

P.S.SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

CLASS – XII

ENGLISH WORKSHEET – 1

Dear children, this worksheet can be done in your English writing skills notebook.

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. First, a warning. The journey is tough, steep and peppered with hairpin bends. If you are not a hardened traveller, by the time you reach Tawang your head is likely to be spinning. Add to it the breeze which pierces through all your protective clothing and you could well be wondering what prompted you to make this arduous trip to such Himalayan heights.
2. To get acclimatized to high altitude, the recipe is simple and strict – take it easy on the first day, lest you find yourself out of breath and panting. Tuck yourself in a warm bed and sip some *thupka* (Tibetan noodle soup) and begin your adventures the following day.
3. In fact when you get up the next morning, you will scarcely believe what you see. The picture postcard beauty of the hill station in Arunachal Pradesh will simply take your breath away. The scenery is pristine and the Himalayan ranges are lush with pine, oak and rhododendron forests. There is also a rich growth of bamboo, which is the favorite food of the red panda found in this part of the Northeast.
4. Located about 10,000 feet above sea level, the Tawang monastery is the second oldest monastery in Asia, which explains the rush of tourists to this remote settlement. The magnificent monastery overlooks the valley and surrounded by mountains that seem to be towering around it like guards. The monastery's enormous yellow roof and white walls stand out like a beacon. The place is completely isolated from the world.
5. One of the biggest attractions of the monastery is the three storey *dukhang* (assembly hall) that has a magnificent eight-meter-high gilded image of Buddha.
6. The ancient library, leading onto the *parkhang* (main courtyard) has an excellent collection of old scriptures, images and *thankas* (traditional paintings and monastery – or *gompain* local language – is over 350 years old and is an important centre of pilgrimage for Buddhists.
7. The sixth Dalai Lama was born here. Also known as the *Galden Namgyan Lhatse*, the monastery is a repository of Tibetan Buddhist culture.
8. Tawang does not have an airport or railway station of its own. It is connected with other towns in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam by road. Reaching Tawang from Kolkata is braving a long but rewarding journey. The drive through the picturesque mountain country is spectacular and can leave you breathless as you wind around steep hill-roads and maneuver sharp hairpin bends. In parts, the road can be rather treacherous. This is definitely not a drive for the faint-hearted.

9. The journey to Tawang starts from Guwahati on a bus or a taxi to Bomdila. Past the Dirang valley with its old *dzong*(fort), the road climbs sharply to Sela Pass at 13,940 feet. This barren, desolate landscape is softened by a serene lake that lies below Sela Pass.

10 Tawang has one main street and a warren of alleys to the houses that climb up the hillside towards the towering monastery. It also has one quaint little bazaar which sells products ranging from talismans and prayer wheels to garish sunglasses and transistors. The snack stalls are a plenty offering solja, the yak butter tea, thupka and hot memos, the delicious steamed meat dumpling with chilly sauce.

1.1 Answer the following questions briefly.

- (i) Why is the journey up Tawang so arduous?
- (ii) What should a visitor do to acclimatize to high altitude?
- (iii) Why do people like to visit Tawang?
- (iv) Describe the Tawang monastery.
- (v) How can one reach Tawang?

1.2 Pick out words or phrases which convey the same meaning as the following.

- (i) cover or fill with a liberal amount of scattered items (Para 1)
- (ii) Extremely attractive ( Para 4)
- (iii) a place where things are stored (Para 6)

## **2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

1. Every urbanite knows the bright lights of the city make it impossible to see the stars in a night sky. What most of us do not know is that those lights also may be making us sick. The cause is light pollution – the unearthly glow of billions of street lamps, security and porch lights, searchlights, office lights and signs – as people everywhere try to dispel the darkness of the night.

2. For the first time, light is being investigated seriously as a pollutant and a health hazard – a possible cause increased incidence of breast cancer, depression and other ailments.

3. In the most heavily urbanized regions, it no longer ever really gets dark. Satellite images reveal that in large areas of eastern North America, Western Europe, Japan and Korea, night has become a constant twilight. In a natural night sky, someone looking at the heavens should be able to see nearly 3500 stars and planets and the glow from the Milky Way, our galaxy. But in some brightly lit cities, the number of visible stars has dwindled to about a few dozen.

4. And for many wildlife species, light pollution seems to be as grave as environmental threat as bulldozed habitats and toxic-chemical dumping.

