

Class X Session 2025-26

Subject - English Language and Literature

Sample Question Paper - 07

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 passage given below:

[10]

1. Hiking is a great source of pleasure to us besides being beneficial for health. Once we leave the crowded streets of a city and go out for a walking tour away from the mad world, we really feel free. The open air has a bracing effect on the mind. The congestion of the city, the uproar and tumult, the intolerable noise of traffic, the hectic daily routine, all these are forgotten and the mind is at ease. We then feel like running, leaping, singing and laughing. We travel merrily mile after mile in the company of friends and associates.
2. Hiking takes us in the midst of nature. The sight of waterfalls, flowers, streams, trees and bushes is pleasing. A connect is established between us and nature. Various sounds of nature, like the murmur of a brook or the song of a bird, acquire a new meaning and significance to us.
3. You enjoy the beauty of nature. Minute observations like a snake casting its slough, a mouse peeping out of its hole, a squirrel leaping about on the branches of a tree, a bird flying past us, all these are noticed and they arouse our interest. We have no business worries, no fear of the examination, no anxiety about the home. We have leisure to stand, to walk and talk. It is more thrilling and pleasurable to hike in a mountainous region than in the plains. The excitement of climbing up to the top of a hill, the adventure of coming down a slope, the grandeur of sunset behind a mountain - All these sights lend a rare charm and interest to our journey.
4. We walk along a zigzag motor road or cut across a mountain path in search of adventure. We may have bright sunny weather or might get caught in a shower of rain. We may look below us into the yawning chasm or up at the mountain peak. The feeling of unlimited freedom makes our hearts leap with joy.
5. Hiking is one of the healthiest sports. It ensures a complete escape from the urgent and busy activities of life and therefore gives solace to our brain. It regains its lost energy and is able to do twice as much work as before.



6. The fresh air, beautiful mountains, majestic trees, chirping sound of birds make one's mind and soul at peace with nature.

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

- i. (i) Based on the reading and understanding of the above passage, list 2 reasons why hiking is considered beneficial. (1)
(a) _____
(b) _____
- ii. Select the option that corresponds to the meaning of the following sentence from paragraph 1: (1)
"The open air has a bracing effect on the mind."
(a) Fresh air causes discomfort and unease.
(b) The fresh air refreshes and strengthens the mind.
(c) Open air leads to congestion in the mind.
(d) The open air reduces physical strength.
- iii. Based on your reading of the passage, examine in about 40 words how hiking connects us with nature. (2)
- iv. What is the tone of the writer in the given line from paragraph 3? Rationalize your response in about 40 words: (2)
"It is more thrilling and pleasurable to hike in a mountainous region than in the plains."
- v. The phrase 'yawning chasm' in paragraph 4 refers to: (1)
(a) a wide and deep gap
(b) a narrow and shallow gap
(c) a bridge connecting two areas
(d) a small and safe path
- vi. In sets a-e below, identify two sets of synonyms: (1)
a. hectic and calm
b. solitude and peace
c. bracing and refreshing
d. adventure and monotony
e. charm and allure
Options:
a. c and e
b. a and d
c. b and c
d. b and e
- vii. Complete the sentence appropriately: (1)
Hiking is thrilling because it involves _____.
- viii. Complete the following sentence: (1)
The fresh air and beautiful scenery during a hike _____.

2. **Read the passage given below:**

[10]

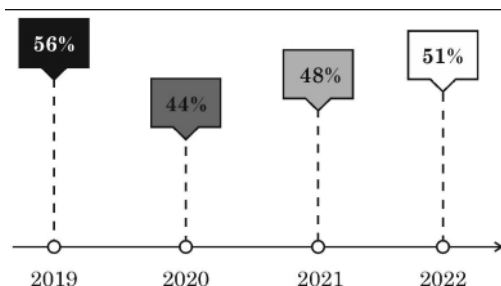
1. Increasing traffic congestion every year is causing increasing air pollution, wasting time and productivity and diverse respiratory diseases. Moreover, the cost of solving or reducing traffic congestion is enormous. However, neglecting the traffic jam problem would increase the social problems among citizens.



