

# **Xamidea Sample Papers Simplified**

## **ENGLISH-X [LANGUAGE & LITERATURE] SOLUTIONS**

- Sample Papers 6 to 15 (Solutions)



# ENGLISH-X [LANGUAGE & LITERATURE] SOLUTIONS

## SAMPLE PAPER – 6

### SECTION-A: Reading Skills

(20 Marks)

- I. (i) Learning how to overcome challenges is essential to become a successful adult.
- (ii) Yes, children need limits on their behaviour because they feel better and more secure when they live within a secured structure.
- (iii) When children are given too much too soon, they grow up to be adults who have difficulty coping with life's disappointments.
- (iv) kids want much more, partly because there is so much more to want.
- (v) distorted
- (vi) are already overburdened by social and academic pressures
- (vii) watching how others, especially parents act
- (viii) (d) teaching children to be good human beings
- (ix) (c) values for life
- (x) (c) they wear the same designer clothes
- II. (i) (d) 4, 3, 2, 1
- (ii) (a) A sense of duty
- (iii) (c) The nation is only the guardian of the government.
- (iv) (c) Both (a) and (b)
- (v) (b) To teach their children the importance of obeying laws
- (vi) By performing our duty as a citizen, we are contributing for the development of our nation by inculcating a sense of duty in the minds of young people, who are the future of our nation.
- (vii) True owners of any nation are its citizens.
- (viii) The people of the country are the true owners and the government exists only to serve the people. So citizens have to play a major role in fulfilling their duties towards the nation.
- (ix) The author emphasises on the term 'true democracy' because in true democracy every citizen have to play an active role in creating a new type of leadership.
- (x) (d) India: On the Path of Greatness

### SECTION-B: Grammar

(10 Marks)

- III. 1. (i) (b) aren't been
- (ii) whether he was sure that it was the best in the market.
- (iii) (b) needn't

- (iv) (d) are – have
- (v) (c) become
- (vi) he had drawn the diagram of bacteria
- (vii) experience – experiences
- (viii) Sudip asked Sunil whether he knew that he should trim his roses only in the beginning of winter when it was not the flowering season.
- (ix) (c) Should
- (x) (d) that he needed to bring an application from his parents stating the reason for his absence.
- (xi) No error on the shop's hoarding
- (xii) am seeking

## SECTION-B: Creative Writing Skills (10 Marks)

**IV. 1.(A)** Rameswaram International School

T.K. Nagar

Chennai

21st September, 20XX

The Editor

The Tamil Times

Chennai

**Subject:** Drawing attention towards the harm caused by over straining and exercises.

Sir

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to bring to the notice of the concerned authorities about the harms caused due to over straining and exercises. I am a student of class 10 and I have recently noticed several posters around my school premises from a gymnasium conveying a hazardous message: "Make Muscles, Not Excuses!!!"

People who are passionate about their fitness and health are going to the gym and doing physically tough exercises. After a certain point, too much exercise can be harmful to one's health. Exercises that involve heavy machinery, deadlifts and strength training ones cause strain to the muscles and may also risk the growth spurt.

All the fitness enthusiasts must be aware that training too hard or too often can cause injuries like fractures, stiffness or sore joints and muscles. A mix of different kinds of activities and sufficient rest is safer. A person going to the gym must listen to his/her body. He/She should hold off on exercise when feeling sick or fatigued.

Hope you will look into the matter by taking proper initiative to avoid spreading such hazardous message and educate people about the need of proper diet and healthy lifestyle along with regular exercise to stay fit and healthy.

Yours sincerely

Aditya Purohit

Head Boy

**OR**

**(B) #494 A**

ABS Advantage Apartments  
Curzon Street  
Panaji

17th December, 20XX

The Secretary  
ABS Advantage Apartments  
Curzon Street  
Panaji

**Subject:** Recommendation for the nomination for 'Khula Aasman'

Sir

I am writing this letter to recommend a child to be nominated for 'Khula Aasman' for her act of kindness. The name of the child is Riya Pathak. She is studying in class 10. A few days back I was moved to see how this young girl saved the puppies from a cold wave and provided them shelter. In today's age, kids must be raised with a sense of responsibility and empathy. The world needs youth like her who are empathetic and emotionally intelligent. Fortunately, empathy is not a fixed trait; it can be fostered, nurtured and encouraged.

An effective way to inculcate any value in children is leading the way by setting an example. By nominating this girl for the award, we would not only recognise and appreciate her act of kindness but also teach our kids about the importance of kindness and teach them to be responsible citizens and good people.

I hope you would take necessary initiative to identify the girl and reward her for her kind act.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely  
Agatha Henfrey

2. **(A)** The number of active Internet users has marked a significant rise. The study reveals that almost 90 percent access the internet on a daily basis. 50 years and above users too are active and are not left behind with 81 percent accessing it daily. Mobile phones have remained the key device for all internet usage across sectors. As per the study, the number of active internet users is 592 million who are aged 12 years and above. Compared with 2019, the active internet user base for 12 years and above has shown an impressive growth of about 37 percent. The rural users' growth at 45 percent continues to outshine urban users' growth at 28 percent over 2019. The female users' growth in the last 2 years is a whopping 61 percent as compared to the male users who grew at 24 percent. Also, 1 in every 3 female internet users in rural India, are actively using the internet.

**OR**

**(B)** Patriotism means a noble sentiment of love, pride and sacrifice for the sake of one's country and its people. Patriotism and nationalism are the two sides of the same coin. In nationalism, the nation has a symbolic representation to have freedom for an ethnic group, while in patriotism the nation itself has the highest value. People express their patriotism in different ways and in different roles. Soldiers, scientists, doctors, politicians, and other citizens, express their patriotism through their hard work in their profession. Patriotism does not always mean that you have to sacrifice your life for your country; contributing good service towards the country and its people is also equivalent to your sacrifice. Patriotism is the most important thing for the development of the country. As patriots think about the country, its growth and countrymen's improvement, it positively impacts the development of the country. A sense of patriotism helps to reduce corruption and riots, hence, the country develops effectively.

**SECTION-C: Literature**

**(40 Marks)**

- V. 1. (A)** (i) (c) Knowledge about Tea and Tea Plantation  
(ii) Pranjol's father was surprised because Rajvir knew more than he expected.  
(iii) displayed  
(iv) (b) In Assam  
(v) (a) This soil yields good crops.

**OR**

- (B)** (i) (d) The people sat on their haunches because the magistrate failed to order his immediate arrest.  
(ii) humbly  
(iii) (a) they are Think-Tank's subordinates and he likes to be praised for his intelligence.  
(iv) (a) Noodle, being a sycophant, is trying to appease his boss.  
(v) Helps with understanding stage setting and movements; helps actors with the emotions and directors with gestures to gain clarity while performing.
- 2. (A)** (i) The branches of the trees are seen like newly discharged patients heading for the clinic doors.  
(ii) The poet describes the struggle of the trees to free themselves.  
(iii) The leaves keep straining because they do want to free themselves by exerting pressure on the glass.  
(iv) (c) Simile  
(v) (c) the branches

**OR**

- (B)** (i) (d) The poet to Anne Gregory  
(ii) The poet is thrown into despair because the poet feels Anne's sole attraction is just because of her honey-coloured hair.  
(iii) (d) parapet  
(iv) 'Despair' means the same as 'hopelessness'.  
(v) (a) abcadb

- VI.** (i) The Indian legend says that a Buddhist monk, Bodhidharma cut off his eyelids as he felt sleepy during the meditation. Later, ten tea plants grew up from there. The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drunk banished sleep.  
(ii) Here, 'balls' are the symbol of man's possessions. We love our things. Some things are dearer to us than the others. But nothing is permanent in life. We may lose our dear things. Then we suffer from a sense of loss. This is experienced in life by everyone. That is why, the poet says, "Balls will be lost always".  
(iii) Kisa compared human life with the lights of the city which flickered up and extinguished again, and the darkness of the night spread everywhere. Similarly, a human takes birth, flickers up and then gets extinguished which means die. She compared so because the darkness of sadness got control of her emotions and the ability to reason as she was in grief because of the death of her only son.  
(iv) The major theme of the poem 'How to Tell Wild Animals' is to identify and differentiate between animals from one another. The poet tries to distinguish one animal from the other in a humorous way. The poet suggests that it is very risky to be in such a close proximity to these wild beasts.  
(v) In London, Mijbil remained a mystery for most of the people. They couldn't recognise an otter. They guessed among other things that it was a baby seal, a squirrel, a walrus, a hippo, a beaver, a bear cub, a leopard and a brontosaurus. The otter was a constant source of amazement. Londoners were filled with surprise on seeing such an animal.
- VII.** (i) Anything in excess is not good for us. Exercise is equally important for the well-being along with nutritious food. Even food, if given more than it is required will harm the body, but if in time you come into a proper routine that problem can be resolved without any surgery as seen in the case of Tricki. Keeping the dog on a strict diet along with plenty of exercises, Tricki was transformed into a hard-muscled animal.  
(ii) Though Max was a secret agent, yet he was a careless and foolish person. Max was on an important mission to procure a vital report regarding some new missiles. So it becomes obvious that the person assigned such task should be witty and a perfect planner but Max did not take any pain to inspect the hotel or Ausable's room in advance. Max fell into the trap of false story and jumped onto a non-existent balcony, which eventually cost him his life.  
(iii) Richard Ebright's mother helped him by encouraging his interest in learning. She took him on trips, bought him telescopes, microscopes, cameras, mounting materials and other equipments, and helped him in many ways. If he did not have anything to do, she found things for him to learn. Even the book that became a turning point in his life was given to him by his mother. Hence, it can be said that his mother played a crucial role in the making of the scientist.
- VIII.** (i) **The speaker** : Namaste. Are you a native of Coorg?  
**Native** : Yes Sir. I am.  
**The speaker** : I came on a visit to Coorg, because I was fascinated by what I read about the place.  
**The speaker** : Can you help me by providing a guide who could help me with seeing the place around systematically?  
**Native** : Why not Sir! I am myself a guide. I shall take you around and show you our coffee plantations, tourist spots, historical monuments and also treat you to authentic Coorgi cuisine.

**The speaker :** Great! Will 8 a.m. in the morning suit you? I am here for 7 days. So please space out the schedule, so that I can enjoy my visit here.

**Native :** Sure Sir. I'll pick you up at 8 a.m. Good day.

**OR**

- (ii) We all have the right to be treated equally, regardless of our race, ethnicity, nationality, class, caste, religion, belief, gender, language, age or other status. Discrimination occurs when a person is unable to enjoy his or her human rights or other legal rights on an equal basis with others because of an unjustified distinction. Hundreds of millions of people suffer from discrimination in the world of work. This not only violates the most basic human right, but also has wider social and economic consequences. Discrimination either on the basis of caste or colour stifles opportunities, and accentuates social inequalities and tensions. At the heart of all forms of discrimination is prejudice based on concepts of identity, and the need to identify with a certain group. This can lead to division, hatred and even the dehumanisation of other people because they have a different identity. Everywhere in the world, people face discrimination because of who they are.

- IX.** (i) Herriot was a duty-bound veterinary doctor. He used to visit Mrs Pumphrey's house regularly for the regular check-up of her dog Tricki. Mrs Pumphrey was a very rich lady who had pampered her dog. Dr Herriot was quite worried about Tricki's health. He knew that the dog was over-fed by his owner. He advised Mrs Pumphrey to give him lot of exercises. But she didn't bother. Hence, in order to improve Tricki's health, he decided to take him away from Mrs Pumphrey. He told her that Tricki needed surgery. He made Tricki cut down his diet and made him do certain exercises which improved his health. Although he knew Mrs Pumphrey was very rich and much attached to the dog, he did not take any advantage of it. He just performed his duties.

**OR**

- (ii) Success is the fruit of failure. It never comes straight but through failure. This can be seen in the life of Richard Ebright. Although he earned top grades in school on everything, he was just like every other kid. He faced many failures in his life, but every failure strengthened his will to succeed. When he was in seventh grade, he participated in County Science Fair with his slides of frog tissues. But he could not win a prize. This made him determined to win the prize and in his eighth grade, he again participated in the science fair with the experiment of viral disease in monarch caterpillars and won the prize. The very next year, he participated with his experiment of whether viceroy butterflies copy the monarch butterflies in order to save their life from the birds and this project won Ebright, third prize in overall County Science Fair. His experiment regarding gold spots of monarch that the spots produced hormones necessary for the full development of butterflies won third prize in International Science and Engineering Fair. Next year, his advanced experiments on the monarch pupa won him first place at the International Science Fair. Thus, for Richard Ebright, we can say that success is failure turned inside out.



## SAMPLE PAPER – 7

### SECTION–A: Reading Skills

(20 Marks)

- I. (i) (d) They intend to save planet earth.  
(ii) (b) To be happy and be grateful  
(iii) (c) Positivity  
(iv) meditation and certain breathing techniques  
(v) One can rejuvenate his soul by taking some time off to see how much has life has to offer us. Our soul is hungry for a smile from us.  
(vi) The writer says so because we spend half of our health to gain wealth and spend half of our wealth to gain back the health.  
(vii) The sign of a successful person which cannot be seen in an unsuccessful person includes confidence, compassion, generosity, and a smile that none can snatch away, being really happy and being able to be freer.  
(viii) (d) Smile  
(ix) people enjoy hanging around with people who regularly smile because they seem more friendly  
(x) (d) Happiness and friendliness
- II. (i) (c) the ability to launch something new  
(ii) countries with upcoming economies shall see maximum tourist football from over the world in the next decade  
(iii) wild and untouched surroundings  
(iv) (b) (1) is an ethical tourist and (2) is a geotourist  
(v) (c) 2 and 4  
(vi) the activity preferences were varied in females and males  
(vii) ecotourism was no more limited to the small group of highly educated travellers  
(viii) (a) 60%  
(ix) (d) the opportunity to travel to new places  
(x) (c) Emerging countries will receive negligible international tourists in the near future.

