

# Class X Session 2025-26

## Subject - English Language and Literature

### Sample Question Paper - 03

**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 and answer the questions that follow:**

**[10]**

1. Mankind's fascination with gold is as old as civilization itself. The ancient Egyptians held gold in high esteem. Gold had religious significance for them, and King Tutankhamen was buried in a solid gold coffin 3300 years ago. The wandering Israelites worshipped a golden calf, and the legendary King Midas asked that whatever he touched be turned into gold.
2. Not only is gold beautiful, but it is virtually indestructible. It will not rust or corrode. Gold coins and products fabricated from the metal have survived undamaged for centuries. Gold is extremely easy to work with. One ounce, which is about the size of a cube of sugar, can be beaten into a sheet nearly 100 square feet in size, and becomes so thin that light can pass through it. An ounce of gold can also be stretched into a wire 50 miles long. Gold conducts electricity better than any other substance except copper and silver, and it is particularly important in modern electronic industry.
3. People have always longed to possess gold. Unfortunately, this longing has also brought out the worst in human character. The Spanish conquerors robbed palaces, temples and graves and killed thousands of people in their ruthless search for gold. Even today, the economy of South Africa's gold mines depend largely on the employment of black labourers who are paid about 40 pounds a month, plus boarding and lodging. They work in conditions that can only be described as cruel. About 400 miners die in South Africa each year.
4. Much of the gold's value lies in its scarcity. Only about 80,000 tons have been mined in the history of the world. All of it can be stored in a vault 60 feet square, or a super tanker. Great Britain was the first country to adopt the gold standard, when the Master of the Mint, Sir Issac Newton, established a fixed price for gold in 1717. The discovery of gold in the last half of the nineteenth century in California, (1848) and later in Australia and South Africa changed everything. Before the discovery, there wasn't enough gold around for all the trading nations to link their currencies to the precious metal.



5. An out-of-work prospector named George Harrison launched South Africa into the gold age in 1886 when he discovered the metal in a farm near what is now Johannesburg. Harrison was given a 12 pounds reward by the farmer. He then disappeared and was eaten by a lion.
6. One of the biggest gold mining areas in the Soviet Union is the Kolyma River region, once infamous for its prison camp. The camp has gone, but in a way nothing has changed. Many ex-prisoners have stayed on to work in the mines and are supervised by ex-guards.
7. Despite the current rush to buy gold, 75 percent of the metal goes into making jewellery. Italy is the biggest consumer of gold for this purpose, and many Italian jewellers even tear up their wooden floors and burn them to recover the tiny flecks of gold. Historically, the desire to hoard gold at home has been primarily an occupation of the working and peasant classes, who have had no faith in paper money. George Bernard Shaw defended their instincts eloquently, "You have to choose between trusting the natural stability of the honesty and intelligence of the members of the government," he said "and with due respect to these gentlemen, I advise to vote for gold."

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

- i. According to the passage, which of the following statements is NOT true? **(1)**
  - a. Gold is the best conductor of electricity.
  - b. Apart from gold, copper and silver are good conductors of electricity.
  - c. Gold can be easily beaten, hence it is easy to work with.
  - d. Gold plays an important role in the modern electronics industry.
- ii. Based on your reading of the text, list 2 reasons why the writer says that,  
Not only is gold beautiful but it is virtually indestructible. **(2)**
- iii. How were the black labourers exploited? Answer in around 40 words. **(2)**
- iv. Select the text that displays what the writer projects, with reference to the following.  
The wandering Israelites worshipped a golden calf \_\_\_\_\_. **(1)**
- v. Complete the following with the phrase from paragraph 1: **(1)**

Opinion	Reason
	King Tutankhamen was buried in a solid gold coffin 3300 years ago.