2. The number of vehicles has increased considerably in the city in the past five years. Due to this increase, the city roads witness frequent traffic congestions, but above all, the vehicles emitting pollutants are affecting the environment adversely.
3. The Capital's vehicular population saw an addition of more than five lakh vehicles last year, registering an increase of over 4%, according to the Delhi Economic Survey 2020-21.
4. In spite of the largest road network, through metro and bus services in major cities the transport system is not being able to keep pace with the growing demand. Consequently, more and more people use their private vehicles, leading to increased congestion on the roads. In spite of these challenges people in India prefer road travel over air and other means of travel. Citizens of Delhi/NCR have, time and again, pondered over the possibilities of how to reduce the traffic congestion in the city, especially during the peak hours. People should use public transport, the government must increase the facilities of public transport, people should avoid the unnecessary collection of vehicles and should use carpool and vehicle sharing.
5. What is required is proper implementation of corrective measures by citizens to get an organized traffic management system.

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

- i. Infer one reason for the following, based on information in paragraph 1. Reducing traffic congestion is not easy. **(1)**
- ii. Select the appropriate option to complete the following sentence. The reasons for increased traffic congestion are _____. **(1)**
 1. use of private vehicles
 2. increase in demand for cars
 3. inability to keep pace with population control
 4. travelling by public transport
 5. emission of pollutants
 - a. 4, 5
 - b. 1, 5
 - c. 1, 2
 - d. 2, 3
- iii. Analyze the status of traffic between the years 2019-2022. **(2)**



What is required to get an organized traffic management system?

- iv. Give the reasons for increase in vehicular congestion. **(2)**
- v. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word / phrase from the paragraph 5. organized : chaotic :: lowest : _____. Clue : Just as organized is an antonym of chaotic, lowest is an antonym of _____. **(1)**
- vi. The vehicles emit pollutants which affect _____ badly **(1)**
- vii. Complete the following sentence. Use of public transport will reduce _____. **(1)**

viii. **Assertion (A):** Increasing traffic congestion in cities is causing severe air pollution and social problems.

Reason (R): People prefer private vehicles over public transport due to inadequate facilities, leading to worsening road congestion.

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

- (b) Read the given sentence from a sports journal. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence. [1]

In present times, physiologists would travel the world to conferences and meetings to present their findings to other scientists.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- (c) **Read the conversation and complete the sentence by reporting the reply correctly.** [1]

Ankit: Where are you going?

Atul: To the airport.

Ankit asked Atul where he was going. Atul replied _____.

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

"Say hello to Jayesh," they said.

- a) They asked me to say hello to Jayesh.
- b) They told me to say hello to Jayesh.
- c) They ask me to say hello to Jayesh.
- d) They asked me to said hello to Jayesh.

- (e) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. [1]

She was _____ (never / neither / either) ready for the interview nor wanted to take the job.

- (f) Identify the error and supply the correction for this line from a sociological research paper. [1]

There's a significant correlation of low income and high crime rates.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- (g) Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from a speech by an employee: [1]

We live in an ever changed world and in order to keep up and become successful, continuous education is a must.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- (h) When he ____ her as a cheater, she ____ him to the headmaster. [1]

- a) had called / complained
- b) called / had complained



c) has called / complains

d) called / complained

- (i) **Report the dialogue between Jitu and Nitu, by completing the sentence:** [1]

Jitu: My crash-course batch is full as only a month is left for the final exams.

Nitu: A drowning man will catch a straw.

Jitu said that his crash-course batch was full as only a month was left for the final exams, to which

Nitu said that _____.

- (j) "I am leaving the city tomorrow," the lecturer said. [1]

He said that _____ leaving the city _____.

a) he was, that day

b) he is, tomorrow

c) I was, previous day

d) he was, the following day

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

About Ben Adhem (May his tribe increase!)

