

## CBSE 12 English (1/1/3) Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 hours

Maximum Marks :100

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 : Literature
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) The term Artificial Intelligence spells a future in which this emerging technology will impact every aspect of human existence. In fact, little do we know, it has already crept into our lives, slowly, but surely. Look around you — education, health care, industry, innovation, robots, robotic surgeries, transportation, home service — it's already there. It will change the lifestyle of everyone from the technology industry to normal people.**

**(2) The past fifteen years have seen considerable AI advances in education. You enter school and AI takes your attendance using face recognition. Various applications are in wide use by educators and learners today. AI technologies assist teachers in the classroom. Learning at home is likely to expand significantly, along with learning based on**

virtual reality applications. Though quality education will always require active engagement by human teachers, AI promises to enhance education at all levels, especially by providing personalization at scale.

(3) The evolution of new technologies, mobile, and the Internet are changing lifestyles. Artificial intelligence is playing an important role in every sector such as banking, driving, education, e-commerce, electronics, robotics. Systems of artificial intelligence are aiming to stimulate execution and decision-making that is human-like. In targeted applications, substantial increases in the future uses of AI technologies, including more driverless cars, healthcare diagnostics and targeted treatments, and physical assistance for elder care can be expected. AI and robotics will also be applied across the globe in industries struggling such as agriculture, food processing and factories. They will facilitate delivery of online purchases through flying drones, self-driving trucks or robots.

(4) AI-based applications could improve health outcomes and quality of life for millions of people in the coming years — prime applications include clinical decision support, patient monitoring and coaching, automated devices to assist in surgery or patient care, and management of healthcare systems. Recent successes, such as mining social media to infer possible health risks, machine learning to predict patients at risk, and robotics to support surgery have expanded a sense of possibility for AI in healthcare.

(5) People's future relationships with machines will become ever more personalized as AI systems learn to adapt to individual personalities, ambitions and goals. These AI applications will help monitor people's well-being, alert them to the impending risks, and deliver services when needed or wanted.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage:

**1: Answer the following questions in about 40 – 50 words each:**

(i) Select the word that most appropriately defines Artificial Intelligence today.

(A) rewarding

- (B) universal
- (C) luxurious
- (D) temporary

**Correct Answer: (B) universal**

**Solution:** The passage highlights how Artificial Intelligence has infiltrated diverse domains like education, health care, and transportation. This indicates that AI has become a universal concept, influencing various aspects of life.

**Quick Tip**

Focus on the wide-ranging applications of AI mentioned in the text to choose the most relevant option.

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**(ii) What is the connection between ‘face recognition’ in school education and AI?**

**Solution:** AI uses face recognition technology to take attendance in schools, demonstrating the application of AI in automating administrative tasks within educational institutions. The passage explains how AI simplifies school administration by using face recognition for attendance, reducing manual efforts and making processes efficient.

**Quick Tip**

Relate your answer to specific technological applications of AI mentioned in the passage, such as automation or personalization.

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**(iii) Which one of the following do you infer from para 2?**

- (A) School education will become a virtual engagement.
- (B) The teacher will be replaced by AI.
- (C) Human teachers will play a passive role in the classroom.
- (D) Human teachers are irreplaceable.

**Correct Answer: (D) Human teachers are irreplaceable.**

**Solution:** The passage emphasizes that while AI enhances education through tools like personalization, the active engagement and emotional support of human teachers remain crucial, making them indispensable.

**Quick Tip**

Focus on the passage's discussion about how AI complements but does not replace the emotional and instructional roles of human teachers.

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**(iv) Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words, about how AI can support the field of education.**

**Solution:** AI supports education through face recognition for attendance, personalized learning, virtual reality applications, and providing tools to enhance learning outcomes. It broadens educational opportunities and helps teachers manage classrooms efficiently.

The passage demonstrates how AI aids education by offering technological tools like face recognition and virtual reality, helping teachers and students achieve better learning experiences.

**Quick Tip**

Use specific examples like face recognition or personalized learning to highlight the role of AI in education.

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**(v) The phrase 'stimulate execution' in para 3 nearly means:**

- (A) imitate creations
- (B) strategise destructions
- (C) shake inventions
- (D) motivate implementation

**Correct Answer: (D) motivate implementation.**

**Solution:** The phrase ‘stimulate execution’ refers to the encouragement or motivation required to implement ideas or systems, as discussed in the context of AI’s decision-making capabilities.

**Quick Tip**

Understand the context in which the phrase is used to determine its meaning accurately.

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**(vi) With evidence from the text, explain in about 40 words, two ways in which AI will help in the healthcare sector.**

**Solution:** AI will assist in healthcare by providing clinical decision support, patient monitoring, coaching, robotics-assisted surgeries, targeted treatments, and predicting health risks using machine learning.

AI enhances healthcare by offering decision support and patient monitoring tools, as well as enabling advanced treatments like robotics-assisted surgeries and health-risk predictions, as mentioned in the passage.

**Quick Tip**

Refer to specific benefits of AI in healthcare from the passage, such as improved diagnostics or robotic interventions.

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**(vii) According to the passage, why does the author conclude that people’s relationships with machines will become more personalised?**

**Solution:** The author concludes that AI systems will adapt to individual personalities, ambitions, and goals. This adaptability will enable machines to deliver personalized services and monitor users’ well-being more effectively.

The passage highlights how AI systems can tailor their functions to suit the unique needs and preferences of individuals, fostering a more personalized and interactive relationship between humans and machines.

### Quick Tip

Understand how AI's adaptability can improve human-machine interactions by focusing on personalized services and tailored experiences.

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**(viii) Complete the following statement: AI will make the commercial supply chain smoother by -----.**

**Solution:** AI will make the commercial supply chain smoother by facilitating delivery services through flying drones, self-driving trucks, and robots, as mentioned in the passage. AI optimizes supply chains by introducing technologies like drones, automated trucks, and robotics, which enhance the speed and efficiency of deliveries while reducing human intervention. This revolutionizes logistics and makes the supply chain seamless.