5. Lighting from office towers confuse migratory birds which fly into buildings lit up at night. Millions of birds in North America die from these crashes. Researchers have noticed since the

1980s that artificial lights along ocean beaches confuse millions of baby turtles. Observers say that the turtles instinctively crawl to the brightest thing on the horizon – normally the reflection of the moon on the sea. But where beaches are illuminated, baby turtles often crawl to the lit roads, where they are flattened by cars, or wander in circles on the beach. Once day breaks, they bake to death in the sun.

6. Sea turtles and birds are clearly in peril because of light at night, but scientists have begun to study whether human may share something of the same fate. Richard Stevens, a US Epidemiologist, has developed the idea that night light can disrupt critical hormonal levels that affect human health. Stevens came to this conclusion while trying to solve the puzzle of why breast cancer risk is five times higher in industrialized societies than in non-industrialized countries.

7. Stevens turned to literature on circadian rhythms- the 24-hour biological clock that guides daily body functions – and on melatonin, a hormone most living creatures produce only in darkness. In a study published in 2001, Stevens says that there is ‘mounting evidence to suggest that disruption of the melatonin rhythm may lead to chronic fatigue, depression, reproduction anomalies and perhaps even cancer’. Melatonin is produced in the brain’s pineal gland only when the eyes signal it is dark. Those working under lighting at night could be reducing the amount of melatonin they produce.

8. Travis Longcore, Science Director at the Urban Wild lands Group (a Los Angeles conservation group), says that light pollution should be receiving the same attention as other environmental ills. Canada has set up a conservation reserve north of Toronto, the first in the world to preserve a pristine night sky. Conservationists are hoping to expand the area of preserved night sky beyond the park’s boundaries by encouraging local municipalities to curtail the use of poorly designed night lighting.

9. In the United States, the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) has been campaigning for bylaws requiring ‘night-friendly’ lights, with the bulbs recessed into the fixture so that the light does not glare out horizontally or upwards. Lamps that direct a light beam at the ground use less electricity and do not uselessly light the sky. While the health and environmental impacts of night pollution are starting to capture attention, Dave Crawford, the executive director of IDA, has other concerns too. He too worries that light may be making people sick and harming wildlife, but he says the fading of the heavens could also cause a fading of the human imagination – in many ways a greater long-term threat.

10. Writers and artists have been drawn inspiration from the night sky. Says Crawford, “It’s the glamour and wonder of the universe we live in. We’ve got to preserve that.”

1.1. Answer the following questions

1. How is light a pollutant? What harm does it cause?
2. What startling revelation does this passage provide about death of turtles?
3. How does lighting affect our daily body functions?
4. What measures have been taken in Canada to reduce light pollution?
5. What are the suggestions given by the IDA to counter light pollution?
6. Pick out words or phrases which convey the same meaning as the following:
  - (i) Threat or danger (Para 6)
  - (ii) Unusual, irregularity ( Para 7)
  - (iii) To limit ( para 8)

3. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

1. A scholar is refused admission to a good school primarily because of his weak interactive skills. It is indeed pathetic that though English is spoken fluently and used every day; yet none is satisfied

with their abilities. A learner feels he cannot express himself the way he wants to. And he fails miserably to connect with his own hidden talents.

2. The Education system, in its endeavors to make Curriculum relevant and life-oriented has, as a matter of fact, fallen short of its standards. It is oblivious of the fact that the most applied and practical subject- English: is devoid of practical afflatus. English is at cross roads. Both aspects of Education: the cultural that empowers a learner to grow and the productive aspect that makes him do things, is relegated to the background curriculum thus stands lopsided. It fails to provide full range of services and cannot tap teachers' expertise. No proper moves and strategies have been formulated to make it unique. English courses are mushrooming and alluring advertisements clip are often spotted.

3. With the onset of the new millennium, demands of the Educational System to sensitize itself to changing societal needs has also increased manifold. The new race of human beings has to be served New Curriculum that caters to the Unity Of Thought, Action & Deed and help evolve an integrated human personality. A Comprehensive Curriculum alone can enhance their understanding of four basic skills.

4. Acquiring the skill of English is no Catwalk. And English is no Science where results are verified; but it means Construction; ingenuity at work. The Architecture that it builds can never be complete if it is divorced from learning by doing.

5. There are a number of Projects like Phonetics, News-reading, Indian literature, Poetry- composition, Interview skills, biography- launch, etc. which can help a pupil to experiment till he finds a medium that helps free flow of thoughts, to think critically and creatively and emerge as literary competent. As long as there is proper feeding, English will live in their hearts and reign in their minds. Sooner or later, they will be blessed with a marathon for actionable learning that shall make a multidimensional impact on them.

