

# CBSE Class X English (Language and Literature) Set 3 (2/4/3)

## Question paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 Hours	Maximum Marks :80	Total Questions :11
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### General Instructions

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

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

**(ii) This question paper contains THREE sections -**

**SECTION - A : Reading Skills**

**SECTION - B : Grammar and Creative Writing Skills**

**SECTION - C : Literature Text Book**

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

### Section - A

#### Question 1.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

environment for hundreds of years.

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

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

**Explanation:** The main issue contributing to plastic pollution is the overwhelming rate at which disposable plastic products are produced, which exceeds the world's capacity to manage waste effectively.

#### Quick Tip

Focus on identifying the key cause mentioned in the passage related to plastic pollution and its global impact.

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

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

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

**Answer:** The tone of the writer is reflective and somewhat critical. The phrase "life without plastics is unrecognizable" emphasizes how deeply plastics have infiltrated modern life, implying that this transformation has both positive and negative consequences.

#### Quick Tip

Reflective tone suggests contemplation of how plastics have become integral to modern life, highlighting both their benefits and drawbacks.

**(iii) The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets**

**(A) (E) below, identify two sets of synonyms.**

(A) garbage and trash

(B) starvation and strangled

(C) disposable and reduction

(D) persist and downstream

(E) transformed and revolutionized

**Answer:** - (A) garbage and trash - (E) transformed and revolutionized

**Explanation:** Both "garbage" and "trash" are synonyms for waste materials, while "transformed" and "revolutionized" both refer to a significant change or alteration.

#### Quick Tip

Synonyms are words that have similar meanings, while antonyms have opposite meanings. Identify pairs that convey the same idea.

**(iv) Complete the sentence appropriately:**

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

**Answer:** due to the inefficiency of waste management systems and the global trade of waste.

**Explanation:** Plastic waste is transported around the world due to inadequate systems for managing waste and the international movement of waste materials.

#### Quick Tip

Look for the reason that explains the widespread movement of plastic waste across countries and regions.

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

**Answer:** While plastic offers convenience, its long-lasting environmental impact is a major downside. The convenience of disposable plastics leads to widespread pollution and ecological damage, as plastic waste can persist for hundreds of years, harming wildlife and ecosystems.

#### Quick Tip

Focus on how convenience leads to long-term environmental damage when using plastic.

**(vi) Complete the sentence appropriately:**

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

**Answer:** through ingestion of plastic and entanglement in plastic waste.

**Explanation:** Conservationists point out that plastic pollution causes harm to wildlife primarily by ingestion and entanglement, leading to death and ecological imbalance.

#### Quick Tip

Consider the main ways plastic affects wildlife, based on the passage's focus on animal deaths due to plastic.

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

- (A) by internationalising the waste management system
- (B) by minimizing the use of single-use plastics
- (C) by not abandoning fishing gear
- (D) by not using helmets made of plastic

**Answer:** (B) by minimizing the use of single-use plastics.

**Explanation:** Reducing the use of single-use plastics is one of the most effective ways individuals can help decrease plastic waste and its environmental impact.

#### Quick Tip

Minimizing single-use plastics directly addresses the issue of excessive plastic waste.

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

**Answer:** Plastic pollution is most visible in developing Asian and African nations because these regions often have inefficient waste management systems and limited resources for recycling or disposing of plastics properly.

**Explanation:** In many developing nations, inadequate waste management and a lack of recycling facilities contribute to the high visibility of plastic pollution.

### Quick Tip

Look for issues related to waste management and infrastructure in developing nations to explain plastic pollution visibility.

### Question 2. Read the following passage carefully:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Answer: fact, objective detail**

**Explanation:** The development of irrigation facilities is an objective, measurable event, and not a matter of personal opinion or subjective judgment.

#### Quick Tip

”Fact” refers to something verifiable, and ”objective detail” refers to information that is based on concrete evidence or data.

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

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

**Answer: True.**

**Explanation:** The provision of proper irrigation facilities ensures better yields, which can be supported by sustainable crop rotation practices, thereby enhancing agricultural returns.

#### Quick Tip

Irrigation supports crop growth, and sustainable practices like crop rotation improve soil health and productivity in the long run.

**(iii) Justify the following in about 40 words.**

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

**Answer:** Crop rotation can increase income in the short term by diversifying production, but it can deplete soil fertility quickly if the same crops are rotated. Without sufficient time for the soil to regenerate, the fertility declines, leading to reduced long-term yields.

#### Quick Tip

Crop rotation helps increase short-term income but may deplete soil fertility without proper soil management techniques like leaving the land fallow.

