

BRAIN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Session 2025-26 **PRACTICE PAPER 1** **Class X**

Subject – ENGLISH (184)

Time: 3 Hours

Class: X

M.M:80

General Instructions

1. This paper consists of three sections –

Section-A	Reading	20 Marks
Section-B	Writing & Grammar	20 Marks
Section-C	Literature	40 Marks
2. Attempt all the questions.
3. Do not write anything on the question paper.
4. All the answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper and written in the answer sheets provided
5. Attempt all the questions in each section before going to the next section.
6. Read the questions carefully and follow all the instructions.
7. Adhere to the word limit given with each question.
8. Total no. of pages - 12

SECTION- A (READING)

1. Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow. (1*10=10 Marks)

Literature is a cornerstone of human culture, a timeless repository of knowledge, emotion, and imagination that transcends generations and bridges diverse cultures. Its importance cannot be overstated, as it serves as a profound reflection of the human experience and a conduit for intellectual and emotional growth. Here are some key reasons why literature holds such a vital place in our lives:

Literature provides a window into the cultural, historical, and social contexts of different societies. It allows readers to explore the worldviews, traditions, and values of various time periods and regions. By immersing ourselves in literature, we gain a deeper understanding of the diversity and complexity of human existence.

Literature has the unique power to foster empathy. Through the characters and narratives it presents, literature invites readers to step into the shoes of others, to see the world from different perspectives, and to empathize with the joys and struggles of fictional and real individuals alike. This ability to understand and connect with others on a deeper level is invaluable in building compassionate and harmonious societies.

Reading literature challenges our critical thinking skills. Analyzing complex narratives, deciphering symbolism, and unraveling intricate character motivations require readers to engage in deep cognitive processing. This enhances analytical thinking and problem-solving abilities, which are essential life skills.

Literature is a masterclass in language and communication. It exposes readers to rich and varied vocabulary, diverse writing styles, and the nuances of language. Reading literature improves language proficiency, writing skills, and the ability to express ideas eloquently.

Literature is a wellspring of creativity and imagination. It inspires readers to dream, envision new worlds, and explore uncharted territories of thought. Whether it's through science fiction, fantasy, or poetic prose, literature fuels our creativity and encourages us to question the limits of our own imagination.

1. What is one significant benefit of reading literature?

- A) Learning scientific facts
- B) Enhancing empathy
- C) Improving physical health
- D) Inhibits creativity

2. How does literature contribute to critical thinking?

- A) By simplifying complex concepts.
- B) By encouraging superficial reading.
- C) By challenging readers with intricate narratives.
- D) By promoting conformity.

3. In the passage, the word “conduit” is used. What is the meaning of “conduit” in the context of the sentence: “Literature is a conduit for intellectual and emotional growth”?

- A) A narrow passage for water to flow through.
- B) A medium or channel for something to pass through.
- C) A literary genre.
- D) A symbol of creativity.

4. Provide one reason from the passage that supports the statement that “*Literature fosters empathy and understanding.*”

5. Based on the content of the passage, what would be a suitable title for the passage that emphasizes the importance of literature?

- A) “The Impact of Literature on Society”.
- B) “The Origins of Literary Genres”.
- C) “Exploring Literary Symbolism”.
- D) “A Historical Overview of Literature”.

6. In the passage, the phrase “timeless repository” is used to describe literature. What does “timeless repository” imply in this context?

- A) Literature that is outdated and no longer relevant.
- B) Literature that is locked away and inaccessible.
- C) Literature that endures through time and holds valuable knowledge.

D) Literature that is limited to a specific time period.

7. Which of the following is NOT a reason why literature is important?

- A) It enriches culture and history.
- B) It fosters empathy and understanding.
- C) It promotes conformity and uniformity.
- D) It enhances critical thinking skills.

8. In the passage, literature is referred to as “a wellspring of creativity and imagination. It inspires readers to _____.”

9. According to the passage, which aspect of literature is considered invaluable for building compassionate and harmonious societies?

- A) Its role in improving physical health.
- B) Its ability to simplify complex concepts.
- C) Its capacity to challenge readers with intricate narratives.
- D) Its contribution to understanding and connecting with others on a deeper level.

10. In the passage, literature is described as “*a window into the cultural, historical, and social contexts of different societies.*”

In the same vein as the above statement, which of the following represents literature’s role in providing insight into diverse societies?

- A) Literature is to societies as a mirror is to reflection.
- B) Literature is to societies as a travel guide is to destinations.
- C) Literature is to societies as a chef is to cooking.
- D) Literature is to societies as a painter is to colours.

2. Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

1. Cell phones have become a nearly universal aspect of contemporary Western culture. In many locations, children of elementary school age regularly carry cell phones. Cell phones, however, are not always welcome, and, in some areas, cell phones are banned. The reasons for the ban involve health and safety. There are various reasons for not allowing cell phones in schools. Most schools have banned their usage completely.

2. It is not only the classrooms where there is a blanket ban on the usage of the cell phones but it has been banned while driving too. Distracted driving is a major factor in serious and fatal automobile accidents. In the United States many locations have passed laws banning the use of cell phones while driving. Other laws allow cell phones to be used for conversation if they are connected to hands- free devices. Texting while driving poses a heightened risk because it involves taking one or both hands off the steering wheel in order to operate the cell-phone keypad. President Barack Obama issued an executive order banning texting while driving for federal employees in 2009. Teenagers are especially prone to text while driving.