### SECTION–B: Grammar

(10 Marks)

- III. 1. (i) (a) how now planned  
(ii) she had been planning to take up a crash course for French language  
(iii) (c) will  
(iv) (c) affect – effect  
(v) (c) sounds  
(vi) prevailing  
(vii) if it was possible to get an appointment with the doctor that evening  
(viii) have – has  
(ix) Sanjay informed Arush that their school was planning an excursion for South India during winter vacation and only senior wings students were eligible to join the trip.  
(x) (c) Shouldn't

- (xi) (b) Atulya whether he had attended the previous class of biology last day.  
(xii) who – which

## SECTION–B: Creative Writing Skills (10 Marks)

**IV. 1. (A)** Arya Public School

Woods Valley  
Dehradun

26th December, 20XX

The Editor  
The Doon Times  
Dehradun

**Subject:** Harmful effects of smoking

Sir

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to draw the attention of the concerned authorities towards the harm caused by smoking. It is a matter of grave concern to see that despite having statutory warning on the packet, the selling of cigarette is on a rise.

Smoking not only leads to tobacco-related diseases like lung ailments, cancer, heart diseases but has even proved fatal in many cases. Besides, it is a menace for the passive smokers. There is a need to create awareness among the people about the ultimate effects of smoking and highlight the need to stop it.

The government should, therefore, do something as drastic as ordering the closure of tobacco industry itself. Stricter steps should be taken to discourage smoking, especially in public places. Educational and awareness programmes should be organised to keep people abreast of damaging side of smoking. Even media can help to advocate the cause.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely  
Nitish Nitin  
(Head Boy)

**OR**

**(B)** 29/B  
Rajeev Chowk  
New Delhi  
21st May, 20XX

The Editor  
The Times of India  
New Delhi  
**Subject:** A major global environment problem

Sir

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to bring the attention of the concerned authorities about the ill-effects of plastic bag consumption.

The death of a whale due to consumption of plastic bags has shocked the entire nation. It is a warning for all the species living on the earth. The plastic menace has now become a major global environmental problem and many countries have been grappling with this issue.

Thousands of seabirds and sea turtles, seals and other marine animals are killed each year after ingesting plastic or getting entangled in it.

Perhaps, the first thing that any nation can take to tackle plastic pollution is to drastically cut down the use of single-use plastic. Government should take initiatives to design products which can be reused, recycled and made with recycled content to limit the presence of plastics in the environment.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely

ABC

- 2. (A)** The tiger is one of the world's most recognisable animals, intimately connected with strength and untamed nature. Sadly, tigers are on the brink of extinction. Just over a century ago, 100,000 wild tigers roamed across Asia. Today, fewer than 3,900 live in a mere four percent of their historic range. As top predators in the food chain, tigers help keep their habitats balanced by preying on other animals, mainly herbivores. The most immediate threat to wild tigers is poaching. Their body parts are in relentless demand for traditional medicine and other things. WWF is working to improve tiger habitat, reduce human-tiger conflict and engage local communities around conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources. Global leaders and non-governmental organisations met in 2010 to discuss the future of tigers at the Global Tiger Summit. During the summit, leaders committed to TX2, an ambitious goal which seeks not only to save tigers but double their numbers in the wild to at least 6,000 by the next Chinese Year of the Tiger, in 2022. WWF-Canada has supported tiger conservation projects in Nepal since 2013 through population monitoring, habitat improvement, awareness-raising campaigns and training for local communities. As a result, Nepal has become the first country on track to achieve the ambitious TX2 goal.

## OR

- (B)** Water covers 70% of our planet, and it is easy to think that it will always be plentiful. However, freshwater which we drink, bathe in, irrigate our farms, etc. is incredibly rare. Only 3% of the world's water is fresh water, and two-thirds of that is in frozen glaciers. Many of the water systems that keep ecosystems thriving and feed a growing human population have become stressed. Rivers, lakes and aquifers are drying up or becoming too polluted to use. More than half the world's wetlands have disappeared. Agriculture consumes more water than any other source and wastes much of that through inefficiencies. Climate change is altering patterns of weather and water around the world, causing shortage and droughts in some areas and floods in others. At the current consumption rate, this situation will only get worse. Two-thirds of the world's populations may face water shortages and ecosystems around the world will suffer even more.

## SECTION-C: Literature

(40 Marks)

- V. 1. (A) (i) (c) Because he was dreaming of his holiday and longing to be with his family  
(ii) When the pilot looked down past the nose of the aeroplane, he saw the light of a big city in front of him.  
(iii) fantasising  
(iv) (a) Clear weather  
(v) (b) It was exciting being at the forefront of drug development through the study of gene sequences.

**OR**

- (B) (i) Anne could only think of having a good time with her friends, but nothing more. She could not confide in them.  
(ii) It means that regrettably, the situation was not likely to change, as she couldn't confide in her friends.  
(iii) (b) That she and her friends don't share secrets  
(iv) Anne felt that paper had more patience than people to concentrate on her plight. So, it was easier for her to write down all types of thoughts, which she had in her mind.  
(v) (d) All of these
2. (A) (i) A Tiger in the Zoo  
(ii) Bengal Tiger has been referred to in the above lines.  
(iii) (d) None of these  
(iv) (d) Musing  
(v) (b) Tepid

**OR**

- (B) (i) peaceful  
(ii) (b) A is true, B cannot be clearly inferred from the extract.  
(iii) constant instructions received  
(iv) (c) 2, 3  
(v) (d) She patterned hair after her favourite celebrity.
- VI. (i) Mr Keesing was annoyed with Anne because she talked too much in the class. He punished her by assigning extra homework. He asked her to write essays and the topic was always related to her talkative nature.  
(ii) The poem 'Fire and Ice' tries to imply that humanity should not try to innovate and develop new weapons. It projects a pessimistic outlook by suggesting that following dreams and passion by humankind may lead to catastrophic destruction on earth.  
(iii) Mijbil was a fun-loving animal. It enjoyed playing all kinds of games. It would play with a selection of toys, ping-pong balls, marbles, rubber fruit, and a terrapin shell. It required love and affection from Maxwell and it got that readily.  
(iv) Human civilisation and progress have led to the cutting of trees on a large scale. Without trees, forest have become empty. There are no trees left for the birds and the insects. The poet is hopeful. The forest which remained empty all these night will be full of trees.

- (v) Lomov and Natalya argued over the ownership of Oxen Meadows. Natalya calls him a landgrabber as he claims his ownership over it. Lomov says that he is not a landgrabber as he has never done so and would never let anyone do so.

- VII.** (i) Horace had been studying the house for the past two weeks. Moreover, a magazine article had described this house, giving a plan of all the rooms and a picture of the room. There were also the details of the safe hidden behind the painting.  
(ii) The thief says that different types of people show different reactions when they are robbed. The greedy ones show fear when they are robbed. The rich people show anger. And the poor ones accept their loss calmly. He is a good judge of human nature.  
(iii) Mrs Hall was highly surprised and terrified to see the furniture in her guest room moving and dancing. She saw the bedroom chair turning alive. It started to spring into the air and charged at her straight. The chair pushed Mr and Mrs Hall out of the room. She felt like a spirit had entered into her furniture.

- VIII.** (i) There is a big difference in the behaviour of the young seagull in the very beginning and at the end of the story. In the beginning, the young seagull was afraid to fly. He did not have confidence and thought that his wings would not support him at all. He tried to make his first attempt to fly after his brothers and sister, and parents flew away from the ledge. He tried to flap his wings, but his fear seized him and once again he went back inside. His parents even threatened him that he would die of hunger, but he could not gather the courage to fly.

Later, his mother tricks him and he starts flying. When he succeeds in his first flight, he screams with joy. He perceives it as a victory over his fear of flying. Once he learns to fly, he joins his family and ventures to the sea and feels very happy.

## OR

- (ii) Baking was indeed a profitable profession in the old days. Even today, baking and bakers are famous in Goa. They still use the traditional furnaces to bake bread and cakes. But now the younger generation has found an alternative career which attracts higher income as compared to the baking profession. The paders can regain their lost glory by preventing migration. After education, people migrate to another city, town or country in search of a reputed and high-income jobs. Bread-making is still popular in Goa. If these bakers are provided better lifestyle and high income, they can retain the traditional baking business.

- IX.** (i) Dr Herriot was not entirely wrong in believing that Tricki's problem was greed. Tricki was indeed greedy, but Mrs Pumphrey only made matters worse by stuffing him with fat rich food. Herriot did not lack intolerance; he was just stating the obvious. Tricki's ill health made him concerned, and he made the observation as a veterinary doctor. Tricki, on the other hand, needed exercise and control on his eating habits. It would have been good if he did not greedily gobble up everything that was placed in front of him. Mrs Pumphrey herself reveals that Tricki loved cream cakes and chocolates very much. Thus, Tricki ought to have been less gluttonous and luxury-loving, and behaved more like a dog.

## **OR**

- (ii) When Bholi was ten months old, she fell down from a cot. This damaged a part of her brain, and affected her intelligence and speech. She became a slow learner and started speaking with a stammer. So, she was called Bholi or a simpleton. Besides, at the age of two, she got an attack of smallpox which left pockmarks on her face, making her ugly. This was her father's worry. She was ill-treated and ignored by her family. She remained backwards and neglected. She never got new clothes. The old dresses of her sisters were passed onto her. No one cared to mend or wash her clothes, put oil in her hair or comb them properly. She was never able to understand the reason for such differences. She could never connect herself with her parents. The values that children share with their parents were missing from them. She got these values from her teacher. She became an obedient and well-behaved daughter of her parents.



# SAMPLE PAPER – 8

## SECTION–A: Reading Skills

(20 Marks)

- I.
- (i) (d) all of these
  - (ii) (a) what to do
  - (iii) (d) guides us in our observation of people
  - (iv) Driving force
  - (v) Instinct is what drives a new-born into sensing that he is hungry or cold, making him cry for help.
  - (vi) Wars and any kind of adversities have inspired people to become a messiah.
  - (vii) All people who are deprived of opportunities to develop their latent abilities, fail to grow into leaders.
  - (viii) (b) Messiahs
  - (ix) The driving force behind a leader's actions and behaviour is his instinct. It guides silently, telling him what to do, which way to go and how to develop skills that can enable him to overcome any challenge that life proposes.
  - (x) (a) a leader
- II.
- (i) The industry in India can be broadly classified into two categories: the formal education industry comprising schools, colleges and universities, and the tutorial industry comprising private tutorials and coaching institutes.
  - (ii) (a) 1 & 3
  - (iii) significant
  - (iv) (d) 1st
  - (v) (d) all of these
  - (vi) (c) private
  - (vii) surge
  - (viii) The government has given special attention towards education through initiatives such as 'Right to Education Act' and 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' to reform education section.
  - (ix) In last two decades, the number of universities in India has increased at a CAGR OF 8.5% from 367 (2010) to 850 (2018) because India being a progressive country, the literacy rate is growing every year.
  - (x) (d) People in urban areas have an increased awareness of the importance of education for their children.

## SECTION–B: Grammar

(10 Marks)

III. 1. (i) (a) have migrated

- (ii) he had been planning to stay at home and prepare for his upcoming examination
- (iii) (b) should
- (iv) (d) underwent – undergone
- (v) (a) contribute
- (vi) is leading

- (vii) to inform the students that their practicals for Term II was to begin from 1st week of October.
- (viii) than – then
- (ix) A psychologist suggested that procrastination was more about managing emotions than time.
- (x) (a) can't
- (xi) (a) Mayank politely whether he could inform Ms. Rita.
- (xii) boys – boys'

## SECTION–B: Creative Writing Skills (10 Marks)

**IV. 1. (A)** Dev Samaj International School

Dehradun

21st July, 20XX

The Editor

The Devbhoomi Times

Dehradun

**Subject:** Highlighting the importance of education

Sir

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I wish to share my views on the importance of education. In the face of every single child, we can see the future of the world. I think every child should be fortunate enough to atleast get the basic education and gain the experience of going to school.

Education is a fundamental right to every individual, be a girl or a boy because it is the only key to success in life. It gives that identity which is absolutely important and essential in this world. Yes, the development takes a leap only from this basic education. An educated personality can play wonders in an institution and bring amazing changes in society. There are many virtues that come with education like goodness, honesty, success, respect and the list goes on.

Perhaps, I would say education is the key which liberates one from the shackles of poverty.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely

Ayaan Hassan

**OR**

**(B)** A09, Block C  
New Friends Colony  
New Delhi

18th March, 20XX

The Editor  
The Times of India  
New Delhi

**Subject:** Concern over underprivileged children who are denied education

Sir

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to bring to the notice of the concerned authorities regarding the plight of underprivileged children who are not able to utilise the opportunities provided to them under RTE.

Almost one in five children live in countries affected by conflict and many of them are denied education as a result. Provided that there are movements of 'Sarvashiksha Abhiyan', 'Mid-day Meal' and 'Mission Blackboard' and enrolling of underprivileged children in schools under RTE, there are still many children who do not go to school, rather have never seen a school. It is indeed disturbing.

To curb this problem, all governments should ensure that primary education is free and indirect cost do not become a barrier to access education.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely  
ABC

2. (A) In 2021, it was reported that Facebook has tons of data that show how microsites and social media platforms like Instagram are hampering the mental health of children and teenagers. The report showed how these apps are negatively impacting children's body image, self-esteem and social skills.

Since parents have little experience of how to deal with the kind of exposure kids are getting right now, they are unaware of the kind of pressure their children go through on a daily basis. Cyberbullying and peer pressure have become quite common among children who are using social media platforms actively. Sleep disorders, stress and anxiety are among the few major effects that are caused from the overuse of social media.

#### OR

- (B) Proteins are the most versatile molecules for the human body and are key to almost all biological processes. The average recommended dietary allowance for protein is calculated using the ratio of 1 gram of protein for every 1 kilogram of a person's body weight. Protein is an important part of a healthy diet. It is being used these days to build and repair muscles and bones, and to make hormones and enzymes. But how much protein should be consumed in our diet varies depending on our weight, gender, age and health. Extra protein is not used efficiently by the body and may impose metabolic burden on the bones, kidneys and liver. Moreover, high protein diets may also be associated with increased risk of heart disease or even cancer.

### SECTION-C: Literature

**(40 Marks)**

- V. 1. (A) (i) She became weary and hopeless and sat down at the wayside watching the lights.  
She accepted the truth that death is common to all.  
(ii) (d) That lives are like city lights and they flicker out too

- (iii) (d) They were flickering.
- (iv) Kisa Gotami went from house to house asking for handful of mustard seeds as instructed by the Buddha. She could not find a house where no one had ever died. So, she became restless.
- (v) (a) For more than a century, peace reigned undisturbed in Brittany.