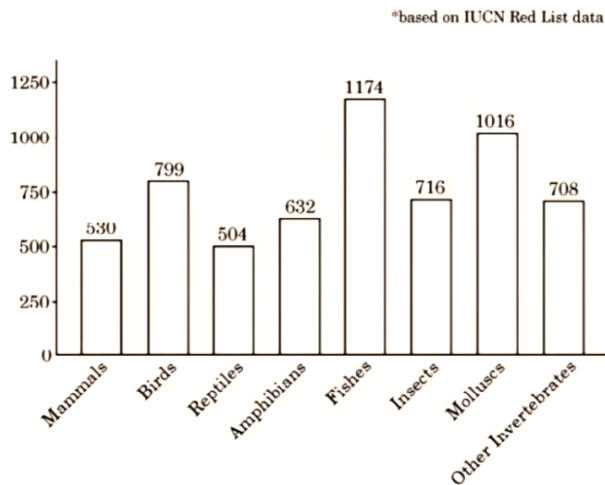
- vi. Who launched South Africa into the gold age? **(1)**
  - a. Issac Newton
  - b. George Harrison
  - c. George Bernard Shaw
  - d. A farmer
- vii. Select the option that corresponds to the following:  
The ancient Egyptians and the modern electronic industry both hold gold in high esteem. **(1)**
  - a. The hardworking student came first because of his diligent practice.
  - b. Monesty is underrated whereas strategy is appreciated.
  - c. The vibrant colours made the interiors look luminous.
  - d. The steaming food was both appetizing and tasty.
- viii. Supply one point to justify the following:  
The desire to hoard gold at home has been primarily an occupation of the working and peasant classes. **(1)**

2. **Read the following passage carefully:**

**[10]**



1. There was a time when human interference was minimum, the number of wild animals was quite high and there was no problem of their protection or conservation.
2. Due to the irrational use of natural and biotic resources of the Earth in the past, most of the wildlife has been destroyed beyond retrieval. According to an estimate, in India about 200 species of wild animals and birds have become extinct and another 2500 are on the verge of extinction. Some of them are black buck, chinkara, wolf, swamp deer, nilgai, Indian gazelle, antelope, tiger, rhinoceros, gir lion, crocodile, flamingo, pelican, bustard, white crane, grey heron, mountain quail, etc.
3. In India, the Government and NGOs are taking keen interest in protection of wildlife. The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, has several provisions for the conservation of wildlife. As many as 165 game sanctuaries and 21 national parks have been deployed to protect the natural habitat and wild animals. Apart from this, Wildlife Conservation Week is also celebrated from 1st to 7th October every year. But still there is a long way to go in this direction.
4. Preservation of wildlife does not mean a blanket protection to all faunal and floral species; rather it implies a proper, judicious control over the multiplication of plants and animals which interact together to provide a proper environment to man whose very existence is in peril today.
5. It is our urgent duty to protect the natural splendour of ecosystems and to evolve a system of coexistence with every living creature upon the Earth.



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

- i. Infer one reason for the following, based on the information in the passage. The number of wild animals was quite high and there was no problem of their protection or conservation. (2)

- ii. Select the appropriate options to fill in the blanks. (1)

Most of the wildlife has been \_\_\_\_\_ beyond \_\_\_\_\_ due to the irrational use of natural resources on the Earth. (1)

- I. destroyed
- II. retrieval
- III. desertion
- IV. build
- V. revived

- a. I and II
- b. II and III
- c. III and IV
- d. IV and V

iii. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from the passage. (1)

(Clue: Just like flowers are in a garden, similarly\_\_\_\_\_ are in the sanctuaries.)

Flowers: Garden::\_\_\_\_\_: Sanctuaries

iv. Select the correct option to complete the sentence. (1)

Judicious control over the multiplication of plants and animals which provide

- a. natural splendour of ecosystem
- b. proper environment to man
- c. blanket protection
- d. happy and comfortable living

v. According to the graph, which is the most vulnerable animal species and the least vulnerable from the graph. (1)

- I. Birds
- II. Insects
- III. Fishes
- IV. Reptiles
- V. Insects
- VI. Mammals
- VII. Molluses

- a. I and II
- b. III and IV
- c. V and VI
- d. VI and VI

vi. **Assertion (A):** Wildlife conservation is essential to maintain a balanced ecosystem and ensure human survival.

**Reason (R):** The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, and initiatives like sanctuaries and Wildlife Conservation Week aim to protect endangered species and their habitats.

- 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.

vii. List any two examples of Government and NGOs trying to protect the wildlife. (2)

viii. List one reason why the Government makes certain recommendations for protection of wild animals. (1)

### 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 brackets, for the given portion of a letter. [1]

Thank you for exceeding company expectations and \_\_\_\_\_ (inspire) your team with your spectacular work ethic.