_____ one night from a deep dream of peace,

And _____, within the moonlight in his room,

Making it rich, and like a lily in bloom,

A. Awoke, saw

B. Awakening, seen

C. Awakes, sees

D. Awoke, seen

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

Government of Haryana	
WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY	
'Nagar Van' are being established for the objective to make the cities pollution free	

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

4. Floods in Uttarakhand in June 2012, wiped out hundreds of villages. People have been left homeless; sources of livelihood gone, no roads. In this hour of their need, all the countrymen must come forward to help. As a responsible citizen, write a letter to the Editor, 'The Times', New Delhi expressing your concern about the miserable conditions of those who have been uprooted. Make an appeal to the people to donate generously to the Uttarakhand Relief Fund. [5]

OR

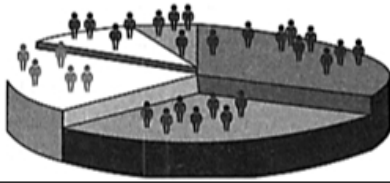
You are Aruna/Arjun C.C.A. incharge of St. Joseph's High School. You have read an advertisement in a newspaper regarding admission into a foreign languages institute.

Write a letter in about 100-120 words to the Director of the institute **Lingua for All** making relevant inquires:

- Eligibility
- Duration of Course
- Time Schedule
- Fee Structure
- Faculty

f. Placement

5. Every four seconds a new baby is born in India while the death ratio is very low. If the present trend continues serious consequences will be seen. Pressure is growing on the civic amenities. Over population has become a menace. Being an alert citizen, you feel strong about it and intend to spread awareness. In this regard you decide to write a paragraph on, **Over Population - A Hazard**, taking help from the verbal input and visual stimulus given below: [5]



Slums have sprung up everywhere - pressure is growing on basic amenities - public transport ply overcrowded - long queues in hospitals, at railway stations, shops, gas agencies, bus stands - problem of unemployment - solution is family planning, youth need to be made aware of dire consequences.

OR

The table below displays data about the number of gyms and the number of members in your city over the past decade. Write a paragraph analysing the given information:

Year	No. of Gyms	No. of Members
2010	24000	28000
2012	30000	28000
2014	30000	30000
2016	40000	35000
2018	45000	45000
2020	30000	28000
2022	35000	36000

SECTION C - LITERATURE

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

- (a) Read the following extracts and answer the question/complete the sentences that follow: [5]

"You are disappointed", Ausable said wheezily over his shoulder. "You were told that I was a secret agent, a spy, dealing in espionage and danger. You wished to meet me because you are a writer, young and romantic. You envisioned mysterious figures in the night, the crack of pistols, drugs in the wine."

- i. What makes Ausable comment to Fowler "You are disappointed"? (1)
- ii. Why did 'he' want to meet Ausable? (2)
- iii. Complete the given sentence: (1)
Fowler was disappointed to meet Ausable because _____.
- iv. What is the meaning of the word **Espionage**? (1)
 - i. Finding out secret information
 - ii. Dealing with careless behaviour
 - iii. Ignorant about certain things
 - iv. Dealing indifferently



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

All through the night, Lencho thought only of his one hope: the help of God, whose eyes, as he had been instructed, see everything, to even what is deep in one's conscience. Lencho was an ox of a man, working like an animal in the fields, but still, he knew how to write. The following Sunday, at daybreak, he began to write a letter which he himself would carry to town and place in the mail. It was nothing less than a letter to God. "God," he wrote, "If you don't help me, my family and I will go hungry this year. I need a hundred pesos in order to sow field again and to live until the crop comes because of the hailstorm..."

