

# CBSE Class 12 English Set 4(1/4/1) Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 Hour

Maximum Marks :80

Total Questions :13

## General Instructions

**Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:**

1. This question paper has 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains three sections Section A : Reading Skills, Section B : Creative Writing Skills and Section C : Literatur
3. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
4. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
5. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

## SECTION A

### Reading Skills

#### 1. Read the following passage carefully:

(1) What do we typically do when we find our children doing something we don't approve of? We become reactive parents. Often, we pepper our reactions with lectures. When it doesn't work and predictably so; we end up screaming and dole out a punishment. And our children react with anger, resentment or 'can't-be-bothered' attitude.

(2) Buddhist Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh put it beautifully when he described how each child has both negative seeds- of anger, despair, hatred, fear and violence- and wholesome seeds- of love, happiness, compassion and forgiveness. According to him, what will blossom depends on the seeds we nurture.

(3) A parenting and educational approach that's gaining a large following internationally, called the Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA) by Howard Glasser, is very much in keeping with this Zen approach. The three main aspects of this approach are:

- Refuse to energize negativity.
- Relentlessly energize their positives.
- Reset: Do not react negatively and stay calm when the child does something wrong.

Parents following this approach commit to not saying or doing anything that may fuel negativity in the child. But the parent has to make sure she/he does this very calmly, without any anger or resentment.

(4) While on a mission to cut the negative, the parent looks for every opportunity to energize the positive in the child. This is done through persistently appreciating the goodness in the child in the smallest of ways: You were really generous about sharing your pizza with your sister; I appreciate the hard work you have put in your project; It takes courage to stand up to a bully. If you observe, the appreciation is not about saying "excellent", "amazing" or "good", which is really an empty praise and does not speak much to the child. Qualifying a

praise, on the other hand, gives the child direction and she/he begins to understand what qualities, values and strengths are appreciated. These are also necessary ingredients of life skills and success.

(5) This approach is not merely about noticing when the child is being good, it is about recognizing the child's worth at every step. It's about aligning his energy in believing that he has great qualities, which are being identified and validated by the parents at every step. He realizes that there is no point choosing negativity, as there are no pay-offs to it, and is validated building his worth instead.

**Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :**

**i. Complete the following sentence with an appropriate word: “...we end up screaming and dole out punishment.” In the above sentence, the author criticizes the \_\_\_\_\_ approach of the parents.**

**Correct Answer:** Reactive approach.

**Solution:** In the given sentence, the author refers to how parents often react impulsively with frustration when their children act out. This reaction, called the **reactive approach**, is highlighted as being counterproductive in the passage. Instead of fostering positive behavior, it fuels resentment or apathy in children, as mentioned in Paragraph (1).

#### Quick Tip

Avoid a reactive approach in parenting by taking a pause before reacting to a child's behavior. Focusing on understanding their actions can lead to better solutions.

---

**(ii): Explain in about 40 words, when and how do parents become reactive?**

**Solution:** Parents become reactive when they perceive their children engaging in behaviors they disapprove of or find unacceptable. This reaction is often fueled by frustration or emotional stress, leading to impulsive actions like punishment or harsh lectures. Such reactions, as described in Paragraph (1), stem from an inability to manage emotions calmly. This approach typically results in resentment and defiance in children, rather than fostering improvement. Over time, it can damage the parent-child relationship and escalate behavioral

issues.

### Quick Tip

To avoid becoming reactive, parents should practice mindfulness and emotional regulation. Taking a moment to pause, assess the situation, and communicate effectively with the child can prevent impulsive actions and lead to constructive resolutions.

---

**(iii): In the line “what will bloom will depend on the seeds we nurture,” what seeds does the author refer to?**

- (1) Seasonal seeds
- (2) Societal news
- (3) Parental attitude
- (4) Values and emotions

**Correct Answer:** (4) Values and emotions.

**Solution:** The author, as highlighted in Paragraph (2), refers to the “seeds” as values and emotions that parents instill in their children. Positive seeds include love, happiness, compassion, and forgiveness, which contribute to the child’s emotional well-being and moral development. Conversely, negative seeds like anger, hatred, and violence can lead to adverse outcomes in their personality. The blooming of a child’s personality depends on which seeds are nurtured, reinforcing the importance of cultivating positive values and emotions during formative years.

### Quick Tip

Focus on nurturing positive values and emotions like love, compassion, and forgiveness in children. These traits help them build strong moral character and foster healthy relationships, ensuring a balanced and fulfilling personality.

---

**(iv): Explain in about 40 words why NHA focuses on reforming parents to reform children.**

**Solution:** The Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA) emphasizes that parents play a pivotal role in shaping a child’s behavior. According to Paragraph (3), NHA advises parents to refrain from energizing negativity and instead focus on recognizing and reinforcing the child’s positive traits and behaviors. This transformative parenting approach fosters a constructive and nurturing environment, reducing negativity and enabling children to thrive emotionally and behaviorally.

#### Quick Tip

Reforming parenting techniques by focusing on positivity and avoiding negative reinforcement can significantly enhance a child’s emotional growth and long-term character development.

---

**(v): Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words, to support the view that parents appreciate the goodness of the child at every opportunity.**

**Solution:** In Paragraph (4), the text provides examples such as parents appreciating their child for sharing pizza with a sibling or standing up to a bully. These instances demonstrate how recognizing small, positive actions reinforces the child’s sense of self-worth and encourages the repetition of good behavior.

#### Quick Tip

Recognizing and celebrating small acts of kindness or courage helps children develop confidence and motivates them to align their behavior with positive values.

---

**(vi): In paragraph 5, in what way does “This approach” differ from the earlier approach?**

**Solution:** ”This approach,” as explained in Paragraph (5), diverges from the earlier reactive approach by emphasizing consistent validation of a child’s inherent worth and qualities. Instead of responding to negative behaviors with punishment or lectures, it focuses on redirecting the child’s energy towards positivity. By eliminating the rewards (or pay-offs)

that negative behaviors often receive, this approach helps to instill a sense of self-worth and encourages constructive actions in the child.

#### Quick Tip

Prioritize consistent, positive reinforcement to help children internalize good values and behaviors. Avoid reacting impulsively to negativity, and instead guide their focus towards actions that reflect their best qualities.

---

**(vii): Select the option that can be classified as qualifying a praise as explained in the passage:**

- (1) You can be more helpful.
- (2) You demonstrated patience while teaching your junior.
- (3) Use your skill to be an excellent sportsman.
- (4) You have to be amazing in your work.

**Correct Answer:** (2) You demonstrated patience while teaching your junior.

**Solution:** Qualifying praise, as explained in Paragraph (4), means recognizing and appreciating specific actions or qualities rather than giving generic praise. Among the given options, statement (2) qualifies as it highlights the specific quality of patience demonstrated by teaching a junior, aligning with the concept of qualifying praise mentioned in the passage. Other statements are either generic or suggest improvements, which do not classify as qualifying praise.

#### Quick Tip

Qualify your praise by focusing on specific behaviors or qualities. This helps individuals understand what is valued and motivates them to repeat such positive actions.

---

**(viii): The phrase “to cut the negative” in paragraph 4 most nearly means:**

- (1) To reduce wasteful expenditure.
- (2) To stop criticizing.

(3) To eliminate challenges.

(4) To humiliate someone.

**Correct Answer:** (2) To stop criticizing.

**Solution:** In Paragraph (4), the phrase “to cut the negative” refers to the deliberate effort to avoid actions or attitudes that energize negativity, such as criticism, anger, or resentment. This aligns with the passage’s theme of emphasizing positive reinforcement over negative responses. By eliminating negativity, parents can foster a more constructive and nurturing environment for their children to thrive.

#### Quick Tip

Reducing negativity, especially criticism, in interactions helps create a supportive and encouraging atmosphere where children can develop a positive outlook and constructive behaviors.