### Quick Tip

Focus on how AI-driven technologies contribute to automation and efficiency in logistics and supply chains.

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**(ix) Read the five headlines given below (I – V):**

- I. AI WILL IMPACT EVERY ASPECT OF OUR LIVES
- II. AI WILL BE A BOON TO THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS
- III. SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS WILL BE CONTROLLED BY AI
- IV. AI IS A MAJOR REASON FOR RISING UNEMPLOYMENT TODAY
- V. FACTORY OWNERS WILL NOT USE AI FOR FEAR OF ITS UNPREDICTABILITY

**Identify the option that displays the headline/s that does/do not correspond with occurrences in the passage.**

(A) only V

- (B) II and III
- (C) IV and V
- (D) III, IV and V

**Correct Answer: (D) III, IV and V.**

**Solution:** Headlines III, IV, and V do not correspond with the passage. The text discusses AI’s positive impact on various domains, such as healthcare and logistics, but does not claim that social relationships will be controlled by AI, that AI causes unemployment, or that factory owners avoid using AI.

#### Quick Tip

Always refer back to specific claims in the passage to identify inaccuracies or unsupported statements in comprehension questions.

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## 2. Read the following passage carefully:

**(1) A recent survey conducted by an independent research firm sought to measure levels of happiness among youth aged 16–24 years in seven countries. The findings revealed some intriguing insights into what makes today’s youth happiest, as well as which factors influence their overall well-being. In India, an overwhelming majority of the youth reported feeling satisfied with their lives, with 87% rating their overall happiness as ‘high’ or ‘very high.’ Financial security was identified as the primary source of happiness for 66%, followed by family support (89%), having a purpose in life (50%), and work or studies (40%). Unfortunately, 65% reported feeling stress related to academic performance or workload, while 25% reported feeling lonely. These figures point to a need for increased mental health support among India’s youth.**

**(2) These surveys also revealed that family support is an important source of contentment for young people across countries. In Europe, 59% of respondents said that their**

families were a major source of happiness; in France this figure was 67%, and 63% in Germany. In North America, 64% rated family as an important factor for well-being in Canada, while 61% did so in the United States. Similarly, 89% of survey respondents in India named family support as a major contributor to their overall contentment level.

(3) It is clear that stress has a significant impact on the happiness of today's youth. The findings suggest that young people need better resources to manage their mental health and well-being. This may include access to counselling services, mindfulness activities and support groups to help them cope with challenging circumstances. It is also important to provide financial support so as to reduce some of the economic pressures.

(4) In India, 65% of youth surveyed reported feeling anxious about their academic performance or workload, while 25% felt lonely. These figures are especially significant given how important family support is for young people's overall contentment.

Answer the following question, based on the above passage:

**1: Answer the following questions based on the passage:**

(i) What are the two findings that the survey mentioned in paragraph 1 reveals? Answer in about 40 words.

**Solution:** The survey reveals that financial security is a significant source of happiness for 66% of Indian youth, while 89% report family support as a major contributor. However, 65% experience stress due to academic workload, and 25% feel lonely.

The findings of the survey highlight that financial security and family support are major contributors to happiness, while stress from academics and loneliness negatively impact the mental well-being of Indian youth.

### Quick Tip

Focus on percentages and their significance in the survey when summarizing key findings.

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**(ii) Explain in about 40 words the statement “It is also important to provide financial support so as to reduce some of the economic pressures.”**

**Solution:** The passage suggests that providing financial support reduces economic burdens, allowing youth to focus on academics and personal growth without the stress of meeting basic financial needs.

Economic pressures affect youth’s mental well-being and happiness. Financial support can alleviate stress by covering essential expenses, reducing anxieties related to money, and enabling access to resources like counseling, education, and basic necessities.

### Quick Tip

Highlight how financial assistance directly reduces stress and improves overall well-being.

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**(iii) Elaborate, giving data, the statement “Stress has a significant impact on the happiness of today’s youth.”**

**Solution:** The passage mentions that 65% of Indian youth face stress related to academic workload or performance, while 25% feel lonely. This stress adversely impacts their overall happiness and points to the need for mental health support.

Stress caused by academics and feelings of isolation significantly reduce the happiness of Indian youth. The data highlights the urgent need to address these issues through counseling and other supportive measures.

### Quick Tip

Refer to the data provided in the passage to support your explanation of the impact of stress.

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**(iv) Which of the following factors, with reference to the given passage, does *not* play a substantial role in the well-being of Indian youth?**

- (A) Family support and strong ties
- (B) Social connection and technology
- (C) Books and literature
- (D) Economic stability

**Correct Answer: (C) Books and literature**

**Solution:** The passage emphasizes financial security, family support, and mental health support as key contributors to youth well-being. Books and literature are not mentioned as significant factors.

### Quick Tip

Use elimination to find the correct answer by checking which factors are not referenced in the passage.

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**(v) State whether True or False, with reference to the given passage: *It is not necessary to provide financial support to the youth as only academic performance plays an upper hand in deciding the stress level.***

**Correct Answer: False**

**Solution:** The passage highlights financial support as an essential factor in alleviating economic pressures, which significantly contribute to youth stress. Academic performance alone does not account for the stress levels of today's youth.

### Quick Tip

Identify keywords in the statement and refer to the passage to confirm its accuracy.

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**(vi) What are the top choices which are of maximum value to today's youth?**

- I. Collectivism
- II. Social media
- III. Individualistic society
- IV. Family ties

- (A) I and II
- (B) II and III
- (C) I and IV
- (D) II and IV

**Correct Answer: (C) I and IV**

**Solution:** The passage highlights collectivism and family ties as key contributors to the happiness and well-being of today's youth, emphasizing the importance of strong social and familial support.

