Series : 3KMLN **SET~1**

Q.P. Code 2/3/1

Roll No. | | | | | | | | |

Candidates must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.

ENGLISH
(Language and Literature)

*Time allowed : **3** hours* *Maximum Marks : **80***

	NOTE :
(I)	Please check that this question paper contains **19** printed pages.
(II)	Q.P. Code given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
(III)	Please check that this question paper contains **11** questions.
(IV)	**Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book at the given place before attempting it.**
(V)	15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the candidates will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

General Instructions :

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

(i) *This question paper comprises **11** questions. All questions are compulsory.*

(ii) *The question paper contains **three** sections :*
***Section A** – Reading Skills*
***Section B** – Grammar and Creative Writing Skills*
***Section C** – Literature*

(iii) *Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*

SECTION A
Reading Skills

20 marks

1. Read the following passage carefully : *10*

(1) In the contemporary digital era, personal information has become both a resource and a vulnerability. One of the most alarming practices exploiting this sensitivity is doxing, the deliberate act of publicly revealing private or sensitive information about an individual without their consent. It typically blurs the boundaries between online and offline privacy by disclosing personal details such as phone numbers, home addresses, workplace details or financial records on public platforms, making the digital and physical worlds collide.

(2) In the complex landscape of digital communication, doxing emerges as a controversial phenomenon which is often weaponized to frighten, harass, or harm the targeted individual. This leads to anxiety, stress, fear or paranoia as their sense of personal safety and control over their life is severely compromised. A determined doxer might scrape information from various social networking profiles, domain name records or exploit security lapses like weak passwords. Once gathered, this information is shared on public forums, social media, or 'dox sites', expanding the victim's exposure to harassment, stalking, or even physical threats.

(3) This darker side of doxing reveals its true dangers. What makes it particularly treacherous is that once the information is released online, it is almost impossible to erase, making the harm sometimes lifelong. Legally, it occupies a grey area. In some jurisdictions it may violate privacy, cyberstalking or harassment laws, but global differences and the Internet's borderless nature complicate enforcement. Ethically, doxing is a clear violation of personal autonomy. It disproportionately harms marginalized groups, who often face accelerated real-world risks from such exposures.

(4) Proponents of doxing sometimes claim it promotes justice by exposing individuals who might otherwise escape accountability. For instance, in some cases of online scams or criminal behaviour, Internet users have identified and revealed the real identities of offenders. Moreover, when individuals misuse their anonymity to harm others, exposing them may serve justice and discourage similar behaviour in future.

(5) Defending against doxing demands proactive, preventive and corrective measures like locking down social media privacy settings, using pseudonyms, enabling two-factor authentication, and minimizing shared personal data. However, individual efforts are often insufficient against determined attackers, though certain systematic solutions such as stricter data protection regulations, robust platform moderation and criminalizing doxing explicitly may play a vital role to curb its spread. In addition to this, public awareness campaigns on digital safety are equally important to educate users about risks. Victims should have access to legal aid, counselling and helplines for immediate support. A united effort may ensure better protection against this growing online threat.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

(i) In the phrase 'personal information has become both a resource and a vulnerability', the word 'vulnerability' refers to :

Paragraph (1) *1*

(A) a person's information being monitored.

(B) the potential to misuse or compromise a person's data.

(C) the sharing of information supports career contacts.

(D) all personal information is freely available for sanctioning of loans.

(ii) Complete the following with the correct option from the two given below : *1*

Doxing results in the collision between digital and physical worlds because _____.

(A) it discloses a person's personal information on an online platform

(B) it has led to many boxing bouts between individuals

Paragraph (1)

(iii) Support the writer's view that doxing may have a psychological impact on the targeted individual.

Paragraph (2) *2*

(iv) State whether the statement is True or False : *1*

The strength of a password is not connected to the privacy of their information. Paragraph (2)

(v) Complete the following suitably : *1*

Doxing is ethically wrong because _____.

Paragraph (3)

(vi) The negative and dangerous aspect of doxing is : *1*

Paragraph (3)

(A) It is easy to delete the information once posted online.

(B) It is impossible to erase the information once released online.

(C) It is easily deleted and edited by the targeted individual.

(D) It is not possible for a doxer to leak information online.

(vii) Cite one example to support the claim that doxing can promote justice with reference to Paragraph (4). *1*

(viii) Mention any two preventive steps that individuals can take to safeguard their online identity and reduce the risk of being doxed.

Paragraph (5) *2*

2. Read the following passage carefully : *10*

(1) Fascination of glassware has captivated people all over the world for its blending utility, artistry and cultural significance. The invention of glassblowing, a technique that involves inflating molten glass into a bubble with the help of a blowpipe, revolutionized the craft, making glassware more accessible, affordable and versatile. This allowed the mass production of glass vessels.

(2) In India, the craze for glassware has made this industry a significant segment of the manufacturing sector which is notably contributing to both — domestic consumption and exports. India's glass industry comprises a diverse range of products such as container glass, flat glass, and fibreglass. As of 2024, the Indian glass industry was valued at approximately ₹ 40,338 crore. The growth is fuelled by increasing sustainability and the rising demand for decorative items. The flat glass segment, essential for the construction and automotive sectors, contributes around 55% of the total industry revenue. Due to rising demand for energy-efficient buildings, toughened glass is extensively employed. It is also used in automotive windows, doors, facades, and shower screens. Actually, it is a type of processed flat glass, made specifically to be stronger and safer than ordinary flat glass, also called tempered glass. In packaging, container glass is used especially for beverages and pharmaceuticals, which makes up around 25% of the market.

(3) Firozabad in Uttar Pradesh is the heart of the Indian glass industry and is often referred to as the "City of Glass". Firozabad specializes in decorative glassware, chandeliers, bangles and domestic glass products. More than 400 glassware manufacturing units provide employment to over 1,50,000 workers. Artisans of this place have made it a leading contributor to India's glassware export, preserving tradition while supporting the local economy.

(4) The Indian handmade glassware products including artistic and decorative items continue to thrive in the domestic market and in exports. The blend of traditional craftsmanship and modern technology has made the Indian glass industry distinctive in comparison to global leaders like China and the USA.

(5) However, the industry faces many challenges like dependence on imported raw material, energy-intensive manufacturing processes and environmental regulations, but it still holds a vital position in the national economy. In current times, it is focusing on sustainability, as manufacturers are adopting recycled glass or cullet in production in order to reduce energy consumption and carbon emission, as they require lower melting temperatures. Economically, it decreases the cost of raw material and supports circular economy models, making the industry both profitable and environmentally responsible.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

(i) Select the option that is true for the Assertion and Reason given below. Paragraph (1) *1*

Assertion : The invention of glassblowing has expanded the glass industry all over the world.

Reason : Glassblowing allowed craftsmen to produce complex glass objects faster and in large quantities.

(A) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.

(B) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, but the Reason is ***not*** the correct explanation of the Assertion.

(C) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.

(D) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.

(ii) In paragraph (2), identify the word that indicates people's fascination for glassware. *1*

(iii) Support with evidence from the passage that India's glass industry has a 'diverse range'. Paragraph (2) *2*

(iv) Read the given prompt and select the correct option in the brackets to fill in the blank.

The percentage of container glass used in pharmaceuticals and packaging is _____. (23%, 25%, 28%) Paragraph (2) *1*

(v) Why is Firozabad referred to as the "City of Glass" ? *1*
Paragraph (3)

(vi) What does the number of workers in the glassware industry emphasize about the employability of Firozabad ? *1*
Paragraph (3)

(vii) Complete the sentence appropriately :

India's glass industry is unique as compared to global leaders like China and the USA because _____. *1*
Paragraph (4)

(viii) How does using recycled glass benefit the glassware industry environmentally ? *1*
Paragraph (5)

(ix) Complete the following with a suitable reason.

The Indian glass industry is facing many challenges because _____. Paragraph (5) *1*

SECTION B

Grammar and Creative Writing Skills *20 marks*

Grammar

3. Complete any ***ten*** of the following twelve tasks, as directed. *10×1=10*

(i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the brackets, for the given portion of a report. *1*

The auto driver did not sustain injuries, though the passenger who was _____ (sit) in the auto was injured.

(ii) Read the given sentence from a story. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence. *1*

The fisherman requested the guards to let him go to meet the king, but they demands half of the profit from his reward.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	*Correction*

(iii) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option given in the brackets : *1*

_____ (All/Many/Each) girl in the class must have her/their own book.

(iv) Report the dialogue between a mother and her son by completing the sentence : *1*

Mother : What have you bought from the store ?

Son : A soft toy, mother.

Mother : How much did you pay for it ?

Son : All the money father gave me yesterday.

The mother asked her son what he had bought from the store. He replied that he had bought a soft toy. Then his mother enquired how much he had paid for that. Upon this he said that _____.

(v) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the line given below : *1*

Mohini attend every concert in the city because she loves classical music.

Option No.	*Error*	*Correction*
(A)	attend	attends
(B)	in	to
(C)	because	but
(D)	loves	have love

(vi) Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the dialogue given below : *1*

My sister said to me, "I have washed my new dress."

(A) My sister told me that she had washed her new dress.

(B) My sister asked me that she was washing her new dress.

(C) My sister told me that she has being washed her new dress.

(D) My sister replied me that she have been washed her new dress.

(vii) Complete the given sentence with the correct form of verb. *1*

It was a challenge to meet the expectations of the committee _____ the given time period.

(A) along

(B) within

(C) between

(D) into

(viii) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option given in the brackets : *1*

Heena has worked hard the last six months. She surely _____ (must/would/may) pass this year.

(ix) Identify the error and supply the correction for the following note in an air purifier's instruction manual. *1*

If the humidity level in the room is very high, condensation may developed on the air quality sensor.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	*Correction*

(x) Mona and Tina plan a visit to the National Museum. Report the question asked by Mona to Tina. *1*

Which is the shortest route to reach the museum ?

Mona asked Tina _____.

(xi) Replace the underlined word used in the sentence with the best option given below : *1*

If Hemant take the earlier train, he would not have been late for the meeting.

(A) had taken

(B) had been taking

(C) have taken

(D) have been taking

(xii) Identify the error and supply the correction for the following sentence. *1*

A bird in the hand are worth two in the bush.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	*Correction*

Creative Writing Skills

Note : *All details presented in the questions in the writing section are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.*

4. Attempt any ***one*** from (a) and (b) given below in about 120 words : *5*

(a) You are Vaishali/Vishal, a student of Class X of PQS Public School, Lancer Road, Coldtown. You travel by the school bus every day. The seating capacity of the bus is 35 students but there is over-crowding and many students remain standing through most of the journey. Write a letter to the Principal, drawing attention to this inconvenience, the dangers, and requesting for a resolution to the situation.

OR

(b) You are Vaidehi/Vishal, a gym trainer. You want to volunteer an hour every weekend to provide free yoga classes to the residents of your colony in the community park. Write a letter to the President of the RWA, Purv Colony, Vrikshbagh, telling him about your plan and its advantages and requesting him to grant you permission to do so.

5. Attempt any ***one*** from (a) and (b) given below in about 120 words : *5*

(a) Read the given details about sleep patterns and their effects.

- restores energy
- enhances immunity
- promotes emotional well-being
- benefits concentration and productivity
- oversleep leads to fatigue, weight gain and irritability

Analyse the details and write an analytical paragraph on the importance of sleep in maintaining physical health, mental well-being, and academic performance.

OR

(b) Read the following details :

Kharif and Rabi crops play a pivotal role in agriculture in India. Analyze the data given below and write an analytical paragraph by drawing a comparison between the two.

Aspect	Kharif crop	Rabi crop
Sowing season	June to July	October to November
Harvesting season	September to October	March to April
Major crops	Rice, Maize, Cotton, Groundnut, Soybean	Wheat, Barley, Soybean, Mustard, Peas, Gram
Rainfall required	High	Low to moderate
Regions dominated	East and South India	Northwest and Central India
Irrigation dependency	Less, as it is monsoon-based	High, as it requires irrigation
Temperature required	Warm and humid	Cool and dry

SECTION C

Literature *40 marks*

6. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any ***one*** of the given two, (a) or (b) : *5*

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

So, in order not to shake the writer's faith in God, the postmaster came up with an idea: answer the letter.

(A Letter to God)

(i) Justify the following statement :

What faith! I wish I had the faith of the man who wrote this letter. *1*

(ii) Fill in the blank with a correct word from the brackets.

The postmaster turned serious on seeing the letter addressed to God because he realized that the writer had _____ (immense/limited) faith in God. *1*

(iii) Examine the portrayal of the postmaster in the given extract. *2*

(iv) Why did the postmaster initially laugh on seeing the letter ? *1*

(A) It was a blank sheet of paper.
(B) He lacked faith in God.
(C) He had received such letters earlier.
(D) He had never known such an address.

OR

(b) OMEGA : Yes, sir. *(She reads with great seriousness.)*

Mistress Mary, quite contrary.
How does your garden grow?
With cockle shells and silver bells
And pretty maids all in a row.

OOP : Ha, ha, ha. Imagine that. Pretty maids growing in a garden.

THINK-TANK : *(alarmed)* Stop! This is no time for levity. Don't you realise the seriousness of this discovery? The Earthlings have discovered how to combine agriculture and mining. They can actually *grow* crops of rare metals such as silver. And cockle shells. They can grow high explosives, too. Noodle, contact our invasion fleet.

NOODLE : They are ready to go down and take over Earth, sir.

(The Book that Saved the Earth)

(i) What can we infer from the given statement, "This is no time for levity" ? *1*

(ii) Think-Tank thinks that Earthlings have reached a high level of civilisation. Why does he think so ? *2*

(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately : *1*

The piece of information that Noodle provides to Think-Tank is _____.

