



REVISION SHEET
CLASS-XI

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

TERM 1

I. Read the below passage and answer the questions that follow:

1. No one in Greyhaven believed the legend anymore. The elders spoke of a hidden library beneath the northern mountain—a place where forgotten histories, unwritten books, and lost ideas lay preserved for those worthy enough to find them. Most dismissed it as folklore. Only seventeen-year-old Elias listened. His grandfather never told stories for amusement. *"Every legend,"* he often said, *"guards a truth that refuses to die."*
2. The morning after his grandfather's funeral, Elias discovered an old map concealed inside a weathered dictionary. Across its faded surface, six words were written in familiar handwriting:
3. Knowledge belongs to those who seek. A winding trail ended at a symbol shaped like an eye carved into stone. There was no explanation, yet Elias knew exactly who had left it. Before dawn three days later, he entered the forest carrying only a backpack, a torch, and the map. As he walked deeper, the world grew unnaturally silent. Birds vanished. Even the wind seemed to hold its breath. Ancient stone pillars emerged among the trees; each carved with symbols from forgotten languages. Following them, Elias reached a towering cliff draped in ivy.
4. Hidden behind the vines stood a bronze door without handle or lock. Its surface shimmered with carvings of stars, rivers, animals, and human faces flowing into one another like living memories. When Elias touched the carving of a small owl, the earth trembled. The door slid open soundlessly, revealing a staircase descending into a pale blue glow. At the bottom stretched an underground hall so vast that its ceiling disappeared into darkness. Endless shelves rose like silent towers, filled with books untouched by dust or time. Some were bound in cracked leather, others in gleaming metal that seemed almost alive. At the centre stood a circular table holding a single open book whose pages turned without wind.
5. "You came searching for answers," a quiet voice echoed, "but the wisest seekers first learn the right questions." An elderly woman stepped from between the shelves. She explained that the library protected humanity's forgotten wisdom—discoveries erased from history, unfinished inventions, abandoned dreams, and stories never told. Once in every generation, one traveller was invited inside. Yet no book could be taken unless something equally precious was willingly left behind.
6. Elias gazed across the endless shelves. For the first time, he understood that knowledge was never free. It demanded curiosity, sacrifice, and courage. As he reached for the waiting book, another hidden doorway slowly opened beyond the hall, spilling golden light into the darkness. He took one step forward, then another and realised that the greatest adventure was only just beginning.

On the basis of the passage answer the following questions (1 mark each)

1. Why did Elias believe his grandfather's stories?
2. How many days after the funeral did Elias begin his journey?
3. What three items did Elias carry with him?
4. What happened to the forest as Elias walked deeper into it?
5. Describe the underground hall in one sentence.
6. What was unusual about the books in the library?
7. How often was a traveller invited into the library?
8. What condition had to be fulfilled before taking a book?
9. According to Elias, what does knowledge demand?
10. What happened at the end of the passage?

On the basis of the passage answer the following questions (2 marks each)

1. Explain how the atmosphere of the forest changes as Elias moves deeper into it. What effect does this create?
2. Describe the bronze door and explain why it appears mysterious.
3. Why is the statement "*the wisest seekers first learn the right questions*" significant? What does it suggest about knowledge?
4. What does the library symbolise? Support your answer with evidence from the passage.
5. Do you think Elias is driven more by curiosity or by responsibility towards his grandfather's legacy? Give reasons for your answer.

II. Read the below passage and answer the questions that follow:

1. In an age where digital devices have become almost inseparable from human existence, the ability to remain constantly connected is often celebrated as one of civilisation's greatest achievements. Smartphones, wearable technologies, cloud computing, and social media platforms have dramatically transformed the way individuals communicate, learn, work, and entertain themselves. However, beneath the undeniable convenience lies a complex web of psychological, economic, and environmental consequences that often escape public attention. The assumption that greater connectivity inevitably leads to greater productivity and happiness is increasingly being questioned by researchers across multiple disciplines.
2. Psychologists have observed that the human brain, despite its remarkable adaptability, has not evolved to process an uninterrupted stream of notifications, messages, and digital stimuli. Frequent task-switching caused by emails, instant messaging applications, and social media alerts significantly reduces attention span and cognitive efficiency. Ironically, while technology promises to save time, it frequently fragments concentration, compelling individuals to spend more time recovering from distractions than completing meaningful work. This phenomenon, known as 'attention residue,' leaves portions of the mind preoccupied with previous tasks even after one has shifted to a new activity.
3. The economic implications of digital dependence are equally significant. Businesses invest enormous sums in sophisticated communication technologies with the expectation of enhancing employee productivity. Yet several organisational studies reveal that constant digital interruptions often reduce the quality of decision-making, increase workplace stress, and contribute to professional burnout. Moreover, employees