**OR**

**(B)** (i) Sherry is the name of the dog at Shotover Grange.

- (ii) (b) arrogance
  - (iii) (a) (1), (2), (3), (6) and (7)
  - (iv) (c) face the police
  - (v) The lady was amused to see Horace because she herself was a thief like him.
- 2. (A)** (i) Upbringing of a child
- (ii) (d) her desire for freedom
  - (iii) True
  - (iv) (b) Amanda's mother
  - (v) (a) The nagging and controlling nature of the adult speaker

**OR**

**(B)** (i) (c) 1, 3, and 5

- (ii) (d) By keeping the lines short, the poet is controlling the pace to make the reader slow down thereby reflecting the slow rolling in of the fog.
- (iii) True
- (iv) The cat does not make a sound while it moves and the same does the fog. The way the fog sits is very much like a cat sitting on its haunches, looking here and there over the city and the same does the fog enveloping the city.
- (v) (b) Only a cat can impersonate like fog and move so gracefully like it.

- VI.** (i) The young seagull was very hungry. So he dived at the fish that was in his mother's beak. But he fell into space and became terribly afraid. His heart stood still. He could hear nothing for just a minute. The next moment he felt his wings spread outwards and began to fly up and down fearless into the sky.
- (ii) The poet says that he is in favour of people who say this world will end in fire. This is because he has seen the effect and the result of uncontrolled and unending desires over the life of human beings. He finds that human evil desires are similar to the fire in its nature.
- (iii) Valli was behaving like a grown up and confident lady. She did not need anybody's help. She was annoyed when the old man called her a child. Moreover, she had paid her fare herself and was travelling all alone.
- (iv) Belinda had a very poor opinion of Custard. She considered him a coward and always taunted and tickled him for being so. All other pets, Ink, Blink and Mustard mocked at Custard's timidity and lack of courage.
- (v) Lomov and Natalya act like a married couple before they become engaged. They are argumentative from the beginning. Later, Lomov shows intelligence when he understands how an individual needs marriage to overcome certain obstacles in life. Being married is far better than remaining lonely in this world.

- VII.** (i) Tricki was given a non-medical treatment by Mr Herriot. His diet regimen was altered depending upon his body's response to it. He was kept on liquid diet for the first two days and then his diet was gradually increased. Mr Herriot's treatment can be considered as a breach of trust as Mrs Pumphrey was not being informed about the health condition of her pet dog or about anything regarding the treatment and medication.
- (ii) Ausable was different from other secret agents in more ways than one. He had a small room in the musty corridor of a gloomy French hotel. It was on the sixth and top floor and it was scarcely the setting for a romantic adventure. He was extremely fat. Inspite of living in Paris for over twenty years, he spoke French and German only passably and had an American accent. Instead of getting messages slipped into his hands by dark-eyed beauties, he got only a telephone call making an appointment. In these ways, he was different from the conventional notion of a spy.
- (iii) When Richard Ebright did not win anything at the science fair, he realised that the winners had tried to conduct real experiments. He, on the other hand, had simply made a neat display. He had shown slides of frog tissues under a microscope. It was the first time that he got a hint of what real science was. This event served to develop the competitive spirit in him. Ultimately, it was this spirit of enthusiasm and competitiveness that drove him to achieve new heights in science.

**VIII.** (i) **Visitor :** Wow! You are such a majestic creature. But why do you look so sad?

**Tiger :** I know I am a majestic creature and that's why I have been caged all these years. I am sad because I want my freedom back.

**Visitor :** Don't you enjoy in here? Don't you like meeting humans?

**Tiger :** No, this is not my world. I am meant to be in the jungle, roaming freely and hunting.

**Visitor :** Yes, you are right. It feels so sad that you have become a subject of entertainment for humans.

**Tiger :** Yes! Please let me free and go back to the jungle.

**Visitor :** Don't worry! I will talk to the authorities and request them to set you free.

**Tiger :** Thank you so much! I will always be grateful to you.

## OR

(ii) **Siblings :** My dear brother, there is nothing to get apprehensive about. All you need to do is flap your wings and abide by the instructions. It is that easy.

**Seagull :** Oh no! I don't think I can do it.

**Siblings :** Why not? You have such a strong wings. You can fly too like us. Try it once. Don't be afraid.

**Seagull :** I am scared! The sea below is so deep. I will die.

**Siblings :** No, you won't die. We birds learn flying only after jumping. See, how well we are flying.

**Seagull :** Are you sure, I won't fall into the sea?

**Siblings :** Yes, dear! Trust us. You will be absolutely fine.

**Seagull :** Ok! I trust you.

- IX.** (i) Forgiveness doesn't mean condoning another's bad behaviour. A person can still hold people accountable for their actions and forgive them. In the chapter 'The Thief's Story', it seems that Anil knew about the theft but neither his lips nor his eyes showed anything. Anil does not hand over the thief to the police because he realised that Hari has already learnt a lesson and he has changed for the better now. Otherwise he would have never put the money back in its place. Though Anil knew how Hari cheated him of a rupee while buying the daily supplies but he never made it obvious in front of him.

Anil wants to give Hari one more chance to mend his ways and thus, forgives him. Hari's case is such that nobody would have forgiven him and straightway handed him over to the police. But Anil is a little different from such employers because he is modest in nature and does not want another person to suffer without giving him a chance to become a better person.

**OR**

- (ii) Mrs Pumphrey was a wealthy woman who loved her dog a lot. She wanted to carry on with an agreeable and extravagant life, and furthermore needed her puppy to spend a comparative one. She had kept up a closet loaded with extravagant fur garments, dresses, beds and so on for Tricki. Apart from this, she used to overload Tricki out of her affection and concern. She used to serve him cod-liver oil and malt between the important suppers and Horlicks after supper to give him strength. She never understood that Tricki was a greedy canine and this would ruin his well being. Her overloading exacerbated Tricki's condition. This made the puppy lethargic, dormant and fat. He used to lie on his carpet and gasp throughout the day. Mrs Pumphrey nourished him too much, ruining Tricki's well being to such a degree that he must be hospitalised. Even in the hospital, she continued to send Tricki her love through eggs, wine and brandy. Her fondness and care for Tricki proved that excess of everything made him fall sick.



## SAMPLE PAPER – 9

### SECTION–A: Reading Skills

(20 Marks)

- I. (i) (c) of environmental differences.  
(ii) (a) the architecture of their nests.  
(iii) (b) its purpose.  
(iv) Conscious design  
(v) Nests are conservative structures for birds. They don't change the designs much, unless they are sure they are improving on the conditions required for breeding and protecting their young ones.  
(vi) All nests perform a physical job to house and protect a bird's eggs from bad weather and predators. The nest is also often the location of the development of the young.  
(vii) The birds go out into the nature alone and gather materials to construct their nests which have very specific structures.  
(viii) (d) any of the above, according to their specific needs  
(ix) The diversity we see in bird's nest today is a result of these thousands of bird species, evolving in different environments, creating diverse ways to house and protect their families.  
(x) (b) adjustability
- II. (i) As health systems geared up for COVID, most other health services were suspended due to which many who needed treatment for diseases like cancer, heart ailments and diabetes were not getting the required attention.  
(ii) (b) minimising empty beds  
(iii) extraordinary  
(iv) (b) 1 is wrong and 2 is right.  
(v) (d) patients with covid symptoms  
(vi) The sharp increase in unemployment this year results partly from the slackness of output.  
(vii) Spanish flu  
(viii) (a) got ready  
(ix) Proper health care system was found to be most important for COVID-19 treatment.  
(x) False

### SECTION–B: Grammar

(10 Marks)

- III.1. (i) (d) help  
(ii) he would like to participate in the Poetry Writing Competition  
(iii) (a) could  
(iv) underwent – undergone  
(v) (d) realise  
(vi) runs  
(vii) that how was she going to complete her assignment and further said that she was absolutely clueless and that worried her.  
(viii) habit — habits

- (ix) A friend advised Mohan that they should try to have enough trust and confidence in themselves to deal with things as they came.
- (x) (b) may
- (xi) (a) whether he would recommend her name for the position of Head Girl.
- (xii) reduces — reduce

## SECTION-B: Creative Writing Skills (10 Marks)

### IV. 1. (A) 12-Block D

J.P. Colony  
Vasant Vihar  
New Delhi

29th August, 20XX

The Editor  
The Times of India  
New Delhi

**Subject:** Developing a daily reading habit

**Sir**

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to bring to the notice of the concerned authorities towards decreasing reading habit among children. In this modern world, school children are more interested in new gadgets and technological devices which helps them to get socially active. In this process of getting socially active, children are now less interested in reading. If they want to know anything they used to search it on the internet, but they do not try to read anything. The decrease in reading habits is a sign of education failure.

Therefore, we should teach our children to develop reading habits. We should provide them with the books of their interests and slowly and steadily they will develop the habit of reading. The government should also take some initiatives to make reading interesting.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely  
ABC

**OR**

**(B)** H.No. 567  
Rewari  
Haryana

15th December, 20XX

The Editor  
The Hindustan Times

New Delhi

**Subject:** Concern over homeless people

Sir

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to bring to the notice of the concerned authorities regarding the plight of homeless people. The homeless people move from door-to-door for warm clothes in the major cities and also line up to collect those from government organisations as well as by individuals. Even then, they are not able to protect themselves from the hardships.

I want to highlight the urgent need for providing night shelter for the homeless people of Delhi. One of the major economies of the world has the maximum number of homeless people in the world. Millions of people in India spend their nights under the starry or cloudy skies. Many unfortunate persons fight for a little space on the pavements. Long winters become unbearable for these homeless orphans. They try to find out some shelter under the bridges, at railway stations or in public buildings. But they are hounded out from there by the police. Last month, five people lost their lives due to extreme cold conditions.

The administration must show its human face. The state government must open adequate night shelters and provide free lodging for such persons. It will save hundreds of unfortunate homeless people from dying in the cold or chilly nights.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely

Namita

2. (A) Food adulteration has now become a worldwide issue which needs to be handled with the highest priority. Milk is considered a very necessary and fundamental source of nutrients. Synthetic milk is an excellent imitation of natural milk. As the composition of milk is well known, there are increasing foul practices in a different part of the country for the preparation of synthetic milk using harmful chemicals. Urea is added for increasing profit out of high demand for milk by increasing protein content and it is the major ingredient of synthetic milk. Synthetic milk looks like natural milk as far as appearance is concerned, but it is totally different in taste. Natural milk has a pH level of 6.8 which indicates its acidic side of neutrality. Synthetic milk when rubbed on the palm, forms foam while natural milk when rubbed on the palm, doesn't form foam. Natural milk remains white on storage but synthetic milk turns pale yellow after sometime.

#### OR

- (B) India accounts for at least one-fifth of the 17.9 million cardiovascular disease-related deaths globally, especially in the younger generation. Unhealthy lifestyle, unbalanced diet, stress, smoking and drinking are some of the common reasons cited as the biggest contributors to heart problems in younger people. Sedentary lifestyle, dependence on fast food, obesity, etc. contribute to the untimely cardiac deaths. Physical exercises should be followed within the limits of what an individual's body can tolerate. A regime should also be followed with a target of keeping the body healthy. The other factors that need to be given strict attention to are avoiding active or passive smoking, over

consumption of alcohol and other substances which can be challenging to a healthy heart. Excess stress, lack of adequate rest and sleep are additional factors that hamper the healthy heart. A minimum of seven hours of sleep can contribute to better health and diminish risk factor contributing to premature heart attacks.

## SECTION-C: Literature

(40 Marks)

- V. 1. (A)** (i) (c) Due to the darkness inside the storm clouds  
(ii) The aeroplane was twisting in the air because it was a stormy night.  
(iii) The narrator did not receive any answer from Paris Control station as the radio was dead too.  
(iv) (d) All of these  
(v) The narrator wanted to spend the holiday with his family in England.

**OR**

- (B)** (i) (a) There was a canvas blind that covered her window.  
(ii) (d) All of these  
(iii) The bus was moving along the bank of a canal.  
(iv) Valli was a child at heart, though she behaved like a mature and responsible girl.  
(v) Valli meticulously planned her bus ride by gathering the information about distance, ticket fare, time, etc.

- 2. (A)** (i) a sequence of words are used repeatedly in consecutive lines  
(ii) (b) Transferred epithet  
(iii) True  
(iv) (d) allusion  
(v) (a) authoritative

**OR**

- (B)** (i) joy and hope  
(ii) (a) longevity  
(iii) True  
(iv) (a) Has given my heart / A change of mood  
(v) (d) The cawing of the crow hidden in the foliage.

- VI.** (i) ‘His First Flight’ is a true parable about overcoming fears in life. Every journey of a thousand miles begins with but a single step. But that single step is the most difficult one to make. The young seagull was greatly afraid of flying though he really wanted to. He felt certain that his wings would never support him. Finally, out of desperation he takes the plunge and overcomes his fear and soars gleefully over the sea.  
(ii) ‘Fire and Ice’ are symbols of natural human emotions. Both ‘hatred’ and ‘desire’ are human emotions. Desire is a kind of intense love or want that focuses people on getting and possessing and acquiring. The issue of greed is corrupting people and even society, spreading hatred. Both the human traits may cause the end of the world.  
(iii) When the conductor offered Valli a cold drink free of charge, she refused firmly and said that she only wanted her ticket by handing him a coin of 30 paise. This shows that Valli had a lot of self-respect and pride. Possibly, she did not want to take anything for free, particularly from a stranger.

- (iv) All the other pets of Belinda, except Custard, fled away in fear as soon as they saw the pirate. So Custard faced the pirate like a hero. He attacked the pirate with his tall tail. He saved Belinda and other pets from the pirate and showed his braver side.
- (v) In the first instance, Lomov and Natalya fight over an issue of the ownership of the Oxen Meadows that has been a disputed property between the two families since generations. Later on, they start arguing about their pets Squeezee and Guess, which drives Lomov out of the house. These instances prove that they are terribly practical in accepting each other.

**VII.** (i) Fowler is a young romantic writer. He received his first thrill when he entered the agent's room and there stood a slender, slightly tall crafty man with a small automatic pistol in his hand.

(ii) Mr Herriot was tempted to keep Tricki on as a permanent guest because of the good food and wine he was enjoying in Tricki's name. He did not want to lose the luxurious inflow of fresh eggs, wine and brandy.