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

**Answer: 1961, 1963, 1965**

**Explanation:** The years with maximum fallow days would be clearly indicated by the data presented in the passage or table, which shows the land's uncultivated periods.

#### Quick Tip

Refer to the specific data in the table to identify the years with the longest fallow periods.

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

**Answer:** One inference that can be drawn is that leaving the land fallow during these months was a strategy to allow soil regeneration and increase future crop yields.

**Explanation:** Leaving the land fallow provides the soil with time to restore its nutrients and maintain its fertility, which is vital for sustainable agriculture.

#### Quick Tip

The practice of leaving land fallow helps maintain soil health and improves long-term agricultural sustainability.

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

- (1) Crop rotation is done to obtain higher agricultural returns.
- (2) Higher agricultural returns can be obtained by harvesting soil exhaustive crops.
- (3) Crop rotation demands that land should be left fallow for a few months to increase the fertility of soil.
- (4) Better irrigation facility to the arable land has helped in the intensification of agriculture.
- (5) If crops to be harvested are chosen wisely, crop rotation can help in maintaining fertility of soil.

Options :

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

**Answer:** (D) (1) and (5)

**Explanation:** Crop rotation benefits soil fertility by leaving the land fallow and ensuring proper crop selection to maintain soil nutrients.

#### Quick Tip

Crop rotation can be sustainable when it includes leaving land fallow for soil recovery and selecting the right crops.

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

**Answer:** - Benefit: Crop rotation helps in maintaining soil fertility by preventing depletion

of essential nutrients. - Drawback: It may lead to faster soil depletion if crops that exhaust soil nutrients are frequently rotated without adequate soil management.

**Explanation:** Crop rotation prevents the buildup of pests and improves soil health but may accelerate soil depletion if not managed properly.

#### Quick Tip

Crop rotation requires proper planning to ensure that soil health is maintained while preventing nutrient loss.

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

- (A) The study needs to include more valid data to support the practice of crop rotation.
- (B) Crop rotation is a sustainable practice that can transform the agricultural sector.
- (C) The impact of crop rotation on farmer's upliftment has been thoroughly explained.
- (D) Crop rotation is independent of the type of crops harvested and availability of water for irrigation.

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

**Explanation:** The study shows that crop rotation, when practiced effectively, can significantly enhance sustainability in agriculture, benefiting both soil health and yields.

#### Quick Tip

Sustainability in agriculture is the focus of crop rotation, with significant benefits for long-term soil and agricultural health.

## Section - B

### GRAMMAR AND CREATIVE SKILLS

#### Grammar

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

**(i): Read the given sentence from an art journal. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.**

*When marginalized voices get a chance to tell their story, anger or sadness would be a justified theme.*

**Use the given format for your response:**

Error	Correction

**Solution:**

**No error** in this sentence. So everyone who has attempted to be allotted 1 mark.

#### Quick Tip

When identifying errors: 1. Focus on contextual meaning. 2. Ensure the correction aligns grammatically and logically with the sentence.

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

*Kindly pay heed to our request and provide the students with ----- (adequacy) support on their project.*

**Correct Answer: adequate**

**Solution:**

The correct form of the word "adequacy" is "adequate," as it functions as an adjective describing the type of support needed for the project.

#### Quick Tip

When changing word forms: 1. Identify the required part of speech. 2. Modify the root word to fit grammatically into the sentence.

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**(iii): Monika and Sunil had a conversation about their summer vacation plans. Report Sunil's question.**

*Are you planning to visit your hometown during the summer vacation?*

**Solution:**

Sunil asked Monika if she was planning to visit her hometown during the summer vacation.

**Quick Tip**

When reporting direct speech: 1. Convert questions into statements. 2. Adjust pronouns and tense appropriately. 3. Remove question marks in indirect speech.

**(iv): Read the dialogue between Shambhavi and Akshat, regarding a tree plantation drive. Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.**

**Shambhavi:** How do you plan to contribute to the tree plantation drive?

**Akshat:** I have prepared a speech for the morning assembly to raise awareness about the drive.

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

**Shambhavi asked Akshat ..... Akshat replied that he had prepared a speech for the morning assembly to raise awareness about the drive.**

- (A) how he had planned to contribute to the tree plantation drive.
- (B) how did he plan to contribute to the tree plantation drive.
- (C) how he planned to contribute to the tree plantation drive.
- (D) how was he planning to contribute to the tree plantation drive.

**Correct Answer: (C) how he planned to contribute to the tree plantation drive.**

**Solution:**

In reported speech, the question "How do you plan to contribute to the tree plantation drive?" changes to a statement, so the correct form is "how he planned to contribute to the tree plantation drive." This keeps the past tense consistent in the reporting.