(iv) What is the tone of Omega while reading the rhyme ? *1*

1. happy
2. optimistic
3. serious
4. pessimistic
5. sarcastic

Select the correct option :

(A) Only 1
(B) 4 and 5
(C) Only 3
(D) 1 and 2

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any ***one*** of the given two, (a) or (b) : *5*

(a) But he's locked in a concrete cell,

His strength behind bars,

Stalking the length of his cage,

Ignoring visitors. (A Tiger in the Zoo)

(i) Complete the sentence suitably : *1*

The tiger ignores the visitors because _____.

(ii) The above lines juxtapose the tiger's natural instincts with its caged existence. Justify. *2*

(iii) What mood is created by the poet in the above lines ? *1*

(A) sympathetic and thoughtful

(B) angry and violent

(C) cheerful and happy

(D) exciting and fun

(iv) Fill in the blank with the correct option from the brackets. *1*

The length of his cage highlights the _____ (vast space/limited space/free space) in which the tiger is confined.

OR

(b) The fog comes

on little cat feet.

It sits looking

over harbour and city

on silent haunches

and then moves on.

(Fog)

(i) Examine the strategic use of imagery in the above lines. *1*

(ii) How does the poet portray the relationship between nature and the urban environment ? *2*

(iii) On the basis of the extract, select the correct option.

The image of a cat moving "on little cat feet" evokes : *1*

(A) softness

(B) roughness

(C) wilderness

(D) hardness

(iv) Fill in the blank with the appropriate option from the brackets : *1*

In the given extract, the tone of the poet is _____ (playful and mysterious/cold and rough/pessimistic and aggressive).

8. Answer any ***four*** of the following five questions in 40 – 50 words each : *4×3=12*

(i) Why does Mandela mention that he was prevented from fulfilling his obligations as a son, a brother, a father, and a husband ?

(Nelson Mandela – Long Walk to Freedom)

(ii) How does the line 'people will take balls, balls will be lost always', justify that material losses are necessary for emotional growth and to understand the harsh realities of life ?

(The Ball Poem)

(iii) Why did Kisa Gotami, despite her desperate efforts to find a solution for her grief, ultimately become weary and hopeless ?

(The Sermon at Benares)

(iv) What was Chubukov's reaction when he discovered the actual purpose behind Lomov's visit ?

(The Proposal)

(v) The religious man's perspective in 'For Anne Gregory' reinforces the concept of divine love. Illustrate.

9. Answer any ***two*** of the following three questions in 40 – 50 words each : *2×3=6*

(i) Considering the emotional attachment of Mrs. Pumphrey with Tricki, state the impact of the word 'convalescing' on her.

(A Triumph of Surgery)

(ii) Ausable displayed a remarkable presence of mind combined with a good sense of humour to handle Max. Justify.

(The Midnight Visitor)

(iii) What makes Bholi believe that the place where she was taken was better than her home ?

(Bholi)

10. Answer any ***one*** of the following two questions in 100 – 120 words : *6*

(a) How does the method of the seagull's mother to teach her child to be independent contrast with Amanda's mother's constant nagging ? Examine how this affects the emotional responses of the seagull and Amanda.

('Two Stories about Flying' and 'Amanda!')

OR

(b) Both, Rajvir in 'Tea from Assam' and Valli in 'Madam Rides the Bus' are motivated by a strong desire to experience the world beyond their everyday life. How do their respective journeys reflect their curiosity, enthusiasm for discovering new things and shape their understanding of the world around them ?

11. Answer any ***one*** of the following two questions in 100 – 120 words : *6*

(a) Anil's love, trust and compassion influenced Hari Singh's inner conflict and played a crucial role in transforming him. Elucidate.

(The Thief's Story)

OR

(b) Analyze, how the theme of appearance versus reality is developed in 'The Necklace' through Matilda's life choices and their consequences.

Marking Scheme
Strictly Confidential
(For Internal and Restricted use only)
Secondary School Examination, 2026 (Xth)
SUBJECT NAME: ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)
(Q.P. CODE /Set No 2/3/1.)

General Instructions: -

1	You are aware that evaluation is the most important process in the actual and correct assessment of the candidates. A small mistake in evaluation may lead to serious problems which may affect the future of the candidates, education system and teaching profession. To avoid mistakes, it is requested that before starting evaluation, you must read and understand the spot evaluation guidelines carefully.
2	**"Evaluation policy is a confidential policy as it is related to the confidentiality of the examinations conducted, evaluation done and several other aspects. Its leakage to public in any manner could lead to derailment of the examination system and affect the life and future of millions of candidates. Sharing this policy/document to anyone, publishing in any magazine and printing in Newspaper/Website, etc. may invite action under various rules of the Board and IPC."**
3	Evaluation is to be done as per instructions provided in the Marking Scheme. It should not be done according to one's own interpretation or any other consideration. Marking Scheme should be strictly adhered to and religiously followed. **However, while evaluating, answers which are based on latest information or knowledge and/or are innovative, they may be assessed for their correctness otherwise and due marks be awarded to them. In Class-X, while evaluating two competency-based questions, please try to understand given answer and even if reply is not from marking scheme but correct competency is enumerated by the candidate, due marks should be awarded.**
4	The Marking scheme carries only suggested value points for the answers. These are in the nature of Guidelines only and do not constitute the complete answer. The students can have their own expression and if the expression is correct, the due marks should be awarded accordingly.
5	The Head-Examiner must go through the first five answer books evaluated by each evaluator on the first day, to ensure that evaluation has been carried out as per the instructions given in the Marking Scheme. If there is any variation, the same should be zero after deliberation and discussion. The remaining answer books meant for evaluation shall be given only after ensuring that there is no significant variation in the marking of individual evaluators.
6	Evaluators will mark (√) wherever answer is correct. For wrong answer CROSS 'X' be marked. Evaluators will not put right (✓) while evaluating which gives an impression that answer is correct and no marks are awarded. **This is most common mistake which evaluators are committing.**
7	If a question has parts, please award marks on the right-hand side for each part. Marks awarded for different parts of the question should then be totaled up and written in the left-hand margin and encircled. This may be followed strictly.
8	If a question does not have any parts, marks must be awarded in the left-hand margin and encircled. This may also be followed strictly.
9	If a student has attempted an extra question, answer of the question deserving more marks should be retained and the other answer scored out with a note **"Extra Question"**.

10	No marks to be deducted for the cumulative effect of an error. It should be penalized only once.
11	A full scale of marks _____ (example 0 to 80/70/60/50/40/30 marks as given in Question Paper) has to be used. Please do not hesitate to award full marks if the answer deserves it.
12	Every examiner has to necessarily do evaluation work for full working hours i.e., 8 hours every day and evaluate 20 answer books per day in main subjects and 25 answer books per day in other subjects (Details are given in Spot Guidelines).This is in view of the reduced syllabus and number of questions in question paper.
13	Ensure that you do not make the following common types of errors committed by the Examiner in the past :- ● Leaving answer or part thereof unassessed in an answer book. ● Giving more marks for an answer than assigned to it. ● Wrong totaling of marks awarded on an answer. ● Wrong transfer of marks from the inside pages of the answer book to the title page. ● Wrong question wise totaling on the title page. ● Wrong totaling of marks of the two columns on the title page. ● Wrong grand total. ● Marks in words and figures not tallying/not same. ● Wrong transfer of marks from the answer book to online award list. ● Answers marked as correct, but marks not awarded. (Ensure that the right tick mark is correctly and clearly indicated. It should merely be a line. Same is with the X for incorrect answer.) ● Half or a part of answer marked correct and the rest as wrong, but no marks awarded.
14	While evaluating the answer books if the answer is found to be totally incorrect, it should be marked as cross (X) and awarded zero (0) Marks.
15	Any unassessed portion, non-carrying over of marks to the title page, or totaling error detected by the candidate shall damage the prestige of all the personnel engaged in the evaluation work as also of the Board. Hence, in order to uphold the prestige of all concerned, it is again reiterated that the instructions be followed meticulously and judiciously.
16	The Examiners should acquaint themselves with the guidelines given in the "**Guidelines for Spot Evaluation**" before starting the actual evaluation.
17	Every Examiner shall also ensure that all the answers are evaluated, marks carried over to the title page, correctly totaled and written in figures and words.
18	The candidates are entitled to obtain photocopy of the Answer Book on request on payment of the prescribed processing fee. All Examiners/Additional Head Examiners/Head Examiners are once again reminded that they must ensure that evaluation is carried out strictly as per value points for each answer as given in the Marking Scheme.

MARKING SCHEME
ENGLISH (Language and Literature) (Subject Code-184)
(PAPER CODE: 2/3/1) (10-03-184K)

SECTION – A

(READING SKILLS) 20

1. Reading Passage 1 **10**

i) (B) – the potential to misuse or compromise a person's data. **1**

ii) (A)– it discloses a person's personal information on an online platform. **1**

iii) **(Any two)** **2**

- anxiety
- stress
- fear or paranoia
- exposure to harassment
- stalking
- physical threats

iv) False **1**

v) **(Any one)** **1**

- clear violation of personal autonomy
- harms marginalized groups
- faces accelerated real world risks from such exposures

vi) (B) – it is impossible to erase the information once released online. **1**

vii) **(Any one)** **1**

- cases of online scams
- criminal behaviour
- misuse of anonymity
- offenders hiding their real identities

viii) **(Any Two)** **2**

- by locking down social media privacy settings
- by using pseudonyms
- enabling two factor authentication
- by minimizing sharing of personal data

2. Reading passage 2 **10**

i) (A) – Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion. **1**

ii) craze **1**

iii) **(Any two)** **2**

- container glass
- flat glass for construction and automotive sector
- fiberglass

- decorative glass
- toughened glass for buildings
- tempered glass

iv) 25% **1**

v) **(Any one)** **1**
- heart of the Indian glass industry
- specialized in decorative glassware
- variety of glass products as chandeliers, bangles, domestic glass products
- has more than 400 glassware manufacturing units
- provides employment to more than 1,50,000 workers

vi) **(Any one)** **1**
- has more than 400 glassware manufacturing units
- provides employment to more than 1,50,000 workers
- artisans of this place have made it a leading contributor of India's glassware export
- preserving tradition while supporting the local economy

vii) it has the blend of traditional craftsmanship and modern technology **1**

viii) **(Any one)** **1**
- reduces energy consumption
- requires lower melting temperatures
- less carbon emission
- focuses on sustainability
- decreases the cost of raw material
- supports circular economy model

ix) **(Any one)** **1**
- of dependence on imported raw material
- of energy- intensive manufacturing processes
- of environmental regulations

SECTION B **20**

GRAMMAR AND CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

Full credit - 1 mark for correct answer, no partial credit.

3. Complete any **ten** of the following twelve tasks, as directed. **10**

(i) sitting **1**

(ii) **1**

Error	Correction
demands	demanded

(iii) Each **1**

(iv) (Any one) **1**
- he paid all the money father had given him the previous day/ last day
- all the money father had given him the previous day/ last day

(v) (A) - attend- attends **1**

(vi) (A) - My sister told me that she had washed her new dress. **1**

(vii) (B) - within **1**

(viii) would **1**

(ix) **1**

Error	Correction
developed	develop

(x) (Any one) **1**

- which the shortest route to reach the museum was.
- which the shortest route was to reach the museum.

(xi) (A)- had taken **1**

(xii) **1**

Error	Correction
are	is

CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purposes.

4. Letter Writing: **Any one from (A) and (B) given below** **5**

Content- 2 marks
Format - 1 mark

- No mark for format alone if content is irrelevant or missing.
- Full credit of 1 mark if all aspects are included.
- Partial credit of ½ mark if one or two aspects are missing.
- No credit if more than two aspects are missing

Organization of ideas - 1 mark (effective style, orderly sequence, paragraph structured and formal tone, vocabulary).
Accuracy - 1 mark (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)

- ½ mark to be deducted if there are three or more spelling errors

a. **(At least four points, two from each aspects)** **2+1+1+1**

Issue **/** Situation

- irregular bus service
- prone to accidents
- late arrivals
- overcrowded bus
- students remain standing
- injury/ claustrophobia

Suggestions

- more number of buses
- add more bus routes
- deputing attendants **/** guards
  (Any other innovative and relevant ideas/ suggestions)

OR

b. **(At least four points, two from each aspect)** **2+1+1+1**

Benefits

- caters to all age groups
- healthy **/** active lifestyle
- promotes bonds between different members of community
- community service/ promoting volunteerism
- good for mind, body and soul

Requirements

- permission
- space
- weekend time slots
- equipment required
  (Any other innovative and relevant ideas/ suggestions)

5. Analytical Paragraph: **Any one from (A) and (B) given below:** **5**

Content - 2 marks

- Full credit of 2 marks for all value points given in the question
- Partial credit of 1 mark if only two value points are given

Organization of ideas - 2 marks

- Effective style, orderly sequence, formal tone and vocabulary
- Linking words and phrases like in addition to, in contrast to, therefore, however etc. should be included

Accuracy - 1 mark (spelling, punctuation and grammar)

- ½ mark to be deducted if there are three or more spelling errors

a. **Value points/ trends** **2+2+1**
(Any four points)

- restores energy
- enhances immunity
- promotes emotional well-being
- benefits concentration and productivity
- oversleep leads to fatigue, weight gain and irritability

- maintains physical health
- affects mental well-being
- impacts academic performance

(Any other innovative and relevant ideas/ suggestions)

OR

b. **Value points/ trends** **2+2+1**

(Any four points)

- Sowing season of both crops
- Harvesting season
- Major crops
- Rainfall required
- Regions dominated by each crop
- Irrigation dependency
- Temperature required

(Any other innovative and relevant ideas/ suggestions)