**(ix): Read the five headlines (a)-(e) given below:** (a) New Age Parenting

(b) Children- A Rebellious Generaion

(c) Channelizing Energy

(d) Teacher- A Nation Builder

(e) Skill Development- Careers Ahead

**Identify the option that displays the headline/s that Does/Do not correspond with the occurrences in the text**

(A) (a) and (e)

(B) (c) and (e)

(C) (b) only

(D) (a) and (c)

**Correct Answer:** (B) (c) and (e)

**Solution:** The correct answer is (B) (c) and (e). These two headlines do not directly correspond to the occurrences in the text. ”Channelizing Energy” and ”Skill Development- Careers Ahead” are not the central themes of the passage. The focus of the text might not center on these ideas, making these options unrelated to the context of the passage.

### Quick Tip

When identifying relevant headlines, ensure that they closely reflect the main ideas or central themes discussed in the text.

---

## 2. Read the following passage carefully :

(1) We're all familiar with the usual reasons workers cite for wanting to stay away even after lockdowns have long ended: flexible schedules, not having to commute, and of course, increased productivity. However, productivity isn't the only reason people want to stay away from the office. We recently surveyed 1,000 remote workers to find out what's really keeping them tied to their work-from-home lives.

(2) The findings include: 72% want to be able to take a nap or exercise during the day. Nearly three out of four remote workers surveyed stated that the ability to take a nap or workout during the workday was one of the reasons they wanted to stay home. Though these activities may very well increase worker productivity, there's no doubt that a nap on the kitchen couch would be frowned upon in the office.

(3) 73% want to be able to watch TV while they work. Three out of four respondents again say that being able to entertain themselves with TV, podcasts, music, or other media is one of the reasons they want to keep their work-from-home lifestyle.

(4) 62% cite concerns about their appearance. Well over half of respondents stated that they are concerned about their co-workers seeing them in-person again after such a long time apart. Whether it's weight loss or gain, not having the right clothes, or another concern about appearance, most would rather not have to worry about the way they look to their co-workers outside a Zoom call.

(5) When asked to choose the reason that most affects their desire to keep working from home, predictable answers like caring for children and lack of a commute were still the most common number one reasons. 14% of respondents stated that working remotely was so important to them, that they would not go back to work in-person even if their employers required it.

**Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :**

**(i): “...these activities will increase productivity.” By ‘productivity,’ the author refers to:**

- (1) Products produced
- (2) Efficiency of the employee
- (3) Time spent by the employee
- (4) Number of activities

**Correct Answer:** (2) Efficiency of the employee.

**Solution:** The passage emphasizes that productivity, in this context, refers to the **efficiency** of the employee. Activities like taking short breaks, exercising, or napping during the day are shown to enhance an individual’s focus, mental clarity, and ability to perform tasks effectively. Unlike the production of physical goods or the amount of time spent working, this definition of productivity focuses on the improvement of output quality and efficiency in the workplace.

**Quick Tip**

To enhance productivity, focus on employee well-being by encouraging activities that refresh and energize the mind and body. This improves efficiency and task performance.

---

**(ii): What change in the workplace would bring those people back to the office who want amusement?**

- (1) Giving long breaks
- (2) Free coffee and tea
- (3) Building entertainment lounge
- (4) Spacious conference hall

**Correct Answer:** (3) Building entertainment lounge.

**Solution:** The passage highlights that remote workers often entertain themselves during work hours with activities like watching TV or listening to podcasts. To appeal to such employees and encourage them to return to the office, workplaces can build entertainment

lounges. These lounges would recreate the amusement options available at home, making the office environment more enjoyable and engaging for employees.

#### Quick Tip

Adding recreational facilities like entertainment lounges in workplaces can attract employees back to the office by providing a balance of work and leisure.

---

**(iii): As per the survey, why do health-conscious people prefer to work from home?**

**Solution:** Health-conscious people prefer working from home because it provides the flexibility to incorporate healthy habits such as taking naps, exercising, or following a personalized schedule during the day. As noted in Paragraph (2), the rigid structure of an office environment often lacks the freedom needed to maintain a balanced and healthier lifestyle. Remote work enables them to prioritize their well-being while managing professional responsibilities effectively.

#### Quick Tip

Incorporating wellness programs, gym facilities, or flexible schedules in office settings can attract and retain health-conscious employees by supporting their lifestyle choices.

---

**(iv): Complete the following sentence appropriately: The passage ends on a note that some people are resolved to \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Correct Answer:** Continue working from home.

**Solution:** As noted in Paragraph (5), a significant 14% of survey respondents expressed that remote work was essential to their lifestyle. They were so committed to this arrangement that they would refuse to return to in-person work, even if mandated by their employers. This underscores the growing importance of remote work as a non-negotiable preference for some employees.

### Quick Tip

Acknowledging and accommodating employees' preferences for remote work can help organizations retain top talent and foster a culture of trust and flexibility.

---

**(v): Explain one inference that can be drawn from Paragraph 1 about the reason for people's preference to work from home.**

**Solution:** Paragraph 1 highlights that remote work provides employees with greater flexibility in managing their time. It eliminates commuting stress and rigid office schedules, leading to an improved quality of life. This convenience is a key reason for the increased preference for working from home after the lockdown period. The ability to balance personal and professional responsibilities more effectively makes remote work an attractive option.

### Quick Tip

Remote work offers significant benefits like reduced commuting stress and flexible schedules, making it a sustainable option for enhancing employee well-being and productivity.

---

**(vi): State whether the statement given below is True or False: The survey reveals that people deeply miss socializing in the workplace from home.**

**Correct Answer:** False.

**Solution:** The passage emphasizes the advantages of working from home, such as flexibility, comfort, and reduced stress, without mentioning any significant longing for workplace socialization. Instead, it highlights that many employees prioritize personal benefits over the collaborative or social aspects of office work.

### Quick Tip

To address the lack of social interaction in remote work, employers can promote virtual team-building activities or hybrid work models that balance personal comfort with collaborative opportunities.

---

**(vii): Explain in your own words how appearance is one of the reasons for people's preference for work from home.**

**Solution:** Paragraph (4) reveals that more than half of the respondents expressed concerns about their appearance when interacting with co-workers in person. Factors such as weight gain, the need to dress formally, or feeling self-conscious are avoided while working from the comfort of home. This ease contributes significantly to the preference for remote work.

### Quick Tip

Fostering an inclusive and non-judgmental workplace culture can help employees feel more comfortable with in-person interactions, addressing appearance-related concerns.

---

**(viii): As per the survey, what top priorities of people prevent them from going to office?**

**Solution:** According to Paragraph (5), the survey highlights key priorities that prevent people from returning to the office. These include caregiving responsibilities such as caring for children, the elimination of commuting stress, and the desire for flexible schedules. These factors collectively make working from home a more convenient and appealing choice for many employees.

### Quick Tip

Implementing hybrid work models or flexible schedules can help address employees' needs while balancing in-office and remote work benefits.

---

## SECTION B

### Creative Writing Skills

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

**3:** Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two, in about 50 words:

**3.(a).** P.S. Public School, Aram Nagar has opened a gym for the benefit of students. As Sports Captain, draft a notice informing students about the facilities available in the gym, timings and other details.

**Solution:**

**P.S. PUBLIC SCHOOL, ARAM NAGAR**

**NOTICE**

*Date: [Insert Date]*

**Subject: Gym Facility for Students**

This is to inform every students in our school that the school has opened a state-of-the-art gymnasium on campus for the benefit of students. The gym offering modern equipments, including treadmills, weights, and fitness machines.

**Timings:** 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

Students are encouraged to use this facility to maintain their fitness and health. For further details, contact the undersigned.

**[Name]**

*Sports Captain*

#### Quick Tip

Always include details like timings, facilities, and contact information to ensure clarity in notices.

---

OR

**3.(b). The RWA of Ganga Society, Pushp Nagar has planned to start free yoga classes for its residents. You are Sharmila Tiwari, the President of RWA. Draft a notice informing residents about the proposal, timing, venue and other details.**

**Solution:** Notice for Yoga Classe

**RWA GANGA SOCIETY, PUSHHP NAGAR**

**NOTICE**

*Date: [Insert Date]*

**Subject: Free Yoga Classes for Residents**

This is to inform all residents that the RWA is starting free yoga classes for the well-being of residents.