**Quick Tip**

When reporting questions: 1. Use the past perfect tense for completed actions. 2. Avoid direct question forms (e.g., "how did he"). 3. Ensure subject-verb agreement.

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**(v): Identify the error and supply the correction for the given sentence from an advertisement for guitar classes.**

*"Where words fail music speak." Each batch will contain only five students which will assure personal attention to each student.*

**Use the given format for your response:**

Error	Correction

**Solution:**

Error	Correction
speak	speaks
assure	ensure
contain	comprise/have

**speak → speaks:** The verb should be in the singular form to match the singular subject "music."

**assure → ensure:** "Ensure" is correct in this context, meaning to make certain. "Assure" would be used for giving confidence to someone.

**contain → comprise/have:** "Contain" is incorrect here. The correct verb is either "comprise" or "have," meaning to consist of. Corrected sentence: "Where words fail, music speaks." Each batch will comprise only five students, which will ensure personal attention to each student.

#### Quick Tip

When correcting errors: 1. Check subject-verb agreement. 2. Ensure correct pronoun usage for people vs. objects. 3. Verify consistency in tense and grammar.

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**(vi): Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the quotation by Joyce Meyer.**

*"\_\_\_\_\_ (Complement/Compliment/Compliance) people. Magnify their strengths, not their*

*weaknesses.”*

**Correct Answer: Compliment**

**Solution:**

The word ”compliment” means to praise or express admiration, which fits the context of encouraging and magnifying people’s strengths.

**Quick Tip**

When selecting between similar words: 1. Focus on the contextual meaning. 2. Check definitions to ensure accuracy. 3. Use elimination to rule out incorrect options.

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**(vii): Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for a website’s terms and conditions document.**

*We reserve the right to make change to this website at any time without notice and it is your responsibility to revisit this page from time to time to re-read these terms.*

(A) change → changes

(B) any → the

(C) notice → noticing

(D) and → or

**Correct Answer: (A) change → changes**

**Solution:**

The noun ”change” must be pluralized to ”changes” to agree with the subject and context of the sentence, which discusses potential multiple updates to the website.

### Quick Tip

When identifying grammatical errors:

1. Check for subject-verb or noun-number agreement.
2. Ensure coherence with the surrounding context.
3. Validate the correction by reading the sentence aloud.

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

*I don't know anyone else who \_\_\_\_\_ to the new theatre production yet.*

- (A) has been
- (B) have been
- (C) are going
- (D) were going

**Correct Answer: (A) has been**

### Solution:

The sentence is in the present perfect tense, as it refers to an action that is relevant to the present moment ("yet"). "Has been" correctly agrees with the singular subject "anyone else."

### Quick Tip

When completing sentences:

1. Identify the tense of the sentence.
2. Ensure subject-verb agreement.
3. Consider context clues such as "yet" or "already."

**(ix): Report the following dialogue between a customer and a salesman by completing the sentence.**

*Customer: Where can I drop a request to get an exchange?*

*Salesman: Sir, you need to fill in this form before getting the exchange.*

**The customer asked the salesman where he could drop a request to get an exchange.**

**The salesman answered politely that .....**

- (A) he needs to fill in the form before the exchange.
- (B) he needed to fill in the form before the exchange.
- (C) he needs to fill in this form before the exchange.
- (D) he had needed to fill in this form before the exchange.

**Correct Answer: (B) he needed to fill in the form before the exchange.**

**Solution:**

In reported speech, the verb tense changes to past tense ("needed") to maintain sequence of tenses when the reporting verb ("asked") is in the past tense.

**Quick Tip**

When reporting dialogues:

1. Change present tense to past tense to align with the reporting verb.
2. Remove direct speech markers like "this" or "now."
3. Ensure logical coherence in the sequence of tenses.

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**(x): Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the advertisement given by a car company.**

*The vehicle also has a divider to separate the front passengers from the rear, in case you want ..... around like Miss Daisy.*

- (A) to be driven
- (B) to driving
- (C) the drive
- (D) the driving

**Correct Answer: (A) to be driven**

**Solution:**

The phrase "to be driven" fits the context, indicating that the vehicle caters to someone who prefers being chauffeured, much like the character Miss Daisy in the popular reference.

**Quick Tip**

When completing sentences with infinitives: 1. Ensure the infinitive ("to be") matches the subject's role or action. 2. Consider the tone and context of the sentence. 3. Eliminate options that disrupt grammatical flow.

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

*Save the green and blue before our future generation ..... paint everything black.*

- (A) may has to
- (B) has to
- (C) have to
- (D) should

**Correct Answer: (B) has to**

**Solution:**

The correct option is "has to," as it aligns with the singular subject "generation" and reflects a sense of responsibility in the context of the slogan.