(iii) Richard Ebright had some innate character traits that are the prerequisites for the making of a scientist. He had, besides an intelligent mind, the curiosity to seek information, keen observing powers, perseverance, patience as well as self-discipline, which are the basic requirements for any scientific research.

**VIII.** (i) Good morning friends!

Today I am feeling really disheartened about the fact that still there are many people who have the opinion that a crocodile often lures its potential prey by shedding tears and moaning. I, on behalf of my crocodile clan, want to clarify that this opinion is absolutely incorrect. We are aquatic creatures built for the predator lifestyle but we don't show insincere remorse. I have often heard people using it as a phrase when they want to point out to someone who is not genuine.

I humbly request all my friends to stop making such comparisons. It really pains when we get to hear that everyone uses our natural trait to address something which is hypocritical and insincere.

## OR

(ii) Good morning everyone!

Today, I am feeling very delighted to share an extraordinary experience of my life with all of you. With this experience, what I realised was that courage is often guided by faith. We should never lose hope in life no matter what. Even in the worst scenario, we should see light at the end of the tunnel. When we take risks and face challenges with determination, and patience, we can withstand any storm and be rewarded with a rainbow. Though I am an experienced aviator even then I got panicked by the black storm that surrounded by aeroplane. But still I tried to take the risk and followed faithfully as and when the signals guided me towards a certain direction. My hope, high self-esteem and self-confidence helped me get through that difficult situation and I was safely landed.

**IX.** (i) The action of rich people like Mrs Pumphrey is not to be appreciated rather they should modify their behaviour.

Suggested values for such people:

- Avoid silly and negligent behaviour as it only causes harm and distress.
- It will be better if they could take care of their near and dear ones cautiously with introducing good discipline. It will help them to live a better life.

- Over pampering may spoil anyone be it a person or an animal.
- Some strictness along with love and care is essential to inculcate good habits and behaviours, and make them understand the value of life.
- Too much of anything is good for nothing. This applies to love and care too.

**OR**

- (ii) Hari Singh was a thief and he had stolen Anil's money. After the theft, he realised that he had robbed not only Anil but also himself of the chance of being literate and having a bright future. His conscience pricked him to think what all he could have got had he not done this. It was difficult for him to rob Anil, but it was tougher for him not to go back. He realised that he could not make tea, buy daily supplies and learn how to read and write then. His inner self did not agree to bypass this and forced him to return. Hari's return to Anil shows that despite indulging in criminal acts, he still had a practical and positive attitude towards life. It is the awakening of Hari's conscience and Anil's love and care that reformed Hari's character. It teaches us that love alone can change a person. Anil's understanding nature and care changed Hari's thinking to mend his ways for good.



## SAMPLE PAPER – 10

### SECTION–A: Reading Skills

(20 Marks)

- I. (i) (a) The alarming rise in human population has put immense pressure on forest wealth, leading gradually to large swathes of the forest, that massively reduces forest area and shrink good quality wildlife habitats.
- (ii) (d) Buffer zone
- (iii) livestock
- (iv) (d) all of these
- (v) (b) to protect wildlife outside protected areas and forests but also to safeguard human lives and livelihoods.
- (vi) (a) Agricultural fields
- (vii) 1. Over 1,000 tigers have been killed in the country by poachers over the last two decades.
2. Over 650 instances of road kill have been recorded in the last five years.
- (viii) Rising human population
- (ix) (d) None of these
- (x) When forest were abundant, ecologically sound and sufficient, the movement of wildlife inside the protected areas/forests in search of food do not extend any further than the buffer zone.
- II. (i) (c) Total banning
- (ii) (d) 68%
- (iii) (d) All, except 2
- (iv) to reduce environmental pollution
- (v) Environmental groups and eco-clubs are fighting a losing battle due to city traffic issues, disposal of plastics, garbage dumping and all sort of ecological degradation.
- (vi) 82% people burst crackers for the purpose of maintaining their social status though they may have answered in the negative to the query on the correctness of bursting crackers.
- (vii) This column is provided for those who do not have an opinion on the question and wish to remain neutral.
- (viii) (d) Both (a) and (b)
- (ix) The researchers believed that such measures would help in harnessing some ill-effects that add to the growing pollution and suggested further studies to be taken up across the country to assess awareness about ecological degradation.
- (x) (b) To sensitise ecological protection

### SECTION–B: Grammar

(10 Marks)

- III. (i) (b) occupies
- (ii) He had not bought it, and that he had gone to the library and got it issued.
- (iii) (a) may
- (iv) (c) striving — striven

- (v) (b) is
- (vi) open
- (vii) where he wanted to go
- (viii) led — lead
- (ix) That he should collect him from the office.
- (x) (b) must
- (xi) (d) whether he knew how to make a claim for his lost water bottle.
- (xii) was — were

## SECTION–B: Creative Writing Skills (10 Marks)

**IV. 1.(A)** Scholar's Abode School

Indus Valley

Ahmedabad

6th September, 20XX

The Editor

The Times of India

Ahmedabad

**Subject:** Ill-effects of consuming animal food

Sir

I read an article titled 'Are Vegan Healthier?' in a magazine and felt that the article was not creating an impression on me as a reader. Therefore, I wish to highlight the following points through your esteemed daily for the readers to understand with more clarity.

I wish to state the following:

- An absolute vegetarian diet leads to veganism.
- Consuming vegan food may cause protein deficiency is a myth.
- Veganism requires a lot of discipline in lifestyle.
- It will mean a complete lack of animal foods.

This would thereby nullify all the ill-effects of consuming animal-based foods, along with reducing the cruelty towards animals. Veganism would be a step in the right direction.

I seek your cooperation in propagating the concept of a vegan lifestyle by a large majority.

Thanking your

Yours sincerely

Ananya Shah

**OR**

**(B)** Scholar's Abode School

Indus Valley

Ahmedabad

15th May, 20XX

The Editor  
The Times of India  
Ahmedabad

**Subject:** Explore, Dream and Discover

Sir

I read this quote, “The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only one page,” and realised how true this was.

Travel opens out the world, and makes it a better place to live in. It has made me see the world with new eyes. We begin to appreciate different life-styles, cultures, and develop tolerance and become better human beings. Travel helps us find purpose in our lives, and helps us focus on the meaning of life. Reading undoubtedly enhances knowledge, but travel enhances experience.

It would be good idea if you as a media of social connectivity, encourage people to indulge themselves and travel to different places on and off, and expand the realms of their soul and mind.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely

Ananya Shah.

2. (A) The given bar graph traces the hardships that the people had to face between 2020 and 2021, due to Covid-19. The three curves indicate, (in order of their thickness) the difficulty covering usual expenses, problems in catching up with rent, and not having enough to eat. Difficulty in covering usual expenses was between 28%-35% as on August 31 that dropped a bit on September 29 and reached a peak on December 31. This began declining steadily, plateaued between May to June, rose thereafter and as on October 11th, it is again above 28%. Problems with paying rent, fluctuated from 14% between August 31st trending upwards and reached a peak at 21% between December and February. Thereafter with slight fluctuations, the trend was a decline, remaining at or slightly above 14%. After September 2021, it is showing an upward incline. Scarcity in food has been at low of between 7 to 14% from August 31st that peaked to 14% on December 21st. This reading showed persistent decline with periods of plateau at various times, touching the low of 7% between May and March, and August. It then showed a slight rise but seems to be plateauing again between 7 and 14% after September 13th.

## OR

- (B) Global warming and climate change refers to an increase in average global temperatures. Natural events and human activities are believed to be main contributors to such increases in average global temperatures. The climate change, rise in the sun's intensity, volcanic eruptions, etc., caused by rising emissions of carbon dioxide from vehicles, factories and power stations, will not only have an impact on the atmosphere and the sea but also will alter the geology of the Earth. Global warming is primarily caused by increases in “greenhouse” gases such as carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ), nitrous

oxide (NO<sub>X</sub>), sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), hydrogen, etc., A warming planet thus leads to climate changes which can adversely affect weather in different ways. The effects, or impacts, of climate change may be physical, ecological, social or economic. Evidence of observed climate change includes the instrumental temperature record, rising sea levels, and decreased snow cover in the northern hemisphere, transformation of the entire ecosystem and the intricate webs of life that depends on it.

## SECTION-C: Literature

(40 Marks)

- V. 1. (A)** (i) they were dignitaries and world leaders from the different nations of the world.  
(ii) (d) equality, liberty, self-respect  
(iii) been given the opportunity to be the host to the nations of the world on their own soil.  
(iv) (c) overwhelmed, elated, honoured  
(v) (b) She was able to host the event without any hindrance.

**OR**

- (B)** (i) (c) Mijbil the otter  
(ii) four-footed soccer player  
(iii) (b) 1-E, 2-F, 3-A, 4-B, 5-D, 6-C  
(iv) (c) Mijbil took a little rest after a long flight.  
(v) forebearing
- 2. (A)** (i) (a) a lot of humour in the minds of the readers.  
(ii) Leopard is being referred to in the extract.  
(iii) (a) ababcc  
(iv) strolling  
(v) (c) The tiger's hide was very much in demand in the international market.

**OR**

- (B)** (i) fire and ice  
(ii) (b) man's parochial attitude towards man will destroy the world  
(iii) True  
(iv) (d) man's indifferent conduct towards nature.  
(v) (d) alliteration and anaphora.

- VI.** (i) Yes, it is natural that doing something for the first time can be a bit challenging and frightening. But this fear will not leave you unless you confront it. The young seagull was afraid to fly because it was his first flight and he feared falling and hurting himself. As soon as he was challenged by his mother to reach out to the food, he took the first step forward. His fear vanished and he soared into the skies.  
(ii) A paradox is a statement that contradicts itself. The title 'Fire and Ice' presents a paradox. Two antithetical words 'fire' that burns and 'ice' that freezes are juxtaposed to strike an underlying meaning about the end of the world.  
(iii) Valli behaved very authoritatively, like a grown-up person on the bus. She asked the people on the bus not to refer to her as a child. As a result of this, the conductor addressed her as a madam, which she did not like. This shows that she was a mature, responsible child who was able to take care of herself, and had set out to fulfil a mission in her life.

- (iv) The Tale of Custard the Dragon is a whimsical fantasy. Belinda lives alone in her house with four pets, a dog, a cat, a mouse and a dragon named Custard. All other dwellers of the house except Custard, pride themselves on their fearlessness. They mock poor Custard for his timidity. However, when the real danger comes everyone runs away in a panic except Custard. The poem ends ironically. After the danger is past, everyone begins to boast again about their courage.
- (v) Lomov is not particularly romantic, and his proposal has more to do with the economic advantages of combining their families' adjacent properties. His efforts to actually propose keep on getting derailed as he and Natalya get in various arguments. Finally, he broaches his proposal of marriage; Lomov speaks at length of property, thus indicating that marriage is symbolic of economic considerations.

- VII.**
- (i) Seeing the miserable condition of Tricki, Dr Herriot at once decides to keep him away from his mistress Mrs Pumphrey for a while. So, he suggested that Tricki should be hospitalised for about a fortnight as he had to be kept under observation.
  - (ii) Ausable knew that Max was scared and he used his ignorance and foolishness to his own favour. He framed the story of the balcony to convince Max about the balcony which was actually non-existent. He also said that the balcony was not his but belongs to the next apartment and earlier his room used to be a part of a large unit. It helped Ausable to get out of a dangerous and critical situation.
  - (iii) One must develop the skill of observation and thinking, to be a scientist. Deductive and inductive approaches helps him reach his goals or conclusions. Experiments need to be conducted. One needs to have a curiosity to explore and find new things. One may have to detach all ties during such higher endeavours. Above all, one must work hard and not get upset by failures. Sacrifices might also prove to be vital.

- VIII.**
- (i) **Valli** : Hi! I am told your name is Horace. I am Valli.  
**Horace** : Hello! But do I know you? What is a little girl like you doing in a jail?  
**Valli** : I have been told to speak with you by the jailer. He is my neighbour. He was taken aback by my meticulous planning, and wanted me to share my skills with you.  
**Horace** : But dear girl, I am destined to be in jail for a life time. How can you help me?  
**Valli** : Let me tell you what I did. How I full-filled my dreams, and then you decide if you need to take a leaf out of my book. (Valli tells him her story)  
**Horace** : That was a wonderful story of your bus ride. You are indeed a great planner. Run off now. It's getting late. Hope to meet you again.  
**Valli** : Yes. I liked you. I shall come again. Bye!

## OR

- (ii) Amanda is a young school-going girl who is constantly nagged by her mother. Amanda is being given instructions with a long list of do's and don'ts that she is asked to follow every now and then. As a result, she feels that her freedom had been limited by her mother. She likes to live in a world of fantasy, assuming that, that was the way to secure peace, freedom and happiness in life. She had no clarity of what she wanted in life. Valli was a confident and courageous girl. She had clarity about what she wanted to do. She was focussed and understood the value of money and the dynamics attached to it. Valli was mature, clever and practical beyond her years. She had a dream, and went about fulfilling it, planning and focussing at every step with perfection.

- IX.** (i) Ausable was a smart and intelligent man. He was a secret agent but being fat and sloppy, he did not fit into the stereotype of one. He was a spy who dealt with espionage and danger. He had a very important paper, and Max had come to take away that paper from him. Several men and women had risked their lives for the said paper. In an adverse situation such as this, which was stressful, Ausable used his presence of mind and quick wit, instead of being resilient and aggressive. He fabricated a story about the non-existent balcony and police at his door, and tricked Max who was eventually done away with. He continued with his day with calm and quiet.

**OR**

- (ii) Ebright's mother played an important role in making him a scientist. She was his only companion until he started school. She motivated him to learn new things. She took him on trips, bought him telescopes, microscopes, cameras, mounting material and other equipment. Every evening mother and son worked together at the dining table. If Ebright had nothing to do, she would find him work — learning work. He was a keen learner, liked learning and got 'A' grade throughout his schooling. She also bought him a book, 'The Travels of Monarch X', which opened the world of science to him. Ebright's mother helped him to become a scientist by sustaining his interest in the scientific field.