- (b) Identify the error and supply the correction for the following advertisement of an antivirus software. [1]

A properly installed and maintained antivirus program may wipe out any malware attack, be it a bot, a virus, a Trojan or even ransomware.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction
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- (c) **Report the dialogue between a father and son, by completing the sentence:** [1]

**Son:** Are you not excited about the trip, dad?

**Father:** I have been to Australia before.

In response to the question about being excited about the trip, the father says that \_\_\_\_\_.

- (d) Read the dialogue between Amit and his sister Ambika regarding his future plan. [1]

Ambika: Are you aiming for a State rank ?

Amit: Yes, I am. My teachers are guiding me to get my aim fulfilled.

Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.

Ambika asked Amit whether he was aiming for a State rank. Amit replied in the affirmative and \_\_\_\_\_ to get his aim fulfilled.

- a) replied that his teachers have been guiding him      b) replied that the teachers were guiding him
- c) told her that the teachers are guiding him      d) told her that his teachers were guiding him
- (e) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. [1]

The teacher gave \_\_\_\_\_ (every / each / either) of the students a piece of paper.

- (f) Identify the error and supply the correction for the given sentence from an Art Exhibition invitation. [1]

Artisan Club invite you to Art and Soul: an art exhibition featuring artwork created by our budding artists.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

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

Both the boys had got a scolding but either of them paid heed.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- (h) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the advertisement given by a car company. [1]

The vehicle also has a divider to separate the front passengers from the rear, in case you want \_\_\_\_\_ around like Miss Daisy.

- a) the driving      b) to be driven
- c) to driving      d) the drive
- (i) Report the dialogue between two students, by completing the sentence: [1]

Rashid: Are you participating in the annual Hindi play?

Rakesh: I would like to, but I have to visit my ailing grandmother that day.

In response to the question about whether Rakesh would be participating in the annual Hindi play, Rakesh says \_\_\_\_\_.

- (j) Choose the correct reported speech of a given sentence: [1]

"Don't play on the grass, boys," she said.

- a) She tells the boys not to play on the      b) She tells the boys not to played on the



grass

grass

c) She told the boys not to played on the  
grass

d) She told the boys not to play on the  
grass

- (k) Complete the line from a self-awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option. [1]

"I \_\_\_\_\_ an arrow into the air,  
It fell to earth, I knew not where;  
For, so swiftly it \_\_\_\_\_, the sight  
Could not follow it in its flight."

- A. has shot, flew  
B. shot, flown  
C. have shot, has flown  
D. shot, flew

- (l) 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

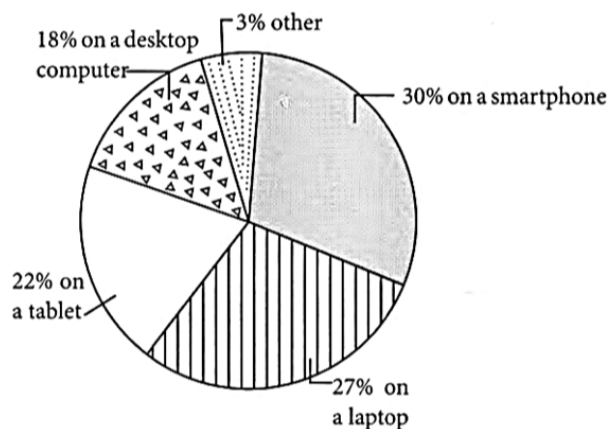
#### SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

4. The authorities have been claiming that the roads in your town have been relaid and repaired. But no such work done is seen. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper expressing your concern at the present situation and giving suggestions to resolve the problem, in 100-120 words. You are Prabhu/Parvati of Vivek Vihar, Delhi. [5]

OR

You feel that the Right to Education is going to help India rise above the narrow boundaries of prejudices of caste, colour, creed and corruption. Write a letter to the editor of The Times of India, reflecting your views on the subject. Sign yourself as Nandita/Naveen of Paschim Vihar, Delhi (word limit 100-120).