SECTION – C
LITERATURE

6. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the given two (A) or (B) : **5**

a. (i) **(Any one)** **1**

- the postmaster was surprised at the staunch faith, Lencho had in God.
- expressed envy for the faith of Lencho
- admired Lencho for his unwavering faith

(Any other relevant point)

(ii) immense **1**

(iii) **(Any two)** **2**

- jovial
- ordinary
- fat
- amiable
- amused
- later became thoughtful and serious
- kind/ generous

(Any other relevant point)

(iv) (D) - He had never known such an address. **1**

OR

b. (i) **(Any one)** **1**

- believes that they are in danger, so they should be serious
- human civilization is advanced

(Any other relevant point)

(ii) **(Any two)** **2**

- earthlings have discovered how to combine agriculture and mining
- can grow crops of rare metals, such as silver
- tensed that earthlings may attack them by high explosives
- earthlings can grow high explosives in their garden

(Any other relevant point)

(iii) that their invasion fleet is ready to go and take control of earth. **1**

(iv) (C) – Only 3 **1**

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the given two (A) or (B): **5**

a. (i) **(Any one)** **1**

- feels angry/ helpless/ frustrated in the cage
- locked in the concrete cell
- shows his silent protest of being caged
- wants to be free, doesn't react to their presence

(Any other relevant point)

(ii) **(Any two)** **2**

- free v/s captivated/ caged/ locked
- hunting freely v/s caged
- feared entity v/s displayed entity
- roaring v/s quiet
- open jungle v/s limited space

(Any other relevant point)

(iii) (A) – sympathetic and thoughtful **1**

(iv) limited space **1**

OR

b. (i) **(Any one)** **1**

- imagery of fog covering city and harbour
- fog compared to cat, creates image of moving cat
- visualization of cat sitting on its haunches

(Any other relevant point)

(ii) **(Any two)** **2**

- covers city/ urban area including harbour
- shown as quietly observing the busy human world
- silent, soft and natural
- doesn't harm anyone
- exist as a part of nature
- powerful force, seems harmless
  (Any other relevant point)

(iii) (A) – softness **1**
(iv) playful and mysterious **1**

8. Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following five questions in 40 - 50 words each : **4x3 = 12**

Content - 2 marks (at least 2 value points)

Expression - 1 mark (Effective style, coherence and cohesion)

i) **(Any two points)** **2+1**
- person of his color was not allowed to fulfill his twin obligations.
- blacks were ripped apart from families
- forced to live a twilight life of secrecy and rebellion
- blacks were not given equal rights or opportunities
  (Any other relevant point)

ii) **(Any two)** **2+1**
- through the ball, the poet symbolizes materialistic things
- made them to understand how to bear with loss and stand up / fight the circumstances.
- one has to become responsible
- material gains can't substitute emotional losses
- learns the epistemology of loss
- money is external
  (Any other relevant point)

iii) **(Any two)** **2+1**
- Kisa Gotami's only son died, wanted to bring him back to life
- didn't find any medicine, went to Buddha for the cure
- he asked her to bring mustard seeds from a house where no one had died
- she went from house to house all day
- finally tired, sat on the wayside, weary and hopeless
- flickering lights and her experience during the day, made her to understand the inevitability of death
  (Any other relevant point)

iv) **(Any two)** **2+1**
- pleasantly surprised and overjoyed
- flatters him by calling him a worthy fellow and a treasure

- quickly agrees to his proposal
- embraces/ kisses Lomov; sheds tears
- calls for God's blessing on the couple.
  (Any other relevant point)

v) **(Any two)** **2+1**

- shows spiritual knowledge and deep understanding of the human nature
- focuses on inner qualities instead of external beauty
- words that contrast between superficial and spiritual love
- serves as a voice of wisdom revealing reality
- quote from scripture also reinforces the concept
  (Any other relevant point)

9. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions in 40 - 50 words each : **2x3 = 6**
   Content - 2 marks (at least 2 value points)
   Expression - 1 mark (effective style, coherence and cohesion)

i) **(Any two)** **2+1**

- Convalescing means gradual recovery after illness
- Mrs. Pumphrey started to bring fresh eggs, two dozen at a time for Tricki's strength
- bottles of wine to enrich Tricki's blood
- brandy for its constitution
  (Any other relevant point)

ii) **(Any two)** **2+1**

- doesn't show any fear, sat on the chair
- remained calm and devised a plan
- is sharp witted
- cooked up a story
- raised the issue of balcony, which was not there
- made Max believe that knock was by the police
  (Any other relevant point)

iii) **(Any two)** **2+1**

- received a clean dress
- was bathed
- oil was rubbed into her dry and matted hair
- was taken care of **/** groomed, otherwise neglected

(Any other relevant point)

10. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions in 100 - 120 words each: **6**
    Content- 3 marks (Any 3 points duly supported by relevant textual evidence)
    Expression - 2 marks (effective style, coherence and cohesion)
    Accuracy - 1 mark (spelling, punctuation, grammar)

(a) **(Any three points, at least one from each aspect)** **3+2+1**

Seagull's mother:

- wants to make Seagull independent/ self-reliant
- uses indirect method to motivate young Seagull to fly
- concerned about survival and future
- silent encouragement, deals strategically
- builds courage and confidence in Seagull
- believes in his instincts to fly
- shows love but deals practically for the growth

Amanda's mother:

- always nags Amanda, strict, controlling
- wants Amanda to behave perfectly
- follows her ideals
- constantly gives direct instructions, scolds
- concerned about her appearance
- concerned for social manners, behavior
- tone is demanding
- makes Amanda feel trapped who wants to escape from that situation

Compare and contrast

- fostered autonomy in Seagull and created rebellion in Amanda
- Seagull got closer to the family but Amanda wanted to move away
- Seagull's mother encouraged its emotional development whereas Amanda's mother restricted her natural growth
- Seagull's mother made it resilient, Amanda's mother had excessive control
  (Any other relevant point)

OR

(b) **(Any 3 points – at least one from each aspect)** **3+2+1**

Rajvir's Train Journey

- wanted to learn about tea plantations
- read books during journey
- enjoyed scenic beauty of tea gardens
- eager to learn, observant, well prepared
- enriching his world view
- had appreciation for regional heritage
- had a great adventure, saw the world outside Delhi

Valli's Bus Journey

- personal curiosity
- travelled alone
- saved money, planned secretly

- excited, curious to see the landscape
- observed passengers during her bus journey
- independent, determined, bold
- developed awareness of urban life
- learned about harsh reality of death, when saw the dead cow

Synthesis of ideas

- curious to explore something new
- fueled their enthusiasm
- developed a deeper understanding of the world
- enjoyed scenic beauty outside their homes
- Rajvir observed plantations and Valli – people

(Any other relevant point)

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

Content - 3 marks (Any 3 points duly supported by relevant textual evidence)
Expression - 2 marks (effective style, coherence and cohesion)
Accuracy - 1 mark (spelling, punctuation, grammar)

(a) **(Any three points)** **3+2+1**

- Anil trusts Hari Singh though he was a thief
- shows faith in his ability to change
- treats him kindly
- teaches him to cook, read and write
- Hari Singh values his gentle behaviour
- wants to run after stealing money
- but feels guilty and returns to Anil for the trust
- Anil's compassion pricks his conscience, changes **/** transforms him.

(Any other relevant point)

OR

(b) **(Any three points)** **3+2+1**

- Matilda belonged to family of clerks but dreamed of all the rich class joys
- believed physical appearance defines happiness and success
- unhappy with her life
- borrows necklace to show off at the ball party to look rich and elegant
- but loses the necklace, takes loans
- gets acquainted with harsh reality of life

- after 10 years when she repaid all the loan, she learned from her friend the necklace was artificial
- shows Matilda chose to be rich but on the contrary consequences made her life miserable

(Any other relevant point)

Series : HF1EG

Set – 1

Q.P. Code	2/1/1

Roll No.

Candidates must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.

ENGLISH
(Language and Literature)

*Time allowed : **3** hours* *Maximum Marks : **80***

- Please check that this question paper contains **19** printed pages.
- Q.P. Code given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains **11** questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book at the given place before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the candidates will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period. #

General Instructions :

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

(i) *This question paper comprises **11** questions. All questions are compulsory.*

(ii) *The question paper contains **three** sections :*
***Section A** – Reading Skills*
***Section B** – Grammar and Creative Writing Skills*
***Section C** – Literature*

(iii) *Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*

SECTION A
Reading Skills

20 marks

1. Read the following passage carefully : *10*

(1) Saffron is a spice that's long been revered across the globe, captivating hearts and palates with its deep-red hue and complex flavour. It is one of the most prized spices that you can find on this planet. Just like gold is among the most valuable metals in the world, saffron means the same in the world of spices. Also known as 'kesar' in Hindi, it has a rich history and is often called an ancient spice. Saffron is being used since ages in various foods made for the royals and the elite as it contains medicinal properties.

(2) Originating from the delicate stigma of the saffron crocus flower, it transforms the ordinary into the extraordinary, infusing dishes with a subtle, earthy sweetness that adds a special taste to the palate. Saffron has a strong exotic aroma and a unique flavour and is used to colour and flavour many Mediterranean and Asian dishes, particularly rice, fish and English, Scandinavian, and Balkan breads.

(3) Saffron forms the backbone of several iconic dishes from around the world, such as the Spanish rice, seafood dish Paella, the French stew Bouillabaisse, Italian rice dish Risotto Milanese, the Indian ice cream Kesar Kulfi, Pakistani rice dish Biryani, and baked Iranian rice Tachin. Saffron's rich red colour is attributed to crocin; its bitter taste, to picrocrocin; and its distinctive aroma, to safranal.

(4) Saffron is cultivated chiefly in Iran but is also grown in Spain, France, Italy, and parts of India. A labour-intensive crop, the three stigmas are handpicked from each flower, spread on trays, and dried over charcoal fires for use as a food flavouring and colouring agent.

(5) Most historians speculate it was first domesticated in Iran, but south-western Greek islands remain strong contenders. Traders, conquerors, and world explorers introduced it to China, India and the Middle East. From there, it travelled to Mediterranean Europe.

(6) The high retail value of saffron is maintained in world markets because of labour-intensive harvesting methods, which require some 444,000 hand-picked saffron stigmas per kilogram — equivalently, 150,000 crocus flowers per kilogram. Forty hours of labour are needed to pick 150,000 flowers. Almost all saffron grows in a belt from Spain in the west to India in the east. Iran is responsible for around 88% of global production. Afghanistan comes second, and Spain is the third largest producer, while the United Arab Emirates, Greece, the Indian subcontinent and Morocco are among minor producers.

(7) Given its high price, adulteration is quite common, unfortunately. Adulterants like beetroot or pomegranate are used to enhance red colour; silk fibres, oil, or wax are used to add bulk, and powdered saffron can be adulterated with turmeric and paprika.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

(i) What is the tone of the writer in the given lines ? *1*

Rationalise your response in about 40 words.

"Saffron is being used since ages in various foods made for the royals and the elite as it contains medicinal properties."

Paragraph (1)

(ii) Which of the following statements best describes the comparison made in the sentence ? *1*

"Just like gold is among the most valuable metals in the world, saffron means the same in the world of spices."

(A) Gold and saffron have similar physical properties.

(B) Gold and saffron have equal monetary value.

(C) Saffron is considered the most valuable spice, similar to how gold is valued among metals.

(D) Gold and saffron are both rare commodities in the global market. Paragraph (1)

(iii) List any two points why saffron is revered across the globe.
Paragraphs (2) and (3) *2*

(iv) Fill in the blank from the given options : *1*

In the phrase 'backbone of several iconic dishes', the word 'iconic' refers to _____.

(A) delicately cooked

(B) widely recognized

(C) peculiar and rare

(D) strange and infamous Paragraph (3)

(v) Complete the sentence appropriately : *2*

Saffron has a labour-intensive cultivation process which involves _____. Paragraph (4)

(vi) State whether the following statement is True or False : *1*

According to historians, saffron was first used in the kitchens in Iran. Paragraph (5)

(vii) Which of the following statements best describes the reason for saffron's high retail value ? *1*

(A) Due to its magical or mystical properties.

(B) Because it can only be grown in specific regions.

(C) Due to its labour-intensive cultivation process and its relatively low yield per plant.

(D) Because traders, conquerors, and world explorers hoard it.
Paragraph (6)

(viii) Support the writer's view with evidence from the text that saffron is often adulterated. Paragraph (7) *1*

2. Read the following passage carefully : *10*

(1) Silk is a natural protein fibre, some forms of which can be woven into textiles. Silk has a long history in India. It is known as *Resham* in eastern and northern India, and *Pattu* in the southern parts of India. India is the second largest producer of silk in the world after China.

(2) Silk is renowned for its luxurious qualities with a natural soft and smooth texture that feels comfortable on the skin. One of its unique qualities is to absorb and release moisture, regulating the body temperature, and keeping the wearer cool and dry.

(3) Silk is one of the strongest natural fibres, but it loses up to 20% of its strength when wet. Its elasticity is moderate to poor: if elongated even a small amount, it remains stretched. It can be weakened if exposed to too much sunlight. It may also be attacked by insects, especially if left dirty.

(4) The process of silk production is known as sericulture. Silk is produced by several insects; but, generally, only the silk of moth caterpillars has been used for textile manufacturing. To produce 1 kg of silk, 104 kg of mulberry leaves must be eaten by 3000 silkworms.

(5) So what makes silk so costly ? Firstly, cultivation of silk is a labour-intensive work. Secondly, the silk fabric is carefully derived from the larva of the silkworms which spin silk threads around themselves to make cocoons from natural sources. This makes the production limited due to factors like — climate, availability of

quality mulberry leaves and time required by silkworms to complete their lifecycle. Thirdly, the intensive work can only be carried out with specialized knowledge and expertise by skilled artisans and craftsmanship. Lastly, superior quality silk fabrics are made from long and uniform silk fibres giving them a smooth and lustrous appearance. Thus, production requires careful selection, adding to the cost.