- increasingly struggle to establish boundaries between their professional and personal lives, resulting in what sociologists describe as an "always-on culture." Consequently, leisure, family interactions, and opportunities for genuine rest are gradually diminished.
4. Less visible, but equally alarming, is the environmental footprint of the digital world. Every online search, video stream, cloud storage operation, and artificial intelligence computation relies upon vast networks of data centres operating around the clock. These facilities consume enormous quantities of electricity and water for cooling purposes, while the manufacturing of electronic devices requires rare earth minerals extracted through energy-intensive mining processes. The rapid pace of technological innovation also encourages consumers to replace perfectly functional devices, thereby generating millions of tonnes of electronic waste annually, much of which is inadequately recycled.
 5. Despite these challenges, technology itself is not inherently detrimental. On the contrary, digital innovations have revolutionised healthcare, enabled remote education, facilitated disaster management, and accelerated scientific collaboration across continents. The real challenge lies not in rejecting technological advancement but in cultivating digital wisdom. Individuals must develop the ability to distinguish between meaningful engagement and compulsive consumption. Educational institutions can contribute by promoting digital literacy that extends beyond technical competence to include ethical awareness, information evaluation, and responsible online behaviour.
 6. Governments, corporations, educators, and citizens all share responsibility for shaping a healthier digital future. Policymakers can introduce regulations encouraging sustainable manufacturing practices and stronger data privacy protections, while technology companies can design platforms that prioritise user well-being over prolonged engagement. Simultaneously, individuals can adopt practical measures such as scheduling screen-free periods, disabling unnecessary notifications, and consciously engaging in offline activities that foster creativity, reflection, and interpersonal relationships. Ultimately, the measure of technological progress should not merely be the speed at which information travels, but the extent to which it genuinely enhances the quality of human life.

A. On the basis of the passage prepare notes using a suitable heading and sub-headings.

B. Then write a summary of the passage in 100 words.

- III. Draw a poster on "Book Collection Drive" in your school. The cultural team wants to have this poster put up for an event in school.
- IV. You are supposed to deliver a speech on Reading and writing habits to middle school. You are the school captain and have been given the responsibility to drive reading and writing projects in your school. You will deliver your speech in the school assembly.

V.

A. Find the errors and write the correct word for each sentence:

	ERROR	CORRECTION
1. Reading books is one of the most effective ways to broadening one's perspective.	_____	_____
2. Although many students spends hours on social media,	_____	_____
3. they often claims that they have no time to read.	_____	_____
4. A good book not only improve vocabulary but also develops critical thinking.	_____	_____

1. If students cultivate the habit of reading, they will become more confident communicators.

B)

6. Scientists believe that climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing humanity.

7. Rising temperatures have already affected weather patterns across the globe.

8. Governments, industries and citizens must work together to reduce carbon emissions.

9. Unless immediate action is taken, future generations may face severe environmental crises.

10. Every individual should contribute by adopting habits that are environmentally responsible.

VI. Solve the jumbled sentences:

1. after several weeks / despite numerous / the expedition / of relentless effort / reached / obstacles / its destination
2. no sooner / had the lecture / leaving the audience / for several minutes / begun / in complete darkness / than the electricity failed
3. only after / reveal / the investigation / to the public / did the authorities / the actual cause / was completed / of the accident
4. having realised / to postpone / until further notice / the seriousness / the committee / decided / of the situation / the event
5. before / not only / but she also / with remarkable / did she complete / an international audience / presented it / confidence / the project
6. unless / immediate measures / the environmental damage / within the next decade / may become / are implemented / irreversible
7. rarely / in the Earth's climate / have scientists / over such / such rapid / witnessed / a short period / changes
8. what impressed / was not merely / but his ability / under immense / the interview panel / his academic excellence / to solve / the most / complex problems / pressure
9. as soon as / the participants / the final announcement / celebrating / erupted into / was made / their remarkable achievement / loud cheers
10. had the warning / many lives / could have / during the disaster / been taken / been saved / seriously

LITERATURE

Hornbill

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

I. "Now she's been dead nearly as many years
As that girl lived. And of this circumstance
There is nothing to say at all,
Its silence silences."

- (i) The phrase "its silence silences" most likely means _____.

(ii) What emotion does the poet convey in this extract?

- (a) Indifference
- (b) Bitter resentment
- (c) Deep and quiet mourning
- (d) Joyful celebration of life

(iii) Pen down one poetic device from the above lines

II. *"Then with eerie delicate whistle-chirrup whisperings
She launches away, towards the infinite
And the laburnum subsides to empty."*

(i) The word "*subsides*" suggests that the tree _____.

- (a) blooms again
- (b) returns to its earlier stillness
- (c) becomes brighter
- (d) loses its branches

(ii) What effect does the departure of the goldfinch have on the atmosphere of the poem?

(iii) Explain the significance of the word "*infinite*" in the context of the extract.

(iv) The ending of the poem reinforces which central idea?

- (a) Nature constantly changes between activity and stillness.
- (b) Human beings control nature.
- (c) Silence is always negative.
- (d) Birds cannot survive without trees.