5. The given pie chart illustrates how internet users aged 15+ prefer to access the internet at home and in other places. Write an analytical paragraph using the information given in the pie-chart. [5]



OR

Given below are the pollution figures for some major towns and cities in India:

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	Suspended Particulate Matter	Sulphur Dioxide	Nitrogen Oxide
Permissible Limits	200	80	80
Ludhiana	453	20	64
Delhi	680	124	137
Mumbai	485	27	53
Chennai	262	45	34

Using the information given above along with your own ideas, write an analytical paragraph in 100-120 words.

### 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]

Max bit his lip nervously. The knocking was repeated.

"What will you do now, Max ?" Ausable asked. "If I do not answer the door, they will enter anyway.

The door is unlocked. And they will not hesitate to shoot".

- i. Who is Max? (1)

- a. a spy
- b. a tourist
- c. a businessman
- d. a waiter

- ii. Max was unprepared for his mission. Elaborate with reference to the extract. (2)

- iii. Actually the door was knocked at by \_\_\_\_\_. (1)

- iv. Which word in the extract is opposite in meaning to the word 'confidently'? (1)

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

The moment the letter fell into the mailbox the postmaster went to open it. It said, "God: of the money that I asked for, only seventy pesos reached me. Send me the rest, since I need it very much. But don't send it to me through the mail because the post office employees are a bunch of crooks".

- i. What did Lencho mean by 'the rest'? Answer in about 40 words. (2)

- ii. Read the following descriptions (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract. (1)

- a. Lencho thought only God could help them in that hour of need.
- b. Lencho wanted to punish post office employees.
- c. Lencho wanted more money.

- iii. Predict and justify the reaction of the postmaster after receiving the second letter from Lencho. (1)

- iv. Fill the blank with one word. A word which is the opposite of "honest" in the passage is \_\_\_\_\_. (1)

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

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

My head is full of whispers

which tomorrow will be silent.

Listen. The glass is breaking.

The trees are stumbling forward



into the night. Winds rush to meet them.

The moon is broken like a mirror,

its pieces flash now in the crown

of the tallest oak.

- i. Why would the whispers be silent tomorrow? (1)
- ii. The forest undergoes tremendous transformation overnight. Discuss with reference to the poem "The Trees" (2)
- iii. Which word in the stanza means the same as 'quiet'? (1)
- iv. Which poetic device has been used in the last line 'its pieces flash now in the crown of the tallest oak.' (1)
  - a. Simile
  - b. Alliteration
  - c. imagery
  - d. Personification

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

Belinda is as brave as a barrel full of bears

And Ink and Blink chase lions down the stairs,

Mustard is as brave as a tiger in a rage,

But Custard keeps crying for a nice safe cage.

- i. Pick the option that does not display a simile from the extract. (1)
  - a. ...as brave as a barrel full of bears
  - b. ...chase lions down the stairs
  - c. ...brave as a tiger in a rage
  - d. none of the above
- ii. Fill in the blank with one word. The coward behaviour of \_\_\_\_\_ animal is described here in these lines. (1)
- iii. How does the poet describe the pets of Belinda in this extract? (2)
- iv. A hyperbole is a poetic device where the poet purposely and obviously exaggerates to an extreme. Comment on the hyperbole from the extract. (1)

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

- (a) The baker and his family never starved. Elaborate. (Glimpses of India) [3]
- (b) Why do you think the tiger was stalking in the cage? What did it show? [3]
- (c) What is the play "The Proposal" about? [3]
- (d) Anne says that there were so many dummies in the class that about a quarter of them shouldn't be promoted. Is she being rude or brutally honest? Evaluate. [3]
- (e) Which two ideas about how the world will end have been mentioned in the poem Fire and ice? Which idea does the poet support more? [3]

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

- (a) Mrs. Pumphrey was responsible for Tricki's illness. Explain it in your own words. [3]
- (b) Who came to the village at the opening of the school and what did he ask Ramlal to do? [3]
- (c) Give a character sketch of Griffin, the invisible scientist. [3]

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





- (a) Imagine that the narrator shared his story with friends and family once he got home. One of them, a spiritual leader, decided to incorporate the story as part of his weekly sermon to the congregation. Another friend, a psychologist, worked the story into his next lecture on survival instinct and crisis management. [6]

Do you think the two interpretations of the story would be different? If so, how?

What insights might the narrator get about his mysterious experience, if he were to attend both the sessions? Answer in the context of the lesson **Two Stories about Flying**.