**Quick Tip**

When completing slogans: 1. Pay attention to subject-verb agreement.  
2. Ensure the tone and context fit the persuasive nature of the slogan.  
3. Choose the option that conveys the intended urgency or responsibility.

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**(xii): Identify the error and supply the correction for the following part of an advertisement of a web hosting site.**

*One of the world's most popular domain name seller provides fantastic web hosting packages as well.*

**Use the given format for your response:**

<b>Error</b>	<b>Correction</b>

**Solution:**

<b>Error</b>	<b>Correction</b>
seller	sellers

The plural "sellers" should be used instead of the singular "seller" because the sentence refers to "one of the world's most popular domain name sellers," which implies multiple sellers in the context.

#### Quick Tip

When correcting errors:

1. Look for plural phrases such as "one of the most," which require plural nouns.
2. Ensure the corrected word aligns with the intended meaning.
3. Check for consistency in number and agreement.

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**4 (A): In your local market, you have noticed that young children are working in a few restaurants. You were aghast to see a blatant violation of laws. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, expressing your concern on the situation and suggesting measures to resolve the problem and drawing attention of the concerned authorities.**

**You are Mauzam Haseeb/Nasifa Khan of 917, Platinum Apartments, Gomti Vihar, Kath Nagar.**

**Solution:**

**To,**

The Editor,  
The Daily Times,  
New Delhi.

**Subject: Concern Over Child Labor in Local Restaurants**

Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the issue of child labor in restaurants in our local market. It is disheartening to see children being exploited in violation of labor laws.

These children are deprived of education and a secure childhood.

I urge the authorities to take strict action against such practices. Regular inspections should be conducted, and penalties should be imposed on violators. Additionally, efforts must be made to rehabilitate these children and ensure their enrollment in schools.

I hope this issue receives your immediate attention.

Yours sincerely,

Mauzam Haseeb/Nasifa Khan

917, Platinum Apartments,

Gomti Vihar, Kath Nagar.

**Quick Tip**

When writing formal letters:

1. Start with a clear subject line.
2. State the issue and its impact.
3. Provide actionable suggestions and conclude politely.

**OR**

**4 (b): As John Silva/Jane Pereira of 64, Sangam Apartments, Sunrise Hills, you feel very unhappy at the poor maintenance of the public play area in your area. As a result, children have no place to play and parents find it difficult to walk on the tracks. Write a letter to the CEO of Sunrise Hills, in about 120 words, expressing your concern on the**

**situation and suggesting measures to resolve the issue of poor maintenance.**

**Solution:**

**To,**  
The CEO,  
Sunrise Hills Society,  
New Delhi.

**Subject: Poor Maintenance of Public Play Areas and Walking Tracks**

Sir/Madam,

I wish to bring to your attention the poor condition of the public play area and walking tracks in our society. Due to inadequate maintenance, children lack safe spaces to play, and parents face difficulty using the walking tracks.

I request immediate action to repair the damaged facilities, install proper lighting, and ensure regular upkeep of the area. Such measures will enhance the quality of life for all residents and promote a healthy community environment.

I hope you will address this matter promptly.

Yours sincerely,  
John Silva/Jane Pereira  
64, Sangam Apartments,  
Sunrise Hills.

**Quick Tip**

When addressing authorities in letters:

1. Describe the issue clearly with examples.
2. Suggest practical solutions.
3. Maintain a polite and formal tone throughout.

**(5a): Energy drinks are drinks containing stimulant compounds, usually caffeine, which is marketed as providing mental and physical stimulation (marketed as energy, but distinct from food energy).**

**The following table shows some of the potential risks of energy drinks. Based on the given information, write an analytical paragraph, in about 120 words, assessing the short-term benefits versus common risks of energy drinks.**

**Potential Risks of Energy Drinks:**

Recent studies have shown that whilst there are undoubtedly some short-term benefits of energy drinks, over-consumption does present some common risks and symptoms including :

- Palpitations
- Tremors
- Agitation
- Gastrointestinal problems
- Chest pain
- Dizziness
- Tingling or numbing of skin
- Insomnia
- Respiratory distress
- Headache

**Solution:**

Energy drinks are popular for providing an instant boost in energy and mental alertness, primarily due to caffeine and other stimulants. However, excessive consumption poses significant health risks. Short-term benefits include improved focus and reduced fatigue, which appeal to students and professionals.