- a. Why Lencho thought only of his one hope: the help of God? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- b. Read the following descriptions (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract. (1)
 - a. Lencho worked in fields like an ox of a man. He worked like an animal in the fields.
 - b. Lencho became stressed and disappointed as everything went against the plan.
 - c. He felt helpless as no corn had been left and feared, that they might have to starve this time.
- c. What would be the word if a word were to be replaced with the phrase 'the inner sense of right or wrong'? (1)
- d. Fill the blank with one word. Lencho wrote the letter to God, and he himself carried the letter to town and dropped in the _____. (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]

All night the roots work to
disengage themselves from the cracks
In the veranda floor.
The leaves strain toward the glass
Small twigs stiff with exertion
Long cramped boughs shuffling under the roof
Like newly discharged patients
Half dazed moving
To the clinic doors.

- i. Choose the correct option that mentions the correct poetic device against the correct example. (1)

(1)	Simile	Long cramped boughs
	Metaphor	Like newly discharged patients
(2)	Personification	Small twigs stiff with exertion
	Simile	Like newly discharged patients
(3)	Refrain	Under the roof
	Simile	Leaves strain toward the glass
(4)	Personification	Like newly discharged patients
	Refrain	Half-dazed, moving

A. Option (1)



B. Option (2)

C. Option (3)

D. Option (4)

ii. Why do the leaves strain towards the glass? (1)

iii. Comment on the work done by trees according to the poet. (1)

iv. The poet compares the trees to “newly discharged patients”. Highlight any two reasons for the same. (2)

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

[5]

Suddenly, suddenly they heard a nasty sound,

And Mustard growled, and they all looked around.

Meowch! cried Ink, and ooh! cried Belinda,

For there was a pirate, climbing in the window.

i. What can you infer from the repetition ‘suddenly, suddenly’ in the above extract? (1)

a. There was an immediate change in the scene.

b. It focuses on the hasty attack and the loud noise.

c. It emphasises that an unexpected noise was heard.

d. It draws our attention to the loud cry that occurred.

ii. What did Mustard do when he heard a nasty sound? (1)

iii. Fill in the blank with one word. The rhyming scheme of the lines _____. (1)

iv. The poet could have included a burglar or an intruder in the poem, but chose to include a pirate. Explain this choice. (2)

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

[12]

(a) What impressed Mr. Barua about Rajiv? (**Glimpses of India**)

[3]

(b) How does the tiger walk in the cage?

[3]

(c) What does Chubukov say to Lomov about his being a hunter?

[3]

(d) The classmates of Anne Frank were shaking with fear and nervousness. Why?

[3]

(e) What does fire and ice stand for and what is the general opinion regarding the world?

[3]

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

[6]

(a) Why and when did Mr. Herriot get anxious about Tricki?

[3]

(b) What filled Bholi, a dumb cow, with a new hope?

[3]

(c) The neighbours suspected Griffin of burglary. State why this was OR was not justified.

[3]

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

[6]

(a) The young seagull's parents wanted him to fly, like his brothers and sister. How could the young seagull's newly flying siblings (Brother 1, Brother 2 and Sister) have motivated him? Write a brief conversation among them.

[6]

(b) Prejudice based on race and colour or any other reason causes profound hurt.

[6]

Write about any one character from the chapters in First Flight who was subjected to such prejudice?

Discuss the consequence of this prejudice for the character. Answer in the context of the lesson **Long Walk to Freedom**.

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

[6]

(a) Madam Forestier writes a diary entry after having met Matilda, knowing the truth and seeing the transformation in her friend. Write a short diary entry as Madam Forestier about your encounter and

[6]



how you felt. You may begin like this.

20th July, Monday 9:00 pm

I couldn't recognise Matilda at all. I wish she had told me the truth about the necklace.

- (b) What thought crossed Hari Singh's mind when he was waiting on the railway platform?