- (b) The tiger in the zoo is pacing back and forth in his enclosure, restless and frustrated. He sees the Mandela in the next cage over and they make eye contact. The man is old and tired, but there is a fire in his eyes. They begin to speak to each other, each in their own language, but understanding each other perfectly. Imagine that they are both discussing about achieving freedom and never giving up hope. [6]

You may begin like this.

The tiger says, "I was born wild, free, but I was captured and put in this zoo. I long to be free again, to roam the forests and plains."

Mandela replies ...

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

- (a) As a reader do you sympathise with Matilda? Give reasons from the text to support your answer. (**The Necklace**) [6]
- (b) What does he get from Anil in return for his work? (**The Thief's Story**) [6]



# Solution

## Section A - Reading Skills

1. i. Gold is the best conductor of electricity.
  - ii. 1. It will not rust or corrode.
  2. Things made of gold remain undamaged for centuries.
- iii. The black labourers were paid less wages and made to work in cruel conditions.
- iv. importance of religion
- v. Opinion: Gold had religious significance for Egyptians.
- vi. George Harrison
- vii. Honesty is underrated whereas strategy is appreciated.
- viii. The working and peasant classes had no faith in paper money.
2. i. less human interference / bare minimum human interference
  - ii. I and II
  - iii. wildlife
  - iv. proper environment to man
  - v. III & IV Options are incorrectly placed. B is the closest.
  - vi. A. Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
  - vii. The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, has several provisions for the conservation of wildlife / 165 game sanctuaries and 21 national parks have been deployed/protecting the natural habitat and wild animals/ Wildlife Conservation Week is celebrated from 1st to 7th October every year (any two)
  - viii. to protect the natural habitat and wild animals / to keep ecological balance (any one)

## SECTION B GRAMMAR

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

- (i) The correct form of the word is **"inspiring"**.

(ii)	Error	Correction
	wipe out	prevent/protect against

- (iii) he has been to Australia before

- (iv) **(d)** told her that his teachers were guiding him

**Explanation:**

told her that his teachers were guiding him

- (v) Each

(vi)	Error	Correction
	invite	invites

(vii)	Error	Correction
	either	neither

(No mark to be deducted if the format is not given)

- (viii) **(b)** to be driven

**Explanation:**

to be driven

- (ix) that he would like to but he has to visit his ailing grandmother that day.

- (x) **(d)** She told the boys not to play on the grass

**Explanation:**

She told the boys not to play on the grass.

Request, negative: not to + rest of the sentence (don't are dropped here)

(xi) D. shot, flew

The verse of the poem are presenting a past situation.

(xii)	<b>error</b>	<b>correction</b>
	for	on

#### SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

4. 24, Vivek Vihar

New Delhi

August 29, 2023

The Editor

The Hindu

New Delhi

Respected Sir/Madam,

**Subject: Urgent Action Needed for Actual Road Repairs**

As a concerned resident of Vivek Vihar, I am deeply troubled by the disparity between the authorities' claims of road repairs and the stark reality on our streets. Despite official assurances, the roads remain in deplorable condition. The lack of visible progress is a cause for great concern and frustration among the residents.

I implore the concerned authorities to take immediate and transparent action to address this issue. It is essential for them to communicate their plans and progress honestly to the public. We also suggest that a citizen's committee be formed to oversee and report on the actual work being carried out.

We are optimistic that through transparent communication and community involvement, we can resolve this pressing problem and restore our roads to safe and functional conditions.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely,

Prabhu/Parvati

OR

Paschim Vihar

New Delhi

29 August, 2023

The Editor

Times of India

ITO, New Delhi

Sir,

**Sub: The Transformative Power of Right to Education in India**

I am writing to express my fervent belief in the transformative potential of the Right to Education Act in India. This crucial legislation not only guarantees every child's access to quality education but also serves as a beacon of hope in our fight against prejudice and corruption. Education, as a fundamental right, can bridge the gaps of caste, colour, creed, and corruption that have long plagued our society. It empowers young minds, nurtures tolerance, and fosters understanding among diverse communities.

I firmly believe that an educated society is a progressive society, where inclusivity and knowledge dismantle barriers. The Right to Education Act is a significant step toward creating a harmonious, egalitarian India. I urge policymakers to ensure its effective implementation, empowering every child, regardless of their background, to dream, aspire, and contribute meaningfully to our nation's growth.