In 2021, Karnataka was the highest producer of raw silk at 8483 metric tonnes followed by Andhra Pradesh at 5520 metric tonnes with Assam close behind at 5038 metric tonnes. At the other end of the spectrum there was Chhattisgarh (248 metric tonnes), Nagaland (230 metric tonnes) and UP trailed behind at 179 metric tonnes.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

(i) What does the phrase 'luxurious qualities' in paragraph (2) tell you about the silk fabric ? Write in 40 words with evidence from the text. *2*

(ii) Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below. *1*

Assertion : Silk production requires careful selection.

Reason : Long and uniform silk fibres give silk a glossy appearance.

(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.

(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is ***not*** the correct explanation of the assertion.

(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.

(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

(iii) Justify the following statement :

Silk whispers luxury! Its price reflects not just its rarity but the value of the meticulous process behind its creation. *1*

(iv) According to the passage, mention the top two countries that produce silk. *1*

(v) "Factors like climate, availability of quality mulberry leaves and time required by silkworms to complete their lifecycle are important factors for the production of silk."

State any one inference that can be drawn from this. *1*

(vi) Complete the following with a suitable reason from the text :

Though silk is considered one of the strongest fibres, it is _____. *1*

(vii) Based on the given text, mention the states which produced the most and the least amount of raw silk in India in the year 2021. *1*

(viii) Complete the sentence suitably.

104 kgs of mulberry leaves eaten by 3000 silkworms results in _____. *1*

(ix) With reference to the given passage, give one reason why silk production is considered labour-intensive. *1*

SECTION B

Grammar and Creative Writing Skills *20 marks*

Grammar

3. Complete any ***ten*** of the following twelve tasks, as directed. *10×1=10*

(i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the brackets, for the given portion of a letter. *1*

'Thank you for _____ (consider) my application. I look forward to working in your organization.

(ii) Read the given sentence. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.

Ninety-seven percent of the Earth's water is salty ocean water and another two percent is trapping in the Earth's ice caps and glaciers. *1*

Error	*Correction*

(iii) Yukti and Sanjay had a conversation about going to a restaurant. Report Yukti's question. *1*

"Does this restaurant serve good South Indian food ?"

(iv) Read the dialogue between Amit and his sister Ananya, regarding her travel to the railway station. *1*

Amit : Are you sure you can manage to go to the railway station on your own ?

Ananya : Oh yes! I have already booked a cab.

Select the correct option to report the above dialogue.

Amit asked Ananya _____ to go to the railway station on her own. Ananya replied in the affirmative and said that she had already booked a cab.

(A) if she is sure she can manage

(B) if she was sure she could manage

(C) if she surely can manage

(D) if she was sure to managing

(v) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the sentence taken from a book about 'Birds'. *1*

Each year, thousands of birds _____ (migrate/immigrate/emigrate) southwards to avoid the harsh winter, embarking on an incredible journey that spans thousands of miles.

(vi) Identify and correct the error in the given line taken from an agency's advertisement. *1*

Tell us much about your project and we'll select suitable candidates for you to hire.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	*Correction*

(vii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line taken from an article about growing obesity.

Obesity in teenage children is a major concern between parents today. *1*

Option No.	*Error*	*Correction*
(A)	teenage	teenagers
(B)	concern	concerns
(C)	between	among
(D)	today	now

(viii) Complete the given narrative with the correct option to fill in the blank. *1*

Yesterday, Tanu walked to the park and _____ a breezy evening.

(A) to enjoying
(B) will enjoy
(C) enjoyed
(D) did enjoyed

(ix) Report the dialogue between two friends by completing the sentence. *1*

Bhawna : I finished the project yesterday.

Sohail : That's great ! Are you going to present it tomorrow ?

Bhawna told Sohail that _____. Sohail responded that it was great and asked if she were going to present it the next day.

(x) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the notice on a school notice board. *1*

We are pleased to announce that our Annual Sports Day _____ on 30th April, 2025 at the school playground from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

(A) is held

(B) will be held

(C) had been held

(D) to be held

(xi) Complete the slogan on "Save Earth", by filling in the blank with the correct option.

Lets join hands, cultivate conservation, and _____ a greener tomorrow for generations to come. *1*

(A) ensuring

(B) ensure

(C) ensures

(D) ensured

(xii) Identify the error and supply the correction for the following note in an air purifier's instruction manual. *1*

The plug should fit upto the outlet. If it doesn't fit, do not force it in.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	*Correction*

Writing

Note : *All details presented in the questions in writing section are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.*

4. Attempt any ***one*** from (a) and (b) given below : *5*

(a) You are Soumya Hansal / Sumit Hansal living at F-32, Shanti Nagar, Vayugarh. Seeing the inadequate healthcare infrastructure in your town, write a letter to the MLA of your area, in about 120 words, suggesting the need for improving existing healthcare facilities and creating more "Wellness Centres" including a specialized hospital for children and women.

OR

(b) You are Risha Khan / Zuhaan Khan, the sports captain of Highrise Public School, New Line, Rai Nagar. You believe that games and sports are an integral part of a student's life. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, sharing your views on the importance of physical education and suggesting the need to establish a dedicated sports university, so that students can pursue and focus on their favourite sport.

5. Attempt any ***one*** from (a) and (b) given below : *5*

(a) In the past few years, the teaching-learning process has taken a leap and gone beyond the four walls of the classroom. Today, it has become possible to learn not just by sitting in a physical classroom, but from anywhere. Given below is a chart depicting the differences between E-learning and Classroom learning. Write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words, assessing the benefits and drawbacks of both, by selecting features that support your analysis.

E-learning	**vs. Classroom learning**
• accessible anytime anywhere • at your own pace • no travel costs, saves time	• same place, same time • caters to the needs of the class • transportation cost and time consuming

OR

(b) Read the given details of a computer.

* electronic device that can store and process information
* makes life easy and simple
* physical description — monitor, keyboard, CPU and mouse
* computer technology used in all fields — education, medicine, commerce, entertainment

Analyse the details and write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words about the description and role of computers in today's world.

SECTION C

Literature *40 marks*

6. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any ***one*** of the given two, (a) or (b) : *5*

(a) Not a leaf remained on the trees. The corn was totally destroyed. The flowers were gone from the plants. Lencho's soul was filled with sadness. When the storm had passed, he stood in the middle of the field and said to his sons, "A plague of locusts would have left more than this. The hail has left nothing. This year we will have no corn."

That night was a sorrowful one.

"All our work, for nothing."

"There's no one who can help us."

"We'll all go hungry this year."

(A Letter to God)

(i) Why were there no leaves left on the trees ? *1*

(A) The locusts ate them up.

(B) An earthquake had occurred.

(C) There was a hailstorm.

(D) The animals grazed on them.

(ii) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the brackets.

Lencho felt _____ (jubilant/devastated) when he saw his destroyed corn fields. *1*

(iii) When Lencho says, "All our work, for nothing," what does he refer to ? Explain in about 40 words. *2*

(iv) Why would Lencho have preferred a plague of locusts to a hailstorm ? *1*

OR

(b) Later, he patted me on the head and said never mind, he'd teach me to cook. He also taught me to write my name and said he would soon teach me to write whole sentences and to add numbers. I was grateful. I knew that once I could write like an educated man there would be no limit to what I could achieve.

It was quite pleasant working for Anil. I made the tea in the morning and then would take my time buying the day's supplies, usually making a profit of about a rupee a day. I think he knew I made a little money this way but he did not seem to mind.

(The Thief's Story)

(i) What does the following line tell us about the character of Anil ?

"I think he knew I made a little money this way but he did not seem to mind." *1*

(ii) Which of the following best describes the realization Hari Singh had while working for Anil ? *1*

(A) that he would become a rich person one day

(B) that Anil was a very intelligent master but a miser

(C) that he would be able to accomplish a lot if he gets educated

(D) that Anil made a lot of money from his job

(iii) What did Anil promise to teach Hari Singh, and how did Hari Singh feel about the opportunity to learn ? Answer in about 40 words. *2*

(iv) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the brackets. *1*

The narrator earned extra money by making a/an _____ (profit/investment) of about a rupee a day.

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any ***one*** of the given two, (a) or (b) : *5*

(a) "I heard an old religious man
But yesternight declare
That he had found a text to prove
That only God, my dear,
Could love you for yourself alone
And not your yellow hair." (For Anne Gregory)

(i) Complete the sentence appropriately : *1*

The speaker addresses the person he is speaking to as "my dear" because _____.

(ii) The poet mentions "yellow hair". What is its significance in the context of the statement ? Answer in about 40 words. *2*

(iii) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the brackets. *1*

The poet suggests that God's love in comparison to that of a human being is _____ (selfish/selfless).

(iv) As per the above extract, what attributes does God not love a person for ? Select the correct option. *1*

1. Wealth
2. Physical appearance
3. Intelligence
4. Inner qualities
5. Youth

(A) 1 and 4
(B) 3, 4, and 5
(C) 2 and 4
(D) Only 4

OR

(b) He stalks in his vivid stripes
The few steps of his cage,
On pads of velvet quiet,
In his quiet rage.
He should be lurking in shadow,
Sliding through long grass

(A Tiger in the Zoo)

(i) Identify and name any one figure of speech in the above extract. *2*

(ii) Fill in the blank with one word. *1*

The tiger's stalking on 'pads of velvet' suggests a movement that is _____.

(iii) Based on the given lines from the poem, which words would best describe the feelings of the tiger ? *1*

(A) Calm and content

(B) Both subdued and angry

(C) Both frustrated and happy

(D) Both angry and famished

(iv) Select the option that applies the same rhyme scheme as the first four lines of the given extract. *1*

(A) The people along the sand
All turn and look one way
They turn their back on the land
They look at the sea all day

(B) Along the sand, the people
All turn and look one way
They turn back on the sand
They look at the sea all day

(C) The people along the sand
Look one way and all turn
Their backs on the land
They look at the sea all day

(D) The people along the sand
They turn their back on the land
They look one way
At the sea all day.

8. Answer any ***four*** of the following five questions in 40 – 50 words each : *4×3=12*

(i) Mandela in his speech says, "The policy of apartheid created a deep and lasting wound in my country and my people." Explain the significance of the word "wound" as used by Mandela.

(Nelson Mandela – Long Walk to Freedom)

(ii) 'Dust of Snow', by Robert Frost is a poem about nature and simplicity. Elaborate.

(iii) Explain the reasons for Rajvir's excitement on seeing the plantation and Pranjol's lack of enthusiasm.

(Glimpses of India – Tea from Assam)

(iv) Analyze how Wells employs humour, rhyme, and exaggerated traits to not only entertain, but also educate readers about various wild animals. Explain.

(How to Tell Wild Animals)

(v) Mijbil's transportation to England was no less than a nightmare for the author. Justify the statement using incidents from the lesson.

(Mijbil the Otter)

9. Answer any ***two*** of the following three questions in 40 – 50 words each : *2×3=6*

(i) Analyze how Herriot uses Tricki and Mrs. Pumphrey's relationship to comment on societal attitudes towards pets and the responsibilities associated with their care.

(A Triumph of Surgery)

(ii) Today reading books is on the decline because of the prevalence of electronic media. Contrarily, earth is saved by a 'Book' in the chapter "The Book That Saved the Earth". Elaborate.

(iii) Discuss the character development of Griffin, as he grapples with the repercussions of his actions and attempts to navigate a world, where his once extraordinary abilities have become a burden.

(Footprints without Feet)

10. Answer any ***one*** of the following two questions in 100 – 120 words : *6*

(a) Amanda and Valli both represent a longing for freedom. Examine the above observation with reference to the two texts.

(Amanda and Madam Rides the Bus)

OR

(b) In 'The Ball Poem", Berryman explores the themes of loss, growing up, and transformation. Mandela also experienced loss of freedom and suffering along with his countrymen during his growing years on the basis of his race and colour.

Compare and contrast the commonality of themes in both the texts.

(The Ball Poem and Nelson Mandela – Long Walk to Freedom)

11. Answer any ***one*** of the following two questions in 100 – 120 words : *6*

(a) Horace ends up in prison only to regret that a man should not trust anyone blindly without finding out the truth. Do you think his own foolishness was responsible for his arrest ? Give a reasoned answer.

(A Question of Trust)

OR

(b) Matilda's character embodies the journey of change or progression throughout the story, encapsulating the transformations she endured as a consequence of her experiences, trials, and engagements with other characters.

In the light of the above information, trace the transformation seen in Matilda's character in the story.