3. A survey was conducted to know the opinion of people on various reasons for banning the use of cell phones. The table given below shows the result.

Reasons	Opinion in %
Health and safety	50%
Distraction	25%
Accidents	20%
Others	5 %

The original reason given for banning cell phones on airplanes was the risk of interference with sensitive cockpit equipment. Newer digital phones have been shown to present little or no risk to air navigation, though; several airlines have lifted bans on cell phone use. There are usually still restrictions involved with on-board cell phone use, such as limitations to a particular network. The United States has continued to ban cell phone use on airplanes. The House of Representatives went so far as to draft a bill called HANG UP (H.R. 5788 Halting Airplane Noise to Give Us Peace Act of 2008) although the bill never made it out of committee. With airlines such as American Airlines introducing on-board Wi-Fi service, some commuters believe it is only a matter of time before cell phone use is also permitted, especially if the airlines are allowed to charge fees.

(1*10=10 Marks)

i. Infer one reason for the following, based on information in paragraph 1.

Cell phones have become a nearly universal aspect of contemporary Western culture.

ii. Select the appropriate option to fill in the blanks.

From paragraph 2, we can infer that adults are as prone to _____ and non-adherence to _____ as teens.

- (a) poor driving skills, cell phones
- (b) poor driving etiquettes, texting
- (c) distracted driving, safety norms
- (d) using hands-free devices, texting

iii. Interpret the table on public opinion and answer:

How many individuals believe that reasons for prohibiting cell phone usage do not include distractions and accidents?

- (a) 75%
- (b) 45%
- (c) 55%
- (d) 25%

iv. What is the predominant rationale behind the proscription of cell phone usage on American Airlines flights?

- (a) Disruption to cockpit instrumentation.
- (b) Health risks and privacy concerns.
- (c) Limited network coverage and excessive usage.
- (d) Disruption to communication equipment.

v. What does the phrase "blanket ban" mean in the context of the passage?

- (a) A warm covering used to keep students comfortable in class.

- (b) A comprehensive and complete prohibition on something.
- (c) A type of cell phone that is popular among students.
- (d) A special permission to use cell phones in school.

vi. Fill in the blank by selecting the correct option. Recent research has shown that newer phones with _____ technology show little to no risk to air navigation.

- (a) antiquated
- (b) Regressive
- (c) Outdated
- (d) advanced

vii. Which statement accurately reflects the tone of the passage?"

- (a) The passage discusses the prevalence of cell phones in various contexts.
- (b) The passage provides a detailed analysis of cell phone technology.
- (c) The passage criticizes the use of cell phones in schools and airplanes.
- (d) The passage humorously highlights the benefits of using cell phones.

viii. The H.R. 5788 Halting Airplane Noise to Give Us Peace Act of 2008 successfully became law and regulated cell phone usage on all U.S. commercial flights. **(TRUE/FALSE)**

ix. What is the potential future change in the policy of American Airlines regarding cell phone usage on their flights, especially considering the introduction of on-board Wi-Fi service?

x. Select the option that titles paragraphs 1-3 appropriately, with reference to information in the text.

- (a) 1. Cell phones in elementary schools
2. Cell phones and driving
3. American Airlines
- (b) 1. Cell phones in elementary schools
2. Texting and calling
3. Survey on cell phones and driving
- (c) 1. Cell phones — a universal phenomenon
2. Cell phones and driving
3. Air travel and cell phones
- (d) 1. American schools and academics
2. Survey on cell phones
3. Air travel restrictions

SECTION- B (WRITING & GRAMMAR)

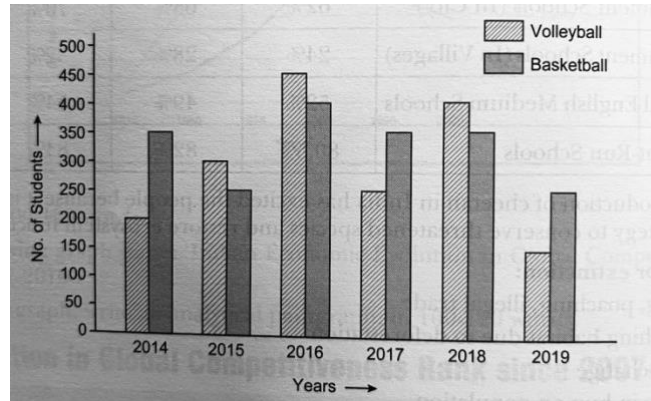
3. You purchased a high-end Bluetooth speaker for a special event, but during the event, the speaker suddenly stopped working, leaving you without music. Write a complaint letter to the speaker manufacturer, explaining the situation, expressing your disappointment, and requesting either a repair or replacement for the defective speaker. (100-120 words)

OR

You recently read an article highlighting the importance of men sharing domestic responsibilities to support gender equality at home. Write a letter to the editor discussing the significance of this issue, sharing personal experiences or examples, and advocating for a more equitable distribution of domestic duties to empower women and create healthier family dynamics. (100-120 words)

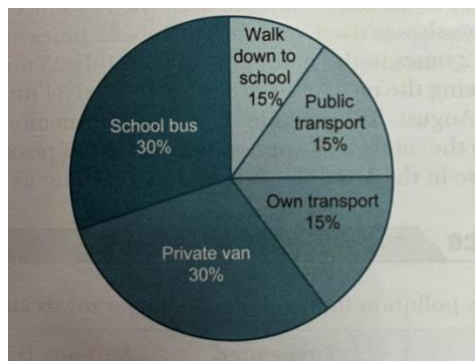
(5 Marks)

4. The given bar graph shows the preferences of children in a school in playing different games over the span of six years. Write an analytical paragraph about the given information in about 100-120 words.