### Quick Tip

Refer to the specific values mentioned in the passage and choose options that align with those values.

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**(vii) The mental health of today's youth can be managed by resources like \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Solution:** The mental health of today's youth can be managed by resources like **counseling services** and **mindfulness activities**.

The passage suggests that resources such as counseling services and mindfulness activities help young people cope with stress and challenging circumstances.

### Quick Tip

Focus on mental health-related support systems mentioned in the passage, like counseling or mindfulness.

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**(viii) Write the following sources that provide happiness to today's youth in descending order:** (a) purposefulness

(b) financial status

(c) family support

(d) stress

**Correct Answer:** (c) *family support*, (b) *financial status*, (a) *purposefulness*, (d) *stress*

**Solution:** According to the passage, family support (89%) is the most significant contributor to happiness, followed by financial status (66%), purposefulness (50%), and stress, which negatively impacts happiness.

### Quick Tip

Use percentages or rankings from the passage to determine the correct order of the sources of happiness.

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## SECTION B- Creative Writing skills

**(3) Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words.**

**(a) Write a notice to invite class XI students to a special assembly to facilitate the sports stars of your school with badges of honour. Renowned cricketer Sahil Singla would be the Chief Guest at the occasion. Share necessary details about the event. You are Rohini/Rohan, President of the Student Council of Bal Mahal School, Roshni Nagar.**

**Solution:**

**NOTICE**

**Bal Mahal School, Roshni Nagar**

**Date:** [Insert Date]

**Subject: Invitation to Special Assembly**

This is to inform all Class XI students that a special assembly will be held to facilitate the sports stars of our school with badges of honour. Renowned cricketer Sahil Singla will grace the occasion as the Chief Guest.

**Details of the Event:**

**Date:** [Insert Date]

**Time:** [Insert Time]

**Venue:** School Auditorium

All Class XI students are requested to attend the event and encourage the achievers.

**Rohini/Rohan**

*President, Student Council*

**Quick Tip**

When drafting a notice, ensure clarity and include key details such as date, time, venue, and purpose.

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**(b) Write a notice to inform the house owners in your society about re-laying of the main sewage pipe running through the colony. Mention the temporary restrictions and the duration of the maintenance work. You are Saheb/Sahiba, Secretary, Goodwill Society, Sector 8, Tara Bagh.**

**Solution:**

## NOTICE

**Goodwill Society, Sector 8, Tara Bagh**

**Date:** (Insert Date)

**Subject: Notification Regarding Sewage Pipe Maintenance**

This is to inform all house owners in the society that re-laying of the main sewage pipe running through the colony will commence from [Insert Start Date] and is expected to be completed by [Insert End Date].

During this period, residents are advised to avoid using the affected roads and plan accordingly. Temporary restrictions may apply in certain areas. We apologize for any inconvenience caused and appreciate your cooperation.

**Saheb/Sahiba**

*Secretary, Goodwill Society*

### Quick Tip

Effective notices should be brief, precise, and include clear information about the situation, impact, and timeline.

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**(4) Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words.**

**(a) Draft an invitation card inviting friends to an exhibition-cum-sale of hand-painted wooden trays and bowls. Include necessary details regarding the event. You are Anita/Anil.**

**Solution:**

## Invitation

### **Anita/Anil invites you to an Exhibition-Cum-Sale**

**Date:** (Insert Date)

**Time:** (Insert Time)

**Venue:** (Insert Venue)

We are pleased to invite you to an exclusive exhibition-cum-sale featuring beautifully hand-painted wooden trays and bowls. Your presence will make the event more special.

Looking forward to seeing you!

**Anita/Anil**

### Quick Tip

Invitations should have a warm tone and include all event specifics, such as date, time, venue, and purpose.

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**(b) You are Priya/Pranjal. You have been invited to a cousin's engagement party. Write a response letter accepting the invitation and expressing your happiness for the young couple. Also, offer any help that may be needed during the event.**

**Solution:**

## Response Letter

**Date:** [Insert Date]

**Dear [Cousin's Name],**

I am delighted to receive your invitation to the engagement party. I wholeheartedly accept and am thrilled to celebrate this joyous occasion with you. Congratulations to the lovely couple!

If there is any assistance you need during the event, please let me know. I am more than happy to help in any way I can.

Looking forward to the celebration!

**Yours lovingly,**

**Priya/Pranjal**

### Quick Tip

When writing a response letter, maintain a polite tone, express your gratitude, and offer help if needed.

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**(5) Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (b), in 120 – 150 words.**

**(a) Recently you have come across an advertisement for the post of a Librarian in Lions Public School, Maya Nagar. Write a letter to the Principal of the school, along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post. You are Amasha/Amesh.**

LIONS PUBLIC SCHOOL

MAYA NAGAR

invites applications for the post of

School Librarian

Last date of application : 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024 Qualifications : M.A.

Lib.Sc./B.A. Lib.Sc.

Experience : Minimum 5 years in a reputed school

Job Profile : • Managing digital database for cataloging

Awareness of • latest books

• Documentation

Skills : • Research skills

• Communication skills

Basic • computer and digital skills

**Solution:**

**Amasha/Amesh**

**(Insert Address)**

**Date: (Insert Date)**

**To,**

The Principal

Lions Public School

Maya Nagar

**Subject: Application for the Post of Librarian**

**Dear Sir/Madam,**

This is to express my keen interest in applying for the post of Librarian as advertised by

your esteemed institution. I hold an M.A. in Library Science and possess over five years of experience as a Librarian in a reputed school. I have developed expertise in managing digital databases, cataloging, documentation, and ensuring awareness of the latest books and research trends.