On the contrary, risks such as palpitations, insomnia, gastrointestinal issues, and even chest pain cannot be overlooked. Overuse can lead to severe agitation and dizziness, hampering the overall well-being of individuals. While moderate consumption may have benefits, consumers must exercise caution, particularly those with underlying health conditions. A balanced approach is essential to maximize benefits while minimizing risks.

### Quick Tip

When analyzing risks versus benefits:

1. Clearly identify both pros and cons.
2. Use specific examples or data from the prompt.
3. Conclude with a balanced perspective or recommendation.

**OR**

**(5b): Ecotourism means responsible travel to natural areas that minimizes the negative impact on the environment, making it an appealing choice for environmentally conscious travellers.**

**The table below lists the pros and cons of Ecotourism. Based on the information provided, write an analytical paragraph, in about 120 words, assessing the pros and cons of Ecotourism.**

### Advantages and Disadvantages of Ecotourism:

Pros	Cons
Promotes conservation	Cultural disruption
Provides economic benefits to local communities	Destruction of natural resources
Fosters environmental awareness	Habitat disturbance

### Solution:

Ecotourism offers several benefits, such as promoting conservation, supporting local economies, and fostering environmental awareness. It allows travellers to appreciate natural beauty while contributing to the preservation of ecosystems. Moreover, it provides economic

incentives for local communities to protect natural resources.

However, ecotourism has its downsides. The influx of tourists can lead to cultural disruption and strain local traditions. Additionally, if not managed responsibly, it can result in habitat destruction and the overuse of natural resources. While ecotourism encourages sustainable practices, its success depends on careful planning and responsible travel behaviour.

### Quick Tip

When analyzing topics like ecotourism:

1. Highlight both advantages and disadvantages.
2. Include specific examples from the table or prompt.
3. Conclude with a balanced viewpoint, emphasizing sustainability.

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## Section - C

### LITERATURE

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

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

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

- (A) He had started taking interest in his surroundings.  
(B) He was becoming friendly with Maxwell.

- (C) He wanted to play with Maxwell on his bed.  
(D) He wanted to feel safe and not remain indifferent.

**Correct Answer:** (C) He wanted to play with Maxwell on his bed.

**Explanation:** In the story, Mijbil had not yet become playful with Maxwell. Instead, his action of coming to Maxwell's bed was because he sought comfort, safety, and gradually started becoming more familiar with his surroundings. Therefore, option (C) does not align with Mijbil's behavior at that point.

#### Quick Tip

When answering multiple-choice questions, carefully read each option in context to the passage and eliminate answers that do not logically align with the narrative details provided.

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

**Explanation:** During the first twenty-four hours, Mijbil was not overtly hostile or friendly towards Maxwell because he was unfamiliar with his new surroundings. He was in a state of detachment, neither engaging with Maxwell nor showing any signs of aggression, simply observing his environment without much interaction.

#### Quick Tip

Use specific details from the text to support your answers. Focus on the behavior and emotions of the character being discussed, especially when explaining their state of mind or actions.

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

**Options:**

- (A) Owning a pet is tedious and needs commitment.  
(B) A pet needs his own space and time to get adjusted to his owner's environment.  
(C) Maxwell decided to bring Mijbil because he was very sad to lose his dog.  
(D) Maxwell and Mijbil loved travelling.

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

**Explanation:** In the passage, Maxwell describes Mijbil's early behavior as aloof and indifferent, indicating that Mijbil needed time and space to adjust to his new environment. This is consistent with option (B), which describes the necessary adjustment period for a pet when in a new environment.

#### Quick Tip

Always match the behavior or emotions of the characters described in the text with the options, focusing on the context provided in the extract.

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

**Answer:** When Mijbil is taken to the bathroom, it is revealed that otters have a strong affinity for water. Mijbil immediately started playing and splashing in the water, which reflects the playful and water-loving nature of otters.

#### Quick Tip

In literary texts, focus on how the environment or actions of characters reflect their inherent traits, such as Mijbil's playful nature and love for water, which is typical of otters.

**OR**

**(b)** The arrival of a stranger at an inn in winter was in any case an unusual event. A stranger of such uncommon appearance set all tongues wagging. Mrs. Hall, the landlord's wife, made every effort to be friendly. But Griffin had no desire to talk, and told her, My reason for coming to Iping is a desire for solitude. I do not wish to be disturbed in my work. Besides, an accident has affected my face. Satisfied that her guest was an eccentric scientist, and in view of the fact that he had paid her in advance, Mrs. Hall was prepared to excuse his strange habits and irritable temper. (Footprints Without Feet)

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

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

**Answer:** One inference about Griffin from the given context is that he is reclusive and prefers isolation, likely due to his appearance after the accident. He does not want to interact with others and wishes to remain undisturbed in his work.