OR

A survey was conducted by your school on how many children walk down to school, how many use their own transport, how many use the school bus and how many come by private vans. The findings are given below, write an analytical paragraph in about 100-120 words.



(5 Marks)

5. Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions.

(1*10=10 Marks)

1. She _____ not have any problem in joining you for yoga class.

- a) might
- b) mustn't
- c) couldn't
- d) shall

2. Identify the error in the given newspaper headline and supply the correction.

'Government announces new policies to tackles rising inflation rates'

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

3. You _____ exercise regularly to stay healthy.

- a) ought
- b) had to
- c) might have to
- d) should

4. They _____ to the concert last night, but they chose not to.

- a) must have gone
- b) should have gone
- c) could have gone
- d) will have gone

5. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the text message below

'Neither the manager nor his team _____ pleased with the project's outcome.'

- a) have
- b) are
- c) was
- d) were

6. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

'There are so much ways of entertainment in life.'

Error	Correction

7. Complete the given narrative, by filling in the blank with the correct option.

The center's panel on air quality, CAQM, has directed the agencies _____ to develop proper gas infrastructure in NCR before the next winter.

- (a) was concerned (b) will be concerned (c) is concerned (d) concerned

8. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from an article by Penguin G.G. J who is considered one of the pioneers of the Gujarati short story.

His writing_____ by a dramatic style, romanticism and powerful depiction of human emotions.

- (a) is characterised
- (b) has been characterised
- (c) is characterising
- (d) characterises

9. By the time the movie _____, I _____ asleep.

- a) ended / had fallen
- b) ends / fall
- c) will end / fell
- d) will have ended / fall

10. If they _____ the bus, they wouldn't have missed the important meeting.

- a) take
- b) took
- c) will take
- d) had taken

11. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a report.

As per the report, India will allowed food processors to import duty-free wheat against a commitment to export flour.

Option no.	error	correction
(a)	the	a
(b)	will	would
(c)	allowed	allow
(d)	against	for

12. I have _____ money in my wallet.

- a) many
- b) much
- c) the few
- d) few

SECTION-C (LITERATURE)

6. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow. (2*5=10 Marks)

I.

*But I can get a hair-dye
And set such colour there,
Brown, or black, or carrot,
That young men in despair
May love me for myself alone
And not my yellow hair.*

1. Given below are the taglines of four hypothetical brands. Choose the correct option that fits the best with the first three lines of the given stanza.

LITELIFE	GET SET
Food that makes you light.	My home. My gym.
LOOKBOOK	PLANET FOOD
No game over, get makeover.	Eat! Eat! Eat! Repeat!

- (i) Option (1)
- (ii) Option (2)
- (iii) Option (3)
- (iv) Option (4)

2. Select the sentence in which the word 'set' is used in the similar manner as line 2 of the extract.

- (a) I want to 'set' him up and get my work done this time.
- (b) Do you have another 'set' of books that I can read?
- (c) The desert needs to 'set' for two hours before being served.
- (d) The 'set' for the school play looked quite grand.

3. Complete the analogy:

Despair: hopelessness:: yesternight: _____

4. The form of the given stanza is a part of an argument. (True/False)

5. Why does Anne want to change the colour of her hair?

OR

*"The fog comes
on little cat feet.
It sits looking
over harbour and city
on silent haunches
and then moves on"*

1. Which one of the following literary devices applies to the given lines?

- 1. Personification
- 2. Transferred epithet
- 3. Imagery
- 4. Simile

(a) 1 and 4 (b) 1, 2 and 3 (c) Only 1 (d) Only 3

2. What does the poet mean by 'little cat feet'?

- (a) Little soft feet of the cat which leave marks in the home.
- (b) Small feet like that of the cat.
- (c) Little marks which a cat leaves behind in the sand.
- (d) Cat's feet enveloped in a veil of mist.

3. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE:

The poem doesn't necessarily dismiss small events in nature but rather invites the reader to appreciate the subtleties and transient beauty found in everyday occurrences, such as the arrival and departure of fog.

4. Complete the analogy by selecting the suitable word from the text.

Manacle: hands:: fetter: _____

(Clue: A manacle is a shackle for the hands, and a fetter is a shackle for the...)

5. In the poem, what might the "silent haunches" of the fog symbolize?

- a) The fog's rapid movement
- b) The fog's playfulness
- c) The fog's ability to observe quietly
- d) The fog's imposing presence

II.

Mr Keesing had a good laugh at my arguments, but when I proceeded to talk my way through the next lesson, he assigned me a second essay. This time it was supposed to be on 'An Incurable Chatterbox'. I handed it in, and Mr Keesing had nothing to complain about for two whole lessons. However, during the third lesson, he'd finally had enough. "Anne Frank, as a punishment for talking in class, write an essay entitled - 'Quack, Quack, Quack, said Mistress Chatterbox'."