**Venue:** Community Hall, Ganga Society

**Timings:** 6:00 AM to 7:00 AM (Monday to Saturday)

These classes aim to promote physical and mental fitness. Interested residents are requested to register at the RWA office by [Insert Date].

**Sharmila Tiwari**

*President, RWA*

**Quick Tip**

While drafting notices, ensure that essential details like venue, timings, and purpose are prominently mentioned.

---

**4:** Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two in about 50 words:

**4.(a). You are Mr. Srikanth Sharma. You have recently built a new house in the hills of Uttarakhand. Draft a letter inviting your brother and his family to spend a few days with you in your new home. Include relevant details.**

**Solution:**

Your Brother's Name

Brother's Address Dear Brother,

I hope this letter finds you and your family in the best of health and spirits. I am overjoyed to share the news that my dream of building a home in the picturesque hills of Uttarakhand has

finally come true!

The house is surrounded by lush greenery and offers breathtaking views of the valley. I would love for you and your family to visit us and spend some time here. During your stay, we can enjoy activities such as trekking, sightseeing, and simply relaxing amidst the serene beauty of nature.

Let me know your preferred dates so I can make all the necessary arrangements to ensure a comfortable and enjoyable stay for all of you. It would be a delight to host you and make some wonderful memories together.

Warm regards,

Srikanth Sharma

#### Quick Tip

When drafting an informal letter of invitation, maintain a welcoming tone, provide details about the purpose and location, and include specific activities or arrangements to make the invitation more appealing.

---

OR

**4.(b). You are Mr. Shyam Sundar, Professor of Psychology. You are invited by S.K.M. College, Mahboob Nagar to be the keynote speaker at its Annual Conclave on ‘Student Health – The Emotional Impact of Social Media.’ Draft a reply letter expressing your inability to accept the invitation and also cite a reason for refusal.**

**Solution:**

The Principal

S.K.M. College

Mahboob Nagar

Subject: Regret for Inability to Accept Invitation

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am truly honored by your kind invitation to be the keynote speaker at the Annual Conclave on ‘Student Health – The Emotional Impact of Social Media’ organized by your esteemed institution. However, I regret to inform you that I am unable to accept this invitation due to

prior professional commitments that I must attend to during the same time period. I deeply value the opportunity you have extended to me and hope to have the privilege of contributing to your events in the future. Wishing you and your team great success in organizing this meaningful conclave.

Yours sincerely,

Shyam Sundar

Professor of Psychology

### Quick Tip

When declining formal invitations, express gratitude for the opportunity, provide a clear and polite reason for refusal, and extend your best wishes for the event.

---

**5: Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in 120-150 words:**

**5.a You are Sujata/Suresh, a qualified fashion designer. You came across the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Write a letter of application along with bio-data for the same.**

	We are Hiring !
	Apparel Designer
Required Qualification :	Graduation in fashion design.
Experience :	Minimum 2 years in relevant field.
Skills :	Creativity, computer designing of apparels, aptitude for sewing, business sense, in-depth knowledge of fabric drafting.
Apply to the Director,	Estella House of Fashion 26, M.G. Road, Kanthapuram.

### **Solution:**

The Director

Estella House of Fashion

26, M.G. Road

Kanthapuram Subject: Application for the Position of Apparel Designer

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to apply for the position of Apparel Designer advertised from your organization.

I am a graduate in Fashion Design from XYZ University and possess over two years of experience in the field of apparel design.

My skills include creative design development, proficiency in computer-aided designing of

apparels, and a deep understanding of fabric drafting and sewing techniques. Additionally, my strong business sense enables me to align designs with market trends.

I am passionate about creating innovative designs that cater to diverse client preferences. I am confident that my expertise and dedication would contribute significantly to your esteemed organization. Please find my bio-data attached for your reference.

Looking forward to an opportunity to discuss my application in detail.

Yours sincerely,

Sujata/Suresh

**Bio-data:**

- **Name:** Sujata/Suresh
- **Address:** [Your Address]
- **Contact Number:** [Your Contact Number]
- **Email ID:** [Your Email Address]
- **Educational Qualification:** Graduation in Fashion Design (XYZ University)
- **Experience:** Over 2 years in apparel design
- **Skills:**
  - Creativity in designing apparels
  - Proficiency in computer-aided design (CAD)
  - Aptitude for sewing and fabric drafting
  - Business acumen in market trend analysis
- **Languages Known:** English, Hindi
- **Hobbies:** Sketching, Exploring new fashion trends

### Quick Tip

When writing a formal job application letter:

- Start with a polite salutation and specify the purpose of the letter.
- Highlight your qualifications, skills, and experience relevant to the position.
- Keep the tone professional and concise.
- Include a clearly formatted bio-data or resume with all necessary details such as education, skills, and experience.
- End the letter with gratitude and a request for an interview.

---

**5.(b) You are Jyoti/Jagan of Park Avenue, Karampur. You feel sad to notice that people litter the roads with utter disregard for sanitation and cleanliness. As a responsible citizen, write a letter to the editor of a national daily highlighting the need for educational institutions to instill civic responsibility among school children.**

- cleanliness drive
- spreading awareness campaigns
- eco club activities in schools
- volunteer for cleanup
- workshops, seminars

**Solution:** The Editor

The National Daily

City Name Subject: Instilling Civic Responsibility Among School Children

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my concern over the growing issue of littering on our roads. It is disheartening to see people displaying utter disregard for cleanliness, which poses significant health and environmental challenges. As a responsible citizen, I believe educational institutions have a vital role to play in fostering civic responsibility among students. Schools can organize cleanliness drives to encourage hands-on participation and create awareness campaigns to highlight the importance of sanitation. Eco clubs can be instrumental in conducting activities like tree planting and waste segregation. Additionally,

workshops and seminars on civic responsibility can instill a sense of accountability in children.

By involving students in such initiatives, we can cultivate habits that promote cleanliness and sustainability, ensuring a better future for all. I urge your esteemed daily to highlight this issue and encourage schools to take proactive measures.

Yours sincerely,

Jyoti/Jagan

Park Avenue, Karampur

### Quick Tip

When writing a letter to the editor:

- Start with a formal salutation (e.g., "The Editor") and mention the purpose clearly in the opening paragraph.
- Present the issue with facts and examples to create an impact.
- Suggest practical solutions and focus on constructive ideas.
- Keep the tone formal, concise, and respectful.
- Conclude with a request for the issue to be highlighted in the publication.

---

**6.(a) With the advancement of science and technology, basic communication has adversely impacted the social skills of today's youth. You are Girish/Girija of class XII. Write an article for your school magazine highlighting the adverse effects of technology and the ways to enhance social skills among the younger generation to prevent social awkwardness.**

**Solution:**

### **The Adverse Effects of Technology on Social Skills**

*By Girish/Girija, Class XII*

The rapid advancement of technology has brought immense benefits, but it has also created challenges, particularly in the social development of today's youth. Overreliance on digital

communication platforms has significantly reduced face-to-face interactions, leading to diminished engagement and poor interpersonal skills. Many young individuals now struggle with basic social interactions, resulting in social awkwardness, isolation, and even mental health issues.

One of the root causes is the excessive time spent on gadgets, which often replaces meaningful personal interactions. This reliance impacts the ability to empathize, read non-verbal cues, and maintain sustained conversations.

To counter these challenges, schools and parents must encourage activities that promote personal interaction and team building. For example:

- Organizing group discussions, debates, and role-playing exercises to enhance verbal communication.
- Encouraging participation in outdoor sports and community projects to develop teamwork and confidence.
- Setting screen time limits to ensure a healthy balance between technology use and interpersonal interactions.

By balancing technology with meaningful human interactions, we can empower the younger generation to build essential social skills, preparing them for personal and professional success. It is high time we prioritize human connections over digital distractions.