[6]



Solution

Section A - Reading Skills

1.
 - i. (a) It provides a sense of freedom and relief from the congestion and noise of city life.
(b) It connects us with nature, allowing us to observe and appreciate the beauty around us.
 - ii. (b) The fresh air refreshes and strengthens the mind.
 - iii. Hiking allows us to immerse ourselves in the natural environment, where we can observe and appreciate details like the sounds of a brook, the songs of birds, and the movement of animals. This experience fosters a deep connection with nature.
 - iv. The tone of the writer is enthusiastic and appreciative. The writer expresses excitement about the adventure and beauty of hiking in mountainous regions, highlighting the unique charm and interest it brings to the experience.
 - v. (a) a wide and deep gap
 - vi. (a) c and e
 - vii. Hiking is thrilling because it involves exploring challenging terrains and enjoying the excitement of adventure.
 - viii. The fresh air and beautiful scenery during a hike bring peace and relaxation to both mind and soul.
2.
 - i. The cost of solving or reducing traffic congestion is enormous.
 - ii. 1, 2
 - iii. Proper implementation of corrective measures by citizens.
 - iv. (1) People prefer to travel on roads
(2) Growth in demand of private vehicles
 - v. Peak
 - vi. environment
 - vii. traffic congestion
 - viii. A. Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

SECTION B GRAMMAR

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

(i) propose

(ii)	Error	Correction
	physiologists would travel	physiologists travel

(iii) that he was going to the airport

(iv) (a) They asked me to say hello to Jayesh.

Explanation:

They asked me to say hello to Jayesh.

(v) Neither

(vi)	Error	Correction
	of	Between

(vii)	Error	Correction
	changed	changing

(viii) (a) had called / complained

Explanation:

had called / complained

(ix) a drowning man will catch a straw.

(x) (d) he was, the following day

Explanation:

he was, the following day

(xi) A. Awoke, saw

The situation describes the past event.



(xii) error	correction
for	with

SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

4. 251-A,

South-Extension,

New Delhi

4th July 2018

The Editor

The Times

New Delhi

Sir,

Subject: Appeal for Uttarakhand Flood Relief

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I write to your esteemed self to express my deep concern over last month, India has witnessed one of the worst forms of nature's fury-floods in Uttarakhand which, washed away thousands of pilgrims, causing a colossal loss of life and property, rendering millions destitute and homeless. Through the columns of this newspaper, I would like to appeal to the people across the country to respond earnestly to this call for duty towards our less fortunate brethren who have been the victims of this disaster.

There is also a need to introspect and identify objectively whether this is a natural calamity or a man-made disaster. The most important thing here is to learn from our mistakes.

My appeal is that help in any form-food, medicines or money, should not only be forthcoming but also well organized, so as to benefit the maximum number of people. The Government should also set proper

safety and management in advance for the safety of people from the disaster. Kindly, give due space to my ideas in your esteemed daily.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

XYZ.

OR

St. Joseph's High School

Pune Cantt

28 August 2023

The Director

Lingua for All Institute

Ghorpadi, Pune

Subject: Inquiry Regarding Foreign Language Courses

Sir,

I am writing on behalf of St. Joseph's High School as the C.C.A. Incharge, and we recently came across your newspaper advertisement regarding admissions at *Lingua for All* Institute. We are keen to gather comprehensive information about your foreign language courses for our students.

- Kindly provide details about the eligibility criteria for admission.
- Could you specify the duration of the courses offered at *Lingua for All*?
- We are interested in understanding the time schedule for classes to help our students plan their commitments accordingly.
- Please share the fee structure for the courses you offer.
- It would be helpful to know more about the qualifications and experience of your esteemed faculty members.
- Do you offer any placement assistance or opportunities for students completing their courses at *Lingua for All*?

Your prompt response will greatly assist us in guiding our students toward enriching foreign language learning experiences. We eagerly await your reply and the possibility of collaboration.

Thank you for your attention to our inquiry.

Yours Sincerely,

Aruna/Arjun

5.