*"Within the enclosure (pupils) lies the potential for a new beginning  
And within this exciting beginning lies an astonishing future for him."*

6. English cannot be conferred so easily and so soon. We need to take control of English. There is a grave need to designate English, without the slightest hesitation, a practical status if at all, we want a remarkable future. The lack of efforts in learning English and the general feeling of not being interested in learning the English language that are plaguing the system should be urgently addressed. Should not we all battle against this abuse?

1.1. On the basis of your reading the passage answer the questions given below.

1. What are the interactive situations?
2. What is the 'matter of grave concern'?
3. Explain unity of thought, action and deed?
4. How can English help evolve an integrated personality?
5. How can you find an astonishing future?

1.2. Pick out one word from the passage that means the same as:

- a). Nascent (para 1)
- b). Pragmatic (para 2)
- c). Depths (para 6)

**4. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

1. The small village of Somnathpur contains an extraordinary temple, built around 1268 A.D. by the Hoyasalas of Karnataka – one of the most prolific temple-builders. Belur and Halebidu are among their better-known works. While these suffered during the invasions of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the Somnathpur temple stands more or less intact in near-original condition.

2. This small temple captivates with the beauty and vitality of its detailed sculpture, covering almost every inch of the walls, pillars and even ceilings. It has three shikharas and stands on a star-shaped,

raised platform with 24 edges. The outer walls have a profusion of detailed carvings: the entire surface run over by carved plaques of stone. There were vertical panels covered by exquisite figures of gods and goddesses with many incarnations being depicted. There were nymphs too, some carrying an ear of maize a symbol of plenty and prosperity. The elaborate ornamentation, very characteristic of Hoysala sculptures, was a remarkable feature. On closer look- and it is worth it – the series of friezes on the outer walls revealed intricately carved caparisoned (covered decorative cloth) elephants, charging horsemen, stylized flowers, warriors, musicians, crocodiles, and swans.

3. The temple was actually commissioned by Soma Dandanayaka or Somnath (he named the village after himself), the minister of the Hoysala king, Narasimha, the Third. The temple was built to house three versions of Krishna.

4. The inner center of the temple was the kalyanamandapa. Leading from here were three corridors each ending in a shrine, one for each kind of Krishna – Venugopala, Janardana and PrasannaKeshava, though only two remain in their original form. In the darkness of the sanctum sanctorum, I tried to discern the different images. The temple's sculptural perfection is amazing and it includes the doors of the temple and the three elegantly carved towers.

**4.1. On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary.**

**4.2. Give the passage a suitable title.**

**5. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

1. The practice of soil conservation involves methods to reduce soil erosion, prevent depletion of soil nutrients, and restore nutrients, already lost by erosion and excessive crop harvesting. Most methods used to control soil erosion involve, keeping the soil covered with vegetation.

2. In conventional farming, the land is ploughed several times and smoothed to make a planting surface – a practice that makes it vulnerable to soil erosion. To reduce erosion, an increasing number of farmers in many countries are using conservation – tillage farming, also known as minimum – tillage, or no-till farming, depending on the degree to which the soil is disturbed. Farmers using these methods disturb the soil as little as possible in planting crops.

3. For the minimum-tillage method, special tillers break up and loosen the subsurface soil without turning over the topsoil. In no-till farming special planting machines inject seeds, fertilizers and weed-killers into slits made in the unploughed soil.

4. In addition to reducing soil erosion, conservation – tillage and no-till farming reduce fuel and tillage costs and water loss from soil. They can also increase the number of crops that can be grown during a season.

5. Soil erosion can also be reduced by 30-50 percent on gently sloping land by means of contour farming – ploughing and planting crops in rows across, rather than up and down, the sloped contours of the land. Each row planted horizontally along the slope of the land acts as a small dam to help hold and slow the runoff of water. 6. Terracing can be used on steeper slopes. Each terrace retains some of the water running down the vegetated slope. Terracing provides water for crops at all levels and decreases soil erosion by reducing the amount and speed of water runoff. In areas of high rainfall, diversion ditches must be built behind each terrace to permit adequate drainage.

7. In strip cropping, a series of rows of one crop, such as corn or soybeans, is planted in a wide strip. Then the next strip is planted with a soil-conserving cover crop, such as grass or grass-legume mixture, which completely covers the soil and thus reduces erosion. These alternating rows of cover trap soil that erodes from the other rows, catch and reduce water runoff, and help prevent the spread of plant diseases and pests from one strip to another.

