing aspirations and increased affordability among middle-class students, particularly from Tier II and Tier III cities.
 - vii. In 2019, the maximum number of Indians undertook foreign travel for the purpose of 'Business'. In 2022, the maximum was for 'Visit'.
One inference that can be drawn from this trend is the shift in travel purposes from primarily business-related in 2019 to more visit-oriented in 2022, indicating a broadening of travel motivations possibly influenced by post-pandemic trends.
 - viii. B. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

SECTION B GRAMMAR

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

- (i) would request

(ii)	Error	Correction
	maintaining	maintain

- (iii) Ravi asked Reena to lend him hundred rupees, to which Reena replied that she didn't have it right then but she would arrange it for him.

- (iv) (b) He said that I couldn't bathe in that sea as it was very rough.

Explanation:

He said that I couldn't bathe in that sea as it was very rough.

- (v) Neither

(vi)	error	correction
	given	giving

(vii)	Error	Correction
	in	on

(viii) (a) was

Explanation:

was

(ix) In response to the question of the mother, the daughter replied that her exams were approaching.

(x) (b) He said that he would go as soon as it was possible.

Explanation:

He said that he would go as soon as it was possible.

(xi) A. squeal, quiver

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

(xii) error	correction
is	are

SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

4. 124, Vivek Vihar

Delhi

April 5, 2018

The Editor

The Times of India

New Delhi

Sir.

Subject: Rising Prices

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I want to express my deep concern regarding the rising prices. This inflation has made the life of a common man very difficult. It was not so in earlier times when things were very cheap and were within the reach of almost everyone. The worst hit is the fixed income groups like the salaried people, labour class and the pensioners. For them, even the commodities of basic necessities like wheat, pulses, grains, vegetables, etc. are getting out of reach. The government should tackle this problem in the best possible way. The hoarders, black marketers, and profitters should be dealt with severely. The public distribution system of rationing should be made more transparent and efficient. Moreover, taxes on basic necessities should be reduced to bring down the contrast between wholesale and retail prices. It is high time that the concerned authority should wake up to this social cause and try to put reins to the rising price so that people can lead a comfortable and peaceful life.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely,

Praneeta.

OR

88, Jal Vihar,

Wazirabad New Delhi

18 May 2024

The Editor

Delhi News

Delhi

Subject: Pathetic state of river Yamuna

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the worsening state of the Yamuna River. Living on its banks at 88, Jal Vihar, Wazirabad, New Delhi, I witness its plight daily. Household waste, industrial effluents, and even religious offerings are dumped into the river, choking it with pollution. This is causing the death of aquatic life and rendering the water unfit for drinking, bathing, or even washing.

The Yamuna, once a source of life, is now a symbol of neglect. We cannot turn a blind eye to this environmental disaster. We must act urgently to save our river.

Yours sincerely

Shobha/Shyam

5. The widespread use of technology devices such as iPads, mobile phones, and laptops has led to an increase in screen time among children. While the devices can offer benefits such as access to online classes, research, and entertainment, excessive screen time has negative impacts on children's health and social skills. It can contribute to obesity and a sedentary lifestyle, as well as



weakening eyesight. Moreover, excessive screen time has been linked to poor social skills and increasing isolation, as children may spend less time interacting face-to-face with their peers. It is important for parents to monitor their children's screen time and encourage other activities such as outdoor play and socializing with friends to promote their overall well-being.

OR

The argument regarding the change in the canteen food of schools reflects a classic conflict between authorities and students. The authorities view the consumption of junk food as a strong contributor to the increasing levels of obesity in school children, hence the move to introduce healthier options. However, the students have spoken out against this move, indicating their preference for the more familiar and appealing junk food. This situation highlights the need for a balance between the authority's intentions and the students' preferences. Students must be made aware about the importance of maintaining a healthy diet with some options of delicious and nutritious food. A collaborative approach between the authorities, students, and other stakeholders is necessary to create a sustainable solution that addresses the issue of rising obesity levels while also catering to the students' needs and preferences

SECTION C - LITERATURE

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

- (i) i. Max was standing in the room with a pistol in his hand.
ii. (d) started to think of how to get rid of the man.
iii. looked like a real thriller scene finally. The kind of action and scene he had been expecting while he was on his way.
iv. authentic
- (ii) i. The postman laughed heartily because he saw the letter addressed to 'God'. In his career as a postman, he never knew that address.
ii. The postmaster became **serious** suddenly because he was impressed to see Lencho's faith in God.
iii. In his letter to god, he communicated his poverty-stricken situation and mentioned that he needed 100 pesos to regenerate the crops along with surviving until they are ready to harvest.
iv. Lencho went town to the post office, he placed a stamp on the letter and dropped it into the mailbox.

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

- (i) i. The figure of speech used in the given line is personification because the sun, which is non-human, is attributed the human feature of having feet.
ii. False, Explanation- Trees are symbolic of woman. Adrienne Rich is a feminist poet.
iii. (a) is correct. Explanation:- Trees are an integral part of nature/forest. So it is unnatural to depict a treeless forest.
iv. A forest is a natural habitat for numerous birds and insects. When forests are cleared, no bird can make its nest, nor can insects hide in the bark of the trees and there's nothing to shade the area from sunlight.
- (ii) i. Custard, the dragon had big sharp teeth and spikes on its back that could easily scare anyone away. It had ability to spit fire which made his mouth like a fireplace and thus his nose became a chimney. The toes were so pointed and sharp, that it could cut anything like a dagger.
ii. dragon
iii. (a) Dragons are brave and feared.
iv. The language used in these lines is simple and straightforward. The words and phrases are easy to understand and the poem is written in a conversational tone. Realio and Trulio words are creating poetic effect. This is a humorous poem.