1. What does the phrase "had a good laugh" suggest or convey in the context of Mr. Keesing's reaction?

- (a) He celebrated his ability to make Anne write the essay.
- (b) He ridiculed Anne in front of the whole class.
- (c) He pulled up Anne for her arguments in the essay.
- (d) He realised the humour in it and was amused.

2. Choose the option that best describes Mr Keesing.

- (a) Jestful and creative
- (b) strict and innovative
- (c) tolerant and strict
- (d) innovative and witty

3. Why do you think Mr Keesing chose the title - 'An Incurable Chatterbox' - for Anne, to write on?

- (a) because he expected Anne to express her inability to comprehend the topic.
- (b) because he expected to embarrass Anne and so that would check her indiscipline.
- (c) because he expected to make her feel dejected & ostracized from her mates.
- (d) because he expected Anne to explore her creative writing skills.

4. What convincing argument was made by Anne?

5. How did Anne feel when she was punished the third time by Mr. Keesing?

OR

These people married amongst the locals and their culture is apparent in the martial traditions, marriage and religious rites, which are distinct from the Hindu mainstream. The theory of Arab Origin draws support from the long, black coat with an embroidered waist-belt worn by the Kodavus, known as Kuppia; it resembles the Kuffia worn by the Arabs and the Kurds.

1. In the sentence, "Marriage and religious rites, which are distinct from the Hindu mainstream," which of the following options provides synonyms for "mainstream"?

- (a) (1) Unique, (2) Unconventional
- (b) (1) Dominant, (2) Prevalent
- (c) (1) Minor, (2) Infrequent
- (d) (1) Specialized, (2) Exclusive

2. What is so similar between Kodavus and Arabs?

- (a) A traditional dress with embroidery
- (b) A modern dress with stonework
- (c) A long black coat with an embroidered waist-belt resembling the Kuffia

(d) A short coat with a simple waist-belt resembling the Kuffia

3. From the given options, identify the author's tone in the extract.

- (a) Informative
- (b) Nostalgic.
- (c) Reminiscent
- (d) Joyful

4. Whom does '*these people*' in the above extract refer to?

5. _____ word from extract means 'related to war, the military or things associated with arm forces'

7. Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following in about 40 – 50 words each (4*3 = 12)

1. Lencho did not bother exploring any other means to resolve his situation but just turned to God. Do you feel that his approach was justified? Why/Why not?
2. The '*fight or flight response*', that is, to stay and face a situation or run from it - is an automatic reaction to an event perceived as stressful or challenging.
How would you evaluate the young seagull's response on finding himself off the ledge?
3. How do the traditional baker and his bread contribute to the cultural and social fabric of Goan society?
4. Elucidate two reasons behind Valli's discernment of the elderly woman aboard the bus as being repulsive.
5. Why does Maxwell say the air-hostess was "*the very queen of her kind*"?

8. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following in about 40 – 50 words each. (2*3 = 6)

1. Fowler's day took a one-eighty degree turn by the end of the evening. Examine the statement with reference to "The Midnight Visitor".
2. Validate the importance of 'try and try until you succeed', in the context of Rick Ebright in 'The Making of a Scientist'.
3. Describe the parting scene of Trick and Mrs Pumphrey's as the narrator marched out to the car carrying the little dog wrapped in a blanket.

9. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following in about 100-120 words. (1*6=6)

1. '*As ripe fruits are in danger of falling early, so mortals when born are always in danger of death.*' Elucidate the moral values that Kisa Gotami acquired following the death of her child, drawing insights from the Buddha's statement.

OR

2. '*No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background or his religion.*' Do you agree? Elaborate on the basis of the chapter 'Nelson Mandela - Long Walk to Freedom'.

10. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following in about 100-120 words. (1*6=6)

1. 'Contentment in one's life is very important to lead a peaceful life. We should be happy with what we have and should not crave for what we don't have.' Matilda suffered in life because she was not content in her life. Do you agree that her desires led to her disaster? What do you learn from her mistakes in life?

OR

2. Read the following quote by an American author, **E. E. Hale**.

"I am only one but, I am one. I cannot do everything but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I do."

Bholi's evolution from a 'dumb cow' to a 'masterpiece' supports the given quote. Justify.

BRAIN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Session 2025-26 **PRACTICE PAPER 2** **Class X**

Subject – ENGLISH (184)

Time: 3 Hr Class: X M.M: 80
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GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. *The paper consists of three sections:*

SECTION A- READING	20 MARKS
SECTION B- WRITING AND GRAMMAR	20 MARKS
SECTION C- LITERATURE	40 MARKS

2. *Attempt all the questions.*

3. *Do not write anything on the question paper.*

4. *All the answers must be correctly numbered as given in the question paper and written in the answer sheets provided.*

5. *Attempt all the questions in each section before going to the next section.*

6. *Read the questions carefully and follow all the instructions.*

7. *Adhere to the word limit given with each question.*

8. *No. of pages – 10*

Section A **(Reading: 20 Marks)**

Q.1 Read the extract and answer the questions that follow.