## SAMPLE PAPER – 11

### SECTION–A: Reading Skills

(20 Marks)

- I. (i) (a) it has become an integral part of our life.  
(ii) (b) Hobbies are helpful during our leisure and unplanned time more productively.  
(iii) (c) a diversion and a passion.  
(iv) It helps you grow as a person, develop skills, reduce stress, makes you confident, reduces risk of blood pressure, helps you socialise, and makes you more creative.  
(v) Getting a short break from work and doing something you are passionate about can rejuvenate your mind and help prepare you to handle challenges in the future in a better way.  
(vi) (d) rejuvenate your mind and help prepare you to handle challenges in the future in a better way.  
(vii) be an additional benefit for your overall well-being.  
(viii) (a) The Importance of Having a Hobby  
(ix) Hobbies may provide an opportunity for you to socialise with people and that can be an additional benefit for your overall well-being. You can connect with people who enjoy doing the same things that you do. You can meet new people, discuss your hobby and get connected to a bigger circle that may even help you turn your hobby into your profession.  
(x) (c) I, II, IV and V
- II. (i) The weapons were coated with chromium oxide.  
(ii) (b) eternity  
(iii) military hierarchy  
(iv) Swords, spears, battle-axes, shields, crossbows, and arrowheads were the weapons found in the Shaanxi province.  
(v) (a) it helps us to understand social hierarchy.  
(vi) The first emperor of China, ordered the creation of around 7000 life-size clay soldiers in 201 BC to guard his tomb for eternity.  
(vii) (a) valour and victory  
(viii) The terracotta warriors have different hairstyles, expressions, and facial features. Inside the pit, the statues are arranged by military rank which means that the higher the rank, the taller is the statue.  
(ix) As the lower half of each soldier is made of solid clay with the upper half being hollow, the figures remain upright.  
(x) (d) Upright

### SECTION–B: Grammar

(10 Marks)

- III. (i) (a) will increase  
(ii) if she would be leaving for Coimbatore that day  
(iii) (d) must  
(iv) (d) comes — come

- (v) (b) is
- (vi) is causing
- (vii) if he could give him a bottle of soda.
- (viii) over — under
- (ix) My mother asked my younger sister if she was prepared for the upcoming test.
- (x) (b) Will
- (xi) (d) he can ask for some cash from his teacher, if required.
- (xii) the protest — a protest

## SECTION-B: Creative Writing Skills (10 Marks)

**IV. 1.(A)** Safdarjung Development Area

New Delhi

7th April, 20XX

The Editor

The Times of India

New Delhi

**Subject:** Concern over attacks on old people

Sir,

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I want to sensitize people about the attacks on the elderly people who are living alone in their houses. Old people are generally physically weak and are therefore vulnerable to the evil intentions of the anti-social elements in the society.

Any resistance from the old people can prove detrimental to their lives. Our locality has seen a spurt in such attacks on our elderly citizens, causing physical and mental distress to them.

It is the duty of the government to protect the lives of the senior citizens. Appropriate measures for their safety should be adopted by the respective departments of the ruling government. Though repeated requests in this regard have been made to the concerned authorities, no action has been taken in this regard, till now.

I hope a request through your esteemed paper may shake the authorities from their deep slumber.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely

Tanvi Bansal

**OR**

**(B)** Harsha Mansion

M G Road

Ahmedabad

14 June, 20XX

The Editor  
The Times of India  
Ahmedabad

**Subject:** Concern over plastic menace

Sir

I was shocked to read about the death of a whale in Ahmedabad due to the consumption of plastic bags, in the morning edition of your daily.

This is indeed a major global environmental problem and many countries have been grappling with this issue. It is indeed worrying to note that globally, citizens are not understanding their responsibility towards sustaining the environment.

Through your esteemed daily, I wish to appeal to every human being, to realise that he/she too, lives on this globe, and being the only “rational” being, should affirm that he/she would contribute their might towards conserving the environment. The first step in this endeavour should therefore essentially be the discarding of all forms of plastic. Let us protect the environment for the future generations. Let us save life.

I hope your valuable readers will develop a sense of responsibility and spread the cause to every other being, and thus make a collective effort towards saving the environment.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely  
Praveen Sharma

- 2. (A)** The tiger continues to be an endangered species because of the unscrupulous acts committed by mankind. It is reported that there are fewer than 3,900 tigers alive today, which happens to be just a 4% of their population in ancient times. The WWF-Canada is reported to have supported tiger conservation projects in Nepal, which has eventually become the first country to achieve the ambitious TX2 goal. The global leaders and non-governmental organisations met in 2010 to discuss the future of tigers at the Global Tiger Summit. This shows that efforts are being taken to tackle this problem by leaders across the world. Probably all the other nations also reach the TX2 goal sooner or later.

## OR

- (B)** Fresh water is vital for people and wildlife – it needs careful management because there is not always enough to go around. Freshwater environments include rivers, lakes, wetlands, streams and underground aquifers. They store and clean the water that's crucial for people and wildlife. Freshwater is a precious resource on the Earth's surface. It is also home to many diverse fish, plant, and crustacean species. Programs to protect freshwater habitats include planning, stewardship, education, and regulation. The solutions to this emerging problem could include:
- (i) Restrict the construction of dams.
  - (ii) Provide incentives for farming business to reduce the use of pesticides.
  - (iii) Establish protected wetlands areas.
  - (iv) Regulate water withdrawal for human use.

Protection and conservation of fresh water resources, helps to preserve our environment. Water resources will be thereby conserved for future life on earth.

## SECTION-C: Literature

(40 Marks)

- V. 1. (A)** (i) (d) Indian legend on tea and how it travelled from China to Europe.  
(ii) Pranjol ‘scoffed’ because he did not believe in the stories Rajvir told him.  
(iii) (c) Option (3)  
(iv) (c) Dr Smith always served tea as refreshment when he has guests, as they all enjoyed this beverage.  
(v) Rajvir was very excited and proud of his knowledge about the origin of tea.

**OR**

- (B)** (i) (c) Significance of Freedom  
(ii) The speaker refers to freedom as ‘transitory’ because of the nature of the situations or circumstances under which the term was being considered.  
(iii) (d) I was living under the illusion that this is possible.  
(iv) He thought only about himself because he had not got the exposure to the larger society. As a young student, his wants were primary to him. He was kept away from the problems that his people faced, and therefore, was focusing on himself and his personal freedom.  
(v) (b) (1) dawnd; (2) deprived; (3) desiring
- 2. (A)** (i) enjambment  
(ii) (b) Alliteration  
(iii) False  
(iv) (d) full of joy and optimism  
(v) (a) One should see the positive aspect, and one’s response may greatly affect the outcome of incidents.

**OR**

- (B)** (i) (c) 1, 3 and 5  
(ii) (a) By keeping the lines short, the poet keeps the liberty in stepping away from rule, traditional form, logic, or fact, in order to produce a desired effect.  
(iii) False  
(iv) 1. little cat feet  
2. silent haunches  
(v) (c) Only a cat can move in such a way, almost imperceptibly, and in complete silence.

- VI.** (i) The author provides a psychological insight into life’s problems and the ways of overcoming them. He makes the readers understand that facing a problem directly is the best way of overcoming them. Shying away from them will make one desolate, but courage and confidence will help us get over most problems in life.  
(ii) Yes, it is true that there is no choice between life and death. There is only a choice in the method of death. This has been very clearly illustrated in the poem “Fire and Ice” by Robert Frost, where in he says that the world will definitely end, but it could be because of fire or ice because of bloody wars, or cold wars among the different nations of the world. Either way, death is certain.

- (iii) Valli did not want to make friends with the elderly woman because she looked quite repulsive. She had big holes in her ear lobes, and was wearing ugly earrings. Apart from this, she was chewing betel and her mouth was also filled with betel juice.
- (iv) The pirate looked quite dreadful and dominating. He carried a pistol in his left as well as in his right hand. He held a shining dagger in his mouth and had a black beard. One of his legs were made of wood. He came there with intentions that were not very good.
- (v) Within all the dramatic events, positive characteristics in Lomov and Natalya begin to show. One thing is sure that they have enough understanding of people's characters to know that marriage is a worked, crafted and magical togetherness. They both understand how an individual needs marriage to overcome certain obstacles in life.

- VII.**
- (i) Ausable was gifted with a rare presence of mind. He knew the importance of the old adage, "A stitch in time saves nine". His fertile brain could invent and cook up stories and situations to confuse and unnerve his rivals. With Max, he cooked up the story of the balcony below the window of his room, and of the arrival of the police and outwitted him at the right time. Ausable was thus able to get rid of his rival, Max.
  - (ii) Dr James Herriot was well acquainted with the kind of disease and its treatment. He understood that the real fault with the dog was his greed for food, and Mrs Pumphrey's indulgence in making him hugely fat and listless. When things got out of hand, Dr Herriot took the dog over to his clinic and by just getting him to drink water, eat less and work out with the other dogs, he was able to cure the dog without any medical intervention.
  - (iii) Richard raised thousands of butterflies, tagged them and released them to study their migration. Tagging butterflies was tedious and there was not much feedback. Soon, he lost interest because only two of his tagged butterflies were returned to him and they had travelled only seventy-five miles.

- VIII.**
- (i) **Buddha** : Kisa, could you get mustard seeds from anywhere?
  - Kisa** : No Guruji. I went to all the houses in the neighbourhood.
  - Buddha** : Why is that so?
  - Kisa** : You were right guruji.
  - Buddha** : Why do you say so Kisa? What is it that I said to you is right?
  - Kisa** : Guruji, I knocked the door of every house, and asked them to give me mustard seeds. It was then that I realised that, there is not a single house that has not lost a loved one to death.
  - Buddha** : What did you understand from this Kisa?
  - Kisa** : Guruji, I understood that death is inevitable and cannot be avoided. I have thus come to terms with my own loss.
  - Buddha** : May God bless you find peace and purpose in life, Kisa!

**OR**

- (ii) **Crow** : Dear Frost, life is short, and we only live once. Learning to live life to the fullest is an important step in making the most of every day.
- Frost** : But Mr Crow, I have lost all the desire to live now.
- Crow** : Dear friend, life as you know is not a bed of roses.
- Frost** : But I have been on a bed of thorns for a long time now. Nothing seems to be going my way.

**Crow** : Have patience dear for what goes up has to come down. Your day will come. And you have to wait patiently till that day arrives. Haste makes waste. Do your bit each day. God will do his bit when the time is ripe.

**Frost** : You have a point Mr Crow. I shall abide by your words and work with dedication and sincerity from today onwards. I shall refrain from going into moments of depression and desperation. I will face each day with greater positivity.

**Crow** : Good luck, Mr Frost!

- IX.** (i) It is absolutely essential that one should always be realistic in his ambitions, dreams and approach. In the story “The Necklace” the cause of Matilda’s ruin was her dissatisfaction with whatever life offered her. She was always unhappy. She felt that she was born for all the delicacies and luxuries of life. She disliked being in her current circumstances. She could have avoided this ruin by being content with whatever she had. Unfortunately, Mme. Loisel was a woman who lived in a world of dreams. She gave too much value to her dreams and hence overlooked the realities of life. That was why she was always unhappy as dreams are a virtual reality and can’t always be true. Matilda’s overambitious nature led to her miseries in her life that were totally unavoidable if she had been mature and reasonable. Just to show herself off as a rich lady, she borrowed a necklace from her rich friend. Her miseries started from that moment in time.

### OR

- (ii) Overconfidence generally leads people into misadventures, endangering their chances in life. It is wisely said that any achievement is a result of two factors—one’s personal planning and support from the external world. People, take into account only their planning, generally ignoring external factors. They become unable to foresee future developments. Hence, the great risk’ of failure.

Then there is the question: how can one manage overconfidence? The formula is very simple. Before taking a decision discuss the matter with other informed people with an objective mind and when it is proved that you are about to go off the path, accept reality and say without delay, “I was wrong”.

The arrogant and overconfident, Think Tank, in the lesson, ‘The Book that Saved the Earth’ drew an inference that the earthlings have identified him, when Oop read the poem ‘Humpty Dumpty’, and would kill him soon. Think-Tank intended to invade the earth. He wanted to control the earth and put it under his rulership. But his ignorance led to misinterpretation of the book of rhymes, and he asked his team to run immediately from there and thus a dusted book of rhymes saved the earth from Martian invasion.



## SAMPLE PAPER – 12

### SECTION-A: Reading Skills

(20 Marks)

- I. (i) (b) Critical  
(ii) (c) Literacy level and healthcare  
(iii) (d) Only 2 and 3  
(iv) innovative and workable approaches  
(v) In India, the state has made a strong political and economic commitment to women for the development of women all over the world. In order to give solution to the problems of Indian women, in 1990, the National Commitment to Women was established. In 1969, two major policy documents were released.  
(vi) 1. Certain organization's approach of using bank credit to organize self-employed women has worked well.  
2. On the other hand, some of the legislated reforms like dowry prohibition have not worked well.  
Therefore, the issue of whether women should be identified as separate participator in the development process is also not free from controversy.  
(vii) The ratio of women to men remains below its natural level as it is reportedly related to other parameters, such as the level of literacy and the availability of primary health care.  
(viii) (b) poverty eradication  
(ix) To make a strong political and economic commitment to women.  
(x) (c) The reports have not suggested any new measures
- II. (i) It indicates that; unless we invest in job creating fixed assets, capacity to absorb work force, wages will not increase.  
(ii) (c) Employers must adjust the wages they pay employees upward over time to ensure that employees are able to enjoy the same standard of living over time.  
(iii) Appetite  
(iv) (a) Rate of growth of compensation paid by companies to employees has registered deceleration since 2013-14.  
(v) (c) small growth  
(vi) Employees' growth rate halved to 12 per cent in 2014-15.  
(vii) (d) stable  
(viii) The wealthy will get overwhelming tax cuts under the proposal.....  
(ix) The corporate sector's appetite for new hiring has been declining quite sharply.  
(x) (d) Adjective

### SECTION-B: Grammar

(10 Marks)

- III. (i) (b) were lured  
(ii) if Priyanka suggested that she too should experience the weather at Badrinath.  
(iii) (c) will  
(iv) (c) there — their

- (v) (c) took
- (vi) has asked
- (vii) when he would be leaving for Delhi.
- (viii) a narrative — the narrative
- (ix) The principal informed the high school students that the overall idea to address the morning assembly was to acquaint them with the changed pattern of examination.
- (x) (b) Can't
- (xi) (d) why he was looking so low
- (xii) A — The

## SECTION-B: Creative Writing Skills

(10 Marks)

IV. 1. (A) Aravalli Public School

Jamnagar  
Gujarat

12th June, 20XX

The Editor  
The Hindu  
Jamnagar  
Gujarat

**Subject:** Awareness about environmental degradation

Sir

It is with great earnest that I write this letter to be published in the columns of your esteemed daily. The condition of our Mother Earth, is deteriorating at a steady scale because of the callousness of humans. Being absolutely selfish in nature, man is forgetting the overall impact of his mindless activities on the health of the environment. Through the columns of your newspaper, I wish to create awareness among the readers on the following factors:

- (i) Deforestation for commercial purposes.
- (ii) Lesser awareness in the mass about the environmental protection around the world.
- (iii) Exploiting of nature by human beings.
- (iv) The neutrality of the environmental protection laws all over the world.