#### Quick Tip

When writing an article:

- Start with an engaging title and introduction to draw the reader in.
- Discuss the problem in depth, backed by real-life examples or statistics.
- Present practical solutions that can inspire action and are easy to implement.
- Structure the content into logical sections or points for clarity.
- End with a strong conclusion that leaves a lasting impression.

**6(b): The members of your school Drama Club recently put up a street play at the Central Park of your city. The theme of the play was *Education – An Equal Opportunity*. As President of the Drama Club, write a report on the event to be published in your school newsletter.**

- date, venue, time
- no. of participants
- performance followed by interactive session with spectators
- star actors
- response
- people's feedback/response

**Solution:** Report for the School Newsletter

**Street Play: *Education – An Equal Opportunity***

*By [Your Name], President, Drama Club*

On [Insert Date], the Drama Club of our school organized a street play titled *Education – An Equal Opportunity* at Central Park, [City Name]. The event commenced at 5:00 PM and managed to draw an enthusiastic crowd of spectators from diverse backgrounds.

The play, enacted by 12 talented students, shed light on the importance of education as a basic right accessible to all, regardless of socio-economic status. The star performers, [Insert Names], impressed the audience with their impactful dialogues and emotive performances, bringing the theme to life with great finesse.

Following the performance, an interactive session engaged the audience in meaningful discussions about the importance of equal opportunities in education. The spectators lauded the thoughtful theme and commended the efforts of the young actors.

The event received an overwhelming response, with many attendees expressing their appreciation for the initiative taken by the Drama Club. This initiative was not only a proud moment for our club but also an impactful step towards raising awareness about a critical social issue through art and creativity.

## Quick Tip

When writing a report for a school newsletter:

- Begin with an appropriate title and byline (e.g., "Street Play by Drama Club - By [Your Name]").
- Mention the date, time, venue, and purpose of the event in the introduction.
- Focus on key highlights such as participants, the theme of the event, and audience engagement.
- Reflect on audience feedback and the event's overall impact to showcase its success.
- Write in a formal tone and past tense, ensuring the content is structured and concise.
- Conclude with a remark on the significance and success of the event.

---

## SECTION C

### Literature

*(TEXT BOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT)*

**7:** Attempt **ANY ONE** of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:

**7.a**

**The little old house was out with a little new shed  
in front at the edge of the road where the traffic sped.  
A road side stand that too pathetically pled  
It would not be fair to say for a dole of bread.  
But for some of the money, the cash, whose flow supports  
The flower of cities from sinking and withering faint.**

*(A Roadside Stand)*

**7a.(i): Which of the following expressions has the same literary device as used in "A roadside stand that too pathetically pled."**

- (1) All the world's a stage.
- (2) I wandered lonely, as a cloud.
- (3) The brutal wind bullied the tree.
- (4) And life is too much like a pathless wood.

**Correct Answer:** (3) The brutal wind bullied the tree

**Solution:** The literary device used in the line is **personification**, where the roadside stand is described as "pleading," attributing it with human qualities. Similarly, in option (3), the wind is personified as "wandering lonely," demonstrating the same literary device. Both lines use personification to evoke emotions and enhance the imagery.

**Quick Tip**

Personification is used to give human traits to inanimate objects or abstract ideas, enriching the text with vivid imagery and emotional depth. Look for descriptions where non-human elements perform human actions or emotions.

---

**7.(a)(ii): Select the option that aptly conveys the poet's point of view with reference to the above extract: The roadside stand is put up with the purpose to**

- (1) Display fruits.
- (2) Stop the traffic.
- (3) Do business.
- (4) Interact with city people.

**Correct Answer:** (3) Do business.

**Solution:** The poet describes the roadside stand as being set up by villagers with the intention of selling their goods to earn money. This is clearly expressed in the line, "for some of the money, the cash, whose flow supports..." The stand reflects the villagers' hope for financial independence and the desire to benefit from urban wealth.

### Quick Tip

Roadside stands symbolize the rural community's efforts to integrate into the cash economy and showcase their hard work. Look for contextual clues to understand the poet's perspective.

---

**7.a(iii): What do you infer about the people, who put up the roadside stand from the phrase "would not be fair to say for a dole of bread"?**

**Correct Answer:** The people are self-reliant and seek dignity through their work.

**Solution:** The phrase indicates that the people running the roadside stand are not looking for charity or handouts. Instead, they aim to sustain themselves with dignity by working hard, selling their goods, and earning a living. Their self-reliance and strong sense of pride in their work reflect their desire to be independent while contributing to society.

### Quick Tip

The phrase highlights the importance of earning a livelihood through hard work, which fosters a sense of self-worth and dignity. Recognize the value of such efforts when analyzing similar themes.

---

**7.a(iv): Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract: The word "pathetically" reflects the \_\_\_\_\_ condition of the roadside stand.**

**Correct Answer:** Poor and neglected.

**Solution:** The word "pathetically" in the phrase "pathetically pled" underscores the poor, pitiable, and neglected state of the roadside stand. It reflects the stand's struggle to attract customers and generate income, highlighting the economic challenges faced by its owners.

### Quick Tip

Words like "pathetically" are often used to evoke empathy and highlight the plight of individuals or communities. Pay attention to such descriptive words to understand the tone and mood of the text.

---

**7.a.(v): State whether the following statement is True or False: "By 'Flower of Cities,' the poet refers to the garden in cities."**

**Correct Answer:** False.

**Solution:** The phrase "Flower of Cities" symbolizes the wealth, cultural richness, and prosperity of urban areas, rather than literal gardens. The poet uses this phrase to critique the contrast between urban affluence and the neglect of rural communities, emphasizing the disparities in societal priorities.

### Quick Tip

In poetry, symbols like "Flower of Cities" often convey deeper meanings, such as prosperity or cultural significance, rather than their literal interpretation. Always analyze the context to uncover the intended message.

---

**7.a.(vi): Based on the rhyme scheme evident in lines 1-4, which word would rhyme with line 2?**

— — — part fled seen **Correct Answer:** "Fled."

**Solution:** The rhyme scheme of the first four lines is **aabb**, where the word "sped" in line 2 rhymes with "shed" in line 1. Following this pattern, the word "fled" would also fit seamlessly into this rhyme scheme, maintaining the poetic structure.

### Quick Tip

Analyzing rhyme schemes is essential in understanding the rhythm and flow of poetry. Match rhyming words based on sound patterns for accurate interpretation.

---

**7(b): Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool**

**Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.**

**The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band**

**sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand**

**when Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie**

**still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by,**

**The Tigers in the panel that she made**

**will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.**

*(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)*

**7.b(i): "Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand." Through the above expression, the poet indicates:**

- (1) Aunt Jennifer is happily married.
- (2) Aunt Jennifer loves the tigers in the panel.
- (3) Aunt Jennifer's unhappy married life.
- (4) Aunt Jennifer's rich and luxurious life.

**Correct Answer:** (3) Aunt Jennifer's unhappy married life.

**Solution:** The phrase "sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand" symbolizes the weight of the constraints and hardships Aunt Jennifer has endured in her marriage. The "wedding band" she wears is depicted as a burden, representing the oppressive nature of her marital life. The poet uses this imagery to highlight the struggles and lack of freedom faced by Aunt Jennifer in a patriarchal society. Her marriage is portrayed as a source of unhappiness and control, stifling her creativity and individuality, which she expresses through her art. This line reflects the deeper theme of subjugation of women and their silent suffering.

#### Quick Tip

Expressions like "sits heavily" often symbolize burdens or challenges in poetry. In this case, it reflects the emotional and societal constraints Aunt Jennifer faces. Always analyze figurative language for a deeper understanding of the themes and emotions conveyed.

---

**7.b(ii): Select the option that has the same literary device as used in "Still ringed with ordeals":**

- (1) Leopards cannot hide in the jungle as they are spotted.
- (2) Sun smiled happily on us.
- (3) Her lovely voice was music to his ears.
- (4) Life is like a box of chocolates.