(10 marks)

1. If they go unaddressed, life's aggravations can affect your well-being. Scientific studies have found that people who rate high on tests for anger are at an amplified risk for high blood pressure and heart disease. To process anger in a wholesome way, Todd Kashdan, a psychology professor at George Mason University in Virginia, recommends you to attempt to fathom why you feel perturbed. Without pinpointing why you're angry, he says, "You can't get a foothold to figure out what your body is mobilizing to do."
2. When harnessed properly, anger can be a catalyst. Frustration can drive us to choose a novel path while problem-solving or to become fixated and committed — taking up a new cause, for example. Frustration may also be useful in negotiations, but watch, how you express it: raising your voice during a debate may be conducive, but the same tactic could potentially undermine collaborative work.
3. Vexation has limits. Kashdan recommends thinking of anger as a speedometer, where 10 kilometres per hour is irritation and 100 kilometres per hour is blind rage. Speed limits are a measure of effectiveness: momentary annoyance during a negotiation might be useful, but rage seldom is. If you use anger as a tool too often, people will learn to avoid you. While others may offer small amounts of time and effort to keep your temper from erupting, you'll miss out on their best contributions.

4. If you get into a disaccord with someone, pause for a moment and try to understand that person's point of view, then look for a mutually beneficial solution. Once you become angry, your thinking gets too narrow. To bring anger down a notch, psychologists recommend practising deep breathing. Focus on inhaling and exhaling, and picture your breath travelling to your diaphragm. Create a playlist of music to help relax when you feel agitated. Different genres work for different people.
5. Keep disagreements from turning into fights by improving your communication skills. Avoid cutting others off or using accusatory adverbs like 'always' and 'never'. "Unhealthy anger, the inability to cool down when upset, can be a symptom of mental health disorders such as depression," says Darin Dougherty of the Harvard Medical School. Speak to your doctor if this feels familiar: medication and cognitive behavioural therapy help.
6. After anger runs its course, let go. Experts offer three steps for decompressing after you've been hurt : make sense of the wrongdoing with a loved one or a therapist; avoid dwelling after you've processed the issue; and, finally move on — find humour in the situation or leave the environment if it has become deleterious.

Answer the following questions based on the above passage.

(i) Complete the following statement:

According to the passage, it is important to understand the reason for your anger because _____. (1)

(ii) What does the passage imply about finding a solution to a disagreement? (1)

- (a) A resolution should consistently align with the stance of the more reasonable individual.
- (b) A mutually advantageous outcome necessitates empathetic consideration of the other's viewpoint.
- (c) Effective solutions are best achieved through prompt and decisive action.
- (d) Conflicts should be circumvented to maintain harmony.

(iii) Select the option that displays what the writer projects, with reference to the following: (1)

If you get into a disagreement with someone, pause for a moment and try to understand that person's point of view. (Paragraph 4)

- (a) denial
- (b) conviction
- (c) reflection
- (d) compassion

(iv) Select the option which is closest in meaning to 'undermine'. (1)

- (a) collective
- (b) emphasize
- (c) unilateral
- (d) weaken

(v) Explain this statement from Paragraph 2 – "Frustration can drive us to choose a novel path while problem-solving." (2)

(vi) How can communication skills help in anger management? (1)

(vii) Complete the sentence appropriately:

If your anger remains uncontrolled, _____ (1)

- (a) Decisions will get delayed resulting in losses.
- (b) You will not receive the best contributions.

- (c) There can be momentary annoyance during a negotiation.
 (d) People will respond equally aggressively.

(viii) How can you unwind after letting go of your anger? Give two suggestions from the text. (2)

Q.2 Read the extract and answer the questions that follow.

(10 marks)

1. Reduction in green areas has caused various environmental predicaments. People squeezed between concrete structures are looking for various ways to meet their longing for green. One of the ways to do so is vertical gardens and green walls. Vertical gardening is an eccentric method of gardening where plants are grown in a vertical position or upward, rather than in the traditional method of planting them on the ground.

2. The teleology of vertical gardens and green walls, which arises from the studies of different disciplines (landscape architects, architects, engineers, etc.), is to close the cold image of concrete and increase the visual value. In these systems, nature and structures are integrated, and thus, urban areas and the desired environment have become intertwined.

3. Vertical Garden case studies often show that, though functionality should be in the foreground, when vertical gardens are planned, they are generally made as aesthetic elements in the city's underpasses and city squares, and resplendent elements in residences, without seeking functionality.

4. Experts support that the visual quality and evaluation of landscape architecture is determined based on the satisfaction of the users. Hence, a survey questionnaire was prepared for residents of varied age groups from a metropolitan city. The given Table 1 displays these responses:

Table 1: Total number of participants: 400

Table 1 - Total number of participants : 400						
No.	Survey statements	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Vertical gardens-						
1	improve quality of life of people in urban areas	191	138	43	9	19
2	reduce noise pollution	128	164	77	25	6
3	increase air quality -indoors and outdoors	172	147	51	28	2
4	reduce energy and water consumption	58	47	125	68	2
5	positively impact global warming	114	144	106	30	6
6	have a relaxing and calming effect	161	177	44	7	11
7	cost too much	86	107	152	42	13
8	make plants look beautiful	195	139	44	6	16
9	add naturalness to the environs	135	173	55	25	12
10	are among the determining factor to visiting a place	59	133	141	54	13
11	are inconvenient indoors	9	84	123	126	48
12	can be applied in every place	71	132	97	77	23
13	have a functional feature	81	207	100	10	2
14	distract drivers	34	101	106	131	28
15	funds are best used for social issues	57	72	100	130	41

5. The study acknowledged that vertical gardening has the potential to transform urban spaces into green, sustainable areas, and further research should explore the impact of vertical gardening on the environment and human well-being.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above:

(a) Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of paragraphs 1 and 2. (1)

We can say that the situation of people living in concrete structures is comparable with *a fish living in a fishbowl*, and the need for vertical gardens for decorations in the fishbowl is because _____.