Yours sincerely,

Nandita/Naveen

5. The given pie chart illustrates how internet users aged 15+ prefer to access the internet at home or in other places.

The data shows that people aged 15 and over spend most of their time using electronic gadgets and going online accessing internet for different purposes.

From the pie chart it is clear that the majority of people prefer to use smartphone that covers 30 per cent, which means that one third of the total young generation uses smartphones to go online. Laptops are also very popular as there is only three percent of difference between the two. As shown in the chart 27 per cent people prefer to use laptops to go online. 22 per cent prefer to use a tablet, whereas a desktop computer accounts for 18 per cent of users' preferred devices, and only a small minority of just 3%



prefer a device other than these four main popular devices.

To conclude, it is clearly evident that the devices like laptops and tablets are the most popular choices, it shows that the majority of people access internet on portable devices. The desktop computer which is not so convenient to use is the least popular of the four main devices. It can be said that in the future we can expect to see even more and more people accessing the internet with smartphones as their preferred choice.

OR

The pollution figures for suspended particulate matter (SPM), sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) in major Indian cities reveal a concerning scenario. Delhi stands out as the most critically affected, with SPM levels soaring to 680, significantly surpassing the permissible limit of 200. The high levels of SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> in Delhi also indicate severe air quality issues. Mumbai and Chennai, though not as critical as Delhi, still exceed the permissible limits for SPM. These figures underscore the pressing need for stringent pollution control measures, cleaner energy sources, and increased public awareness. It's crucial for both government and citizens to prioritize sustainable practices to combat the alarming levels of pollution, especially in densely populated urban areas.

### SECTION C - LITERATURE

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

- (i) i. (a) a spy
- ii. Though Max was very cunning and he came prepared with a gun but he was indeed no match to Ausable. He was easily misled by Ausable into believing that there was a balcony attached to the room. So we can say that Max was a smaller spy before Ausable and he was also unprepared for his mission
- iii. a waiter
- iv. Hesitate
- (ii) i. Lencho asked God for hundred pesos and received seventy. So he was asking the remaining money which was thirty pesos which he denoted as 'the rest' in his second letter.
- ii. Lencho thought only God could help them in that hour of need. [cannot be (b) as Lencho was so innocent to punish someone; cannot be (c) because Lencho was not greedy, he wanted only the amount needed to grow the crop again]
- iii. He must be disappointed to see the ungrateful attitude of Lencho [For example: It was the postman himself who handed the letter to him while the postmaster, experiencing the contentment of a man who has performed a good deed, looked on from his office.]
- iv. crook

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

- (i) i. The whispers will be silent because the trees will move outside to the forest.
- ii. The trees of the forest were cut down by man for selfish purposes. The forest was turned into a barren land as the trees were captivated inside the house as a part of interior decoration. However, the trees struggled very hard to free themselves from the confines of the house and return to their natural habitat which is forest. The roots of these trees are engaged in the cracks of the veranda floor. At night, these roots try to free themselves from the cracks. The leaves try to move towards the glass. Twigs become hardened and the boughs try to expand under the roof. Thus, Andreine Rich tries to convey in his poem "The Trees" that trees should be kept alive not by imprisoning them inside the house merely to beautify indoors.
- iii. The word is 'silent'.
- iv. Option (c)- imagery
- (ii) i. (b) .....chase lions down the stairs
- ii. dragon (as he was looking for a nice cage)
- iii. The poet describes the bravery of the pets in this extract. Ink and Blink have the power to chase away someone as strong as a lion. The bravery of the dog is compared to that of a tiger. But, the Custard was not at all brave as he was looking for a nice safe cage.
- iv. It is too much of an exaggeration that a small girl is as brave as many bears combined together into one. The comparison of the bravery of other pets is an example of hyperbole.

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

- (i) The baker and his family always had enough to eat because baking bread was a profitable profession in the old days. They were prosperous, evidenced by their plump physique. Even their servants were well-fed, reflecting the economic stability and importance of the baker in the village community.