**Correct Answer:** (1) Leopards cannot hide in the jungle as they are spotted.

**Solution:** The literary device used in the phrase "Still ringed with ordeals" is a pun, where the word "ringed" serves a dual purpose, referring to both the physical and metaphorical constraints that surround Aunt Jennifer. Similarly, in option (1), the phrase "Leopards cannot hide in the jungle as they are spotted" uses a pun on the word "spotted," implying both the leopard's physical appearance (spots) and the inability to remain hidden. Both examples utilize the clever play on words to enhance the meaning and create a layered interpretation.

#### Quick Tip

Puns are a form of wordplay where a single word conveys multiple meanings or associations. To identify a pun, look for phrases with dual interpretations that enhance the text's depth.

---

**7.b(iii): Complete the sentence: "The Tigers in the panel symbolize \_\_\_\_\_."**

**Solution:** The Tigers in the panel symbolize **fearlessness and freedom**. Unlike Aunt Jennifer, who is subdued and constrained by the patriarchal society, the tigers represent the courage and independence she aspires to. They are depicted as bold and unafraid, roaming freely without any fear of judgment or restriction. This stark contrast highlights Aunt Jennifer's inner desires and the oppressive reality of her life.

### Quick Tip

Symbolism in poetry often serves to juxtapose reality and aspirations. Pay attention to contrasts between characters and symbols to understand the deeper themes and messages conveyed by the poet.

---

**7.b(iv): State whether the statement is True or False: "Find even the ivory needle hard to pull." suggests Aunt Jennifer is dying.**

**Solution:** False.

The phrase "Find even the ivory needle hard to pull" does not suggest that Aunt Jennifer is dying. Instead, it reflects her physical and emotional frailty caused by the burdens of her oppressive married life. The difficulty in pulling the needle symbolizes her struggle to express herself creatively due to the weight of societal expectations and the constraints imposed upon her. It highlights the emotional toll of her life rather than indicating an impending death.

### Quick Tip

Difficulty in action, as described in poetry, often symbolizes emotional or physical burdens rather than literal death. Pay close attention to the context of such expressions to grasp the intended meaning.

---

**7.b(v): Based on the rhyme scheme evident in lines 1-2, which word would rhyme with line 1? Options: full, sand, bye.**

**Solution:** The word "sand" rhymes with line 1 based on the evident rhyme scheme. The structure of the poem often employs matching end sounds to maintain a consistent rhythm and flow. In this case, the end sound of line 1 aligns with "sand," making it the correct choice to fit the rhyme scheme.

### Quick Tip

To identify rhyme schemes, focus on the sound of the last syllables in each line. Match them with the provided options to ensure consistency in the poem's structure.

**7.b(vi):** The word "*fluttering fingers*" creates an image of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Solution:** Nervousness and fragility.

The phrase "fluttering fingers" paints a vivid image of someone who is emotionally or physically delicate. It suggests a state of nervousness, unease, or frailty, as if the fingers are trembling under the weight of stress or anxiety. In the context of the poem, it reflects Aunt Jennifer's struggle to express herself and the emotional toll of her circumstances. Her fragility is symbolic of the broader themes of oppression and the constraints she faces in her life.

### Quick Tip

Descriptive phrases like "fluttering fingers" often evoke emotions or highlight physical or psychological states. Always interpret them in the context of the poem to understand the deeper message.

**8: (a) Memories of Childhood** Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

I did not open my mouth to answer. Then the steps were quickened, and the voices became excited. The sounds came nearer and nearer. Women and girls entered the room. I held my breath and watched them open closet doors and peep behind large trunks. Someone threw up the curtains, and the room was filled with sudden light. What caused them to stoop and look under the bed, I do not know. I remember being dragged out, though I resisted by kicking and scratching wildly. In spite of myself, I was carried downstairs and tied fast in a chair.

**8.a.(i):** "*...sounds came nearer and nearer...*" adds suspense and anxiety to readers.

**Select the appropriate option:**

(1) Describes the increase in volume.

- (2) Adds suspense and anxiety to readers.
- (3) Reflects the thought of the speaker.
- (4) Is a factual narrative.

**Correct Answer:** (2) Adds suspense and anxiety to readers.

**Solution:** The phrase "*sounds came nearer and nearer*" is a literary device used to build suspense and evoke anxiety in readers. By emphasizing the gradual approach of the sound, the author creates a sense of anticipation and tension, making readers feel the increasing intensity of the moment. This repetitive phrase effectively draws readers into the scene, allowing them to experience the protagonist's heightened emotions.

#### Quick Tip

Authors often use repetitive phrases or gradual progressions in descriptions to create tension and suspense, engaging the reader emotionally and keeping them hooked.

---

**8.a.(ii): Complete the following sentence: "*In spite of myself*" suggests that the speaker was \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Correct Answer:** Helpless.

**Solution:** The phrase "*In spite of myself*" implies that the speaker experienced emotions or took actions that were beyond their control. It reflects a sense of helplessness, where the speaker is overcome by feelings or circumstances they could not resist. In the context of the text, it highlights an internal conflict or an involuntary response, adding depth to the speaker's emotional state.

#### Quick Tip

Phrases like "*in spite of myself*" often indicate actions or emotions beyond a character's control. They reveal an internal struggle or helplessness, enriching the character's emotional depth.

---

**8.a.(iii): What do you infer from the first line of the extract?**

- (1) It was her first day in school.
- (2) She did not want to get caught.
- (3) She was unprepared for the lesson.
- (4) She preferred to be by herself.

**Correct Answer:** (2) She did not want to get caught.

**Solution:** The first line of the extract indicates that the character's actions were driven by a desire to avoid being noticed or reprimanded. This suggests that she was likely trying to escape a situation or avoid drawing attention to herself. The phrase highlights her fear or anxiety about getting caught, possibly for something she did or failed to do. The context points to a cautious and deliberate attempt to remain unnoticed, reflecting her apprehension.

#### Quick Tip

When inferring a character's emotions, focus on their actions and the descriptive context provided in the text. This helps reveal underlying motivations or fears.

---

**8.a.(iv): State whether the statement given below is True or False: "The speaker hoodwinked the people looking for her."**

**Correct Answer:** False.

**Solution:** The statement is false, as the extract implies that the speaker deliberately misled or evaded those searching for her. The term "hoodwinked" indicates that the speaker used cunning or deception to avoid being found. This reflects her resourcefulness and intent to remain unnoticed, further emphasizing her determination to escape a particular situation.

#### Quick Tip

When analyzing statements, look for explicit clues in the text that confirm or deny the claim. Words like "hoodwinked" often imply deliberate actions, aiding your interpretation.

---

**8(b) Human civilizations have been around for a paltry 12,000 years—barely a few seconds on the geological clock. In that short amount of time, we've managed to create**

quite a ruckus, etching our dominance over nature with our villages, towns, cities, and mega cities. The rapid increase of human populations has left us battling with other species for limited resources, and the unmitigated burning of fossil fuels has now created a blanket of carbon dioxide around the world, which is slowly but surely increasing the average global temperature.

**8.b.(i):** According to the view expressed by the author in the above extract, increase in global temperature is due to:

- (1) mega cities
- (2) human people
- (3) burning of fossil fuels
- (4) limited resources

**Correct Answer:** (3) burning of fossil fuels.

**Solution:** The extract clearly attributes the rise in global temperature to the excessive burning of fossil fuels. This process releases large amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, forming a heat-trapping layer and causing a gradual increase in the Earth's average temperature. The author emphasizes this as a critical factor contributing to global warming, making **burning of fossil fuels** the correct answer.

#### Quick Tip

While answering comprehension questions, focus on the direct causes and effects mentioned in the text. Pay attention to key terms like "carbon dioxide" and "burning of fossil fuels" to pinpoint the exact answer.

---

**8.b.(ii):** Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract: **Humans are criticised by the author for \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Correct Answer:** Their dominance over nature and unmitigated exploitation of resources.