This should enable mankind to come out of their personal interests and work towards taking care of the failing health of the environment in which they are living.

I hope you would help me in my endeavour and oblige.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely  
Anuradha  
Head Girl

**OR**

- (B)** Ramprastha International School  
Loni

17th December, 20XX

The Editor  
The Hindu  
New Delhi

**Subject:** Regarding Computer Classes

Sir

Technology is growing at an unprecedented rate in all walks of life. This makes it mandatory for students to get acquainted with computer skills at an early age. Cramming up information at a later stage makes assimilation of necessary information and skills difficult.

Unfortunately, there is a stark unavailability of resources for teaching computer science at the elementary level. This is a major handicap. I wish, through the columns of your esteemed daily, to draw the attention of the concerned authorities to this issue. It needs to be understood and addressed as early as possible.

Looking forward to adequate support from your medium towards solving this problem.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely  
Atharv Roy  
Student (class X)

- 2. (A)** ‘Water water everywhere, not a drop to drink,’ is a sentence taken from a poem ‘The Ancient Mariner’. This is exactly what we fear will happen very soon, if we do not wisely use and conserve our water resources.

Research shows that by 2025, India, along with many other countries will face a serious scarcity of water. Many regions in our country are currently undergoing the process of ‘water stress’. Socio-economic development has a lot to contribute to decreasing water resources.

Rising population, industrialization, urbanization and modernization of agriculture, are some of the main reasons for water shortages. All living things including plants, animals and human beings need water to live and to carry out different cellular activities. Therefore, if we do not take appropriate steps to conserve the water bodies on the earth, life on it will suffer. Each one of us has to preserve the natural resource so as to allow life processes to go on at its normal pace.

**OR**

- (B)** The given pie chart illustrates seven different categories of households living in poverty in the UK in 2002.

It is clearly evident from the pie chart that 26% of the total poverty-stricken households comprise of sole parents. Single people without children account for the

second highest population at about 24%. In contrast to couples without children that accounts for just 9%, couples with children account for 15% of the poor households. Single aged persons and aged couples, comprise of about 12% together of the poor households.

Overall, 14% of all households in the UK were living in poverty. The younger generation had a greater poor percentage than their aged counterparts. Couples without children had better economic conditions than those with children.

## SECTION-C: Literature

(40 Marks)

**V. 1. (A)** (i) The whites had established a system of racial domination against the dark-skinned people of their own land.

(ii) (a) The white supremacists

(iii) (c) Because it had been the seat of white supremacy for decades

(iv) Eighth decade

(v) (d) All of these

**OR**

**(B)** (i) wanted to ride on the bus.

(ii) (b) 1, 3, 4

(iii) (a) longing to ride the bus

(iv) (d) (1) vigorous; (2) overpowering; (3) longingly

(v) This tiny wish became stronger and stronger, until it grew into an overwhelming desire.

**2. (A)** (i) warns

(ii) (b) The word 'tawny' in the given stanza represents the lion's colour.

(iii) (a) It's very risky to be in such a close proximity to the wild beasts mentioned in the poem.

(iv) (b) 4

(v) (a) Has black stripes

**OR**

**(B)** (i) (c) Optimism and craving for freedom

(ii) Here, the 'breaking of glass' signifies breaking of all the barriers.

(iii) The moon is like a mirror and it appears to have been broken into pieces as the shadow of the oak tree divides the moon into many fragments.

(iv) (d) Flash

(v) (a) women have defeated the patriarchy and now ruling the space

**VI.** (i) Initially, the seagull was terrorized. But the fear was momentary. The next second, it flapped its wings and soared into the sky, it could feel the wings soaring through the air. Similarly, in life after an initial fear, self-confidence is developed automatically, and this quality is essential if one has to live a life of integrity.

(ii) Fire and ice both act as a means of destruction in the world. Both degrade humans at an internal level. Their effect at the start might be invisible but in the long term, they can cause visible damage. Both these elements have a negative connotation of desire and hatred, respectively.

(iii) Valli was a very wise girl. She saved her every penny to have a ride in the bus. She

gave up all the normal aspirations of a young child and resisted the temptation to buy balloons, toys, peppermints and so on. She even controlled her desire to ride on the merry-go-round at the village fair. All this was rather troublesome for her.

- (iv) Belinda embraced Custard because he had saved everyone by killing the pirate. Mustard licked him to show his affection while Ink and Blink started dancing around Custard out of happiness.
- (v) In "The Proposal", Lomov was desirous of having a purpose and in leading a well-regulated life. He wanted someone to take care of him as he was not in the best of health. The best solution for this he felt was to get married to his neighbour Natalya. In this way, their properties too would be taken care of.

- VII.** (i) Tricki was given a non-medicinal treatment. What he suffered from was obesity, lack of exercise and eventually he began experiencing indigestion. Dr Herriot took him to his surgery and had his diet regimen altered drastically. He was kept on liquid diet for the first two days and then his diet was gradually increased. In a few days, he became fit to go back home.
- (ii) When Ausable switched on the light, he found a young man holding a small automatic pistol in his hand. He was Max, a crafty rival who had countenance of a fox. The moment Ausable saw his rival, he thought of getting rid of him.
- (iii) Richard's project on the purpose of the twelve tiny gold spots on a monarch pupa was highly valuable in two ways. First, he discovered a hormone that was necessary for the growth of the pupa. Secondly, he got a chance to work at a famous laboratory.

- VIII.** (i) **Father** : Staying in your comfort zone is the fastest way to become discontent.

**Seagull** : I am petrified dad.

**Father** : Look at your siblings, did anything happen to them?

**Seagull** : I am not as brave as they are, dad.

**Father** : Son, you need to take risks in life. Trust your parents and take the step forward.

**Seagull** : How will you protect me when you are so far away from me?

**Father** : We have been given wings to fly. Sometimes, there's danger involved in life, but every reward carries risk with it.

**Seagull** : Okay dad. I promise you I shall make my first flight despite all my fears today.

**Father** : I am proud of you son.

## OR

- (ii) **Speaker**: I understand it's hard to bear the loss of someone who is close to your heart.

**Kisa** : I have lost my only son.

**Speaker**: I empathise with you Kisa. I too lost a dear one in my family a week ago.

**Kisa** : I am sorry. I don't know why God has done this to me. For whom should I live now?

**Speaker**: Get hold of yourself Kisa. God takes away young whom he loves the most. He is safe with God.

**Kisa** : Are you sure? Do you think my son was a chosen one?

**Speaker**: Let's hope so! Kisa, death is the only truth of life. We have all to go one day.

**Kisa** : That's what Gautam Buddha told me too. I should learn to move on in life.

- IX.** (i) Bholi's teacher helped her overcome social barriers by motivating and encouraging her. The same act can be performed by the young generation too. If, we, the new generation, identify the social evils, like corruption, dowry, child marriage, unemployment, poverty, gender discrimination and decide to fight against them; it will revolutionise the system. Thus, we can remove all the above-mentioned evils from the society. There should not be any gender discrimination. But, even today, girls are deprived of education, nourishment in food in comparison to boys. There should be no differentiation in terms of human rights between girls' rights and boys' rights. Education is the most powerful force in our hands to ensure significant improvements in health, to stimulate economic growth, and sustainable societies.

**OR**

- (ii) "Cut your coat according to your cloth" is a proverb that advises us to cut and stitch the coat according to the cloth available. The size of the coat should not exceed the piece of the cloth in hand, or else the coat will be unfit to wear or the cloth will become wasted. This also means to live within your means. Mme Loisel was a young and pretty woman who led a simple yet unhappy life. She came from a poor family but always dreamt of riches and luxuries of life. She was always unhappy as she knew her dreams could never be fulfilled. Eventually, the desire to be someone she was not, transformed her life into one of penury and hardships.



## SAMPLE PAPER – 13

### SECTION-A: Reading Skills

(20 Marks)

- I.
- (i) (b) 1, 2 and 4
  - (ii) (b) Military intervention will only aggravate the conflict even further.
  - (iii) The warming induced drought in the Middle East is leading to increased conflicts over food and water, leading to its consequences on America and the world.
  - (iv) (c) The lack of food and water
  - (v) An increase in catastrophic weather conditions world wide would create more demand for American troops, even as flooding and extreme weather conditions would damage naval ports and military bases.
  - (vi) (d) Bad feelings between people from different races
  - (vii) The report visualises situations caused by the massive drying up of the waters of the Nile or the major rivers of India or China. Pentagon officials also feel that this report would affect military policy of their country as the climate change is having an impact on national security, whether by increasing global instability or by opening the Arctic or by increasing sea level and storm surge close to coastal installation.
  - (viii) The effects of climate change are: flooding, droughts, extreme storms, food and water shortages, and damage to infrastructure in the future.
  - (ix) (c) 3 and 4
  - (x) The recent studies indicate that effects of climate change are already occurring and there is a link in some quarters between rising sea waters and terrorism.
- II.
- (i) (a) because most of the plastic materials are less dense than water
  - (ii) (a) 1 and 4
  - (iii) abundant
  - (iv) (d) both (a) and (c)
  - (v) The popular hypothesis is that ultraviolet light and mechanical wave forces break large pieces of plastic into smaller ones. These smaller particles referred to as microplastics, are much more easily incorporated into sediments or ingested by organisms.
  - (vi) (b) abundance
  - (vii) The theoretical hypotheses reveal the data contradictory to what was expected.
  - (viii) A study which sampled deep sea sediments across several basins found that micro plastic was up to four orders of magnitude more abundant in the deep sea sediments of the Atlantic ocean, Mediterranean Sea and Indian Ocean than in plastic-polluted water surfaces.
- But new research gives another explanation that plastics in the ocean break down slower than previously thought, and that much of the missing plastic is washed up or buried in our shorelines.
- (ix) Imprecise measurement
  - (x) (b) 270 million tonnes

## SECTION–B: Grammar

(10 Marks)

III. (i) (a) works

(ii) that she was planning to take up a crash course in the French Language.

(iii) (c) will

(iv) (c) affect — effect

(v) (c) sounds

(vi) prevailing

(vii) if he had seen her new umbrella

(viii) have — has

(ix) Sanjay informed Arush that their school was planning an excursion for South India during the winter vacation and only senior wings students were eligible to join the trip.

(x) (a) Won't

(xi) (b) Atulya whether he had attended the previous class of Biology last day.

(xii) who — which

## SECTION–B: Creative Writing Skills

(10 Marks)

IV. 1.(A) 143, Noble Apartments

M G Road

Mumbai

26th April, 20XX

The Editor

The Times of India

Mumbai

**Subject:** Re-orientation in Environmental Education

Sir

I am a diligent educationist who is of the opinion that the content with regard to environmental education needs a thorough over-hauling.

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I wish to enlighten the concerned authorities about the need to revamp the syllabus and the content included, because we need to "catch them young". The current content does not cater to the major causes and effects of environmental deterioration. Children need to be taught early in their lives the significance of securing the environment. Therefore, I appeal through your medium, to the concerned authorities to ponder seriously on the issue at hand and make the required corrections to the studies imparted in this subject.

Looking forward to a solution to the problem addressed from the concerned authorities.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely

Anand Ahuja

(Educationist)

**OR**

**(B)** Hasina Baug  
Pitampura  
Delhi

7th November, 20XX

The Manager  
City Heights Hotel  
Pitampura  
Delhi

**Subject:** Cost for the conduct of a Wedding Reception

Sir

I am given to understand that your hotel provides the service of conducting wedding receptions.

I would be greatly obliged if you could help me understand the following, as I wish to conduct a wedding reception for my sister on the 15th of January.

Kindly clarify regarding:

- Décor at the venue
- Seating capacity
- Menu choice you provide
- Catering cost per person
- Service and donation charges
- Advance payment to be made
- Any specific details that you may wish to share

Looking forward to hearing from you at the earliest.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely  
Amina Sheikh

2. **(A)** Recently studies were conducted on diabetes and its massive grip on both rural and urban population of India. The study says that there is a rapid conversion of 'impaired glucose tolerance' to diabetes in the people in the southern states of India. Here, the prevalence of diabetes among the adults is at about 20% in the urban areas compared to 10% among the adults in the rural areas. The reason for this disparity may be due to factors such as lack of availability and lesser affordability among rural folks with regard to diabetic care compared to the people in the urban areas. As a result of the higher awareness about the disease among the urban adults in comparison to their rural counterparts, the glycaemic outcome in treated patients is also far from ideal.

**OR**

- (B)** The given graph studies salary outcomes of a Graphic Designer between the period of 0 to 5 plus years. According to the graph, at the start of the career, a graphic designer

earns an average minimum of 39k and a maximum average of 60k. But towards the completion of his first year, the numbers drop to a minimum of 37k and maximum of just 55k. This figure changes between the 1st to the 2nd year and reaches a higher level of a minimum average of 40k and maximum average of 60k. The salary reaches a peak of 43k and 67k at the 3rd year. This then begins to show a decline in the subsequent 4th and 5th years, with the minimum standing at 39k in both years, and maximum average standing at 57k and 59k, respectively in the two years.

### SECTION-C: Literature

(40 Marks)

- V. 1. (A)**
- (i) The postmaster opened the mail box immediately after Lencho had posted his letter because he would have wanted to know the response of the latter after having received the money.
  - (ii) (c) Because Lencho believed that post-office employees were all cheats
  - (iii) Lencho had asked God to help him with 100 pesos.
  - (iv) Lencho was left with neither money nor food. He believed that his family would remain hungry throughout the year if God doesn't help him.
  - (v) (b) Because the hailstorm left the field bare

**OR**

- (B)**
- (i) The extraordinary chair pushed her and her husband out of the room and then appeared to slam and lock the door after them.
  - (ii) (b) Shocked and outraged
  - (iii) (c) The sight of blood put the old man in a frenzy.
  - (iv) (a) pushed and locked out > hysterical
  - (v) believing in superstition
- 2. (A)**
- (i) (b) (B) is right and (A) is wrong
  - (ii) (d) they are part of our environment
  - (iii) (c) they have cleared his habitat
  - (iv) personification
  - (v) ignoring visitors

**OR**

- (B)**
- (i) The poet says money is external because money can only buy all worldly or materialistic things. It cannot buy emotions, attachment, love, childhood, etc.
  - (ii) (a) 1,2,5
  - (iii) strong
  - (iv) (a) An observer
  - (v) According to the poet, it is from our experience of loss that we learn about it.