8. Windbreaks can reduce erosion caused by exposure of cultivated lands to high winds or shelter beats. These are long rows of trees planted to partially block the wind. Windbreaks also provide

habitats for birds, pest eating and pollinating insects and other animals.

**5. a). On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary. Give the passage a suitable title.**

**5.b). Write a summary of the notes prepared in not more than 80 words.**

**6. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

1. The tests of life are its plus factors. Overcoming illness and suffering is a plus factor for it moulds character. Steel is iron plus fire, soil is rock plus heat. So let's include the plus factor in our lives.

2. Sometimes the plus factor is more readily seen by the simple-hearted. Myers tells the story of a mother who brought into her home - as a companion to her own son - a little boy who happened to have a hunchback. She had warned her son to be careful not to refer to his disability, and to go right on playing with him as if he were like any other boy.

3. The boys were playing and after a few minutes she overheard her son say to his companion: "Do you know what you have got on your back?" The little boy was embarrassed, but before he could reply, his playmate continued: "It is the box in which your wings are and some day God is going to cut it open and then you will fly away and be an angel".

4. Often it takes a third eye or a change in focus, to see the plus factor. Walking along the corridors of a hospital recently where patients were struggling with fear of pain and tests, I was perturbed. What gave me a fresh perspective were the sayings put up everywhere, intended to uplift. One saying made me conscious of the beauty of the universe in the midst of pain, suffering and struggle. The other saying assured me that God was with me when I was in deep water and that no troubles would overwhelm me.

5. The import of those sayings also made me aware of the nether springs that flow into people's lives when they touch rock bottom or lonely or even deserted. The nether springs make recovery possible, and they bring peace and patience in the midst of pain and distress.

6. The forces of death and destruction are not so much physical as they are psychic and psychological. When malice, hate and hard-heartedness prevail, they get channeled as forces of destruction. Where openness, peace and good-heartedness prevail, the forces of life gush forth to regenerate hope and joy. The life force is triumphant when love overcomes fear. Both fear and love are deep mysteries, but the effect of love is to build whereas fear tends to destroy. Love is often the plus factor that helps build character. It helps us to accept and to overcome suffering. It creates lasting bonds and its reach is infinite.

7. It is true that there is no shortage of destructive elements - forces and people who seek to destroy others and in the process, destroy themselves - but at the same time there are signs of love and life everywhere that are constantly enabling us to overcome setbacks. So let's not look only at gloom and doom - let's seek out positivity and happiness. For it is when you seek that you will find what is waiting to be discovered.

**6.1. On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary. Give the passage a suitable title.**

**6.2. Write a summary of the notes prepared in not more than 80 words**

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**CLASS – XII**

**ENGLISH WORKSHEET – 2**

**Dear children, this worksheet can be done in your English writing skills notebook.**

1. You are a member of RED CROSS Blood Bank Society, Bangalore. You have been asked by the President of the society, Mr. Manish Nair to organize a Blood Donation Camp. Write a notice in 50 words urging the members of your association to come in large numbers for this noble cause.

2. Your school (Amar Vidyalaya), Vellore, is organizing a cultural evening to collect funds for the upliftment of slum children. The Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University has consented to be the Chief Guest on the occasion. Draft a notice in this connection to be displayed on your school notice board. Imagine you are the Rakesh Tilak, Cultural Secretary of your school. (Word limit: 50 words)

As the Secretary of the Science Club of your school, write a notice in about 50 words informing students of an inter class science quiz.

2. You are Abhinav/Alka. You have planned a 2-week course to be arranged to help the children of your housing society called “Renaissance Housing Society” at Mysore acquire Spoken English Skills. As the Secretary of the Society, prepare a notice for the Society’s notice board stating the objective of the course, giving necessary details of the course and requesting the children of the society to join the course.

3. Your school, Adarsh Vidyalaya, Solan, is organising a lecture by the famous writer Vikram Seth on the occasion of ‘Literacy Week’ being celebrated in your school. Write a notice informing students about the lecture. Invent necessary details.

4. Draft a suitable notice for your School Notice Board giving details of the inauguration of the Literary Association activities in your school. You are Vikram/Varshini, Secretary, School Literary Association. Your School is called Modern Senior Secondary School, Trivandrum.