**Solution:** The author criticizes humans for asserting their dominance over nature by establishing villages, towns, cities, and mega cities. Additionally, humans are reproached for battling other species over limited resources and for environmental damage caused by their

actions, such as the excessive burning of fossil fuels. These activities demonstrate an unsustainable exploitation of the environment, highlighting humanity's disregard for the natural balance.

#### Quick Tip

When completing sentences based on the extract, ensure your response directly aligns with the points highlighted by the author in the text. Pay close attention to criticism or praise directed at actions or behaviors.

---

**8.b.(iii): According to the author, the relation between human population and resources is .....**

**Correct Answer:** One of conflict and over-exploitation.

**Solution:** The author describes the rapid growth of the human population as a driving factor for conflict over limited resources. Humans are depicted as battling not only among themselves but also with other species for access to these scarce resources. This relationship is marked by over-exploitation, where the unsustainable use of resources by humans has led to environmental degradation and imbalance in ecosystems. The extract emphasizes the need for a more harmonious and sustainable approach to resource management.

#### Quick Tip

When analyzing relationships in a text, focus on the interactions and consequences described to infer whether they are harmonious, conflicting, or neutral.

---

**8.b.(iv). In 'that short amount of time, we've managed to create a ruckus.' By 'ruckus' the author refers to .....**

- (1) movement
- (2) misunderstanding
- (3) breach
- (4) commotion

**Correct Answer:** (4) commotion

**Solution: Step 1: Understanding the context of the word ‘ruckus’.** The term ‘ruckus’ is often associated with a noisy disturbance or commotion. In this passage, the author uses the word metaphorically to describe the significant disturbance humans have caused in nature.

**Step 2: Analyzing human activities described in the passage.** The activities include industrialization, urbanization, and overexploitation of natural resources. These have caused a large-scale disruption to the environment, symbolizing the ”commotion” referred to by the author.

**Step 3: Eliminating incorrect options.** - ”Movement” (Option 1) does not match the idea of disturbance. - ”Misunderstanding” (Option 2) is unrelated to the environmental disruption. - ”Breach” (Option 3) is not as appropriate as ”commotion” (Option 4), which captures the meaning effectively.

Thus, the correct answer is ”commotion.”

#### Quick Tip

To determine the meaning of a word in a passage, always consider its context. Look for hints in the surrounding text and try substituting each option to see which one fits naturally with the tone and meaning of the passage.

**9: (a) The Last Lesson** Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

I heard M. Hamel say to me, “I won’t scold you, little Franz: you must feel bad enough, see how it is! Everyday we have said to ourselves, Bah! I’ve plenty of time. I’ll learn it tomorrow. And now you see where we’ve come out. Ah, that’s the great trouble with Alsace; she puts off learning till tomorrow. Now those fellows out there will have the right to say to you, ‘How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language?’ But, you are not the worst, poor little Franz. We’ve all a great deal to reproach ourselves with.”

**9.a.i. ‘And now you see where we’ve come out.’ The tone of M. Hamel in the above line is that of:**

- (1) Kindness
- (2) Happiness
- (3) Regret

(4) Enthusiasm

**Correct Answer:** (3) Regret

**Solution: Step 1: Understanding the context of the statement.** The statement "And now you see where we've come out" is spoken by M. Hamel in the context of the last French lesson. It reflects his deep disappointment with the neglect of learning their native language by the people of Alsace and Lorraine.

**Step 2: Analyzing the tone of M. Hamel.** M. Hamel's tone is filled with regret as he reflects on the consequences of ignoring the importance of their language. His words highlight the missed opportunities and the realization that it is now too late to make amends.

**Step 3: Eliminating incorrect options.** - "Kindness" (Option 1): Although M. Hamel shows kindness throughout the lesson, this particular statement does not reflect kindness. - "Happiness" (Option 2): The tone is somber and reflective, not happy. - "Enthusiasm" (Option 4): There is no enthusiasm in this context, as the tone is regretful.

Thus, the correct answer is "Regret."

#### Quick Tip

To determine the tone of a speaker in a passage, pay attention to their choice of words, emotions conveyed, and the overall context. Look for hints in the text that indicate their feelings, such as disappointment, joy, anger, or regret.

---

**9.a.ii. Select the option that conveys the meaning of 'reproach' as reflected in the above line:**

- (1) The player received a reprimand for breach of rules.
- (2) The students approached the management with a demand for a new canteen.
- (3) The clerk received a letter of appreciation for his innovative ideas.
- (4) She could not find a way to broach the subject with her boss.

**Correct Answer:** (1) The player received a reprimand for breach of rules.

**Solution: Step 1: Understanding the term 'reproach'.** The word 'reproach' signifies expressing disapproval or criticism toward someone. It is often used when someone is blamed or held accountable for a wrongdoing.

**Step 2: Analyzing the given options.** - Option (1): "The player received a reprimand for breach of rules" correctly reflects the meaning of 'reproach,' as it involves criticism or blame for violating the rules.

- Option (2): "The students approached the management with a demand for a new canteen" does not involve blame or criticism; therefore, it does not fit.

- Option (3): "The clerk received a letter of appreciation for his innovative ideas" conveys praise rather than criticism, which is opposite to the meaning of 'reproach.'

- Option (4): "She could not find a way to broach the subject with her boss" refers to introducing or bringing up a topic, which is unrelated to 'reproach.'

Thus, the correct answer is Option (1), as it aligns with the sense of blame or reprimand.

#### Quick Tip

To determine the meaning of a word in a given context, look for clues in the sentence structure and associated words. Match the options with the sentiment and action implied by the word.

---

**3. State whether the following statement is True or False with reference to the extract:**

**M. Hamel endorses the belief that there is plenty of time to learn their language.**

**Correct Answer:** False.

**Solution: Step 1: Understanding M. Hamel's perspective.** M. Hamel does not endorse the belief that there is plenty of time to learn their language. On the contrary, his tone throughout the lesson reflects regret for the procrastination and neglect shown by the people of Alsace and Lorraine toward learning French. He emphasizes the importance of seizing opportunities and not taking time for granted.

**Step 2: Analyzing the statement.** The statement is false because it contradicts M. Hamel's central message in the extract. Instead of agreeing with the idea of "plenty of time," he regrets the wasted time and urges the people to value learning and not delay it further.

### Quick Tip

For true/false questions, locate specific evidence in the text that directly supports or contradicts the statement. Focus on the context and tone to understand the implied meaning clearly.

**9.a.(iv) Complete the sentence appropriately: ‘You must feel bad enough.’ Through these words, M. Hamel urges the people .....**

**Correct Answer:** M. Hamel urges the people **to take responsibility and act before it’s too late.**

**Solution: Step 1: Understanding the context of M. Hamel’s words.** M. Hamel’s statement, “You must feel bad enough,” reflects his attempt to instill a sense of responsibility and urgency in the people of Alsace and Lorraine. He emphasizes the importance of valuing their language and culture, which they have neglected for far too long.

**Step 2: Interpreting the phrase.** Through these words, M. Hamel does not merely wish to make the people regret their actions; instead, he aims to motivate them to take immediate action to preserve their identity and language.

**Step 3: Completing the sentence.** The statement can be completed as follows: “M. Hamel urges the people to take responsibility and act before it’s too late,” capturing both the regret and the call to action that he wishes to convey.

### Quick Tip

When completing a sentence, focus on the overall message or lesson being conveyed in the passage. Analyze the tone, intent, and context to determine the appropriate completion.

**9.a.(v) Identify the line from the text that reinforces the theme of patriotism in the story.**

**Correct Answer:** “How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language?”

**Solution:** The line, “How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language?” highlights the importance of embracing and valuing one’s

national identity and culture. M. Hamel expresses disappointment in the people of Alsace and Lorraine for neglecting their language, which is an essential part of their patriotism. His words serve as a reminder that true patriotism involves taking pride in one's heritage and actively preserving it.

#### Quick Tip

For thematic questions, identify key phrases or lines that strongly connect to the central theme, such as patriotism, self-awareness, or responsibility, as highlighted in the story. Focus on the context in which these lines are spoken and their emotional or motivational impact.