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

The statement that *urban spaces have become more closely connected with the desired natural surroundings through the incorporation of nature and structures in vertical gardens and green walls*, is a _____ (fact/opinion) because it is a _____ (subjective judgement/objective detail).

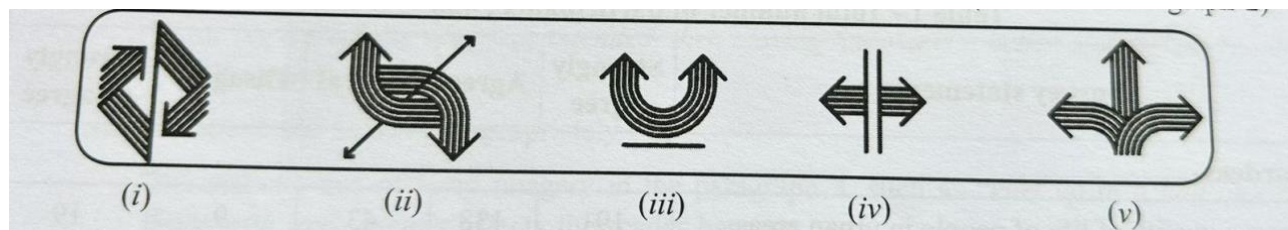
(c) Justify the following, in about 40 words.

While the survey results suggest that *vertical gardens may be effective in improving the quality of life in urban areas, further research and evaluation may be necessary to fully understand their effectiveness and potential drawbacks*. (2)

(d) Based on the survey results, which two concerns should a city government, looking to install vertical gardens, address? (1)

(e) In Table 1, the statement 3, "*Vertical gardens increase air quality - indoors and outdoors*," received the most neutral responses from participants, with 51 respondents indicating a neutral stance. State any one inference that can be drawn from this. (1)

(f) Select the option that correctly displays what "intertwined" signifies. (Reference - Paragraph 2)(1)



- A. (i), (iv), and (v)
- B. Only (ii)
- C. Only (iii)
- D. (ii) and (v)

(g) Infer one benefit and one drawback of vertical gardening. (2)
(Answer in about 20 words)

(h) Which of the following is the main takeaway from the study? (1)

- i Vertical gardening has a minimal impact on the environment in comparison to other solutions, such as community gardens.
- ii Vertical gardening is a sustainable practice that can transform urban spaces into green areas.
- iii The impact of vertical gardening on the environment and human well-being has already been thoroughly explored.
- iv The study needs to include experts from horticultural firms to offer any recommendations for further research.

SECTION- B

(WRITING & GRAMMAR – 20 Marks)

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

(10x1=10 marks)

(a) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter.

Dear Sir,

This is with reference to your query about our latest products. We are glad to inform you that we are ____ (introduce) disappearing ink pens and refills in the market this year.

(b) Read the given sentence from a report on sanitation in a residential area. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.

"Our colony has been becoming an unhealthy and disease-prone area and every day, someone or the other is succumbing to deadly diseases."

Error	Correction

(c) Sumit told Shama that no one showed up at the party except Deepti and Rishi. Report the question asked by Shama.

(d) Read the dialogue between Shabnam and her mentor, Sara, regarding her first job that she has recently landed.

Sara: What is your pay scale?

Shabnam: I was recruited in the pay scale ₹ 18,000–25,000 but after the training, the company will give me ₹ 25,000.

When Sara asked Shabnam what her pay scale was, she replied that ____ in the pay scale of ₹ 18,000–25,000 but after the training, the company would give her ₹ 25,000.

(e) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete an observation in a report published by the Planning Commission of India.

"Drinking water in one-third of India's 600 districts has a high fluoride content, as a result 65 million people are suffering from fluorosis, ____ (this/which/that/then) causes crippling problems."

(f) Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from an NGO working for the environment.

"Moreover, a cluster of 10,000 more houses in this area is bound to aggravate environmental pollution and further tampering with ecology."

Error	Correction

(g) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report.

"Most of the nation's policies and programmes for socio-economic development originate at the Central Government, and the responsibility for their successful implementation is entrusted to the states."

Option no.	Error	Correction
(i)	the nations	the nations'

(ii)	Originate	will originate
(iii)	At	In
(iv)	is entrusted	is to be entrusted

(h) Complete the given narrative, by filling in the blank with the correct option.

"Ever increasing pollution coupled with over-exploitation of natural resources and greenhouse gas emissions ____ several species towards extinction."

- (i) is driving
- (ii) will drive
- (iii) had been driving
- (iv) should be driving

(i) Report the dialogue between a master and servant by completing the sentence.

Master: You are becoming lazy by the day. Where is my breakfast?

Servant: I am sorry, I forgot to wind the clock.

The master accused the servant of becoming lazy by the day and asked him about his breakfast. The servant ____.

(j) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option for a podcast on Avani Chaturvedi, the first Indian woman fighter pilot to take a solo flight in a MiG-21.

"Avani Chaturvedi ____ to train at Hyderabad Air Force Academy and completed her training at the age of 25."

- (i) has selected
- (ii) is selected
- (iii) had been selected
- (iv) was selected

(k) Complete the line from a poem on medicines and doctors, by filling the blank with the correct option.