I am confident that my strong communication skills, proficiency in basic computer applications, and research abilities will align with the requirements of this role. Please find attached my detailed bio-data for your perusal. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the academic environment of your school.

Thank you for considering my application. I am available for an interview at your convenience.

**Yours sincerely,**  
**Amasha/Amesh**

#### Quick Tip

When applying for a job, ensure your application is concise, formal, and highlights relevant qualifications and skills.

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**(b) Recently you went to your native village to visit your grandparents. You saw that some of the children in the age group 5 – 14 years were working in the fields or simply loitering in the streets instead of going to school. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your concern over the situation and giving suggestions to improve the plight of these young children. You are Govinda/Gayatri, A-2, Link Road, Anand Bagh. You may use the following cues along with your ideas to write your letter.**

#### **Problems**

- young children not at school
- children working as child labour in shops and streets

#### **Solutions**

- encourage school education – spread awareness
- discourage prospective employers from employing children
- stringent laws and effective implementation
- creating inclusive and learner friendly environment

**Solution:**

**Govinda/Gayatri**

A-2, Link Road

Anand Bagh

Date: (Insert Date)

**The Editor**

(Insert Newspaper Name)

(Insert Address)

**Subject: Concern Over Child Labour and Lack of Education**

**Dear Sir/Madam,**

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to draw attention to the alarming plight of children in my native village. During my recent visit, I observed that several children aged 5 – 14 were either working in fields or loitering in the streets, instead of attending school. Such neglect not only robs these children of their childhood but also deprives them of a bright future.

I suggest immediate steps to address this issue:

- Spread awareness about the importance of school education.
- Discourage employers from hiring children.
- Implement stringent laws against child labour with effective monitoring.
- Create an inclusive, learner-friendly school environment to attract children.

Your support in raising awareness and encouraging action can bring about significant change. Let us join hands to ensure every child receives their right to education and a dignified life.

**Yours sincerely,**

**Govinda/Gayatri**

### Quick Tip

Letters to the editor should address societal issues with a clear structure, proposed solutions, and a formal tone.

**(6) Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (b), in 120 – 150 words.**

**(a) You are Amrita/Amrit. You took part in a medical camp organised by your club in a remote village in your state. You are surprised to find that most of the people there have no awareness of basic health and hygiene. As a concerned citizen, you decide to take up their cause and write an article for a national daily to encourage youngsters to come forward and participate in such campaigns to create awareness in people.**

- Setting up of Rural Public Health awareness centres by State Governments
- Hold regular camps to spread awareness regarding the issue
- Educate the youth to volunteer in this effort
- Focus on healthy habits of families
- Involve local panchayat

**Solution:**

#### **Basic Health and Hygiene: A Collective Responsibility**

Participating in a medical camp in a remote village opened my eyes to the alarming lack of awareness about basic health and hygiene among the residents. As a concerned citizen, I urge youngsters to come forward and actively participate in campaigns to create health awareness.

The State Government should take the initiative to establish Rural Public Health Awareness Centres to educate people on hygiene and preventive healthcare. Regular camps focusing on healthy habits, personal hygiene, and nutrition must be organized. Youth should be encouraged to volunteer, spreading knowledge and motivating families to adopt healthier lifestyles.

Collaboration with local panchayats can amplify these efforts, ensuring outreach to every household. Together, we can empower rural communities with the knowledge to lead healthier lives. Let us join hands to make a difference.

### Quick Tip

Articles should combine facts, insights, and recommendations to address societal issues effectively.

**(b) A group of college students put up a week-long street theatre festival highlighting the issue of digital addiction and how it affects human life socially and emotionally. As Rani/Rohit, local correspondent of the neighbourhood newsletter, write a report covering this event.**

- street theatre entertainment
- conveyed relevant message in an engaging manner
- interaction between players and the audience sharing personal stories
- local incidents were interwoven into the play
- purpose to change attitudes and behaviour daily reflection
- 

### Solution:

#### Street Theatre Festival Tackles Digital Addiction

A group of college students organized a week-long street theatre festival addressing the pressing issue of digital addiction and its social and emotional impact. Held at [Insert Venue], the festival proved to be an engaging blend of entertainment and awareness.

The plays presented conveyed the message in an innovative and thought-provoking manner. Personal stories shared by the audience and performers added a deep emotional connection, making the experience impactful. Local incidents were interwoven seamlessly into the narrative, making it relatable to the community.

The primary objective was to encourage reflection and inspire a change in attitudes and behaviour towards digital usage. Each day's performance ended with a discussion, allowing the audience to reflect on their habits. The initiative was widely appreciated for fostering awareness and encouraging meaningful conversations.

### Quick Tip

Reports should provide clear details of the event, its purpose, and its impact on the audience.

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## SECTION C- Literature

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

**(a) A thing of beauty is a joy forever.**

**Its loveliness increases, it will never**

**Pass into nothingness; but will keep**

**A bower quiet for us, and a sleep**

**Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.**

(A Thing of Beauty)

**(i) Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?**

(A) Beauty provides security and peace.

(B) Beauty lies in possession of expensive things.

(C) Beauty is synonymous with power and riches.

(D) Beauty lies in our rich heritage and palaces and temples.

**Correct Answer:** (A) Beauty provides security and peace.

**Solution:** The lines emphasize that beauty is eternal and provides joy, comfort, and peace. The phrase "a bower quiet for us" symbolizes tranquility and refuge, making beauty a source of security and solace for the human soul.

### Quick Tip

Focus on how the poet portrays beauty as a timeless and peaceful entity, providing a haven of joy and restfulness.

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(ii) **A thing of beauty never passes into nothingness because it is .....**

**Correct Answer:** eternal.

**Solution:** The poet emphasizes that beauty is everlasting and never fades away. It continues to inspire and bring joy across generations.

### Quick Tip

When answering descriptive questions, focus on key phrases in the text that highlight the meaning and intent of the author.