(The Necklace)

Q.P. Code: 2/1/1

Marking Scheme
Strictly Confidential
(For Internal and Restricted use only)
Secondary School Examination, 2025
ENGLISH LANGUAE & LITERATURE - 184(SET- 2/1/1)

General Instructions: -

1	You are aware that evaluation is the most important process in the actual and correct assessment of the candidates. A small mistake in evaluation may lead to serious problems which may affect the future of the candidates, education system and teaching profession. To avoid mistakes, it is requested that before starting evaluation, you must read and understand the spot evaluation guidelines carefully.
2	**"Evaluation policy is a confidential policy as it is related to the confidentiality of the examinations conducted, Evaluation done and several other aspects. Its' leakage to public in any manner could lead to derailment of the examination system and affect the life and future of millions of candidates. Sharing this policy/document to anyone, publishing in any magazine and printing in News Paper/Website etc. may invite action under various rules of the Board and IPC."**
3	Evaluation is to be done as per instructions provided in the Marking Scheme. It should not be done according to one's own interpretation or any other consideration. Marking Scheme should be strictly adhered to and religiously followed. **If any change in the marking scheme is to be considered, this has to be raised with the Controller of Examinations and only after his approval and after all evaluation centres are informed, can this be taken forward.**
4	The Marking Scheme carries all value points for the answers. Students may/can express these value points in their own words and if the expression is correct, due marks should be awarded accordingly.
5	The Head-Examiner must go through the first five answer books evaluated by each evaluator on the first day, to ensure that evaluation has been carried out as per the instructions given in the Marking Scheme. If there is any variation, the same should be zero after deliberation and discussion. The remaining answer books meant for evaluation shall be given only after ensuring that there is no significant variation in the marking of individual evaluators.
6	Evaluators will mark (√) wherever answer is correct. For wrong answer CROSS 'X" be marked. No answer should be left unmarked by evaluators. **This is the most common mistake which evaluators are committing.**
7	If a question has parts, please award marks on the right-hand side for each part. Marks awarded for different parts of the question should then be totalled up and written in the left-hand margin and encircled. This must be followed strictly.
8	If a question does not have any parts, marks must be awarded in the left-hand margin and encircled. This must also be followed strictly.
9	If a student has **attempted an extra question**, answer of the question deserving more marks should be retained and the other answer scored out with a note **"Extra Question/Over- Attempted"**. If a student has **not attempted** any question, **NA** should be mentioned in the Caging / marks entry column.

10	No marks to be deducted for the cumulative effect of an error. It should be penalized only once.
11	A full scale of marks _____(example 0 to 80/70/60/50/40/30 marks as given in Question Paper) has to be used. Please do not hesitate to award full marks if the answer deserves it.
12	Every examiner has to necessarily do evaluation work for full working hours i.e., 8 hours every day and evaluate 20 answer books per day in main subjects and 25 answer books per day in other subjects (Details are given in Spot Guidelines).
13	Ensure that you do not make the following common types of errors committed by the Examiner in the past:- ● Leaving answer or part thereof unassessed in an answer booklet. ● Giving more marks for an answer than assigned to it. ● Wrong totalling of marks awarded on an answer. ● Wrong transfer of marks from the inside pages of the answer booklet to the title page. ● Wrong question wise totalling on the title page. ● Wrong totalling of marks of the two columns on the title page. ● Wrong grand total. ● Marks in words and figures not tallying/not same. ● Wrong transfer of marks from the answer book to online award list. ● Answers marked as correct, but marks not awarded. (Ensure that the right tick mark is correctly and clearly indicated. It should merely be a line. Same is with the X for incorrect answer.) ● Half or a part of answer marked correct and the rest as wrong, but no marks awarded.
14	While evaluating the answer books if the answer is found to be totally incorrect, it should be marked as cross (X) and awarded zero (0)Marks.
15	Any unassessed portion, non-carrying over of marks to the title page, or totalling error detected by the candidate shall damage the prestige of all the personnel engaged in the evaluation work as also of the Board. Hence, in order to uphold the prestige of all concerned, it is again reiterated that the instructions be followed meticulously and judiciously.
16	The Examiners should acquaint themselves with the guidelines given in the "**Guidelines for Spot Evaluation**" before starting the actual evaluation.
17	Every Examiner shall also ensure that all the answers are evaluated, marks carried over to the title page, correctly totalled and written in figures and words.
18	It may be noted that the candidates are entitled to obtain photocopy of the Answer Book on request on payment of the prescribed processing fee. All Examiners/Additional Head Examiners/Head Examiners are once again reminded that they must ensure that evaluation is carried out strictly as per value points for each answer as given in the Marking Scheme.

Set-1

QP CODE-2/1/1

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MARKING SCHEME
English Language and Literature (Code No. 184)
CLASS-X (2024-25)

SECTION A- 20 marks **Reading**		
QNO.		**MARKS**
1.	**Passage 1**	**10 Marks**
i.	• **Tone** – Informative / objective / formal / appreciative • **Rationalization -** Writer - presented factual information about the historical use of Saffron - its medicinal properties, without any particular emotional or subjective bias.	**½ + ½**
ii.	(C) Saffron is considered to be the most valuable spice, similar to how gold is valued among metals.	**1**
iii.	**(Any Two Value Points)** • Being used since ages in various foods made for the royals and elites/ Forms the backbone of several iconic dishes from around the world • Contains medicinal properties. • Has strong aroma and unique flavour. • Has high retail value because of labour-intensive harvesting methods.	**1 + 1**
iv.	(B) widely recognised	**1**
v.	**(Any Two Value Points)** • hand-picking / drying over charcoal fires/spread on trays/ forty hours of labour	**1 + 1**
vi.	True	**1**
vii.	(C) Due to its labour - intensive cultivation process and its relatively low yield per plant.	**1**
viii.	**(Any Two Value Points)** • Beetroot and pomegranate are used as adulterants to enhance red colour of Saffron • because of its high price, adulteration is quite common • silk fibres, oil or wax – used to add bulk • Powdered saffron can be adulterated with turmeric and paprika	**½ + ½**
2.	**Passage 2**	**10 Marks**
i.	**(Any Two Value Points)** • Soft and smooth texture • Feels comfortable on skin	**1 + 1**

	• Absorbs, releases moisture	
ii.	(A) Both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion	**1**
iii.	**(Any One Value Point)** • Labour-intensive cultivation. • Limited production due to natural factors. • Specialized knowledge, expertise required. • Careful selection for superior quality.	**1**
iv.	China and India	**½ + ½**
v.	• This makes the production limited/cost high/ (any other correct response to be accepted)	**1**
vi.	**(Any One Value Point)** • easily damaged as it loses 20% strength when wet • moderate to poor elasticity • weakened when exposed to sunlight • if dirty – attacked by insects	**1**
vii.	• Karnataka produced the most amount • Uttar Pradesh produced the least amount.	**½ + ½**
viii.	• …production of 1 kg of silk	**1**
ix.	• It requires specialized knowledge / expertise by skilled artisans and craftsmanship.	**1**
	SECTION B – 20 marks **Grammar and Creative Writing Skills**	
	GRAMMAR	**10 Marks**
3.	• Any ten out of twelve questions to be attempted/marked. • (Full credit 1 mark for correct answers) • (No partial credit)	**10 x 1 = 10**
i.	Considering	**1**
ii.	trapping – trapped	**1**
iii.	Yukti asked Sanjay if/whether that restaurant served good South Indian food	**1**
iv.	(B) If she was sure she could manage.	**1**
v.	Migrate	**1**
vi.	ERROR – Much CORRECTION – More/ Something	**1**
vii.	(C) between – among	**1**
viii.	(C) enjoyed	**1**
ix.	She had finished the project the day before/ the previous day	**1**
x.	(B) will be held	**1**
xi.	(B) ensure	**1**
xii.	ERROR – upto CORRECTION - into	**1**

	WRITING SKILLS	10 Marks
4.	**Formal Letter Writing - Any one from (a) and (b) to be attempted**	**5**
a.	• **Format** – 1 mark (no mark for format alone if content is irrelevant or missing, full credit of 1 mark if all aspects are mentioned. • Partial credit of ½ mark if one or two aspects are missing • No credit if more than two aspects are missing • **Organisation of ideas** – 1 mark (effective style, orderly sequence, paragraphed structure and formal tone and vocabulary) • **Accuracy** – 1 mark (spelling, punctuation and grammar) • **Content** – 2 marks (Any two value points) • **Topic Introduction / Problem**: inadequate healthcare infrastructure • **Reasons** – Lack of resources, population explosion, apathy of authorities • **Suggestive measures** – Creating more wellness centers, opening specialized hospitals for children and women. • (Any other relevant point to be accepted)	1+1+1+2
	OR	
b.	• **Format** – 1 mark (no mark for format alone if content is irrelevant or missing, full credit of 1 mark if all aspects are mentioned. • Partial credit of ½ mark if one or two aspects are missing • No credit if more than two aspects are missing • **Organisation of ideas** – 1 mark (effective style, orderly sequence, paragraphed structure and formal tone and vocabulary) • **Accuracy** – 1 mark (spelling, punctuation and grammar) • **Content** – 2 marks (Any two value points) • **Introduction of Topic** - Importance of physical education - Health is Wealth, Physical fitness –most important, makes mind fresh and active • **Problem** - Youth's increasing tendency towards video games • Lack of open space • **Suggestive Measures** – Creating more open spaces, dedicated sports universities, open gyms/ yoga centres ; encouraging physical sports in schools and communities • (Any other relevant point to be accepted)	1+1+1+2
5.	• Analytical Paragraph Writing - Any one from (a) and (b) to be attempted.	5
a.	• **Organisation of ideas** – 2 (effective style, orderly sequence, single paragraph structure, formal tone and functional vocabulary, **Linking words and phrases like**: however, in addition to, in contrast to, therefore etc. should be included) • **Accuracy** – 1 (spelling, punctuation and grammar) • **Content** – 2 marks • Full credit of 2 marks for all value points given in the question • Partial credit of 1 mark if only two value points are given • At least any two value points from those given below to be included –	2+1+2

	• E-Learning – Accessible, anytime, anywhere ; At your own pace ; no travel cost, saves time • VS • Classroom Learning – same place, same time ; caters to the needs of the class ; transportation cost and time consuming	
	• OR	
b.	• **Organisation of ideas** – 2 (effective style, orderly sequence, single paragraph structure, formal tone and functional vocabulary, **Linking words and phrases like**: however, in addition to, in contrast to, therefore etc. should be included) • **Accuracy** – 1 (spelling, punctuation and grammar) • **Content** – 2 marks • Full credit of 2 marks for all value points given in the question • Partial credit of 1 mark if only two value points are given • At least any two value points from those given below to be included – • Electronic device that can store and process information • makes life easy and simple • physical description – monitor, keyboard, CPU and mouse • computer technology used in all fields – education, medicine, commerce and entertainment	2+1+2
	SECTION C **Literature Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text**	**40 Marks**
6.	**Answer the questions for any one from the given two extracts (a) and (b).**	**5**
a.		
i.	(C) There was a hailstorm	**1**
ii.	Devastated	**1**
iii.	**(Any Two Value Points)** • All his effort put in the field had gone in vain. • The storm had destroyed his cornfields. • He will not be able to earn any money as the crops were destroyed.	**1+1**
iv.	A few leaves would have been left	**1**
	OR	
b.		
i.	**(Any One Value Point)** • Anil was careless/casual/generous about his money. • Anil did not seem to bother about little profit made by Hari Singh. • Anil was being helpful by not disclosing the fact that he knew about the profit being made by Hari Singh	**1**
ii.	(C) That he would be able to accomplish a lot if he gets educated.	**1**
iii.	• Anil promised to teach him how to cook, write his name, whole sentences and add numbers. • The narrator felt grateful for the opportunity to learn, believing that once he could write like an educated man, there would be no limit to what he could achieve	**1 +1**

iv.	profit	**1**
7.	**Answer the questions for any one from the given two extracts (a) and (b).**	**5**
a.		
i.	**(Any One Value Point)** • It is a term of endearment or affection. • It suggests a close relationship or familiarity between the speaker and the person they are addressing	**1**
ii.	**(Any Two Value Points)** • The "yellow hair" mentioned in the poem is likely symbolic of physical beauty or attractiveness • The religions man suggests it not to be the basis of God's love. • Youth considers it to be a reason for loving someone	**1+1**
iii.	Selfless	**1**
iv.	1 mark to be awarded to all students who attempt this question as the options given do not contain the correct answer.	**1**
	OR	
b.		
i.	• Oxymoron – In his quiet rage • Metaphor – pads of velvet quiet • Repetition – quiet • Alliteration – stress, should, stripes, shadow • Imagery – lurking, sliding • Personification **1 mark for identification and 1 mark for naming the figure of speech**	**1 + 1**
ii.	Soft, restless, restrained, smooth, stealthily **(Any One Value Point)**	**1**
iii.	(B) both subdued and angry.	**1**
iv.	(B) Along the sand, the people All turn and look one way They turn back on the sand They look at the sea all day	**1**
8.	**Answer any Four of the following five questions in 40- 50 words.** **Content – 2 Marks** **Expression – 1 Mark (Effective style, coherence/cohesion)**	**4 X 3 = 12**
i.	**(Any Two Value Point)** • Mandela talks about decades of oppression and brutality faced by Black people of South Africa. • The structure created by white people was hurtful - formed the basis of one of the harshest, most inhumane societies the world has ever known. • The prejudice, discrimination created by the Whites – developed a sense of inferiority in the blacks • The trauma/ atmosphere of fear for the Blacks • (Any other relevant point to be accepted)	**2 +1**
ii.	**(1 mark for nature + 1 mark for simplicity)** • Nature – Hemlock tree, snow, crow, simple acts of nature can bring a change/ healing effect	**2 +1**

	• Simplicity – small acts have big impacts, simple telling of a simple scenario	
iii.	**(1 mark for Rajvir's excitement + 1 mark for Pranjol's lack of enthusiasm)** • Rajvir was excited about the magnificent view because he saw it for the first time. • Pranjol was a youngster from Assam only and was born and brought up on a plantation. That's why he was not excited.	**2 +1**
iv.	**(Any Two Value Points)** • The poem humorously provides guidelines for identifying various wild animals encountered in the jungle. • Through witty descriptions and clever rhymes, Wells presents distinct characteristics of different animals. • By employing a light hearted approach, Wells effectively conveys information about wildlife in a memorable and engaging manner. • The underlying themes of human-animal interactions and the importance of keen observation in understanding nature are subtly woven into the humorous narrative **(Any other relevant point to be accepted)**	**2 +1**
v.	**(Any Two Value Points)** • Mijbil was packed into a box not more than 18 inches square – felt uncomfortable/injured, to be carried on the floor at the author's feet in the airplane • When the author got back after the meal, Mijbil had torn the lining of the box to shreds. • In the aircraft, Mijbil was out of the box in a flash. He disappeared at a high speed down the aircraft. There were squawks and shrieks. • It was an eventful journey for the author – could not take a direct flight because pets were not allowed **(Any other relevant point to be accepted)**	**2 +1**
9.	**Answer any Four of the following five questions in 40- 50 words.** **Content – 2 Marks** **Expression – 1 Mark (Effective style, coherence/cohesion)**	**2 X 3 = 6**
i.	**(Any Two Value Points)** • Mrs. Pumphrey's overindulgence – over pampering, overfeeding Reluctance to impose discipline on Tricki reflects a common tendency among pet owners to spoil their animals without considering the consequences. • The absence of adequate exercise for Tricki emphasizes the importance of regular exercise for pets and the impact of external factors on their well being. • It offers a critical examination of human behaviour towards animals and the need for responsible pet ownership **(Any other relevant point to be accepted)**	**2 +1**
ii.	**(Any Two Value Points)**	**2 +1**