III. *Eternal I rise impalpable out of the land and the bottomless sea,
Upward to heaven, whence, vaguely form'd, altogether changed, and yet the same.*

(i) The phrase "altogether changed, and yet the same" suggests that the rain

_____.

- (a) loses its identity completely
- (b) undergoes transformation while remaining part of the same natural cycle
- (c) disappears forever
- (d) becomes polluted

(ii) Explain how the extract reflects the cyclical nature of water in the environment.

(iii) What does the word "eternal" suggest about the rain and its role in nature?

(iv) What idea about nature does the poet convey through this extract?

Q.2. Answer the following questions.

1. How does the narrator's changing relationship with his grandmother reflect generational and cultural shifts in modern families in 'The Portrait of a Lady'?

2. What does the old woman's death and the sparrows' silent mourning symbolise about the depth of human connections?
3. The narrator's grandmother was deeply religious and traditional, yet lived with dignity and grace. Critically analyse how her character represents silent resistance to changing times.
4. Discuss how the story explores the idea of spiritual independence versus emotional attachment. Does the grandmother's life suggest one is more important than the other?
5. *"Those we love never truly leave us; they live on in our hearts and memories."* Relate this quote to the way the narrator remembers his grandmother in *The Portrait of a Lady*. How does her memory continue to live on even after her death?
6. How does the narrator's leadership under pressure redefine what it means to be courageous in the story "We're Not Afraid to Die..If We Can Be Together"?
7. What do the children's calm responses to danger suggest about resilience in extreme conditions?
8. Evaluate how the family's collective spirit, decision-making, and mutual support helped them overcome life-threatening challenges.
9. Discuss the significance of the title and how it underscores the themes of unity, survival, and psychological strength.
10. How does the poet use contrast between the past and present to convey the emotional weight of loss?
11. In what way does the poem depict both the impermanence of life and the permanence of memory in the poem 'A Photograph'?
12. Discuss how the poet transforms a simple photograph into a meditation on time, grief, and the unspeakable nature of loss.
13. How does the speaker's tone evolve across the poem, and what does it suggest about human resilience in the face of emotional trauma?
14. How does the story of Tutankhamun serve as a metaphor for modern science's ability to reconstruct the past in 'Discovering Tut-The Saga Continues'?
15. What ethical dilemmas arise when scientific discovery involves disturbing the dead? Discuss with reference to the chapter.
16. Examine how the blend of history, science, and mystery in this chapter reflects the evolving nature of archaeological research.
17. What does the chapter reveal about the role of technology in unearthing truth and preserving legacy?
18. *"The more you know about the past, the better prepared you are for the future."* How does this quote relate to the chapter *Discovering Tut: The Saga Continues*? Discuss how the scientific and archaeological studies of Tutankhamun's tomb help modern civilization understand ancient cultures.
19. How does the silence of the laburnum tree reflect the poet's deeper message about emotional disconnect and rebirth in the poem 'The Laburnum Tree'?
20. Discuss the symbolic significance of the goldfinch in transforming the stillness of the laburnum tree.
21. The poem begins by describing the Laburnum top as "silent, quite still". How does the poet use contrasting imagery and sounds to bring this silence to life upon the goldfinch's arrival? Analyse the effectiveness of these devices in conveying the poem's central idea?
22. In what ways does the poem reflect the interdependence between nature and life?

23. Why does the rain describe itself as the "Poem of Earth"? What does this expression suggest about its role in nature?
24. Explain the significance of the phrase "altogether changed, and yet the same" in the context of the poem.
25. "Every element of nature has a purpose that contributes to the well-being of the Earth." In the light of this statement, discuss the central message of the poem.

Snapshots

1. What does the boys' decision to return the horse reveal about the true meaning of honour and personal ethics in 'The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse'?
2. Analyse how the contrast between childish impulse and cultural pride drives the central conflict of the story.
3. How does the story explore the idea of moral ambiguity through the actions of the two boys?
4. In what way does the story subtly critique the concept of "family honour" when weighed against truth?
5. The narrator's visit to Mrs. Dorling's house becomes a journey of confronting the painful realities of loss and displacement. Discuss this statement with reference to the story.
6. Mrs. Dorling's behaviour reflects how material possessions can sometimes overshadow human relationships. Analyse this statement in the context of the story.
7. *Memories hold greater emotional value than material possessions.* Discuss how this idea is explored in *The Address*.
8. The narrator's decision at the end of the story reflects acceptance rather than regret. Analyse how her choice demonstrates emotional strength and the ability to move forward.
9. *"Sometimes letting things go is an act of far greater power than defending or hanging on."*
How does this quote reflect the emotional journey of the narrator in *The Address*?
Do you think her decision at the end of the story is justified?
10. Why does Mrs. Pearson refuse to continue serving her family as before? What message does this convey?
11. What role does humour play in conveying the central message of the play?
12. How does Mrs. Fitzgerald's personality contrast with that of Mrs. Pearson?
13. "A family functions best when responsibilities and respect are shared equally."
Discuss this statement in the light of the play.
14. The play uses humour to address a serious social issue. Analyse how humour makes the message of the play more effective.