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

- (i) We have an Indian legend regarding the discovery of tea. Bodhidharma, an ancient Buddhist ascetic, cut off his eyelids because he fell sleepy during meditations. It is said that ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids. The leaves of those plants, when put in hot water and drunk, banished sleep. It drove away any traces of sleep and made the person fresh. Thus, tea was discovered.
- (ii) The poet Leslie Morris, in his poem, 'The Tiger in the Zoo', has tried to depict the mental condition of a caged tiger. Some of the activities of the tiger as stated by the poet are - walking along the cage, hearing the patrolling of cars, ignoring visitors and staring at the brilliant stars of the sky.
- (iii) In order to quieten the boastful arguments of Lomov regarding his pet dog 'Guess'. **Chubukov appreciated Squeezer saying that he was pure-breed, firm on his feet and has well sprung ribs.** Lomov and Natalya were not able to decide whose dog was superior as Natalya was proud of her dog, Squeezer who was young and belonged to a pedigree, whereas Lomov considered it to be uppershot and boasted of his pet 'Guess' who he believed was a first-rate dog. But Natalya considered 'Guess' to be old and as ugly as a worn out cab horse.



- (iv) Anne's grandmother died in January 1942. The line mentioned by Anne, "No one knows how often I think of her and still love her" gives us a deep insight into the feelings of sadness that surrounded her and the magnitude of love that she had for her grandmother. Further, the lighting of a candle by Anne on her birthday to mark the loving memory of her grandmother brings together those poignant feelings that hid inside Anne.
- (v) 'Fire and Ice' is a symbolic poem by Robert Frost. The poet wants to aware the humanity that everything will end one day as a result a human misdeeds. His aim is aphorism-brevity for Frost truth remains ambiguous. That's why the tone contrasts with the seriousness of the subject matter.

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

- (i) When Mrs. Pumphrey got a call from Mr. Herriot about Tricky's good health. She was very happy. Mrs. Pumphrey reached there within a very short period of time. She wanted to see Tricky immediately.
- (ii) I would have fully supported Bholi if I were present there. As a mature and aware person I feel what she did was absolutely right. She has every right to refuse to marry a person who demands dowry and is of double her age. If I would have a daughter like Bholi, I would be the first person to appreciate her bold more.
- (iii) Griffin set fire to his landlord's house as he wanted him to leave his house. Griffin swallowed a rare drug to become invisible. He had to take off his clothes to become invisible. But it was mid-winter season and he could not live without clothes anymore. So he decided to become visible again. He went to Iping so that no one would recognise him there. He wanted to get away from crowded London. At Iping, he booked two rooms at the local inn.

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

- (i) Both Lencho and the pilot of the Dakola plane needed help and there is no doubt that both of them received the help too. But still there is a lot of difference between the help received by both of them.

In 'The Black Aeroplane' the pilot was caught in the storm and it was difficult to come out of it. But suddenly, out of nowhere, a black aeroplane appeared and helped him come out of the storm. The black aeroplane was without lights but it steered the pilot through the dark clouds. He landed at an airport. He was so happy. He decided to thanks the pilot of that mysterious aeroplane but was told by the lady in the control room that there was no other aeroplane in the air other than his. It is a mystery which was not resolved. The only thing was that he received an unexpected help and was thankful for it.

On the other hand, in 'A letter to God', Lencho needed help in the form of pesos to look after his family. He wrote a letter to God and asked for hundred pesos. His conviction touched the postmaster who raised money from his staff and sent it to Lencho. In this case, Lencho received help as he had asked for it. The source of his aid has clearly been revealed whereas it was not revealed in the case of pilot unlike the pilot in 'The Black Aeroplane', Lencho is not happy and satisfied with the help that he had received.

- (ii) Dear Trees,

It is with great joy that I write to you today on the occasion of your freedom. I can imagine the elation you must be feeling after so many years of captivity, and I join you in celebrating this momentous occasion.

I am writing to you today to talk about freedom. For me, freedom is something that I have fought for all my life. It is something that I believe everyone deserves, no matter who they are or where they come from.

I know that you have seen a lot of things in your lifetime, and I am sure you have your own ideas about what freedom means. For me, it is about being able to live my life the way I want to, without interference from anyone else. It is about being able to speak my mind and express my opinions without fear of retribution. I know that there are many people in the world who do not have these freedoms, and I am committed to fighting for them.

Sincerely,

Nelson Mandela

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

- (i) Frequently in life is the ideal way to live is being as simple as possible. Buying a costly dress doesn't mean you would look the best in the party. One can look pretty even in a simple attire. So, go for something very normal in best colours.

Friend

Just suggest something...

You

May be a saree. It makes the woman look beautiful in all situations in all times. So, why don't you go for it. There are a number of varieties like tussar, chanderi, mogra, eerie to choose from.

Friend

That's a good idea. Let me just try it. You are the best adviser when it comes to suggest something Thanks any ways.



(ii) Anil was a twenty-five years old man. He was a tall and lean fellow. He looked easy-going, kind and simple. He was a writer by profession, who wrote for a magazine. He was a practical man who transformed the character of a thief. He was the most trustworthy man that Hari Singh, a thief had ever met. Hari Singh's habit compelled him to steal the bundle of money from Anil. But Anil's love, trust and confidence forced him to come back and put the bundle from where he had taken it. Anil's faith in Hari Singh forced him not to rob him. Anil taught him to write his name and also said that he would teach him to write whole sentences and to add numbers. It gave new hope to Hari Singh. He thought that if he could write like an educated man, there would be no limit to what he could achieve. A desire to get educated and follow the path of honesty cultivated in Hari Singh. His interaction with Anil brought a positive change in his character. Thus, Anil's kind behaviour and true faith transformed Hari Singh's character.