Over-Population - A Hazard



Over population has become a menace in present times. Every four seconds, a new baby is born in India while the death ratio is very low. The rise in population is taking its toll on the normal life. Pressure is growing on the basic amenities. The public transport services ply overcrowded with no space to breathe fresh air. Wherever you go, there are long queues. People can be seen waiting whether it is a hospital, a railway station, shops, gas-agencies, bus-stands and in fact almost everywhere. Over population has led to unemployment also which further leads to social unrest among the youth. The cases of robbery, violence, eve-teasing are on a rise. The only solution to this problem is family-planning. People must be made aware of the dire consequences of over-population. Awareness should be spread among the masses through campaigning or street plays so that people may understand that over-population must be checked. Impart family planning, empowering women, making education entertaining and attractive, government incentives are some of the suggestions that control over population.

OR

The table shows fluctuations in the number of gyms and gym memberships in the city over the past decade. From 2010 to 2018, there was a steady increase in both gyms and members, peaking in 2018 with 45,000 gyms and 45,000 members. This indicates a growing interest in fitness during this period. However, in 2020, there was a significant drop to 30,000 gyms and 28,000 members, likely due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to gym closures and reduced memberships. By 2022, the numbers began to recover, with 35,000 gyms and 36,000 members, reflecting a gradual return to pre-pandemic fitness activities. Overall, the data highlights the resilience of the fitness industry and the community's commitment to health and wellness, despite challenges.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

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

- (i)
 - i. Fowler was disappointed to see Ausable because he had unrealistic views about secret agents.
 - ii. Fowler wanted to meet him because he was a writer and wished to meet a real spy.
 - iii. He was disappointed to meet Ausable who looked ordinary, slow, sluggish and a very fat person who lived in a small room on the top floor of a cheap hotel.
 - iv. (a) Finding out secret information
- (ii)
 - a. Lencho spent his entire night thinking of the only option left and : to seek the help of God, who, he had been informed, has its eyes and ears everywhere.
 - b. Lencho worked in fields like an ox of a man. He worked like an animal in the fields.
 - c. Conscience.
 - d. mailbox.

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

- (i)
 - i. Option (B) is correct.
 - ii. The leaves strain towards the glass to escape their captivity.
 - iii. It seems like the trees work silently in the night in order to complete their mission of getting free from the boundaries of the house. The leaves of the trees try very hard to put a lot of pressure on the glass so that they could break it.
 - iv. In the poem, the poet compares the 'trees' to 'newly discharged patients'. Firstly, the trees were enslaved inside the house like patients in the hospital. Secondly, the trees were exerted like patients, due to the effort that they had to put in order to be freed from the house.
- (ii)
 - i. (c) It emphasises that an unexpected noise was heard.
 - ii. Mustard growled when he heard a nasty sound.
 - iii. The rhyming scheme is a b b.
 - iv. The poet chose a pirate over any burglar or a thief because **a pirate looks evil and nasty**. The way his leg crippled as one of them was of wood, pistol in both of his hands and a cutlass between his teeth was scarier than a burglar.

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

- (i) Rajvir did indeed amaze Mr. Barua with his abilities in time management, positivism, and humility. Before leaving for Assam, he did some study to learn more about the region. The most crucial thing is to be aware of the location and comfortable with it. The father of Pranjol, Mr. Barua, was similarly taken aback by Rajvir's in-depth understanding of the topic.
- (ii) The tiger is confined in the narrow cell and paces up and down in the cage restlessly. In the cage, the tiger walks stately and furiously. He moves very slowly and quietly in a threatening way.
- (iii) Chubukov says that Lomov is not a hunter. He says that Lomov should sit at home with his palpitations instead of tracking animals. He says that Lomov only goes to argue with people and interfere with their dogs.



- (iv) The classmates of Anne Frank were shaking with fear and nervousness because it was time to move to the next class. It was the forthcoming meeting in which the teachers decided who would move up to the next form and who would be kept back.
- (v) According to the poet, 'fire' represents desire and 'ice' represents hatred. I do agree with the poet. Desires like fire spread rapidly and engulf one's whole life. Similarly 'hatred' fills the whole life with poison. It makes one hard-hearted and cruel.