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(iii) **‘Quiet bower’ means a pleasant, shady, quiet place under trees or in the woods. This creates a sense of .....**

**Correct Answer:** peace and calm.

**Solution:** ‘Quiet bower’ means a pleasant, shady, quiet place under trees or in the woods. This creates a sense of **peace and calm**, highlighting the soothing and restorative power of nature.

### Quick Tip

When interpreting poetic phrases, focus on the imagery and emotions they evoke to understand their deeper meaning.

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(iv) **State whether the given statement is *True* or *False* with reference to the extract: The quality of a thing ensures that its beauty lasts forever.**

**Correct Answer:** True.

**Solution:** The statement is **True**. The extract highlights how a thing of beauty is a joy forever,

never fading into nothingness, and continues to provide solace and inspiration.

#### Quick Tip

Pay attention to the key ideas in a poetic extract to identify statements that align with the poet's intended message.

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**(v) Based on the rhyme scheme in lines 3 and 4 of the given extract, which word will rhyme with them?**

- (A) please
- (B) sweep
- (C) help
- (D) self

**Correct Answer: (B) sweep.**

**Solution:** The rhyme scheme in lines 3 and 4 suggests that the word **sweep** rhymes with **keep** and fits naturally within the rhythm and structure of the poem.

#### Quick Tip

Identifying the rhyme scheme requires matching the ending sounds of lines to determine the correct rhyming word.

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**(vi) The use of the word 'health' in the extract suggests that beautiful things will give us a happier and more wholesome life. It creates a powerful image of .....**

- (A) rejuvenation
- (B) attachment
- (C) long life
- (D) eternity

**Correct Answer: (A) rejuvenation.**

**Solution:** The word 'health' conveys how beauty rejuvenates us, providing emotional and

physical well-being. Beautiful things act as a source of positivity, replenishing our spirit and giving a sense of renewal and happiness.

### Quick Tip

Analyze the emotional and symbolic meaning of words like ‘health’ in poetry to uncover their impact on the theme.

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**(b) Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers prance across a screen,**

**Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.**

**They do not fear the men beneath the tree;**

**They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.**

(Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers)

**(i) Which of the following are symbolised by the ‘tigers’ in the extract above?**

I. Masculine world

II. Feminine world

III. World of bold, fearless creatures

IV. World of beautiful handicrafts

(A) I, II and III

(B) II, III and IV

(C) III and IV

(D) I, III and IV

**Correct Answer:** (D) I, III and IV

**Solution:** The ‘tigers’ in the poem symbolize multiple meanings:

- **I. Masculine world:** The tigers represent power, confidence, and dominance, often associated with masculinity.
- **III. World of bold, fearless creatures:** The poem describes the tigers as prancing without fear, embodying courage and strength.
- **IV. World of beautiful handicrafts:** The tigers exist as part of Aunt Jennifer’s embroi-

dery, signifying the artistic world she creates.

Since options I, III, and IV are correct, the correct answer is (D) I, III and IV.

#### Quick Tip

Identify the symbolic elements in the poem to understand the deeper meaning of the imagery used by the poet.

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**(ii) State whether the given statement is True or False:**

**The creator of the tigers was fearless and assertive like the tigers.**

**Correct Answer: False.**

**Solution:** The statement is **False**. Although Aunt Jennifer was timid and oppressed, her creation, the tigers, symbolizes fearlessness and assertiveness, reflecting her unfulfilled desire for strength and freedom.

#### Quick Tip

When analyzing poetry, focus on the contrast between the creator and their creation to identify underlying themes and emotions.

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**(iii) Complete the following sentence:**

**The use of the word ‘topaz’ suggests that the image of the tiger on the screen is .....**

**Correct Answer: bright and glowing.**

**Solution:** The word ‘topaz’ refers to a precious gem known for its bright, radiant glow. Its use in the poem emphasizes the vivid and striking appearance of the tigers.

### Quick Tip

Focus on symbolic words like 'topaz' in poetry to understand the imagery and connotations they bring to the text.

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(iv) **'Tigers do not fear the men beneath the tree' because they are:**

- (A) tamed
- (B) in a cage
- (C) fearless
- (D) kings of the jungle

**Correct Answer: (C) fearless.**

**Solution:** The tigers are portrayed as bold and confident creatures. They symbolize strength and fearlessness, which stands in stark contrast to Aunt Jennifer's timid and suppressed life.

### Quick Tip

Understand the symbolic traits of characters or objects in poetry to grasp the poem's deeper meaning and themes.

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(v) **Based on the poem's rhyme scheme evident in lines 1 and 2, which of the following will rhyme?**

mean, akin, cream

**Correct Answer: mean.**

**Solution:** The rhyme scheme in lines 1 and 2 suggests that 'mean' rhymes with 'cream,' as they share a similar ending sound.

### Quick Tip

Identifying rhyme schemes helps in understanding the poem's structure and the rhythmic flow of its lines.

(vi) 'Chivalric certainty' refers to which poetic device?

- (A) Alliteration
- (B) Metaphor
- (C) Simile
- (D) Repetition

**Correct Answer: (A) Alliteration.**

**Solution:** 'Chivalric certainty' is an example of alliteration, as the repetition of the 'c' sound in consecutive words creates a rhythmic effect, emphasizing the bold and confident nature of the tigers.

### Quick Tip

Identify alliteration by looking for the repetition of consonant sounds at the beginning of closely connected words.

(8) Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (a) or (b):

(a) **Derry:** I....there....I thought this was an empty place. I didn't know there was anybody here....

**Mr. Lamb:** That's all right. I'm here. What are you afraid of, boy? That's all right.

**Derry:** I thought it was empty....an empty house.

**Mr. Lamb:** So it is. Since I'm out here in the garden. It is empty. Until I go back inside. In the meantime, I'm out here and likely to stop. A day like this. Beautiful day. Not a day to be indoors.