	• A seemingly innocuous book containing nursery rhymes plays a pivotal role in saving the earth from destruction. • Martian invasion was prevented because of the book • The book, discovered by the inhabitants of a faraway planet, contains nursery rhymes from Earth's literature, which the aliens misinterpret as factual accounts of historical events. • The misunderstanding arises when the aliens lacking knowledge of Earth's culture and language, mistake the nursery rhymes for an accurate depiction of human history. **(Any other relevant point to be accepted)**	
iii.	**(Any Two Value Points)** • Griffin undergoes significant character development. Once a figure consumed by his desire for power and dominance through invisibility, Griffin, later, grappled with the consequences of his actions. • He navigates a world where his once extraordinary abilities became a burden, leading him to confront the moral implications of his scientific pursuits. • Examples from text how he indulges in many harmful activities. **(Any other relevant point to be accepted)**	**2 +1**
10.	**Answer any One of the following two questions in 100- 120 words.** **Content – 3 Marks** **Expression – 2 Marks (Effective style, coherence/cohesion)** **Accuracy – 1 Mark (Grammar, spellings and punctuation)**	**1 X 6 =6**
a.	**(Any Three Value Points – At least one value point for each text)** • Amanda- • Amanda represents the longing for freedom – felt dominated, while her mother/parent/guardian, represents instructional control over freedom, this highlights the contrast. • The poem conveys the moral that children need to be allowed more freedom. Excessive nagging may make them annoyed and disobedient and hence they may develop a type of dislike for real life. • Madam rides the bus- • On the other hand, Valli - eight years old – has no friends – wanted to explore the world - mesmerized by the bus journey between her village and the city - started saving money for the bus fare. • Planned her journey meticulously. **(Any other relevant point to be accepted)** **OR**	**3 + 2 +1**
b.	**(At least 1 value point from each text + 1 mark for conclusion)** • **The ball poem-** Berryman - beautifully describes a boy who has lost his ball - gave a lesson full a wisdom - everyone must learn to	**3 + 2 +1**

	bear the pain associated with loss - need to learn the ways for bearing those losses - both material and human. • **'A Long Walk to Freedom'** by Nelson Mandela is about the struggle of freedom of South Africa. Mandela recalls the reason for this movement - black-skinned people exploited by the whites. • While taking vow as the first black President, Mandela established democracy in the country - said there would be no discrimination henceforth. • Conclusion - While the Ball Poem teaches us to accept loss and that suffering is a part of life, A Long Walk to Freedom, teaches us to fight for loss of freedom and suffering as a human right. **(Any other relevant point to be accepted)**	
11.	**Answer any One of the following two questions in 100- 120 words.** **Content – 3 Marks** **Expression – 2 Marks (Effective style, coherence/cohesion)** **Accuracy – 1 Mark (Grammar, spellings and punctuation)**	**1 X 6 = 6**
a.	**(Any Three Value Points)** • Horace had gone to steal from the safe • Was befooled by the lady in red • Believed her to be the mistress/owner, as claimed by her • Opened the safe for her without taking any precautions e.g. gloves – left fingerprints everywhere • Was imprisoned • Meticulously planned robbery came to a naught as not familiar with the owner • Regretted – duped by the lady, ran away with the money • Realizes that one should never trust anyone blindly **(Any other relevant point to be accepted)** OR	**3 + 2 +1**
b.	**(Any Three Value Points)** • Matilda - pretty, young lady - wanted to lead a luxurious life - born in a humble family - married an ordinary man/clerk • Wanted to pretend to be a rich woman at the Ball • lacked wisdom and prudence. • Just to show off at the ball - borrowed necklace from a friend – lost it - led to enormous sufferings for her and her husband for many years. • After the loss - became mature, humble and grateful. • Earlier, did not understand the importance of living within one's means - later on realized her mistake. **(Any other relevant point to be accepted)**	**3 + 2 +1**

Series DDCC4/4 **SET-1**

Q.P. Code 2/4/1

Roll No. | | | | | | | | |

Candidates must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.

NOTE

(I) Please check that this question paper contains **19** printed pages.

(II) Please check that this question paper contains **11** questions.

(III) Q.P. Code given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.

(IV) **Please write down the serial number of the question in the answer-book before attempting it.**

(V) 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

ENGLISH
(Language and Literature)

Time allowed : 3 hours *Maximum Marks : 80*

General Instructions :

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

(i) *This question paper comprises **11** questions. All questions are compulsory.*

(ii) *The question paper contains **three** sections :*
***Section A** – Reading Skills*
***Section B** – Grammar and Creative Writing Skills*
***Section C** – Literature*

(iii) *Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*

SECTION A
Reading Skills

20 marks

1. Read the following passage carefully : *10*

(1) Plastic pollution has become one of the most pressing environmental issues, as rapidly increasing production of disposable plastic products overwhelms the world's ability to deal with them. Plastic pollution is most visible in developing Asian and African nations, where garbage collection systems are often inefficient or nonexistent. But the developed world, especially in countries with low recycling rates, also has trouble properly collecting discarded plastics. Plastic trash has become so ubiquitous that it has prompted efforts to write a global treaty negotiated by the United Nations.

(2) Plastics made from fossil fuels are just over a century old. Production and development of thousands of new plastic products accelerated after World War II. It transformed the modern age so much that life without plastics is unrecognizable today. Plastics revolutionized medicine with life-saving devices, made space travel possible, lightened cars and jets — saving fuel and pollution — and saved lives with helmets, incubators, and equipment for clean drinking water.

(3) The conveniences plastics offer, however, led to a throw-away culture that reveals the material's dark side : today, single-use plastics account for 40 percent of the plastic produced every year. Many of these products, such as plastic bags and food wrappers, have a lifespan of mere minutes to hours, yet they may persist in the environment for hundreds of years.

(4) Most of the plastic trash in the oceans, Earth's last sink, flows from land. Trash is also carried to sea by major rivers, which act as conveyor belts, picking up more and more trash as they move downstream. Once at sea, much of the plastic trash remains in coastal waters. But once caught up in ocean currents, it can be transported around the world.

(5) Millions of animals are killed by plastics every year, from birds to fish to other marine organisms. Nearly 700 species, including endangered ones, are known to have been affected by plastics. Nearly every species of seabirds eats plastics. Most of the deaths of animals are caused by entanglement or starvation. Seals, whales, turtles, and other animals are strangled by abandoned fishing gear or discarded six-pack rings.

(6) The solution is to prevent plastic waste from entering rivers and seas in the first place, many scientists and conservationists — including the National Geographic Society — say. This could be accomplished with improved waste management systems and recycling, better product design that takes into account the short life of disposable packaging, and reduction in manufacturing of unnecessary single-use plastics.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

(i) Which of the following statements best describes the reason why plastic pollution has become one of the most pressing environmental issues ? *1*

(A) Plastic trash collection systems have become inefficient or nonexistent.

(B) Rapidly increasing production of disposable plastic products overwhelms the world's ability to deal with them.

(C) Some plastics have a lifespan of mere minutes to hours, yet they may persist in the environment for hundreds of years.

(D) The developed world, especially in countries with low recycling rates, has trouble properly collecting plastics.

(ii) What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from paragraph 2 ? Rationalise your response in about 40 words.

'It transformed the modern age so much that life without plastics is unrecognizable today.' *2*

(iii) The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets (A) – (E) below, identify two sets of synonyms. *1*

(A) garbage and trash

(B) starvation and strangled

(C) disposable and reduction

(D) persist and downstream

(E) transformed and revolutionized

(iv) Complete the sentence appropriately : *1*

The writer says that most of the plastic trash is found in the Earth's last sink and the reason it is transported around the world is _____.

(v) Based on the reading of the passage, examine, in about 40 words, the downside of the convenience that plastic offers. *2*

(vi) Complete the sentence appropriately : *1*

According to conservationists, the two ways in which most of the deaths of animals are caused are _____.

(vii) Based on the passage, how can we contribute to the reduction of plastic waste ? *1*

(A) by internationalising the waste management system

(B) by minimizing the use of single-use plastics

(C) by not abandoning fishing gear

(D) by not using helmets made of plastic

(viii) State one reason why plastic pollution is most visible in developing Asian and African nations. *1*

2. Read the following passage carefully : *10*

(1) Rotation of crops is a universal phenomenon which is practised by most of the farmers of the tropical and temperate countries. The main objective of rotation of crops is to obtain higher agricultural returns on the one hand, and to maintain the soil fertility on the other.

(2) In other words, the rotation of crops helps in making agriculture more sustainable. The importance of crop rotation is more in the areas where farmers grow two, or more than two crops in the same field in a year. Irrigation facilities have also been appreciably developed in the country during the last three decades. The availability of water to the arable land has helped in the intensification of agriculture.

(3) In the areas such as Punjab and Haryana, where the Green Revolution is a big success, one soil exhaustive crop (rice) is followed by another soil exhaustive crop (wheat). Subsequently, the field vacated by wheat is devoted to either rice or maize or cotton. Thus, in one year, the farmers are harvesting three soil exhaustive crops from the same field. Such a rotation of crops may fetch more income to the farmers, but depletes the soil fertility at a faster pace.

(4) A number of field studies were conducted to assess the traditional crop rotation pattern. One such field study about the changes in the rotation of crops was conducted in the village Banhera (Tanda), Haridwar district. The main rotation of crops of the village is shown in the table below.

Traditional Rotation of Crops (1960-65) in Banhera (Tanda)				
Year	*Kharif (mid-June to mid-October)*	*Rabi (mid-October to mid-April)*	*Zaid (April to June)*	*No. of days land left fallow*
1960	Millet/fodder/rice	Gram	Fallow	90
1961	Fallow	Wheat	Fallow	210
1962	Millet/fodder/rice	Gram	Fallow	90
1963	Fallow	Wheat	Fallow	210
1964	Millet mixed with urad/fodder/rice	Gram	Fallow	90
1965	Fallow	Wheat	Fallow	210

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

(i) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of para 2. *1*

One of the reasons that there has been an intensification of agriculture in the country is the development of irrigation facilities is a/an _____ (fact/opinion) because it is a/an _____ (subjective judgement/objective detail).

(ii) Based on your understanding of paras 1 and 2, state whether the following statement is true or false. *1*

If proper irrigation facility is provided, higher agricultural returns can be obtained by making crop rotation more sustainable.

(iii) Justify the following in about 40 words.

Crop rotation may fetch more income to the farmers, but depletes the soil fertility at a faster pace. *2*

(iv) Based on the table, mention the years when the land was left fallow for maximum number of days. *1*

(v) The study conducted in village Banhera (Tanda) reflects that during the years 1960 to 1965, from April to June, the land was left fallow or uncultivated throughout. State any one inference that can be drawn from this. *1*

(vi) Select the option that correctly states the significance of crop rotation as given below : *1*

(1) Crop rotation is done to obtain higher agricultural returns.

(2) Higher agricultural returns can be obtained by harvesting soil exhaustive crops.

(3) Crop rotation demands that land should be left fallow for a few months to increase the fertility of soil.

(4) Better irrigation facility to the arable land has helped in the intensification of agriculture.

(5) If crops to be harvested are chosen wisely, crop rotation can help in maintaining fertility of soil.

Options :

(A) (1), (2) and (4)

(B) (1) only

(C) (3) and (5)

(D) (1) and (5)

(vii) Crop rotation is helping in making agriculture more sustainable. Mention one benefit and one drawback of crop rotation. (Answer in about 40 words) *2*

(viii) Which of the following is the main takeaway from the study mentioned in the passage ? *1*

(A) The study needs to include more valid data to support the practice of crop rotation.

(B) Crop rotation is a sustainable practice that can transform the agricultural sector.

(C) The impact of crop rotation on farmer's upliftment has been thoroughly explained.

(D) Crop rotation is independent of the type of crops harvested and availability of water for irrigation.

SECTION B

Grammar and Creative Writing Skills *20 marks*

Grammar

3. Complete any ***ten*** of the following twelve tasks, as directed. *10×1=10*

(i) Read the given sentence from a science journal. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.

'When nutrition therapy is provided by a qualified professional, people could learn how to make better food choices.' *1*

Use the given format for your response.

Error	*Correction*

(ii) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the brackets, for the given portion of a letter. *1*

Please keep me _____ (apprise) of your next step to address this matter. Thanks for your time.

(iii) Sunanda and Pushkar had a conversation about their travels. Report Pushkar's question. *1*

Have you ever been to Peri Bagh ?

(iv) Read the dialogue between Vilakshna and her physician, Dr. Sharnani, regarding the effectiveness of her medication. *1*

Dr. Sharnani : How is your acid reflux problem now ?

Vilakshna : I'd tried everything without success, but this new medicine is great.

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

Dr. Sharnani asked Vilakshna about her acid reflux problem to which Vilakshna replied that she'd tried everything without success, _____.