---

**9.a.(vi) She puts off learning till tomorrow. The phrase 'puts off' suggests .....**

**Correct Answer:** Procrastination or delaying action.

**Solution:** The phrase 'puts off' is an idiom that suggests procrastination or delaying action. In the context of the sentence, it highlights the act of deferring important tasks or responsibilities to a later time, often with negative consequences. The use of this phrase reflects a mindset of avoidance or lack of urgency in addressing important matters.

#### Quick Tip

To interpret a phrase like 'puts off,' focus on its idiomatic meaning within the sentence and what it suggests about the character's actions or mindset in the context.

---

**(b) Indigo They thought he would demand repayment in full of the money which they had illegally and deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers. He asked only 50 percent. "There he seemed adamant," writes Reverend J.Z. Hodge, a British missionary in Champaran, who observed the entire episode at close range. "Thinking probably that he would not give way, the representatives of the planters offered to refund to the extent of 25 percent, and to his amazement, Mr. Gandhi took him at his words thus breaking the deadlock."**

**9.b.(i) Choose the correct option:** *'Then he seemed adamant,' reflects Gandhi's trait of*

*being:*

- (1) Arrogant
- (2) Uncompromising
- (3) Argumentative
- (4) Courageous

**Correct Answer:** (2) Uncompromising

**Solution:** Gandhi's adamant nature reflects his determination and steadfastness when advocating for the rights and welfare of the sharecroppers. His refusal to waver in the face of challenges demonstrates his uncompromising stance on matters of justice and fairness. This trait was pivotal in his leadership and ability to inspire others to take a stand against oppression.

#### Quick Tip

Determination and unwavering principles often form the core of effective leadership traits. When analyzing leadership qualities, focus on actions and decisions that reflect consistency, fairness, and resilience.

---

**9.b.(ii)** \_\_\_\_\_ *deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers*. **The status of sharecroppers as inferred from the above line is:**

- (1) Law-abiding citizens
- (2) Followers of Gandhi
- (3) Victims of exploitation
- (4) Contract labourers

**Correct Answer:** (3) Victims of exploitation

**Solution:** The sharecroppers were subjected to deceitful practices by the planters, such as unfair contracts and extortionate demands. These practices clearly mark them as victims of exploitation. Gandhi's efforts to fight for their rights underscore the injustice they faced and the need for intervention to rectify their plight.

### Quick Tip

Recognizing exploitation is the first step toward advocating justice for the oppressed. Focus on identifying unjust practices and their impact on marginalized groups.

---

**9.b.(iii) Complete the following sentence: Gandhi surprised them by .....**

**Answer:** Gandhi surprised them by **accepting a 25 percent refund, which broke the deadlock.**

**Solution:** Gandhi's unexpected willingness to accept a 25% refund from the planters showcased his strategic approach to resolving the issue. By agreeing to this compromise, Gandhi demonstrated his focus on breaking the deadlock and achieving justice for the sharecroppers without escalating the conflict. His actions emphasized the importance of negotiation and pragmatism in leadership.

### Quick Tip

Effective negotiation often involves understanding when to compromise to achieve a greater goal. Always focus on the larger objective while navigating through immediate challenges.

---

**9.b.(iv) The inference that can be drawn from the line “Mr. Gandhi took him at his word” is .....**

**Answer:** The inference is **Gandhi's practical approach and ability to negotiate wisely.**

**Solution:** The statement “Mr. Gandhi took him at his word” reflects Gandhi's belief in honest communication and his practical approach to resolving conflicts. By trusting the planter's words, Gandhi demonstrated his ability to negotiate effectively and maintain faith in the process. This trust helped break the deadlock and move toward a mutually agreeable solution, emphasizing Gandhi's wisdom and leadership in handling delicate situations.

### Quick Tip

Trust in negotiations can pave the way for sustainable solutions. Focus on open communication and practical strategies to build mutual understanding.

---

**9.b.(v) ‘Deadlock’ in the last line means .....**

**Answer:** The term ‘deadlock’ means **a stalemate or impasse in negotiations.**

**Solution:** The term ‘deadlock’ refers to the stalemate between the planters and the sharecroppers, where neither side was willing to compromise or make progress in negotiations. This impasse was resolved through Gandhi’s strategic and empathetic mediation, which led to a breakthrough and a fair resolution of the conflict.

### Quick Tip

Breaking deadlocks often requires innovative and empathetic strategies. Focus on understanding both sides’ needs and finding common ground to move forward.

---

**9.b.(vi) What do we infer about the attitude of planters towards sharecroppers?**

**Answer:** The planters’ attitude towards the sharecroppers was exploitative and dismissive of their rights.

**Solution:** The planters’ unwillingness to provide fair treatment or compensation to the sharecroppers reflects their exploitative and oppressive behavior. Their actions highlight a lack of empathy and a self-serving attitude, prioritizing profits over the well-being and rights of the sharecroppers. This dynamic underscores the need for intervention to address such injustices and advocate for equitable solutions.

### Quick Tip

Understanding power dynamics is crucial to advocating for the rights of the marginalized. Pay attention to the actions and decisions of those in power and how they affect vulnerable groups.

**10:** Answer **ANY FIVE** of the following six questions in 40-50 words each:

**10.(i) When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh, I am cheered. How is Mukesh’s attitude of life different from that of his family and friends? (*Lost Spring*)**

**Solution:** Mukesh’s attitude reflects ambition and determination to break free from the cycle of poverty and pursue a life of dignity as a motor mechanic. Unlike his family and friends, who accept their fate, Mukesh dreams of changing his destiny. While others accept their poverty and do not aspire to break free, Mukesh’s determination and ambition make him stand apart, showcasing hope and courage.

**Quick Tip**

Dreams and aspirations can break the shackles of generational poverty when pursued with determination.

---

**10.(ii) “I was frightened, but not yet frightened out of my wits.” Says Douglas. Which qualities of the speaker are highlighted in the above statement? (*Deep Water*)**

**Solution:** Douglas demonstrates courage and resilience. Despite being terrified, he resolves to overcome his fear of water through determination and systematic effort. His ability to stay composed and think rationally under pressure highlights his determination to overcome fear and his strong willpower to face challenges.

**Quick Tip**

Resilience and courage can help conquer even the deepest fears.

---

**10.(iii) ‘See you soon Amma.’ How are these words contrary to the speaker’s emotions? (*My Mother at Sixty-six*)**

**Solution:** The words are hopeful but mask the speaker’s inner sadness and fear of losing her aging mother.

The words “See you soon Amma” are spoken in a hopeful tone, yet they contradict the speaker’s inner fear and sadness of losing her aging mother. The speaker feels a deep sense of sorrow and fear about her mother’s aging and mortality. This contrast highlights her

attempt to conceal her emotions and maintain strength outwardly, even while grappling with her inner turmoil.

#### Quick Tip

Sometimes, words serve as a veil to hide deep emotional pain. Pay attention to the tone and context to understand the contrast between spoken words and unspoken emotions.

---

**10.(iv) ‘And such too is the grandeur of the dooms; we have imagined for the mighty dead.’ Explain the inference you can draw from the phrase ‘mighty dead’. (*A Thing of Beauty*)**

**Correct Answer:** The phrase ‘mighty dead’ refers to historical figures whose sacrifices and achievements inspire future generations.

**Solution:** The phrase ‘mighty dead’ refers to the inspiring legacy left behind by great historical figures whose sacrifices, courage, and achievements have shaped the course of history. Their actions remind us of the strength and values inherent in humanity, even in the face of challenges and eventual mortality. This legacy serves as a source of beauty and hope, encouraging future generations to find strength and inspiration in their deeds, even in the face of doom.

#### Quick Tip

The legacy of great individuals continues to inspire and elevate humanity. Reflect on how history’s heroes influence our present and future.