5. Your school has just completed 25 years of its meritorious service to society. The Students’ Council of your school has decided to celebrate its Silver Jubilee. As President of the Council, write a notice in not more than 50 words, for the students of your school, informing them about the Council’s decision and seeking their co-operation for the success of the proposed Silver Jubilee Celebrations.

6. You are Arya / Aryan. As President of the Excursion Club you have organized an excursion to Katmandu (Nepal) during the summer vacation for the senior students of your school. Write a notice in about 50 words informing the students about the proposed excursion.

7. On behalf of Department of Environment, Maharashtra Administration, draft a Poster on the detrimental consequences of burning leaves and garbage upon the environment and also issuing a warning of the punishment to those indulging in the same.
8. On behalf of Chennai Municipal Corporation, draft a poster on Covid Virus, the norms to be followed and the consequences if one does not follow them.
9. Recent rains have caused havoc in some parts of our country. You are Skanda Ganesh, a member of the social service organization, SEVA MANDIR, Dindigal. Draft a poster requesting people to help the rain and flood affected families physically and economically.
10. A 'Check Vehicular Pollution' campaign is being organized in your city. Draft a poster to be used in the campaign.
11. Your school is planning a campaign in support of eye donation to mobilize the students and society. Design a poster to be displayed in different areas of the locality surrounding your school highlighting the need for eye donation and eye banks.
12. Recently almost 60 people including several children were burned to death when a crackers factory went into flames. Draft a poster against engaging children in such harmful work. Also highlight the laws against child labour.



**P.S.SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**CLASS – XII**

**ENGLISH WORKSHEET – 3**

**Dear children, this worksheet can be done in your English writing skills notebook.**

1. Your father, Mr. Raj Kumar Gupta, residing at K-18, 13th Cross Malleswaram, Bangalore wants to celebrate the success of your brother Rohith's clearing the IIT-JEE Entrance Examination and securing admission in IIT Powai, Mumbai. He wants you to draft a formal invitation for him on his behalf. Draft the invitation for him in not more than 50 words.

2. Your school, BalPeeth Residential School, Bellary is planning to organize the Annual Sports Day in the school premises. Draft an invitation in not more than 50 words giving all the essential details.

3. 1. Your school is organizing the prestigious KVS National Level Social Science Exhibition in its premises. Draft an invitation in not more than 50 words giving all essential details.

4. You are Dharma raj, son of Ramesh Patnaik, Bannerghatta, Bangalore. Your father wants you to draft a formal invitation to be sent on the occasion of your sister, Sheela's marriage. Prepare the invitation.

5. You are Mohan/Molly. You have been invited by Rotary Club to act as one of the judges for an Elocution Competition for students of classes XI and XII. But due to a previous engagement you cannot accept this invitation. Write a formal reply to the President of the Club regretting your inability to accept the invitation.

6. You are Aakash/Varsha. You have been invited to attend the wedding of your friend's sister during the summer vacation. Respond to the invitation informally accepting it.

7. You have opened a restaurant in Uppal Road, Hyderabad. Draft an invitation for the inauguration of the same, specifying the chief guest and other important details like date, time and venue. Do not exceed 50 words.

8. Your school is organizing a Book Fair on its sprawling play-ground. Draft an invitation giving all the details including the chief guest.

9. You organized a quiz in your school last week. Write a description of how you went about it. (125 words)

10. Write a factual description of a tourist spot you have visited in about 125 words.

11. Write a factual description in about 125 words of the bustle at your bus terminus.

12. Write a factual description of the children's park in your locality in about 125 words.

13. Write a factual description of shopping mall in your city in about 125 words. Include details of layout, special facilities like ATM, restaurants, escalators etc.

14. You are the student in-charge of School sports day. Write how you have coordinated various events on the day giving details about the process

15. Factually describe your newly built house in 125 words.

**P.S.SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**GENERAL STUDIES**

**Dear children, this worksheet has to be done in your slip pad paper. You need to choose any 1 one of the following topics: (250 to 300 words.)**

1. How does Science contribute to economic development? Write about 2 popular myths that have a scientific reason. Discuss how science and religion are similar while being essentially different.
2. Social exclusion can be both a cause as well as consequence of poverty. Explain.
3. Write a note on Human Rights in India. How are Human Rights safeguarded in India? Name a few measures towards this end as given in the Indian constitution.
4. Hunger is a global issue. How can we feed the planet without destroying it? Discuss PradhanMantriFasalBimaYojana 2016 and its impact on Agriculture in India .
5. Write a note on India's green energy corridor to alleviate the problem of conventional energy. Also explain the problems faced and the future prospects that our country can explore.