(A) but she found the new medicine to be great

(B) but she thought that this new medicine was great

(C) but the new medicine was great

(D) but that new medicine was great

(v) Identify the error and supply the correction for the given sentence from a private coaching institute's advertisement. *1*

Are you living a happy life ? Do you want to find your identification ? Do you want to enhance your career ?

Use the given format for your response.

Error	*Correction*

(vi) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the line from an insurance company brochure. *1*

Suitable for someone who wishes to _____ (insure/assure/ensure) adequate financial backup. It is available to the family in case of his/her untimely death.

(vii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for a pop-up that appeared on a webpage.

These cookies are used to collect information about how you interact with our website and allows us to remember you. *1*

Option No.	*Error*	*Correction*
(A)	interact	interacted
(B)	with	to
(C)	about	for
(D)	allows	allow

(viii) Complete the given narrative by filling in the blank with the correct option. *1*

I _____ watching that programme every week since it started.

(A) has been

(B) had

(C) have been

(D) was been

(ix) Report the following dialogue between two friends who are visiting a museum, by completing the sentence. *1*

Auronima : What are you staring at ?

Soumitra : I am in awe of this beautiful painting! I have not seen anything like this before.

Auronima asked Soumitra what he was staring at. Soumitra exclaimed that he was in awe of the beautiful painting and that _____.

(x) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the weather warning given by the IMD. *1*

IMD on Sunday _____ a 'thunderstorm' alert for some districts in coastal Maharashtra in view of the extremely severe cyclonic storm Biparjoy gushing over the Arabian Sea.

(A) will issue

(B) will be issuing

(C) issued

(D) is issuing

(xi) Complete the slogan, by filling in the blank with the correct option.

When it gets really hot, rain _____ a blessing. *1*

(A) should be

(B) will be

(C) must be

(D) ought to be

(xii) Identify the error and supply the correction for the following advertisement of an antivirus software. *1*

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

Use the given format for your response.

Error	*Correction*

Creative Writing Skills

Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

4. Attempt any ***one*** from (a) and (b) given below : *5*

(a) The problem of speeding traffic on colony roads causing accidents is increasing day by day. As a young citizen, who wants to minimize the accidents caused by them, write a letter to the editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, expressing your concern at the situation and suggesting measures to resolve the problem and drawing attention of the concerned authorities.

You are Samyukta Khanna/Sanjay Khanna of 567, Madhur Apartments, Amar Vihar, Aram Nagar.

OR

(b) As Kaveri Mahajan, of 543, Narmada Apartments, Jeev Nagar, you feel that during the monsoon season all the rain water goes down the drain without being utilized.

Write a letter to the RWA of your society, in about 120 words, suggesting measures to save and preserve rain water emphasizing the importance of saving every drop of water.

5. Attempt any ***one*** from (a) and (b) given below : *5*

(a) Co-curricular activities help to enhance holistic development and assist in inculcating critical skills and abilities to be successful and happy in the 21st century life and workplace.

Based on the table given below, write an analytical paragraph, in about 120 words, on how co-curricular activities supplement the theoretical curriculum.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS AND VALUES THAT CAN BE DEVELOPED THROUGH CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
– logical and analytical thinking
– creative and critical thinking
– problem-solving skills
– leadership skills
– social, emotional and communication skills
– recreational value
– enhanced technology skills

OR

(b) Tourism stands as a cornerstone of the nation's development. The following table provides an insight into the multifaceted impact and positive contributions of tourism. Write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words assessing the significance of tourism.

IMPACT OF TOURISM
– contributes to GDP and foreign exchange
– boosts local markets and businesses
– creates employment
– preserves culture
– promotes infrastructural development

SECTION C

Literature *40 marks*

6. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any ***one*** of the given two, (a) or (b) : *5*

(a) For the first twenty-four hours, Mijbil was neither hostile nor friendly; he was simply aloof and indifferent, choosing to sleep on the floor as far from my bed as possible. The second night Mijbil came on to my bed in the small hours and remained asleep in the crook of my knees until the servant brought tea in the morning, and during the day he began to lose his apathy and take a keen, much too keen, interest in his surroundings. I made a body-belt for him and took him on a lead to the bathroom, where for half an hour he went wild with joy in the water.

(Mijbil the Otter)

(i) Which of the following is ***not*** a reason why Mijbil came on to Maxwell's bed in the small hours ? *1*

(A) He had started taking interest in his surroundings.

(B) He was becoming friendly with Maxwell.

(C) He wanted to play with Maxwell on his bed.

(D) He wanted to feel safe and not remain indifferent.

(ii) Maxwell says that Mijbil was neither hostile nor friendly, he was simply aloof and indifferent for the first twenty-four hours. Give reasons in not more than 40 words. *2*

(iii) Read the following descriptions (A) – (D) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract. *1*

(A) Owning a pet is tedious and needs commitment.

(B) A pet needs his own space and time to get adjusted to his owner's environment.

(C) Maxwell decided to bring Mijbil because he was very sad to lose his dog.

(D) Maxwell and Mijbil loved travelling.

(iv) Which characteristic trait of otters is revealed when Mijbil is taken to the bathroom ? *1*

OR

(b) The arrival of a stranger at an inn in winter was in any case an unusual event. A stranger of such uncommon appearance set all tongues wagging. Mrs. Hall, the landlord's wife, made every effort to be friendly. But Griffin had no desire to talk, and told her, "My reason for coming to Iping is a desire for solitude. I do not wish to be disturbed in my work. Besides, an accident has affected my face." Satisfied that her guest was an eccentric scientist, and in view of the fact that he had paid her in advance, Mrs. Hall was prepared to excuse his strange habits and irritable temper.

(Footprints Without Feet)

(i) State any one inference about Griffin from the given context :

"My reason for coming to Iping is a desire for solitude. I do not wish to be disturbed in my work. Besides, an accident has affected my face." *1*

(ii) State True or False : *1*

Even though Mrs. Hall was satisfied with Griffin, she was skeptical to excuse his strange habits and irritable temper.

(iii) It was not difficult for Griffin to convince the landlord and his wife about his strange appearance and eccentric behaviour. Elaborate in about 40 words with reference to the context. *2*

(iv) Which phrase would correctly substitute 'set all tongues wagging' in the given sentence from the extract ? *1*

A stranger of such uncommon appearance _____.

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any ***one*** of the given two, (a) or (b) : *5*

(a) But he's locked in a concrete cell,
His strength behind bars,
Stalking the length of his cage,
Ignoring visitors. (A Tiger in the Zoo)

(i) Why is the tiger 'stalking the length of his cage' ? *1*

(ii) What is the significance of the use of the word 'locked' to describe the concrete cell where the tiger is kept and how does it contrast with the tiger's presence in its natural habitat ? Answer in about 40 words. *2*

(iii) Complete the sentence with the appropriate option : *1*

The lines from the poem tell us that the tiger is _____ .

(A) enjoying his time in the cell

(B) being indifferent to visitors because it is a daily routine for him

(C) not as strong as his counterpart in the jungle

(D) wanting to be free from the cage

(iv) Identify the type of literary device used in the line : *1*

'But he's locked in a concrete cell'

OR

(b) Belinda was as brave as a barrel full of bears,
And Ink and Blink chased lions down the stairs,
Mustard was as brave as a tiger in a rage,
But Custard cried for a nice safe cage.

(The Tale of Custard the Dragon)

(i) Comment upon the contrast that is reflected in the last two lines of the extract. *1*

(ii) Fill in the blank with one word. *1*

While describing Ink and Blink, the speaker says that they could chase lions down the stairs. By saying so, he is revealing the _____ characteristic of their personality.

(iii) Comment on the poet's use of language in these lines in about 40 words. *2*

(iv) Which of the following best describes the theme of the poem ? *1*

(A) Bravery and heroism

(B) Humility leads to bravery

(C) Valour and diligence

(D) Crisis reveals character

8. Answer any ***four*** of the following five questions in 40 – 50 words each : *4×3=12*

(i) Nelson Mandela in his inauguration speech says, "We, who were outlaws not so long ago, have today been given the rare privilege to be host to the nations of the world on our own soil."

What is the significance of this statement with reference to the political system that prevailed before this ?

(Nelson Mandela – Long Walk to Freedom)

(ii) 'The Ball Poem' initially appears simple but it is actually quite impactful and intense. Comment upon the theme of 'The Ball Poem'.

(iii) Coorg has been defined as a 'piece of heaven' by the writer. Justify.

(Glimpses of India)

(iv) "Oh, what a burden, Lord, to be the father of a grown-up daughter!" Explain what this line conveys about Chubukov as a father.

(The Proposal)

(v) In every alternate stanza, Amanda drifts into fantasy and yearns for more freedom and silence. Justify and elaborate the reason.

(Amanda)

9. Answer any ***two*** of the following three questions in 40 – 50 words each : *2×3=6*

(i) "We are often over-indulgent towards people we care about." Explain with reference to the context of the story "A Triumph of Surgery".

(ii) How did Apprentice Noodle act smartly by suggesting something about the book without offending Think-Tank ?

(The Book That Saved The Earth)

(iii) Despite his unusual appearance, Ausable's presence of mind helped him get rid of Max.

Comment with reference to the story 'The Midnight Visitor'.

10. Answer any ***one*** of the following two questions in 100 – 120 words. *6*

(a) Grief or sadness is an emotion natural to all types of loss or significant change. You have been asked to present an analysis of the approaches of Lencho and Kisa Gotami in dealing with their respective losses. Write this presentation draft including your insights, and comparing the approaches of both.

You may begin like this : One acknowledges that Lencho had unwavering faith in God whereas Kisa Gotami in her grief, believed that her son ..... however ..... .

(Reference – A Letter to God and The Sermon at Benares)

OR

(b) You have been chosen to address the school assembly on the occasion of Women's Day. You choose to speak on the resilience and indomitable spirit of the young girls : Anne Frank and Valli. Prepare the speech draft, with reference to the commonality and contrast in the situations and circumstances of both the girls.

(Madam Rides the Bus and From the Diary of Anne Frank)

You may begin like this : Good morning everyone. Today, I'd like to express my insights on the resilience of two young girls ..... .

You may end this way : To conclude I'd like to say that ..... .

Thank you.

11. Answer any ***one*** of the following two questions in 100 – 120 words. *6*

(a) Imagine that Hari Singh from 'The Thief's Story' by Ruskin Bond, writes a diary entry, exploring the theme of human values and relations that are essential in life and can transform a person in the context of his own experience. Write this diary entry as Hari Singh.

(The Thief's Story)

OR

(b) A character arc is the transformation or development of a character throughout a story and refers to the changes a character undergoes as a result of his/her experiences, challenges and interactions with other characters.

In the light of the above information, trace the character arc of Bholi in K.A. Abbas's 'Bholi'.

Marking Scheme
Strictly Confidential
(For Internal and Restricted use only)
Secondary School Examination, 2024
SUBJECT NAME ENGLISH (LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE) (184)
(Q.P. CODE – 2/4/1)

General Instructions: -

1	You are aware that evaluation is the most important process in the actual and correct assessment of the candidates. A small mistake in evaluation may lead to serious problems which may affect the future of the candidates, education system and teaching profession. To avoid mistakes, it is requested that before starting evaluation, you must read and understand the spot evaluation guidelines carefully.
2	"Evaluation policy is a confidential policy as it is related to the confidentiality of the examinations conducted, evaluation done, and several other aspects. Its leakage to public in any manner could lead to derailment of the examination system and affect the life and future of millions of candidates. Sharing this policy/document to anyone, publishing in any magazine and printing in Newspaper/Website etc may invite action under various rules of the Board and IPC."
3	Evaluation is to be done as per instructions provided in the Marking Scheme. It should not be done according to one's own interpretation or any other consideration. Marking Scheme should be strictly adhered to and religiously followed. However, while evaluating, answers which are based on latest information or knowledge and/or are innovative, they may be assessed for their correctness otherwise and due marks be awarded to them. In class-X, while evaluating two competency-based questions, please try to understand given answer and even if reply is not from marking scheme but correct competency is enumerated by the candidate, due marks should be awarded.
4	The Marking scheme carries only suggested value points for the answers. These are in the nature of Guidelines only and do not constitute the complete answer. The students can have their own expression and if the expression is correct, the due marks should be awarded accordingly.
5	The Head-Examiner must go through the first five answer books evaluated by each evaluator on the first day, to ensure that evaluation has been carried out as per the instructions given in the Marking Scheme. If there is any variation, the same should be zero after delibration and discussion. The remaining answer books meant for evaluation shall be given only after ensuring that there is no significant variation in the marking of individual evaluators.
6	Evaluators will mark(√) wherever answer is correct. For wrong answer CROSS 'X" be marked. Evaluators will not put right (✓) while evaluating which gives an impression that answer is correct and no marks are awarded. This is the most common mistake which evaluators commit.
7	If a question has parts, please award marks on the right-hand side for each part. Marks awarded for different parts of the question should then be totalled up and written in the left-hand margin and encircled. This may be followed strictly.
8	If a question does not have any parts, marks must be awarded in the left-hand margin and encircled. This may also be followed strictly.
9	If a student has attempted an extra question, answer of the question deserving more marks should be retained and the other answer scored out with a note "Extra Question".
10	No marks to be deducted for the cumulative effect of an error. It should be penalized only once.
11	A full scale of marks _____(example 0 to 80/70/60/50/40/30 marks as given in Question Paper) has to be used. Please do not hesitate to award full marks if the answer deserves it.
12	Every examiner has to necessarily do evaluation work for full working hours i.e., 8 hours every day and evaluate 20 answer books per day in main subjects and 25 answer books per day in other subjects (Details are given in Spot Guidelines).This is in view of the reduced syllabus and number of questions in question paper.