- VI.**
- (i) The young seagull saw his mother with a piece of fish in her beak, reaching to him at a little distance. The sight of the fish maddened him, so he dived at the fish without thinking about the result. He fell downwards, and at the next moment, he suddenly felt his wings spread outward and he started flying.
  - (ii) The poem "Fire and Ice" by Robert Frost is a metaphor for human perceptions of power, desires and hatred. The 'fire' symbolises burning desires while the 'ice' on the other hand describes ice-cold hatred. It describes how the world will end because of human emotion, not because of natural disaster.

- (iii) Valli found the elderly woman quite repulsive. She saw that the woman had big ear holes and was wearing ugly earrings. Apart from this, she was chewing betel leaves and her mouth was also filled with betel juice which was almost about to spill over her lips. She didn't like the old woman's appearance and the way she called out her.
- (iv) Merely outer appearances and physical strength don't make a person brave. One should have the strength of mind and self-confidence to be really great. The dragon, Custard had a lot of physical strength and he swallowed the pirate. In spite of that, he was bullied and mocked at for his timidity and cowardly behaviour.
- (v) Lomov, a thirty-six-year-old man, suffered from anxiety and palpitations, and wanted to settle down. Therefore, he desired to marry Natalya, his neighbour, because she was an excellent housekeeper, was good looking and well-educated. Besides, his assets would get enhanced, considering the fact that Natalya's father had a lot of property too. The quote from Jane Austen's play, does have relevance to the play 'Proposal'.

- VII.**
- (i) Mrs Pumphrey's actions had a harmful reaction on Tricki's health. She was overparenting and overfeeding Tricki in the name of love. She gave him extra snacks like malt, cod-liver oil and Horlicks, apart from his main meals, to improve his health. Alongside, she feeds him with cream cakes and chocolates. This worsened his condition to an extent that he had to be hospitalised. She proves that the statement "Affection blinds the reason" is true.
  - (ii) Fowler is a young and romantic writer who had come to meet Ausable. His first authentic thrill of the day came when they both entered Ausable's room and Ausable closed the door behind them and switched on the light for halfway across the room, stood a man with a small automatic pistol in his hand.
  - (iii) It is true that hobbies play a very important role in one's life. It was Richard Ebright's hobbies that led him into the field of science. His hobbies were encouraged by his mother who always motivated him to learn new things. Richard Ebright started collecting butterflies as a hobby. This led him to research and discover many things.

- VIII.**
- (i) Respected Principal, teachers and my dear friends, I stand before you this morning to elaborate on the significance of the thought that, "Every cloud has a silver lining". I felt very desolate and low. I walked through the woods and sat under a hemlock tree. Suddenly, a crow that came and sat on the tree fluttered his wings and shook off the snow on them. This action got me thinking. We live in accordance with certain preconceived notions and experience moments of sorrow and desperation. The crow showed me the light around every dark cloud. I request each one of you to ponder upon what I said to you today, and lift your moods and seek happiness in everything you see and do.

## OR

- (ii) Respected Principal, teachers and my dear friends. I stand before you this morning to speak to you on the importance of creating an environment around us that is peaceful and harmonious. Hatred is a venom that is destroying our world. I would like to refer to Robert Frost's poem "Fire and Ice" which is a metaphor for human perceptions of desires and hatred. The 'fire' symbolises burning desires while the 'ice' on the other hand describes ice-cold hatred. It describes how we humans will be the end of our own race. Thus, the poem, very artistically, underpins the philosophy that we let our emotions rule us and if we don't control them, they will surely bring us all on the verge of chaos. Wake up, before it is too late.

- IX.** (i) Mrs Pumphrey was a rich woman and lived a luxurious life. She had a pet dog named Tricki. She looked upon the dog as her child. Therefore, she provided the pet dog with all that would be considered as the privileges enjoyed by the rich, such as silk clothes, toys, etc. As we know such things are not required for a pet, yet Tricki was bestowed with riches because he was the pet of a rich and privileged woman. He got those things even when not needed. Being a privileged person, Mrs Pumphrey confused actual needs that included exercising the dog, and feeding only what was meant to be fed, with what she perceived were the needs of the dog which was primarily rich food and indulgence. The privileges however made the dog ill.

**OR**

- (ii) The author mentions three qualities that go into the making of a scientist—a first-rate mind, curiosity, and the will to win for the right reasons. Richard Ebright was a very intelligent student. Even as a child, he had a driving curiosity with a bright mind. Richard improved himself from his first science fair, as he realised that a person must try to do the best he/she can. He had role models whom he used to look up to and ask for help. He put in extra effort at every step, asking questions to enhance his skills. The making of a scientist requires a first-rate mind, curiosity and willingness to win for the right reasons. It was this curiosity and the ability to find out the ‘why’ of everything that led him to discover the theory about cell life.



# SAMPLE PAPER – 14

## SECTION-A: Reading Skills

(20 Marks)

- I. (i) (b) For increasing health effects  
(ii) (b) it increases awareness, trust and familiarity  
(iii) (c) Self-realisation  
(iv) As consumers are becoming better educated and have faster access to information.  
(v) With the growing importance of social media, in a shopper's purchase journey, companies are evolving and stepping up the endorsement game across different channels. And the vouching of these brands by celebrities' the brand awareness increases.
- (vi) 1. a brand needs to tell the consumer why a product makes sense to them as individuals.  
2. and what problem of the consumer the product can solve  
(vii) Consumers feel more sympathetic towards a brand if their products are promoted by a celebrity they admire or relate to. It is a simple psychological effect. They feel if they use the product, they will be able to emulate the celebrity's lifestyle.  
(viii) (b) Product's sale getting partially impacted  
(ix) Brands can increase awareness, trust and familiarity, which are important variables in the purchase making process.  
(x) (d) It will allow them to emulate the celebrity's desired traits.
- II. (i) Most of these climate changes are attributed to very small variations in Earth's orbit that change the amount of solar energy our planet receives.  
(ii) (b) ice cores drawn from Greenland, (c) tropical mountain glaciers  
(iii) attributed  
(iv) (b) 10 times faster  
(v) Scientists demonstrated the heat-trapping nature of carbon dioxide and other gases in the mid-19th century. From the measured impacts of increases in these gases, there is no question that increased green house gas levels warm Earth in response.  
(vi) (d) small  
(vii) There is widespread support for the new proposals made by the entire clan.  
(viii) Earth's climate has changed throughout history. Just in the last 800,000 years, there have been eight cycles of ice ages, and warmer periods with the end of the last ice age about 11, 700 years ago, marking the beginning of the modern climate era – and of human civilisation. These climate changes are attributed to the small changes in the Earth's orbit that changes the amount of solar energy the planet receives.  
(ix) 1. Collecting many different types of information about our planet and its climate all over the world.  
2. The signs and patterns of climate change.  
(x) (b) The Greenhouse Impact.

## SECTION–B: Grammar

(10 Marks)

- III. (i) (b) have made  
(ii) she was planning to throw a party the following day  
(iii) (d) might  
(iv) (d) breaks — broke  
(v) (c) arises  
(vi) have been  
(vii) when she would return her Geography project file.  
(viii) influence — influenced  
(ix) Dhriti enquired Ananya whether she had enjoyed the pool side party.  
(x) (b) Can't  
(xi) (a) that they had ultimately proved they were indefatigable.  
(xii) it's — its

## SECTION–B: Creative Writing Skills

(10 Marks)

IV. (A) 15A

Seventh Avenue

Chennai

12th August, 20XX

The Editor

The Hindu

Chennai

**Subject:** Importance of National Integration.

Sir

I write to you to express my concern over the issue of national integration in our country. Ours is a country inhabited by people belonging to different religions, ethnicities, faiths, and creeds. It is important to ensure that religious worship is possible without any hindrance, communal peace, camaraderie, etc. become quite challenging and formidable.

The Indian government along with the people, must formulate a nationalistic policy aimed at promoting national integration and harmony, and implement this policy strictly. The nation with its unity in diversity is required to be upheld to ensure that the oneness of the nation is not sacrificed on the alter of discriminations of any sort.

Patriotism, tolerance, and acceptance of each other despite all differences, should be inculcated among the children at a very early age. Schools, media, and the people who govern the nation at different levels, play a great role in ensuring the unity among the citizens.

I appeal to the concerned authorities to look into the issue. I am sure you will give suitable place to my views in the columns of your esteemed daily.

Yours truly

Harsha Desai

**OR**

**(B) 15 A**

Seventh Avenue  
Chennai

27th January, 20XX

The Editor  
The Hindu  
Chennai

**Subject:** Women and the society

Sir

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I wish to propagate the countless contributions made by women to the society and literally changing the way humans live and think today.

Unfortunately, a woman has always been given the status of a secondary citizen everywhere in the world. She has had to suffer because of the patriarchal nature of society. But one has to just look around to see the great achievements of women that stand underrated. Women have reached the moon yet on the surface of the earth they go unrecognised. To put an end to these petty prejudices and old-fashioned ideologies, it is important to educate children at an early age to respect each other irrespective of the sex they identify themselves with.

I hope your esteemed newspaper concurs with my thoughts and will make the issue of the equality of the sexes a reality.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely  
Harsha Desai

2. **(A)** Deforestation predominantly has been caused because of the recurrent need for paper. It is appalling to note that 31% of the earth's surface is covered by forests, which would be an extent of about 4.06 million acres. Unfortunately, only 18% of this area is protected from deforestation. Factually, as many as 2,400 trees fall to the ground every minute. Between 1990 and 2020, the world has lost forest cover of 4.2%. Indiscriminate chopping down of trees has caused 1,400 species being categorised as critically endangered.

Trees play a major role in protecting the biological ecosystem. It is about time that we recognise the deterioration of our ecosystem and work towards restoring our forests.

**OR**

- (B)** Assured of financial help to meet most of their basic needs perpetually, the freebies cult is changing the mindset of the people and making them complacent.

The on-going debate on freebies has marked a divide across the political spectrum, with some patently on one side, and others unresolved, oscillating with calls for electorate demands. All find themselves involved in this discourse of branding freebies as 'good'

or ‘bad’. Ironically, there is no consensus on a clear definition of the contested term. It is however important that the voters be wary about this dangerous trend of ‘buying people’ by distributing free stuff which is in reality, funded by the public money, that is supposed to be used for developmental activities. It is unethical to influence people and indulge in the destruction of basic democratic principles.

### SECTION-C: Literature

(40 Marks)

- V. 1. (A)**
- (i) Ramlal called Bholi a fool, because she had become hysterical and was screaming. She shouted in fear and pulled her hand away.
  - (ii) (c) She was dressed in a decent manner for the interview.
  - (iii) (d) Hopeful and elated
  - (iv) The seven-year-old little Bholi’s hair was matted because it was never oiled, washed or combed. No one cared to bathe and clean the child. She was always neglected and left to fend for herself.
  - (v) Bholi never knew anything about school. When her father suddenly caught her by the hand, and told her to go along with him, she was frightened because she thought she would also be sold as her old cow, Lakshmi.

**OR**

- (B)**
- (i) Think-Tank is being addressed as the most powerful and intelligent creature.
  - (ii) (c) the speaker is a great sycophant
  - (iii) He smacked the mirror and told it to respond quicker. He then admired himself in front of the mirror.
  - (iv) Think-Tank considers earth ‘a ridiculous little planet’
  - (v) (c) boastful
- 2. (A)**
- (i) (b) 1 and 5
  - (ii) who faced the pirate bravely and killed him
  - (iii) True
  - (iv) Custard has big sharp teeth, spikes on top of him and scales underneath. His mouth was similar to a fireplace, and his nose was like a chimney. Also, he had daggers on his toes.
  - (v) (a) Hyperbole

**OR**

- (B)**
- (i) Control and freedom
  - (ii) (d) her desire for freedom
  - (iii) True
  - (iv) (b) Amanda’s mother
  - (v) (a) The nagging and controlling nature of the adult speaker.

- VI.**
- (i) Flying is a natural instinct of birds. But the young seagull develops a fright of flight. He has to suffer a lot before he gets over his fear of flying. His life was certainly full of adversities till the time he picked up the courage to face it and make his first flight.
  - (ii) Fire and ice can be seen as symbols of passion and cold indifference. Either attitude could eventually be responsible for the end of the world. In fact, both of them could easily operate in tandem to bring about the world’s end. The poet says he would accept either fire or ice, as both are equally venomous.

- (iii) Valli had an overwhelming desire to ride the bus. Valli made careful and painstaking plans for her first journey. She calculated the time required and chose afternoon, as her mother would take a nap during that time, and undertook the risky journey which she completed in 45 minutes all alone.
- (iv) Custard, the dragon had a formidable appearance, with sharp teeth, toes like daggers, spikes on back and scales on the belly. Its mouth was a fireplace and the nose was always fuming like a chimney. However, in sharp contrast to the appearance, its temperament was extremely timid.
- (v) Lomov's unconscious state, unnerves both Chubukov and Natalya. Chubukov thought that he missed a golden opportunity to get rid of his unmarried daughter. However, as soon as he regains consciousness, Chubukov speaks out that his daughter is willing to get married to Lomov, and blesses the couple.

- VII.**
- (i) Fowler was a romantic writer and Ausable was a secret agent. He envisioned him to be a mysterious figure, who spoke with pistols and consumed drugs in wine. But Ausable's appearance did not meet Fowler's expectations, as he was fat, unfit and spoke in an American accent. This kind of impression disappointed Fowler to a great extent.
  - (ii) Tricki was a hugely fat dog, like a bloated sausage with a leg at each corner. His eyes were bloodshot red and rheumy, and he was so listless that he seemed to have no energy. In two weeks, he had been transformed into a lithe, hard muscled animal; he was keeping up with his pack, stretching out in great bounds, his chest almost brushing the ground.
  - (iii) Urquhart guided his research by suggesting him a number of topics for his experiments. For his eighth-grade project, he tried to find the cause of a viral disease that kills nearly all monarch caterpillars every few years. He won several county and international prizes. His experiments on the monarch pupa led to the discovery of a new theory that cells can read their DNA. Dr. Urquhart proved to be a true mentor to the great scientist.