Derry : [Panic] I,ve got to go.

(On The Face Of It)

**(i) Derry was stammering because of:**

(A) A speech defect.

(B) Excitement.

(C) Anger.

(D) Fear.

**Correct Answer:** (D) Fear.

**Solution:** Derry was stammering out of nervousness and discomfort, which stemmed from his fear and hesitation in social situations.

#### Quick Tip

Understand the emotions and behavior of characters to interpret their dialogue and actions correctly.

---

**(ii) Complete the sentence appropriately.**

**Derry insisted on going back because .....**

**Solution:** He wanted to prove his determination and build his self-confidence.

Derry insisted on going back to Mr. Lamb to overcome his fears and doubts, showing his determination to rise above his insecurities and take control of his life.

#### Quick Tip

When analyzing characters, focus on their motives and emotional development as reflected in their actions and dialogues.

---

**(iii) Mr. Lamb was trying to tell Derry that:**

- (A) It was a matter of perception.
- (B) Derry could stay with him.
- (C) He spent all his days in the garden.
- (D) He was fond of company.

**Correct Answer:** (A) It was a matter of perception.

**Solution:** Mr. Lamb emphasized that Derry’s view of his scar was shaped by his perception. He encouraged Derry to embrace positivity and focus on his inner self rather than external appearances.

#### Quick Tip

Understand the deeper message of dialogue to identify life lessons imparted by characters in literature.

---

**(iv) From the extract, one can infer that Mr. Lamb was a/an:**

- (A) Compassionate man.
- (B) Mysterious character.
- (C) New neighbour.
- (D) Unreasonable man.

**Correct Answer:** (A) Compassionate man.

**Solution:** The extract shows Mr. Lamb’s empathy and wisdom as he attempts to comfort Derry and help him build his self-confidence, highlighting his compassionate and kind nature.

#### Quick Tip

Empathy and kindness are key traits that define impactful characters in literature. Observe their actions and words to understand their personality.

---

**(b) Anyway, here's what happened at Grand Central. One night last summer I worked late at the office. I was in a hurry to get uptown to my apartment, so I decided to take the subway from Grand Central because it's faster than the bus.**

**Now I don't know why this should have happened to me. I'm just an ordinary guy named Charley, thirty-one years old, and I was wearing a tan gabardine suit and a straw hat with a fancy band; I passed a dozen men who looked just like me.**

**(i) List any two details about how Charley was dressed up.**

**Correct Answer:** Charley was dressed in:

1. A tan gabardine suit.
2. A straw hat with a fancy band.

**Solution:** Charley's description of his attire provides a vivid picture of his appearance, which reflects the fashion trends of a past era.

#### Quick Tip

Descriptions of attire and setting are often used to establish the time period or mood in a narrative.

---

**(ii) Charley decided to use the subway because it was:**

- (A) Quicker.
- (B) Cheaper.
- (C) More fashionable.
- (D) Safer.

**Correct Answer:** (A) Quicker.

**Solution:** Charley chose the subway as it was faster than taking the bus, indicating his urgency to reach his apartment quickly.

### Quick Tip

Analyze choices made by characters in specific situations to understand their priorities or constraints.

(iii) Complete the following sentence appropriately.

Landing at the third level was due to Charley's flight of .....

**Correct Answer:** Imagination.

**Solution:** Charley's experience at the third level symbolizes his escapism, driven by his imagination and a longing to escape the harsh realities of life.

### Quick Tip

Imagination in literature often serves as a medium to explore alternative realities and emotional coping mechanisms.

(iv) Which time frame is represented through the kind of outfit mentioned in the extract?

- (A) Pre-World War era.
- (B) The present times.
- (C) The eighteenth century.
- (D) In the future.

**Correct Answer:** (B) The present times.

**Solution:** The outfit described, including the tan gabardine suit and straw hat with a fancy band, reflects the fashion style prevalent during the present times.

### Quick Tip

Fashion and cultural references in a story can help pinpoint the timeline or historical context of the narrative.

---

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

**(a) They have lived here for more than thirty years without an identity, without permits but with ration cards that get their names on voters' lists and enable them to buy grain. Food is more important for survival than identity. "If at the end of the day we can feed our families and go to bed without an aching stomach, we would rather live here than in the fields that gave us no grain", say a group of women in tattered saris when I asked them why they left their beautiful land of green fields and rivers. Wherever they find food, they pitch their tents.**

**(i) The ragpickers have been living there for \_\_\_\_ decades.**

- (A) three
- (B) four
- (C) two
- (D) five

**Correct Answer: (A) three.**

**Solution:** The extract states that the ragpickers have been living there for more than thirty years, which corresponds to approximately three decades.

**Quick Tip**

Focus on numerical details in the text to determine the correct time periods or durations.

---

**(ii) Why do these people have ration cards?**

**Solution:** To get their names on voters' lists and buy grain for survival.

Ration cards ensure access to essential resources, helping them secure food and basic rights

despite their lack of identity or permits.

#### Quick Tip

Understand how basic necessities like food and identity documents shape the lives of marginalized communities.

---

**(iii) What do you infer about their lifestyle from the phrase ‘pitch their tents’?**

**Solution:** It indicates a nomadic and uncertain lifestyle. The phrase reflects their transient existence, dictated by their need for food and survival. They move from place to place, setting up temporary shelters wherever sustenance is available.

#### Quick Tip

Focus on figurative expressions like “pitch their tents” to infer the lifestyle or conditions described in the text.

---

**(iv) In spite of the hardships, they are not willing to go back to their homeland because -----.**

**Solution:** The extract shows that the people prioritize food and survival over identity and comfort. Their homeland lacked resources to sustain them, forcing them to leave in search of a better life.