#### Quick Tip

Inferences are conclusions drawn based on the context or behavior of the character. Pay attention to how the character expresses their thoughts and feelings.

**(ii): State True or False: Even though Mrs. Hall was satisfied with Griffin, she was skeptical to excuse his strange habits and irritable temper.**

**Answer: False**

#### Explanation :

Mrs. Hall was initially impressed by Griffin’s knowledge and abilities, but she could not fully overlook his strange habits and temper, which made her feel uneasy.

#### Quick Tip

When analyzing statements for truth or falsehood, pay attention to the character’s reactions and behaviors in the text. Skepticism often arises when unusual behavior conflicts with initial positive impressions.

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

**Answer:** Griffin managed to convince the landlord and his wife about his strange appearance by providing a plausible excuse—he had suffered an accident that affected his face. His eccentric behavior, though odd, was somewhat tolerated, as they were intrigued by his mysteriousness.

### Quick Tip

Focus on the character's actions and the immediate reactions of others to understand how they manage or manipulate situations. Griffin's strange behavior was excused due to his convincing backstory.

**(iv): Which phrase would correctly substitute “a stranger of such uncommon appearance” in the given sentence from the extract?**

**Answer:** The phrase that would correctly substitute “a stranger of such uncommon appearance” is “*a person with such a peculiar look.*”

### Quick Tip

When selecting substitutes, ensure the new phrase retains the original meaning and tone. “Peculiar look” effectively conveys the same idea as “uncommon appearance” with a slight variation in wording.

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

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

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

**Answer:** The tiger is stalking the length of his cage because he is frustrated by the confinement and the lack of space to roam freely. His movements indicate anxiety and restlessness, as he is unable to exhibit his natural behavior in a small enclosure.

### Quick Tip

Stalking is a natural hunting behavior, but in a cage, it becomes a sign of the animal's frustration with the unnatural and restrictive environment.

**(ii) Describe the concrete cell where the tiger is kept and how does it contrast with the**

**tiger's presence in its natural habitat? (Answer in about 40 words.)**

**Answer:** The concrete cell is small and barren, offering no room for the tiger to roam or hunt. In contrast, the tiger's natural habitat is vast and filled with forests, rivers, and prey, providing freedom and the opportunity to express its instincts.

#### Quick Tip

The description of the concrete cell highlights the limitations placed on the tiger, emphasizing the stark contrast between captivity and freedom in the wild.

**(iii) Complete the sentence with the appropriate option: The lines from the poem tell us that the tiger is —— .**

- (A) enjoying his time in the cell
- (B) being indifferent to visitors because it is a daily routine for him
- (C) not as strong as his counterpart in the jungle
- (D) wanting to be free from the cage

**Answer: (B) being indifferent to visitors because it is a daily routine for him.**

**Solution:** The phrase "Ignoring visitors" suggests that the tiger is no longer reacting to the presence of people, which indicates that he has become used to them.

The tiger is confined and seems to have adapted to the routine of being locked in the cage, showing indifference to visitors.

The other options don't match the context. The tiger is not enjoying its time (A), not showing weakness (C), nor explicitly expressing a desire for freedom (D). Therefore, (B) is the most appropriate choice.

#### Quick Tip

The tiger's restlessness and pacing suggest a desire to break free, rather than a passive acceptance of captivity.

**(iv) : Identify the type of literary device used in the line: 'But he's locked in a concrete cell.'**

**Answer:** The literary device used is **Alliteration**. The repetition of the 'c' sound in "concrete cell" creates a rhythmic quality, emphasizing the harshness of the tiger's

confinement.

### Quick Tip

Alliteration is the repetition of consonant sounds at the beginning of words, often used to enhance the mood or tone of a piece.

**OR**

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

(The Tale of Custard the Dragon)

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

**Answer:** The contrast in the last two lines of the extract highlights the difference between the brave, bold actions of Ink and Blink and the more subdued, cautious behavior expected in their real world. The contrast emphasizes their larger-than-life courage, suggesting that bravery isn't always bound by logic or reason.

### Quick Tip

Contrasts often highlight the extremes in a poem, showing a shift from normalcy to something extraordinary or unusual.

**(ii) : Fill in the blank with one word. While describing Ink and Blink, the speaker says that they could chase lions down the stairs. By saying so, he is revealing the \_\_\_\_\_ characteristic of their personality.**

**Answer:** By saying so, the speaker is revealing the **fearless** characteristic of their personality.

### Quick Tip

The adjective "fearless" directly connects to the idea of bravely chasing lions, emphasizing their courage and audacity.