- (ii) I think the tiger was feeling restless and uneasy in that small cage. The tiger was walking from one end of the cage to another as if trying to measure the length of the cage. It shows that he was frustrated and helpless as he could not come out of the cage and enjoy his freedom. He did not want to be a mere showpiece and a source of entertainment for human beings.
- (iii) The play, "The Proposal" is about Lomov's visit to his neighbour's house. Lomov visits Chubukov with the intention of making a marriage proposal to Chubukov's daughter, Natalya. But they end up quarrelling with each other over petty issues.
- (iv) Actually, Anne was being brutally honest by saying so. The time of the declaration of the annual results was coming closer. The teachers were going to decide which students would be promoted to the next class. Anne and her friends laughed heartily at their classmate as they felt that many were dummies and should not be promoted to the next class.
- (v) Although both the ideas mentioned in the poem about the end of the world are hypothetical, the poet stresses that the world will either end in fire or in ice. Though the poet thinks both ways to be destructive, yet he seems to favour the idea of the destruction of the world in the fire a little more than that of in ice.

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

- (i) Mrs. Pumphrey loved Tricki very much. She overfed him out of love and concern, and it made the dog lazy and fat. At this, Mrs. Pumphrey thought that it was because of malnutrition. So she gave him malt, cod-liver oil and a bowl of Horlicks at night. This worsened his health. Thus, Mrs. Pumphrey was responsible for Tricki's illness.
- (ii) The Tehsildar came to the village at the opening of the school. He asked Ramlal to send his daughter to the school to study as he was a government representative in the village. He told him that he would set an example by sending her daughter to school. It would encourage more villagers to send their daughter to school. So he had to show an example before the villagers.
- (iii) The invisible scientist was a brilliant man who misused his scientific discovery and became a lawless person. He started enjoying harming people. When his landlord who disliked him, tried to eject him, in revenge, Griffin set fire to his house. He even stole clothes and food for himself.

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

- (i) Yes, two interpretations of the story would be different. Spiritually, a person has deep faith in God and he recalls him in the time of distress he will definitely be answered. God will surely send help through his messengers as done in chapter 1. A letter to god. The postmaster became the messenger of God. Whereas psychologically, it interprets 'Never say die' till the end.

The narrator might also have got the insight of never to lose hope in the most hopeless situation. No one know who may come to save you. The narrator was hopeless when he was caught in the storm. He lost all contact with Paris control and all his instruments were dead. Then came a help from unknown source in form of the mysterious pilot of the black aeroplane to guide the narrator to safety.

- (ii) The tiger says, "I was born wild and free, I should be in a jungle, hiding in a shadow to hunt for a prey, but I am locked in concrete cell. My strength is behind the bars. I long to be free again, to roam the forests and plains."

Mandela replies, "I, too, was born free, but I have been in this prison for years. I, too, long to be free again."

The tiger asks, "What is freedom?"

Mandela replies, "Freedom is the ability to live as we choose, to do as we please, to be free from oppression and tyranny."

The tiger says, "That sounds like a very difficult thing to achieve. I'm not sure I could ever be truly free."

Mandela says, "I think it's something we all strive for. It's the reason we fight for justice and equality. It's what gives us the strength to keep going, even when the odds are against us." The tiger was inspired by Mandela's words, and he vowed to never give up hope that one day he would be free again.

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

- (i) I would rather choose not to sympathise with Matilda because of some of her characteristics. Matilda was greedy and demanded a lot from life. She was discontented and materialistic. She remained insensitive towards her husband and complained marrying about a clerk. Her this disposition made her life miserable with unending demands. She was always unhappy with her situation, even when her husband show the invitation card to a party in the minister's house, she gets irritated and angry and throws the card away. She grudges for not having suitable attire for such an extravagant party. She is engrossed in self-pity because she has a high opinion for herself or she is suffering from a superiority complex. Her husband gave her 400 francs to buy a new dress, then she realised that she did not have jewellery too. Then she borrows a necklace which became the cause of their sorrow. The problem with her is that she could not accept the reality of poverty-stricken life.



(ii) When Hari asked Anil if he could work for him, Anil said that he could not pay him. Finally, the agreement was that if he would cook, then Anil would feed him. However, Anil soon found out that he did not know how to cook. Therefore, he taught him how to cook and later, how to write his name. He promised he would teach him how to write whole sentences and how to add numbers. Apart from this, when Hari went out to buy the day's supplies, he would make a profit of a rupee a day.