#### Quick Tip

Understand the motivations behind the decisions of marginalized groups, especially in relation to survival and basic needs.

(v) **The women had a/an \_\_\_\_\_ approach towards life.**

- (A) idealistic
- (B) passive
- (C) indifferent
- (D) practical

**Correct Answer: (D) practical.**

**Solution:** The women show a practical approach by prioritizing survival and food over identity or emotional attachment to their homeland. They adapt to their circumstances to ensure the well-being of their families.

#### Quick Tip

Focus on actions and decisions described in the text to determine the nature of a character's approach to life.

---

(vi) **What does the term 'go to bed without an aching stomach' indicate?**

**Solution:** It indicates having enough food to eat and satisfying their basic need for survival. The phrase reflects their struggle to fulfill the basic necessity of food. Their priority is to ensure that their families are fed and do not experience hunger.

#### Quick Tip

Interpret idiomatic expressions like "aching stomach" in the context of the text to understand the characters' struggles and priorities.

---

**OR**

(b) **Their spontaneous demonstration, in thousands, around the courthouse was the beginning of their liberation from fear of the British. The officials felt powerless without**

**Gandhi's cooperation. He helped them regulate the crowd. He was polite and friendly. He was giving them concrete proof that their might, hitherto dreaded and unquestioned, could be challenged by Indians. The government was baffled. The prosecutor requested the judge to postpone the trial. Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors.**

**(i) The result of the demonstration was that .....**

**Solution:** The demonstration marked the beginning of the liberation from the fear of the British. The spontaneous demonstration of thousands around the courthouse symbolized the unity and strength of the Indian people, challenging the authority of the British and overcoming their fear.

#### Quick Tip

Understand the significance of collective action in historical contexts to identify key outcomes of events.

---

**(ii) The participants of the spontaneous demonstration were:**

- (A) Gandhi's lawyers.
- (B) people of Champaran.
- (C) Indigo landowners.
- (D) Indian soldiers.

**Correct Answer: (B) people of Champaran.**

**Solution:** The people of Champaran demonstrated in support of Gandhi, symbolizing their resistance to British rule and their determination to fight for their rights.

#### Quick Tip

Identify participants in historical events based on the context provided in the extract.

---

**(iii) Gandhi cooperated with the British by:**

- (A) not going to the court.
- (B) remaining quiet when he was accused.
- (C) helping to manage the mob of people.
- (D) leaving Champaran for Delhi.

**Correct Answer: (C) helping to manage the mob of people.**

**Solution:** Gandhi cooperated with the British by regulating the crowd peacefully. This highlighted his leadership and his constructive approach toward the freedom movement.

**Quick Tip**

Focus on Gandhi's actions to understand his principles of nonviolence and cooperation in achieving goals.

---

**(iv) The statement 'Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors' was indicative of the Britishers' .....**

**Correct Answer:** uncertainty.

**Solution:** The British officials were baffled and unsure about how to handle the situation. This revealed their confusion and hesitation in addressing Gandhi's influence and the unity of the Indian people.

**Quick Tip**

Analyze the behavior of characters in the extract to infer their state of mind and decision-making process.

---

**(v) With reference to the extract, the word 'baffled' most nearly means:**

- (A) strengthened.
- (B) disgusted.
- (C) frightened.
- (D) confused.

**Correct Answer: (D) confused.**

**Solution:** The term ‘baffled’ describes the British government’s confusion and lack of preparedness in responding to the unity and resolve of the Indians.

**Quick Tip**

Pay attention to context clues in the extract to determine the meanings of challenging words.

---

**(vi) Whose ‘might’ did this demonstration question?**

**Correct Answer:** The British government’s might.

**Solution:** The demonstration challenged the unquestioned authority and power of the British government, proving that their control could be resisted by a united Indian populace.

**Quick Tip**

Historical events often highlight resistance to oppressive powers. Focus on the text’s central idea to understand the implications.

---

**(10) Answer any *five* of the following six questions in 40 – 50 words each:     5×2=10**

**(i) What inference can you draw about Sophie’s relationship with her father from the story ‘Going Places’?**

**Solution:** Sophie’s father is a hardworking man who dismisses her fanciful stories and dreams. He wants her to focus on her responsibilities and avoid daydreaming about unattainable goals, showing a sense of discipline and concern.

#### Quick Tip

When analyzing relationships in stories, look for dialogue and actions that reveal underlying dynamics and emotions.

---

**(ii) We miss a thing when we are in fear of losing it. Substantiate this statement with two examples from ‘The Last Lesson,’ how the people in the story suddenly realised how precious their language was to them.**

**Solution:** The people of Alsace realized the value of their language when it was taken away. First, M. Hamel emphasized the significance of French, which they had ignored earlier. Second, the villagers gathered to attend the last lesson, showing their regret and newfound respect for their mother tongue.

#### Quick Tip

Focus on the turning points in the story to understand the change in attitudes or emotions of characters.

---

**(iii) What did the peddler say in his defence when it was clear that he was not the person the ironmaster thought him to be? (The Rattrap)**

**Solution:** The peddler defended himself by claiming that it was the ironmaster who assumed his identity. He explained that the world was like a rattrap, where he had been trapped due to circumstances.

### Quick Tip

Understand the metaphorical use of 'rattrap' in the story to grasp its symbolic meaning.

---

#### (iv) What does 'The God That Failed' refer to? (Poets and Pancakes)

**Solution:** 'The God That Failed' signifies a disillusionment with the ideology of Communism, which many believed would provide equality and justice but ultimately failed to deliver on its promises.

### Quick Tip

Pay attention to references that symbolize broader socio-political contexts in literary works.

---

#### (v) Umberto Eco has a formidable reputation as a novelist after the success of 'The Name of the Rose.' Why does he still have apprehensions of being called a novelist? (The Interview)

**Solution:** Umberto Eco feels uneasy being labeled a novelist because writing novels is not his primary occupation. He considers his novels an extension of his academic interests rather than a defining feature of his identity.