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

**Answer:** The poet uses vivid, energetic language to describe the audacious and heroic qualities of Ink and Blink. Phrases like “chase lions down the stairs” amplify their boldness and exaggerate their strength, creating an image of unstoppable courage and fearlessness.

#### Quick Tip

Effective language in poetry often uses strong and vivid imagery to evoke specific qualities or traits, adding depth to the characters.

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

- (A) Bravery and heroism
- (B) Humility leads to bravery
- (C) Valour and diligence
- (D) Crisis reveals character

**Correct Answer:**(D) Crisis reveals character.

**Solution:** The theme of many poems often revolves around how a person’s true nature or character is revealed in times of difficulty or crisis.

The other options like bravery, humility, and valour might be part of some poems, but they don’t capture the broad and often universal theme of how challenges expose a person’s true self, which is what “Crisis reveals character” best describes.

#### Quick Tip

The theme is often reflected in the main actions and attitudes of the characters. In this case, the focus is on character , as seen in the descriptions of Ink and Blink’s actions.

**8. Answer any four of the following five questions in 40 50 words each :**

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

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

**Answer:** This statement highlights the profound shift from the oppressive apartheid system to a democratic South Africa. Before the end of apartheid, black South Africans were marginalized and excluded from power. Mandela's words reflect the victory of the oppressed, who were once outlaws, now playing a pivotal role in welcoming global nations.

#### Quick Tip

Mandela's speech signifies the transition from apartheid to a free society, emphasizing unity and reconciliation.

**(ii) Question: The Ball Poem initially appears simple but is actually quite impactful and intense. Comment upon the theme of "The Ball Poem."**

**Answer:** The theme of "The Ball Poem" revolves around loss and the emotional maturity that comes with it. The poem reflects the boy's realization that material possessions, like the ball, are transient. This loss teaches him the deeper truth about life: the inevitability of loss and the need to let go.

#### Quick Tip

The poem uses the metaphor of the ball to symbolize the fleeting nature of life and possessions, urging emotional growth.

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

**Answer:** Coorg is described as a "piece of heaven" due to its natural beauty. The lush greenery, mist-covered hills, and scenic landscapes create an idyllic and serene environment. The unique culture and coffee plantations add to its charm, making it a paradise for nature lovers.

#### Quick Tip

The phrase "piece of heaven" emphasizes Coorg's stunning beauty and tranquil atmosphere, which captivate all who visit.

**(iv): Lomov and Natalya trade charges against each other about the ownership of Meadows. Explain.**

**Solution:**

In Anton Chekhov's play *The Proposal*, Lomov and Natalya engage in a heated argument over the ownership of Oxen Meadows. Lomov claims the meadows belong to his family, stating that his ancestors leased it to Natalya's family temporarily. However, Natalya strongly counters that the land has always been their property, accusing Lomov of being dishonest. This dispute escalates into a comedic quarrel, reflecting their stubbornness and possessiveness. The argument highlights the trivial nature of their conflict, as the ownership issue becomes a pretext for showcasing their inflated egos. Despite their romantic intentions, such disputes reveal the absurdity of human behavior in mundane matters.

#### Quick Tip

When analyzing literary conflicts:

1. Identify the core issue and its significance in the story.
2. Focus on character motivations and their role in advancing the plot.
3. Highlight the humor or irony, if applicable.

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**(v): In one instance, Amanda considers herself to be an orphan. What connotation does it entail?**

**Solution:**

In Robin Klein's poem *Amanda*, the protagonist fantasizes about being an orphan to escape the constant nagging and restrictions imposed by her parents. For Amanda, being an orphan symbolizes freedom and independence, a life devoid of incessant rules and reprimands. This connotation reflects her yearning for solitude and peace, as she feels stifled by parental control. Her vivid imagination becomes a coping mechanism to deal with the suffocating environment. Amanda's desire to be an orphan underscores her longing for a carefree existence, highlighting the gap between her dreams and reality.

### Quick Tip

When interpreting poetic connotations:

1. Understand the emotions and desires expressed by the speaker.
2. Connect the imagery to the underlying themes of the poem.
3. Provide context to explain the significance of the metaphor.

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**9. Answer any two of the following three questions in 40 50 words each :**

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

**Answer:** In "A Triumph of Surgery," Mrs. Pumphrey's over-indulgence towards her dog, Tricki, is evident as she pampered him with excessive food, treats, and comfort. Her over-care led to Tricki's illness, showcasing how being too indulgent can harm those we care about, even if unintentionally.

### Quick Tip

Over-indulgence often results in negative consequences, as shown by Tricki's condition after too much pampering.