"But for whom the rabbit kept on pounding medical herbs, I just could not guess.

The magic is being swallowed by the toad and the light ____ the thick evening darkness all around."

- (i) had flickered out
- (ii) flickers out
- (iii) should flicker out
- (iv) do flicker out

(l) Identify the error in one of the instructions outside a fort and supply the correction for the following line.

"Until you leave your bags in the locker, you will not be allowed entry."

Error	Correction

Writing Skills

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

(5 Marks)

(a) You are Suyash/Suhani Pandey, the Eco-Club Captain of Kendriya Vidyalaya School, Shripur. You are well aware of the hazards of using plastic bags indiscriminately and want the authorities to ban the

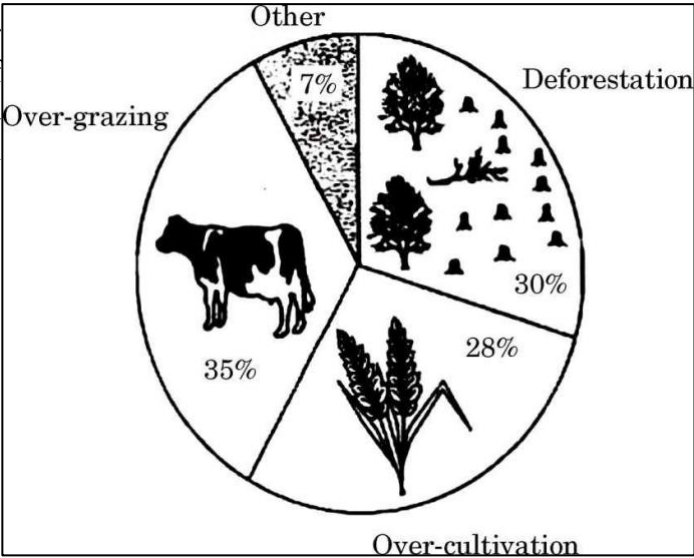
excessive use of these bags. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily in not more than 120 words, drawing attention towards the harm caused by plastic litter. Express your concern over environmental degradation due to plastic waste and request the public to avoid the reckless use of polybags.

OR

(b) Food wastage is fast assuming a serious dimension. A staggering 1×3 billion tonnes of food is being wasted per annum globally. According to reports from UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme), 811 million people go hungry every day. You are Sofia/Sohail, a resident of 242, Lajpat Nagar, residents of your Secretary, RWA of to install a people can which can be underprivileged. words.

5. Attempt any one below :
Marks)

(a) A survey was main reasons for world. The pie chart reasons why



less productive. On the basis of the pie chart, evaluate the causes of worldwide land degradation and write an analytical paragraph based on it, in 120 words.

Vayunagar. On behalf of the locality, write a letter to the your area, requesting him/her community fridge where contribute their excess food accessed by the Write your letter in about 120

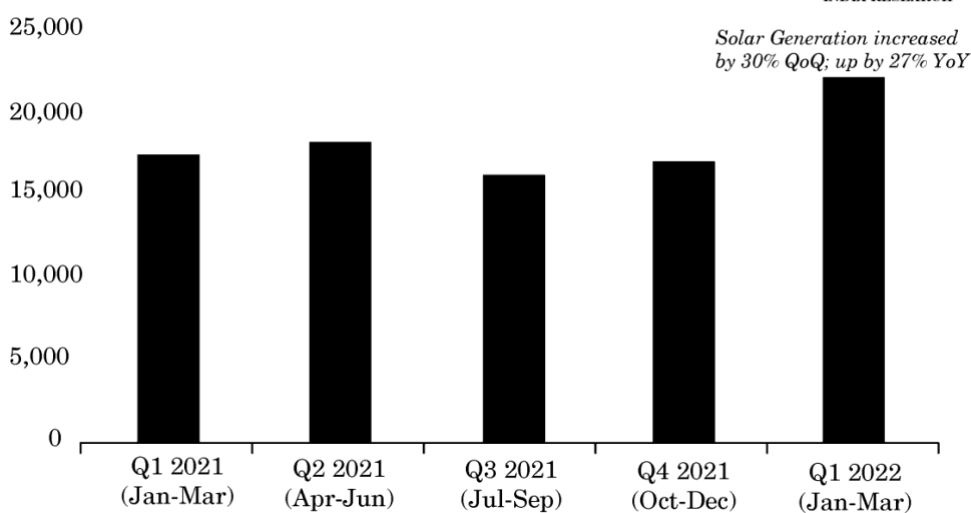
from (a) and (b) given (5

conducted to find out the land degradation in the below shows the main agricultural land becomes

OR

(b) There has been a visible impact of solar energy in the Indian energy scenario during the last few years. Solar energy-based decentralized and distributed applications have benefitted millions of people in Indian villages by meeting their cooking, lighting and other energy needs in an environment-friendly manner. On the basis of the bar graph given below, write an analytical paragraph on Solar Energy in India in 100 – 120 words.

India : Solar Electricity Generation by Quarter (MU)



SECTION- B
(LITERATURE – 40 Marks)

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

I.(a) *It is from these comrades in the struggle that I learned the true meaning of courage. Time and again, I have seen men and women risk and give their lives for an idea. I have seen men stand up to attacks and torture without breaking, showing a strength and resilience that defies the imagination. I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.*

(i) Elaborate in about 40 words with reference to the extract : (2)

What does courage mean to the speaker ?