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

- (i) One day, Mr. Herriot saw Mrs. Pumphrey with her pet dog, Tricki. Tricki's condition was critical. He had grown very fat. This made Mr. Herriot really anxious about Tricki's health and he advised Mrs. Pumphrey to cut his diet and give him some hard exercise.
- (ii) In school, the teacher gave Bholi new hope. She smiled at Bholi and asked her name. She also encouraged her when Bholi could not tell her name. The teacher asked her to put the fear out of the heart and then she would be able to speak like everyone else. She also gave Bholi a book full of nice pictures.
- (iii) The neighbors suspected Griffin of burglary. This was justified because Griffin had always told Mrs. Halls that he had no more ready cash and he was expecting a cheque to arrive at any moment but after the burglary, he suddenly produced some ready cash which made the suspicion of the neighbours strange.

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

- (i) **Young seagull:** Brother 1, I'm so hungry, kindly give me some food.
Brother 1: I'm holding the food in my beak for you. But you will have to jump the ledge and take it.
Young seagull: I am scared! The sea below is so deep. I'll die.
Brother 2: No, you won't. We birds learn flying only after jumping. See, how well I'm flying.
Young seagull: Are you sure, I won't fall into the sea?
Sister: Yes, Brother 2 is right. Would a sister ask her brother to do suicide? I am your sister. I am just speechless at your fear.
Young seagull: OK! I trust you. (The young seagull jumped off the ledge. He fell for hundred metres. Soon he began flying.)
Sister: See! didn't I tell you; you would fly?
Young seagull: (feeling elated) WOW! Success is just behind the daring. Thanks sister!
- (ii) Prejudging a person on the basis of race, colour or his & appearance or any other reason is wrong if so we treat the person the same as we think of them in our mind without knowing the right intensions of that person. The character subjected to this prejudice in 'First Flight' was Wanda Petronski from the chapter. 'The Hundred Dresses'. She belonged to a very poor family. She was a polish girl. She came to school in a same faded blue dress daily. It was clean but not properly ironed. Her classmates made fun of her as they found her name funny. They would ask her how many dresses she had in her closet. The girls would suppress their laugh when Wanda replied that she had a hundred dresses and sixty pairs of shoes. Although her claim was not justified. But it is not at all right to judge people on the basis of their social status. Later on, Wanda proud herself by submitting a hundred drawings of dresses. People who judge other with their social-economic background need to understand that such an attitude is not the parameter to judge a person's capabilities.
- When people are undervalued by others, their self-esteem suffers and they stop trying to improve themselves. Prejudice can often lead to bullying and other forms of discrimination.

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

- (i) 20th July Monday 9:00 PM
I couldn't recognise Matilda at all. I wish she had told me the truth about the necklace, which she didn't. I feel so sorry for her. The poor lady had to go through so much just for the sake of one artificial necklace worth 400 francs. I am surprised she hid this all from me fearing I would demand the real price of the necklace from her. Oh! I wish she should have at least spoken to me once, so that I could have got her out of this predicament. My innocent friend, Matilda, whom I love so dearly, had to go through this pain of having lost my necklace in the ball. She during this course of life has become a much tougher person. She no longer is that sweet face of woman she used to be. It clearly pains to see her like this. I would like to help her.
Madam Forestier
- (ii) Hari Singh stole six hundred rupees while Anil was sleeping. He went to the railway station after stealing the money but did not board the train. His conscience pricked him for robbing a man like Anil, who had trusted him and helped him. He knew that Anil would feel bad when he would come to know about his stolen money. He realised that the money



wouldn't matter much, but the loss of trust and faith which he had reposed in him would matter as he had betrayed it. He felt lonely and sad at the thought of leaving Anil. He roamed around aimlessly and remembered the good times he had spent with Anil. He remembered how Anil taught him to read and write. He realised that stealing was completely different from getting an education. He realised that being an educated man would add to his abilities. So, he immediately decided to go back to Anil because of his respect for Anil and his own desire to get an education and follow the path of honesty.