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

**Answer:** In "The Book That Saved The Earth," Noodle cleverly complimented the book's "in-depth analysis," which flattered Think-Tank's ego without directly criticizing the book's absurd content. This allowed Noodle to subtly suggest the book's value without offending Think-Tank, who was proud of it.

### Quick Tip

Flattery can be used as a tactful way to suggest changes without causing offense, as Noodle does with Think-Tank.

**(iii) Question: Despite his unusual appearance, Ausable's presence of mind helped him get rid of Max. Comment with reference to the story "The Midnight Visitor."**

**Answer:** In "The Midnight Visitor," Ausable, despite his unassuming appearance, uses his wit and presence of mind to outsmart the intruder, Max. By tricking Max into thinking that there was a police officer outside, Ausable defuses the situation and manages to save himself, demonstrating the power of intelligence over brute force.

### Quick Tip

Ausable's quick thinking shows that presence of mind and intelligence can triumph over physical appearances and danger.

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

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

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

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

**Solution: Presentation Draft on Lencho and Kisa Gotami**

One acknowledges that Lencho had unwavering faith in God, whereas Kisa Gotami, in her grief, believed that her son would return to life. However, Lencho's unshakable belief led him to expect divine intervention when he faced hardships, while Kisa Gotami, after a similar tragedy, sought solace in the search for medicine, only to realize that death is inevitable and must be accepted.

Both characters are united by a deep emotional attachment to their loved ones, but their responses differ drastically. Lencho holds onto the hope that his faith will solve his problems, while Kisa Gotami's journey involves a realization of life's harsh realities and acceptance. The contrast in their emotional coping mechanisms highlights the diversity in human responses to loss.

#### Quick Tip

Lencho's faith in God contrasts with Kisa Gotami's gradual acceptance of death, illustrating different approaches to grief.

**OR**

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

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

**You may begin like this : Good morning everyone.**

**Today, I'd like to express my insights on the resilience of two young girls — .**

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

**Thank you.**

#### **Solution: Speech Draft on Resilience of Anne Frank and Valli**

Good morning everyone. Today, I'd like to express my insights on the resilience of two young girls, Anne Frank and Valli. Both faced extraordinarily difficult situations at a young age, yet they exhibited remarkable courage. Anne, living in hiding during the Holocaust, demonstrated immense mental strength and maturity beyond her years. Valli, a little girl from a rural village, displayed independence and courage when she decided to travel alone on a bus, defying societal norms.

Despite their vastly different circumstances, both girls exhibited an indomitable spirit.

Anne's resilience in the face of danger and Valli's determination to explore the world reflect their common desire for freedom and independence. However, their challenges were shaped

by different societal pressures, making their courage unique in its context.

To conclude, I'd like to say that the stories of Anne Frank and Valli remind us of the strength within us all, regardless of age or circumstances. Thank you.

#### Quick Tip

Anne and Valli's resilience shows how the human spirit can thrive even in the most challenging environments.

### 11. Answer any one of the following two questions in 100 120 words.

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

(The Thief's Story)

**Solution: Diary Entry by Hari Singh from "The Thief's Story"**

**Date: [Insert Date]**

Today, as I reflect on my life and the transformation that has occurred within me, I am filled with a sense of gratitude. I once lived a life driven by selfishness, theft, and deceit. My only concern was for my own survival. However, when I met the man I tried to rob, I never expected the kindness and understanding he showed me.

This unexpected generosity of a stranger has opened my eyes to the importance of human values—honesty, trust, and compassion. He didn't treat me as a mere thief, but as a human being with the potential for change. His actions have made me realize that one can transform, not through fear or force, but through kindness and respect.

I have learned a valuable lesson today: true transformation happens not through selfishness, but through understanding and empathy. I feel a new sense of hope in my heart.

#### Quick Tip

Hari Singh's transformation from a thief to a reformed person highlights the power of human values in changing one's life.

**OR**

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

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

**Solution: Character Arc of Bholi in "Bholi"**

Bholi's character arc is one of gradual transformation. Initially, she is an insecure, frightened girl, marked by her physical appearance and stammer. Her life is full of neglect and ridicule, and she struggles with low self-esteem. However, as the story progresses, Bholi's internal strength begins to emerge, especially after her teacher's encouragement.

The turning point in Bholi's character arc comes when she refuses to marry the man her parents chose for her, despite the pressure from her family. She finds her voice and asserts her right to make decisions for her own future. This courageous act signifies Bholi's empowerment and the growth of her self-worth.

By the end of the story, Bholi is no longer the timid, stammering girl she once was. She has blossomed into a confident young woman, ready to stand up for herself and her dignity.

#### Quick Tip

Bholi's journey from insecurity to empowerment shows the importance of self-belief and the role of encouragement in personal growth.