---

**10.(v) What evidence from the text reveals that Rudyard Kipling did not walk the talk? (*The Interview*)**

**Solution:** Kipling’s actions contradicted his words as he supported imperialist policies while portraying humanitarian ideals in his writings.

Rudyard Kipling’s actions revealed a contradiction between his words and deeds. While he advocated for humanitarian ideals in his writings, he supported imperialist policies that often conflicted with those values. Furthermore, Kipling indulged in self-promotion by

interviewing himself and publishing the interview, despite promoting the idea of writerly isolation. This inconsistency undermines his credibility and highlights that he did not practice what he preached.

#### Quick Tip

Practicing what one preaches is essential for genuine credibility. Actions that align with words strengthen integrity and trust.

---

**10.(vi) ‘Soaf, you really should be sensible!’ What does Jansie’s advice to her friend Sophie reveal about their friendship? (*Going Places*)**

**Correct Answer:** Jansie’s advice reveals her practical nature and genuine concern for Sophie.

**Solution:** Jansie’s advice to Sophie reflects her practical mindset and her genuine care for her friend. She understands that Sophie tends to indulge in unrealistic dreams, and her advice aims to ground Sophie in reality to prevent disappointment. This reveals a strong bond of friendship where Jansie prioritizes Sophie’s well-being and tries to protect her from the emotional consequences of her fanciful thoughts.

#### Quick Tip

True friendship involves honesty and concern for each other’s well-being. Friends who genuinely care help us stay grounded and face reality.

---

**Question 11:** Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions in 40-50 words each:

**11.(i) How can you say ‘Students on Ice Programme’ was a step towards the future? (*Journey to the End of the Earth*)**

**Solution:** The programme aimed to inspire young minds to understand environmental challenges and take steps toward sustainable development. The ‘Students on Ice Programme’ was a step towards the future as it exposed young minds to the fragile ecosystem of Antarctica. By witnessing the direct impact of climate change on this pristine environment, students were inspired to act as ambassadors for environmental conservation. The program

encouraged them to think critically about sustainability and take actions that would ensure a healthier planet for future generations.

#### Quick Tip

Awareness and education are crucial for sustainable environmental stewardship. Educating the younger generation ensures informed and impactful actions for the future.

---

#### **11.(ii) Louisa behaves like a perfect wife. Give evidence from *The Third Level* in support of the above statement.**

**Solution:** Louisa's unwavering belief in Charley's experiences and her supportive nature highlight her role as a perfect wife.

Louisa's behavior exemplifies that of a perfect wife through her unwavering belief in her husband Charley's experiences, no matter how bizarre they may seem. Despite the peculiar nature of Charley's claims about the third level, Louisa chooses to support and understand him rather than question his imagination. Her acceptance of his stories and her willingness to play along demonstrate her loyalty, care, and supportive role in their relationship.

#### Quick Tip

Supportive relationships strengthen individuals in challenging times. Empathy and understanding play key roles in fostering trust and connection.

---

#### **11.(iii) What was the servants' reaction to Sadao's decision of treating the American soldier? (*The Enemy*)**

**Solution:** The servants strongly disapproved, fearing repercussions and questioning Sadao's loyalty to Japan.

The servants expressed strong disapproval of Sadao's decision to treat the American soldier, as they viewed the act as betrayal during wartime. They feared potential repercussions from authorities and questioned Sadao's loyalty to Japan. Their reaction was driven by a mix of fear, skepticism, and adherence to societal norms, which demanded allegiance to the nation over compassion for the enemy. Despite their objections, Sadao followed his moral

obligation as a doctor.

### Quick Tip

Moral dilemmas often arise in conflicting loyalties during wartime. Balancing personal ethics with societal expectations can be challenging but vital.

---

**12:** Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions in 120-150 words:

**12.(a) After reading ‘Aunt Jennifer’s Tiger’ and ‘Going Places’, you realise that Aunt Jennifer and Sophie’s mother have been subdued by their respective husbands. As a social activist, you have to write an article to a newspaper on the need to empower women. You may begin like this: Empowerment of women is a very essential social reform. It needs to be accelerated for any nation to progress -----.**

**Solution:** Empowerment of women is critical to achieving equality and fostering societal growth. Empowerment of women is a very essential social reform. It needs to be accelerated for any nation to progress by ensuring equality and justice. In ‘Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers’, Aunt Jennifer’s inability to express her individuality due to an oppressive marriage highlights the need for women to reclaim their agency. In ‘Going Places’, Sophie’s mother’s struggles reflect the need for financial independence and freedom from traditional domestic roles. Empowering women requires systemic change in education, societal attitudes, and opportunities for leadership. Ensuring access to resources and equal representation is the cornerstone of a progressive and inclusive society.

### Quick Tip

When advocating for empowerment, focus on actionable solutions like education, skill development, and promoting women in leadership roles. These steps create lasting change.

---

**12.(b) ‘A Roadside Stand’ and ‘Lost Spring’ depict two contrasting worlds existing in society. Justify this statement with reference to the poem ‘A Roadside Stand’ and the text ‘Lost Spring’. You may begin: Social satire in the two texts portrays two**

**contrasting worlds that exist in society.**

**Solution:** Both texts highlight the divide between privilege and deprivation in society. Social satire in the two texts portrays two contrasting worlds that exist in society. In ‘*A Roadside Stand*’, Robert Frost portrays the aspirations of rural people who long for urban prosperity but are excluded from its benefits. Their struggles symbolize the neglect of rural communities by an urban-centric system. In ‘*Lost Spring*’, Anees Jung draws attention to children forced into labor due to extreme poverty, highlighting their lost opportunities and the cycle of exploitation they endure. These contrasting worlds expose stark societal inequalities—rural neglect and child exploitation—and underline the necessity of social and economic reforms to bridge the gap between the privileged and the underprivileged.

**Quick Tip**

Addressing social inequalities requires empathy and focused action on issues such as education, economic disparity, and rural development.

---

**13:** Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions in 120-150 words:

**13.(a) Mr. Lamb:** “*Lord, boy, you’ve got two arms, two legs, and eyes and ears ..... You could get on better than all the rest. Optimism is the best tool to face challenges in life.*”

**Imagine you are Mr. Lamb. You want to give a motivational speech to a group of differently abled students urging them to be positive in their approach to life. Write the speech on behalf of Mr. Lamb. You may begin like this: Hello! Dear Students! Believe in yourself. Nothing is impossible .....**

**Solution:** Hello! Dear Students! Believe in yourself. Nothing is impossible if you approach life with courage and determination. Challenges are an integral part of life, but they should never deter you from dreaming big. Look at me; despite my physical disability, I have embraced life and found joy in the little things. Remember, your abilities define you, not your limitations. Always focus on your strengths and nurture them. Optimism is a powerful tool to face adversities and overcome obstacles. Believe in your potential and work hard to achieve your goals. The world is full of opportunities—go ahead and grab them!

### Quick Tip

Embracing challenges with a positive mindset transforms obstacles into opportunities for growth and success.

---

**13.(b) “Tiger population became extinct in the forests of Pratibandapuram.” Tiger King is a typical example of man’s dominance over nature. As a member of your school Eco Club, write an article for your school magazine on how man should follow the policy of ‘Live and Let Live’. You may begin like this: The noblest principle, man should follow in his life is co-existence.**

**Correct Answer:** The principle of co-existence is vital for preserving nature and ensuring sustainable living.

**Solution:** The noblest principle, man should follow in his life is co-existence. Nature is not a resource to be exploited but a gift to be preserved. In ‘*The Tiger King*’, the extinction of tigers in Pratibandapuram highlights the devastating consequences of human greed and dominance over nature. The balance of our ecosystem depends on mutual respect between all living beings. Man must adopt the policy of ‘Live and Let Live’ to ensure a harmonious existence. By protecting wildlife, conserving forests, and reducing exploitation of natural resources, we can sustain life on Earth for future generations. Let us take responsibility to coexist with nature and maintain its delicate balance.

### Quick Tip

Conserving nature is not an option but a necessity. Co-existence ensures harmony between mankind and the environment.