(ii) State any one inference about Nelson Mandela from the given context : (1)

“Courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it.”

(A) preserving (B) dogmatic

(C) defiant (D) jubilatory

(iii) Which phrase would correctly substitute ‘resilience’ in the given sentence from the extract?

“...showing a strength and resilience that defies the imagination.” (1)

(a) A capacity to vanquish adversaries.

(b) A propensity for maintaining composure and tranquillity.

(c) A grit in navigating adversities.

(d) A mastery in overcoming trepidation.

(iv) State True or False :

All of the terms (A) — (D) can be applied to the following statement : (1)

‘The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid ...’

(a) An individual untouched by the experience of fear.

- (b) A person who succumbs when confronted with adversity.
- (c) Someone who embraces the notion of yielding to fear.
- (d) One who acknowledges fear as an inherent aspect of existence.

OR

(b) *Writing in a diary is a really strange experience for someone like me. Not only because I've never written anything before, but also because it seems to me that later on neither I nor anyone else will be interested in the musings of a thirteen-year-old schoolgirl. Oh well, it doesn't matter. I feel like writing, and I have an even greater need to get all kinds of things off my chest.*

'Paper has more patience than people.' I thought of this saying on one of those days when I was feeling a little depressed and was sitting at home with my chin in my hands, bored and listless, wondering whether to stay in or go out. I finally stayed where I was, brooding : Yes, paper does have more patience and since I'm not planning to let anyone else read this stiff-backed notebook grandly referred to as a 'diary' unless I should ever find a real friend, it probably won't make a bit of difference.

(i) Why did Anne Frank finally decide to write in her diary ? Answer in about 40 words.

(2)

(ii) Which word best describes Anne?

(1)

- a. mutinous
- b. ruminative
- c. flighty
- d. considerate

(iii) Anne agrees with the saying 'Paper has more patience than people.' What does this show us about her attitude towards people ?

(1)

(iv) If the diary were 'a real friend', which one of the following qualities would Anne expect it to have ?

(1)

- (a) Restlessness
- (b) Diligent listener
- (c) Self-assured
- (d) Vigorous

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

(a) *But if it had to perish twice,*

I think I know enough of hate

To say that for destruction ice Is also great

And would suffice.

(i) State whether the following is True or False :

(1)

Ice dissolves the animosity and destructive energies surrounding us.

(ii) What is 'ice' symbolic of in the above extract?

(2)

(iii) What is the poet implying when they say that "ice would also suffice"?

(1)

(iv) The use of the word 'perish' corresponds best with:

(1)

(a) disembark

- (b) revive
- (c) replenish
- (d) disintegrate

OR

(b) *Belinda paled, and she cried Help ! Help !
But Mustard fled with a terrified yelp,
Ink trickled down to the bottom of the household,
And little mouse Blink strategically mouseholed.*

- (i) Which animal came out as a real hero in this situation? (1)
- (ii) 'Help ! Help !' is an example of : (1)
 - (a) personification
 - (b) alliteration
 - (c) simile
 - (d) repetition
- (iii) The phrase 'trickled down' means . (1)
 - (a) stepped down quickly
 - (b) ran away fearfully
 - (c) tricked mercilessly
 - (d) moved down slowly
- (iv) How did Belinda respond when confronted with a moment of crisis? (2)

Q.7. Answer any four of the following five questions in 40 – 50 words each : (4x3=12)

- (a) To what extent can Lencho's unwavering optimism be attributed to his eventual receipt of seventy pesos?
- (b) Examine the tone of the poem 'How to Tell Wild Animals' in light of the poet's unconventional portrayal of various animal species.
- (c) In the context of 'A Tiger in the Zoo', juxtapose the existence of a tiger in captivity with its life in its natural habitat, highlighting the stark contrasts.
- (d) How do Natalya's quarrelsome and obstinate tendencies manifest in the narrative? Provide two instances to substantiate your observations.
- (e) What philosophical lesson did the Buddha endeavour to impart to Kisa Gotami through her personal tragedy?

Q.8. Answer any two of the following three questions in 40 – 50 words each: (2x3=6)

- (a) Griffin's misuse of his scientific breakthrough demonstrates that he lacked the ethical integrity of a true scientist. Illustrate this assertion with an incident from the story.
- (b) 'The Necklace' is a lesson in discontent and unreasonable materialism. Discuss the protagonist's greatest failing.
- (c) While asking for the job, Hari Singh displays his 'most appealing smile'. This smile is crucial to the story and makes a few more appearances. Explain why and how this 'smile' is a calculated one.

Q.9. Answer any one of the following two questions in 100 – 120 words. (6x1=6)

- (a) 'Appearance should never be trusted. It can lead us to wrong conclusions. The real beauty lies within.' Comment on the statement with reference to the poem 'For Anne Gregory'.

OR

(b) Comment on Anne Frank's and Valli's journeys from innocence to self-awareness.

Q.10. Answer any one of the following two questions in 100 – 120 words: (6x1=6)

(a) 'Dowry is a negation of a girl's dignity'. Prove this statement in the light of the story 'Bholi'. How can this evil be eradicated from our story?

OR

(b) The chapter 'A Book that Saved the Earth', humorously depicts a futuristic scenario where a misunderstanding about a nursery rhyme book saves Earth from an alien invasion. How does this story reflect the theme of the power of literature and human creativity? Support your answer with examples from the text.