### Quick Tip

Understand the duality in a person's professional and personal identity to answer such questions effectively.

---

#### (vi) It is said that the 'Face is a mirror of one's emotions.' Why did the poet 'smile and smile'? (My Mother at Sixty-six)

**Solution:** The poet smiled to hide her inner pain and reassure her mother. Despite being deeply troubled by thoughts of losing her aging mother, the poet controlled her emotions and put on a cheerful demeanor to comfort her mother and herself.

**Quick Tip**

Identify the emotional nuances in a poem to understand the poet’s perspective and underlying sentiments.

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**(11) Answer any *two* of the following three questions in 40–50 words each:**

**(i) What confusion does the Dewan have when the Tiger King broaches the topic of his marriage? (The Tiger King)**

**Solution:** The Dewan is confused about the Tiger King’s unusual request. The Dewan is confused about the Tiger King’s demand to marry a girl whose father owns many tigers. This unusual request reflects the king’s obsession with fulfilling the prophecy.

**Quick Tip**

Focus on character motivations to understand their actions and decisions in a narrative.

---

**(ii) “My Antarctic experience was full of such epiphanies,” says Tishani Doshi. Which experience does she consider the best and why? (Journey to the End of the Earth)**

**Solution:** Tishani Doshi considers the sight of the vast icebergs and pristine wilderness as her best experience. It made her realize the fragility of the planet and the importance of environmental conservation.

### Quick Tip

Highlight personal realizations and their significance when analyzing such excerpts.

---

**(iii) Zitkala-Sa says, “Eating by formula wasn’t the hardest trial in that first day.” What does she mean by ‘Eating by formula’? (Memories of Childhood)**

**Solution:** ‘Eating by formula’ refers to the strict table manners and rules imposed on Zitkala-Sa at the boarding school, which contrasted sharply with her free and natural way of life.

### Quick Tip

Compare a character’s natural tendencies with imposed societal rules to answer effectively.

---

**(12) Answer any *one* of the following two questions in 120 – 150 words:**

**(a) M. Hamel in ‘The Last Lesson’ and Gandhiji in ‘Indigo’ were both concerned about the state of education in the face of oppression. Write a speech to be shared with your peers on the importance of education.**

**Correct Answer:** Speech on the Importance of Education

**Solution:** Dear friends,

Education is the cornerstone of progress and empowerment. As M. Hamel in ‘The Last Lesson’ emphasized, language and education are essential for preserving identity and culture, especially in the face of foreign oppression. Similarly, Gandhiji’s initiative in ‘Indigo’ highlighted how awareness through education can unite people to fight for their rights and dignity.

In today's world, education enables us to break the chains of ignorance and build a better future. Let us learn from these stories and commit to valuing and spreading education, ensuring that its power transforms every individual and society at large.

Thank you.

#### Quick Tip

When writing speeches, focus on connecting ideas to real-world examples and use an inspiring tone to engage the audience.

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**(b) Write a paragraph focusing on how the poems 'Keeping Quiet' and 'My Mother at Sixty-six' illuminate different facets of human introspection and the significance of quiet reflection in understanding oneself.**

**Correct Answer:** Paragraph on Introspection and Quiet Reflection

**Solution:** The poems 'Keeping Quiet' and 'My Mother at Sixty-six' explore the profound themes of introspection and the significance of stillness in understanding oneself. In 'Keeping Quiet,' Pablo Neruda urges humanity to embrace moments of silence, which provide an opportunity for self-reflection and healing. This pause allows individuals to reconsider their actions and their impact on the world.

Similarly, Kamala Das in 'My Mother at Sixty-six' reflects on the inevitability of aging and the emotional turmoil it brings. Through quiet observation, the poet confronts her fears of separation and mortality. Both poems highlight the transformative power of introspection, urging us to connect with our inner selves and the world around us through moments of quiet reflection.

### Quick Tip

To analyze themes effectively, focus on how the poets use imagery and tone to convey deeper meanings.

---

**(13) Answer any *one* of the following two questions in 120–150 words:**

**(a) Dr. Sadao is disturbed and in a dilemma since he has decided to help the enemy soldier. Describe his conflict and the challenges faced in the form of a diary entry.**

**Correct Answer:** Diary Entry on Dr. Sadao’s Conflict

**Solution: Diary Entry:**

**Date:** (Insert Date)

Today was one of the most challenging days of my life. I found myself caught between my duty as a doctor and my loyalty to my country. Treating the enemy soldier was the only humane option, yet I am haunted by the thought of aiding an enemy. My conscience cannot ignore the Hippocratic Oath, which binds me to save lives, but my patriotism makes me question my actions. The pressure from society, my wife’s concerns, and the fear of being labeled a traitor have added to my turmoil. I only hope my decision will not have dire consequences for my family.

**- Dr. Sadao**

### Quick Tip

When writing diary entries, focus on personal emotions, dilemmas, and reflective thoughts to create a realistic narrative.

---

**(b) In the story ‘The Third Level,’ reality and fantasy are interwoven. Justify.**

**Correct Answer:** Reality and Fantasy in ‘The Third Level’

**Solution:** In ‘The Third Level,’ Jack Finney blends reality with fantasy to create a nostalgic escape. The protagonist, Charley, discovers the third level of Grand Central Station, which serves as a portal to the past. While Charley’s experiences suggest a fantastical dimension, the story also captures his longing to escape the stress of modern life. The blend of fantasy and reality is evident when Charley receives a letter from his friend, supposedly sent from the third level. This interplay between real and imagined events highlights the protagonist’s desire for solace in a simpler time.

**Quick Tip**

Focus on how the author uses elements of fantasy to reflect the characters’ emotions and societal pressures.

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