13	Ensure that you do not make the following common types of errors committed by the Examiners in the past:- • Leaving answer or part thereof unassessed in an answer book. • Giving more marks for an answer than assigned to it. • Wrong totalling of marks awarded on an answer. • Wrong transfer of marks from the inside pages of the answer book to the title page. • Wrong question wise totaling on the title page. • Wrong totaling of marks of the two columns on the title page. • Wrong grand total. • Marks in words and figures not tallying/not same. • Wrong transfer of marks from the answer book to online award list. • Answers marked as correct, but marks not awarded. (Ensure that the right tick mark is correctly and clearly indicated. It should merely be a line. Same is with the X for incorrect answer.) • Half or a part of answer marked correct and the rest as wrong, but no marks awarded.
14	While evaluating the answer books if the answer is found to be totally incorrect, it should be marked as cross (X) and awarded zero (0)Marks.
15	Any unassessed portion, non-carrying over of marks to the title page, or totalling error detected by the candidate shall damage the prestige of all the personnel engaged in the evaluation work as also of the Board. Hence, in order to uphold the prestige of all concerned, it is again reiterated that the instructions be followed meticulously and judiciously.
16	The Examiners should acquaint themselves with the guidelines given in the "Guidelines for spot Evaluation" before starting the actual evaluation.
17	Every Examiner shall also ensure that all the answers are evaluated, marks carried over to the title page, correctly totalled and written in figures and words.
18	The candidates are entitled to obtain photocopy of the Answer Book on request on payment of the prescribed processing fee. All Examiners/Additional Head Examiners/Head Examiners are once again reminded that they must ensure that evaluation is carried out strictly as per value points for each answer as given in the Marking Scheme.

MARKING SCHEME
ENGLISH (Language and Literature)

	SECTION A (Reading)	**(20 Marks)**
1	Discursive passage	10
i	(B) Rapidly increasing production of disposable plastic products overwhelms the world's ability to deal with them.	1
(ii)	Tone – Informative/Justifying/Assertive Rationale - informing even though plastics harmful for us, life without them unimaginable. - Plastic being used in every sphere making it easier – revolutionized medicine with life-saving devices, made space travel possible, etc. (any other relevant response with proper rationale to be accepted)	1 for identification of tone and 1 for rationale (Total 2 marks
(iii)	(A) garbage and trash (E) transformed and revolutionized	½ + ½ = 1
(iv)	because it is caught up in ocean currents	1
(v)	- throw-away culture reveals plastics' dark side - single-use plastics 40% of the plastic produced every year, lifespan of mere minutes to hours, but persist in environment for hundreds of years. - millions of animals killed by plastics every year (any two points to be accepted)	2
(vi)	a) entanglement/strangulation by abandoned fishing gear or discarded six-pack rings. (b) starvation	½ + ½ = 1
(vii)	(B) by minimizing the use of single-use plastics	1
(viii)	garbage collection systems in these nations are often inefficient or non-existent.	1
2.	**Case based factual Passage**	**10**
(i)	fact – objective detail	1
(ii)	True	1
(iii)	When one soil exhaustive crop (wheat) followed by another soil exhaustive crop (rice), soil fertility depleted. Thus, increasing income but requiring more fertilization of soil to maintain fertility. Three soil exhaustive crops harvested annually but at the cost of soil depletion. (while justifying the key words *"soil exhaustive crops"* must be used.)	2
(iv)	1961, 1963, 1965	1
(v)	Crop rotation not followed during that period/the land left fallow to increase/retain/replenish the fertility of the soil/any other justifiable inference.	1
(vi)	(D) 1 and 5	1
(vii)	Benefit – Crop rotation allows farmers to grow two or more crops in the same field in a year, increasing productivity, giving higher returns/ helps in maintaining soil fertility. Drawback – If all soil exhaustive crops harvested in a year, lead to depletion of soil fertility.	1+1 = 2
(viii)	(B) Crop rotation a sustainable practice , can transform the agricultural sector.	1
	SECTION B (Grammar)	**(10 Marks)**
3.	Any 10 out of 12 questions to be attempted / marked	1*10 = 10
	Full credit for correct answers. No partial credit of ½ , for any question in this section.	

(i)	<table><tr><td>Error</td><td>Correction</td></tr><tr><td>could</td><td>can</td></tr></table>	1
(ii)	apprised	1
(iii)	Pushkar asked Sunanda if / whether she had ever been to Peri Bagh.	1
(iv)	(D) but that new medicine was great	
(v)	<table><tr><td>Error</td><td>Correction</td></tr><tr><td>identification</td><td>identity</td></tr></table>	1
(vi)	ensure	1
(vii)	D <table><tr><td>Error</td><td>Correction</td></tr><tr><td>allows</td><td>allow</td></tr></table>	1
(viii)	(C) have been	1
(ix)	he had not seen anything like that before	1
(x)	(C) issued	1
(xi)	(B) will be (if any student writes 'is', it should be accepted)	1
(xii)	<table><tr><td>Error</td><td>Correction</td></tr><tr><td>may</td><td>should /will</td></tr></table>	1
	SECTION B ((Writing Skills) **(10 Marks)**	
4	**Letter Writing** Any one from (a) or (b) to be attempted/marked Format – 1 mark (full credit if all aspects included. Partial credit (1/2 marks) if one- two aspects are missing. No credit if more than 2 aspects are missing) Content – 2 marks Organisation of ideas – 1 mark (effective style, orderly sequence, paragraphed structure, formal tone and vocabulary) Accuracy – 1 mark (punctuation, spelling and grammar)	5
(a)	**Suggested Value Points:** - drawing attention of authorities - concern regarding overspeeding - consequences: unsafe, causing accidents - suggestions: strict laws, better implementation, raise awareness (Any other relevant point to be accepted)	1+2+1+1
	OR	
(b)	**Suggested Value Points:** - drawing attention of RWA - concern regarding rain water wastage - importance of saving water - suggestions: install rain water harvesting system, awareness campaigns, educating people (Any other relevant point to be accepted)	1+2+1+1
5	**Analytical Paragraph** Any one from (a) or (b) to be attempted/marked Content – 2 marks (four trends/ points to be included, well developed with sustained clarity) Organisation of ideas – 2 marks (effective style, orderly sequence, single paragraph structure, formal tone and	5

	functional vocabulary) Accuracy – 1 mark (spelling, punctuation and grammar)	
(a)	**Suggested Value Points:** - introduction - skills and values developed through co-curricular activities - how these help in theoretical curriculum: (makes one mentally alert, tech savvy, enables better comprehension and expression) (Any other relevant point to be accepted)	2+2+1
	OR	
(b)	**Suggested Value Points:** - introduction - positive contributions of tourism - how these help in development of the nation: better standard of living, improved image of country, etc. (Any other relevant point to be accepted)	2+2+1
	SECTION C: Literature Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text	**(40 Marks)**
6	**Reference to context –Prose** **Any one of the two (a) or (b) to be attempted/marked**	**5**
A i)	(C) He wanted to play with Maxwell on his bed.	1
ii)	Mijbil aloof and indifferent because - new / unfamiliar environment - away from natural habitat -needed time to adjust (Any two points to be accepted) (Any other suitable answer to be accepted)	2
iii)	(B) A pet needs its own space and time to get adjusted to its owner's environment	1
iv)	Otters love water / are playful	1
	OR	
(B)(i)	- not friendly / introvert / did not want real identity revealed/ secretive/ wanted to stay aloof.	1
(ii)	False	1
(iii)	- reason for his strange/unnatural face - met with accident - made advance payment of rent -said looking for solitude (Any two points to be accepted)	2
(iv)	is a source of gossip/rumour / idle speculation.	1
7.	**Reference to context –Poetry** **Any one of the two (a) or (b) to be attempted/marked**	**5**
A (i)	- has only length of his cage to walk about / no room to run/enjoy himself / restless (any other suitable answer to be accepted)	1
ii	- tiger can't escape. -power/ freedom of tiger snatched -basic instinct crushed /subdued. -can't break away from captivity. (any one point from the above for the first part of the question) Contrast -in natural habitat moves freely/ is considered most powerful.	1 1 (total *2 marks)*
iii	(B) being indifferent to visitors – it's a daily routine for him	1
iv	Alliteration – 'Concrete Cell'	1
	OR	
B i	- contrast between behaviour of dog and dragon	1

	- dragon considered more ferocious than dog but dog behaves as tiger while dragon wants to stay in safety of cage	
ii	fearless/valorous/daring/heroic/ bold/ courageous (any other suitable quality to be accepted)	1
iii	- simple, easy to understand language -use of similes, alliteration, imagery -humorous description of characters. -written as a Ballad. (any two points)	2
iv	(D) Crisis reveals character	1
8	**Any four out of five questions to be attempted/marked – First Flight**	**4×3=12**
	Content – 2 marks (any two relevant points to be accepted), Organisation – 1 mark; ½ mark to be deducted for Accuracy from the overall credit of a response, if error density is high – more than a total of 2 spellings and/or grammatical errors.	
i	- transformation of South Africa from apartheid / racial discrimination to democracy -triumph of justice, peace and human dignity over oppression -South Africa was internationally isolated but now hosting conference - then no equal rights or status / considered outlaws (any two of the above points to be accepted) (any other relevant point also to be accepted)	2+1
ii	– highlights loss, suffering and transformation -transition from youth to adulthood / gains maturity -taking responsibility for loss of materialistic possessions -learns to deal with loss (any two of the above points to be accepted) (any other relevant point also to be accepted)	2+1
iii	- known for natural beauty – lush greenery, rolling hills, picturesque landscapes, dense forest, etc. -diverse wildlife – birds, mammals, reptiles, fresh water fish -rich culture and heritage – traditions, dress, valour, monastery -tea and coffee plantations / smell of coffee -adventure sports – trekking, camping, river rafting (any two of the above points to be accepted) (any other relevant point also to be accepted)	2+1
iv	- shows worry, concern and frustration because of daughter -inability to accept daughter was grown up -inability to deal with her tantrums -considered her commodity / burdensome (any two of the above points to be accepted) (any other relevant point also to be accepted)	2+1
v	- mother nagged her -feels suffocated and stressed -as an escape, fantasies / imagines herself to be someone else like Rapunzel, an orphan, etc. -thus enjoy silence / autonomy / freedom (any two of the above points to be accepted) (any other relevant point also to be accepted)	2+1
9	**Any two out of three questions to be attempted/marked -Footprints Without Feet.**	**2x3=6**
	Content – 2 marks (any two relevant points to be accepted), Organisation – 1 mark; ½ mark to be deducted for Accuracy from the overall credit of a response, if error density is high – more than a total of 2 spellings and/or grammatical errors.	
i	– Mrs. Pumphrey loved her dog -overfeeds and overpampers it - leads to overweight and illnesses	2+1

	-despite Dr. Herriot's advice, unable to say 'No' and abstain from overfeeding Tricki -Tricki lethargic: fed more food assuming it was lack of energy -unable to accept Tricki greedy and overweight (any two of the above points to be accepted) (any other relevant point also to be accepted)	
ii	- approached Think Tank with respect addressing him as Great and Mighty Think Tank -sought permission for expressing his idea -described his idea as an insignificant bit of data -flattered Think Tank - shared his idea as a possibility, not something certain (any two of the above points to be accepted) (any other relevant point also to be accepted)	2+1
iii	- appearances are deceptive -Ausable didn't fit description of secret agent / was fat and sloppy -Yet Ausable's fertile brain invents stories / situations that unnerve Max -Ausable saves his life with presence of mind (any two of the above points to be accepted) (any other relevant point also to be accepted)	2+1
10	**Any one of the given two questions to be attempted in 100 – 120 words**	**6**
	Content – 3 marks Expression – 2 marks Accuracy – 1 mark	
A	Lencho - filled with sadness when crop was destroyed. - faces hardships courageously and patiently. - faith in God - writes a letter to God and waits for reply. - received money through humans but blames them, not realizing God answered through them. Kisa Gotami -After losing her only child, in desperation, asked people for help. -went from house to house as suggested by Buddha -realized no house free from mortality -returned to Buddha - was awakened / spiritually enlightened (any three points with at least one for each character to be written) (any other relevant point also to be accepted)	3+2+1
	OR	
B	Anne Frank - sensitive, fun-loving thirteen year old - adolescent longings, expectations and attitudes. - forced into hiding with her family - lived in constant fear and isolation, but remained hopeful - had no friends so wrote a diary / treated it as friend/ found solace in it. - had unwavering optimism and belief in inherent goodness of humanity. Valli - eight years old – mature, clever and practical beyond her years. -sensitive, observant, self-respecting and spirited -planned bus journey meticulously/ confidently/ fearlessly -fulfilled her desire of riding a bus. (any three points with at least one for each character to be written) (any other relevant point also to be accepted)	3+2+1
11	**Any One of the given two questions to be attempted in 100 – 120 words**	**6**
	Content – 3 marks Expression – 2 marks Accuracy – 1 mark	
A	Hari Singh reflects and retrospects - met Anil at wrestling match, won his confidence with intention of robbing him - worked as servant for him / did odd jobs	3+2+1

	- Anil overlooked shortcomings - Anil taught me to cook, read and write/ gave money to watch movies/ gave spare key to the house - when Anil came with bundle of notes, stole money. - went to railway station to escape, missed train - started thinking about Anil and decided to return money. - could not run away with money because Anil was kind and trusting. - Anil's generosity transformed me / couldn't betray him. (any three points from the above to be accepted) (any other relevant point also to be accepted)	
	OR	
B	- Bholi was simple, sensitive, neglected child. - in childhood, suffered from head injury and small pox. - stammered while speaking - had black pock marks on face - was scared to go to school - worked hard - with teacher's support, became confident, bold. - took a stand against demand of dowry - assured parents she would take care of them by getting job at school. - was educated in true sense of the term. (any three points from the above to be accepted) (any other relevant point also to be accepted)	3+2+1