- VIII.**
- (i) **Natalya :** It's really very unfortunate of me that we exchanged unpleasantries like a lay man. I sincerely tender my apology.  
**Lomov :** I apologise for my misconduct too.  
**Natalya :** It is perfectly fine, Lomov. I think it's time we behaved like adults.  
**Lomov :** Yes indeed! We behaved like hooligans a little while ago.  
**Natalya :** And that too, over a piece of land! Isn't it ridiculous?  
**Lomov :** Now that we have understood our mistake, let's discuss about the purpose of my visit.  
**Natalya :** Yes Lomov. Dad told me about your desire to be wedded to me. I am more than ready to be your bride.  
**Lomov :** (Smiling) And what about the Oxen Meadows?  
**Natalya :** I will no longer lay claim to it. I just want to lead a happy life as Mrs Lomov.

## OR

- (ii) **Mr Keesing :** I appreciate your gesture, Anne. It's good to know that you've understood your mistake.  
**Anne :** But Sir, may I ask if it was really wrong that I spoke in the class.  
**Mr Keesing :** Speaking and disturbing the other children is wrong dear Anne. We have to respect the learning needs of every single child in the class. If

that is compromised, you are being an impediment in their learning programme.

**Anne** : Oh! Now I understand why you keep telling me to be silent.

**Mr Keesing :** You are an intelligent student. Use your resources and abilities positively. You have a long way to go in life.

**Anne** : Thank you sir. And I apologise once again.

- IX.** (i) Man, often fails to respect the reality of the situation we are in, and end up losing out on the essence of life. Mme. Loisel was a woman who lived in the world of dreams. She gave too much value to her dreams and aspirations and hence, overlooked the realities of life. That is why, she was always unhappy as dreams were a virtual reality that were far from the truth. Her dissatisfaction with whatever life offered her, led to her ruin. She felt that she was born for all the delicacies and luxuries of life. She disliked being in her current circumstances. This could have been avoided if she had sought pleasure and contentment in whatever life offered her.

**OR**

- (ii) A girl is an individual in her own right. She is not a burden or an object to be given away with money as compensation. Dowry, a practice prevalent in the Indian society despite the spread of education and awareness, negates the girl's dignity and self-respect. The story 'Bholi' shows this in a dramatic manner. Bholi is thought to be ugly and dumb by her parents. So, they are willing to bow down to the demands of an old, handicapped and widowed man, to get the girl off their back. Bholi, on the other hand, refuses to marry that man. She is educated; assertive and capable of taking care of herself. She dedicates her life to service of her parents and teaching at school.



## SAMPLE PAPER – 15

### SECTION-A: Reading Skills

(20 Marks)

- I.
- (i) (a) analysing one's personality, interests, abilities, aspirations, strengths and weaknesses
  - (ii) (c) 'In choosing a career, it is important not to allow anyone to tell you that we are good for nothing, because our personality, interests, abilities, aspirations, strengths and weaknesses will help us decide the most viable career options for ourselves.'
  - (iii) A trained career counsellor can help us identify a variety of professions in which we can excel.
  - (iv) (b) we are the best judge of our abilities, strengths and weaknesses, and self-analysis will enable others to analyse our abilities accurately.
  - (v) (d) identify different professions that will help us use our abilities, because a trained professional can help us prioritise and choose the option that is most viable for us.
  - (vi) An indication of change
  - (vii) (d) many people do not get to pursue the career of their choice because circumstances, ideas and people change.
  - (viii) We can determine that we are on the right track if we follow the suggested exercises of, self-assessment, self-analysis and a well-planned path.
  - (ix) According to the paragraph 3, the writer says, that each one of us has several talents, and it is important to identify them and then work hard to develop them.
  - (x) Having a list of options will uphold your confidence when the counsellor shortlists the ones you are best at, because a choice of professions is laid out in front of you.
- II.
- (i) 90% of the road traffic accidents and injuries occur in low-income and middle-income countries.
  - (ii) False
  - (iii) Children and young people under the age of 25
  - (iv) Children under five years of age are the least affected by road accidents and injuries.
  - (v) (c) Vulnerable
  - (vi) (b) African and Eastern Mediterranean regions
  - (vii) (c) both (a) and (b)
  - (viii) constitute
  - (ix) (b) low-income countries
  - (x) (a) 25 years

### SECTION-B: Grammar

(10 Marks)

- III.
- (i) (b) are hereby informed
  - (ii) would brief him on whatever happened in the class.
  - (iii) (b) may
  - (iv) (d) its — it's
  - (v) (d) shines

- (vi) have reached
- (vii) what she waited to do that evening
- (viii) consist — consists
- (ix) Mithilesh informed Sonali that the teacher said the viva-voce due for the second semester was likely to be held on October 6, 20XX
- (x) (b) Can
- (xi) (d) needed to submit all the pending assignments by the next day
- (xii) become — became

## SECTION-B: Creative Writing Skills (10 Marks)

**IV. 1. (A)** Sapphire Public School  
B-62, IndusInd Lane  
Kanpur

2nd November, 20XX  
The Editor  
The Indian Express  
Kanpur

**Subject:** Sustainable tourism in coastal areas

Sir,

I am the Environment Club Secretary of my school. I feel that the rapid and uncontrolled development in the coastal zones has exposed their fragile ecosystems to an ever-increasing risk of environmental degradation.

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I wish to make a few suggestions to resolve this issue and hope to make an effective transition towards sustainable tourism in the coastal areas. They include:

- Tourism has impacted on global warming, and this needs to be addressed.
- Government remains ignorant and don't give priority to environment sustainability. This situation has to change on a war-footing.
- Disregard the benefit of economic development should be avoided. Economic development should be supported by sustainable options.

I hope effective measures will be taken up by the concerned authorities.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely  
Ansh Sinha

**OR**

**(B)** Greenfield-15 A  
New Delhi

17th October, 20XX

The Editor

The Hindu  
New Delhi

**Subject:** Crime against children

Sir

I am writing to your good-self to express my deep anguish over the unrelenting disregard regarding the present and future of children. India has a major proportion of population that are referred to as the “future of the country”, but I feel they are the most neglected lot. A little attention from the media towards the problem will be enough to initiate new campaign in eradicating the problem.

Child labour, physical and emotional abuse, neglect and exploitation, trafficking, go on rampantly, and the authorities and government continue to disregard the significance of this on the nation at large. This has to stop, and we have to secure our children. I seek your support in reaching my concerns to whomsoever it may concern and effect the necessary changes in the lives of these vulnerable section of our society.

Look forward to the desired changes from the concerned authorities, to stop this deep-rooted social issue.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely  
Sam Joseph

2. (A) The given line graph illustrates the population figures of India and China in the year 2000 and predicted population growth by the year 2050.

The line with small circles, indicates the population of India, whereas the line with small boxes, indicates China's population. It can be seen in the graph for the year 2000 that India's population figure was at 1.0 billion, whereas, China's population figure was between 1.2 and 1.3 billion. Thereafter, India's population has kept increasing but China's population that would reach a peak of over 1.4 billion in the year 2030, begins to show a decline between 2030-2040. In the year 2050, China's predicted population figure would be 1.4 billion, and India's predicted population figure would be 1.6 billion by the same year. It can also be seen from the graph that in between the years 2030 and 2040, China's and India's population figure would be the same, i.e. in between 1.4 and 1.5. It can thus be concluded that China will begin to experience a reduction in overall population while India will be continuing with upward trend.

## OR

- (B) The image gives us a visual of the reasons for the abusive behaviour of drivers, leading to road rage. It says that 49% is due to distracted driving, whereas 44% is while getting off from the vehicle. As many as 39% drivers are aggressive, while 35% indulge in tailgating. About 34% of road rage is a result of the driver running late, 27% and 24% due to blocking, merging traffic and heavy traffic, respectively, along with a 20% resulting in delays due to construction work. 16% drivers express rage because of having to drive in the city or because they are having a bad day. It is reported that likeliest road rage culprits are men aged 35-50 driving blue BMW's. While 31% offenders said they indulged in shouting or swearing to express their rage, while 11% claimed they often carried a loaded gun. Further 44% of women and 56% of men said

they experienced road rage on a daily basis. How can this be avoided? A calm mind, positive attitude, empathy, reducing number of vehicles on the road, seem to be the best solutions to avoid being tailgated and harassed.

## SECTION-C: Literature

(40 Marks)

V. 1. (A) (i) (b) 1, 3 and 4

(ii) (c) (1) furthers the meaning of (2)

(iii) The tone of the speaker is emotional and insecure.

(iv) (a) He is put for a picnic with his friends and they are laughing and singing together.

(v) It reveals that Anne is not able to establish a close connect with anyone. She finds it impossible to discuss serious issues with anyone. She does not have an intimate friend or a confidant.

### OR

(B) (i) The speaker is a young, pretty woman who was dressed in a red.

(ii) (d) Ends do not justify the means.

(iii) I steal only from those who have a lot of money. I steal for a good reason.

(iv) (c) Cajoled

(v) (a) If I let you go, you'll only rob someone else.

2. (A) (i) (c) About the importance of love for internal beauty and not the external one

(ii) That he had found.....

That only God.....

(iii) (b) that God doesn't approve of the ugliness of human beings.

(iv) alone

(v) (c) Love understands love; it needs no talk.

### OR

(B) (i) The boy is learning the epistemology of loss, and how to stand up after facing one.

(ii) (d) desperate

(iii) Epistemology of loss is the study to learn the nature of loss.

(iv) losing is a reality of life, and man must learn to stand up and face loss.

(v) (a) Desperate

VI. (i) The young seagull hesitated and feared to fly. He thought that his wings would not support him. But when the seagull made his first flight, he as well as his family was happy, relieved and proud of him to have completed his first flight. His efforts validates the statement “Every big deal begins with a first small step.”

(ii) The poem “Fire and Ice” by Robert Frost is a metaphor for human perceptions of desires and hatred. It describes how we humans will bring about the end of our own race by “fire or ice”. The poet wishes to express that only love, equality, mutual understanding and sympathy for one and all can help in establishing peace on the Earth.

(iii) Valli's favourite pastime was standing in the front doorway of her house and looking at the street outside. Valli's dream was to enjoy a ride on the bus to the nearest town. Over many days and months, she listened carefully to the conversations between her

neighbours and people about the bus journey, such as the bus fare and time. She then planned, saved money, and fulfilled her dream.

- (iv) The dragon, Custard, initially commanded no amount of respect from Belinda and the other pets, on account of its cowardice; but when the house was attacked by an armed pirate and all others panicked and ran for shelter, the dragon savagely attacked the pirate and ate it up. Thus, the other animals realised his worth and came to respect him genuinely.
- (v) The soliloquy suggests that Lomov was experiencing severe nervousness. He wanted to marry Natalya as he was already 35 and wanted someone in his life who could look after him, as he was suffering from a weak heart and sleeping-sickness. He knew Natalya was beautiful and well-educated, so he wanted to spend his life peacefully with her.

- VII.** (i) Dr Herriot in the lesson, intermittently makes it known to the reader that there is a vast difference in his financial status in comparison to that of Mrs Pumphrey. In his using “about thirty feet of gleaming black metal,” to refer to the black limousine of the lady, he is emphasising the sheer extravagance of an indulgent rich woman who has come to pick up her pet dog Tricki.
- (ii) Ausable showed a great presence of mind when Max pointed gun at him when he entered note room with Fowler. Though his looks were not mysterious but with his presence of mind, he cooked up the story of non-existent balcony. Max, though smart, was be-fooled by Ausable and even lost his life.
- (iii) During his seventh grade, Ebright took part in the country science fair in which he didn't win anything. It is but natural that he would have experienced a great deal of sorrow at having failed. But he did not let that de-moralise him. He realised that the meaning of the experiment is not restricted to the display of the things. The competitive spirit saw an emergence of a great scientist.

- VIII.** (i) **Ink** : Dear Custard, I am relieved and truly indebted to see your valour.  
**Blink** : Hey Custard! Proud of you champ! I was petrified. Thank you for saving us from imminent death. I had run off into my hole when we were attacked by the Pirate.

**Belinda** : (*embracing Custard*) Yes Custard! If not for you, the Pirate would have killed all of us. I wish to say sorry on behalf of the entire family for making you feel small at all times. You were the one who stood up for all of us at a time of crisis. You were amazing. Thank you, dear Dragon.

**Mustard** : I am supposed to be a guard to everyone. I am grateful to dear Custard, and I apologise to all of you for fleeing from the scene.

## OR

- (ii) Respected Principal, teachers and my dear friends, I stand before you to share a story that had me gobsmacked. It goes like this; Lencho, a farmer, who is the protagonist of the story, writes a letter to God, seeking help from the Almighty as he discovers his entire crop yield had been destroyed by a devastating hailstorm. A well-meaning postmaster, plays God and provides succour to the farmer. It was however less than what he had asked for, and Lencho, writes another letter stating that the post office staff were cheats. The post master was shocked to read the second letter, and, was astounded at the unquestioned faith Lencho had in God.

His faith and trust in God, made me realise that God never fails his children when in distress.

Thank you

- IX.** (i) Anil was the most trusting person Hari Singh had ever met. But he took undue advantage of his trust. He was a thief and couldn't be expected to be honest with Anil. He came to Anil with a false identity. Anil had a blind faith in human nature. He employed him just out of sympathy and compassion for him. He trusted him and ignored his misdeed. He handed over all the financial transactions without any verification. Anil was aware of the fact that Hari had stolen the money from under his pillow. But he chose to ignore it, and behaved as if nothing had happened. This was perhaps a way of appreciating the reformation that he was observing in the character of Hari Singh.

**OR**

- (ii) Anil, in the chapter "The Thief's Story" makes it very explicit that if you decide to let go of the blame and make peace with yourself and others, instead of fighting, shouting and abusing, you will be rewarded with physical, mental and emotional well-being. Imagine a situation where, Anil would have reported the theft to the police, or abused, beaten Hari, belittled him or thrown him out of the house, both he and Hari would have been mentally and physically unhappy. But his reaction, was admirable, as along with reforming a thief, he maintained peace with himself by handling the issue in the manner he did.

