

CBSE Class X English (Language and Literature) Set 2 (2/2/1)
Question Paper with Solutions

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| 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. Read the following text:

(1) Fossil fuels (oil, coal and natural gas) are our most traditional sources for power generation. The energy that's produced from any source other than fossil fuels is termed as alternative energy. Between the two sources, using alternative energy has a lower environmental impact.

(2) We now know that alternative energy sources are the sources we use to supplement or even replace traditional energy sources used for power generation. You could almost say the same thing about renewable energy sources. But there is one subtle difference between the

two. All renewable energy sources fall under the category of alternative energy sources, but it doesn't work the other way around.

(3) That's because renewable energy sources are derived from naturally replenished sources or processes of Earth, such as the sun, wind and water. We refer to these resources as renewable or sustainable since, unlike fossil fuels, this naturally occurring continual renewal makes them inexhaustible. However, alternative energy sources are exhaustible and therefore not renewable. That's the difference!

(4) The equipment necessary to harness energy from alternative sources used to be so expensive that it wasn't practical for consumer use. However, thanks to increased demand, more experienced energy developers, competitive supply chains, improved renewable technologies and enhanced energy efficiency capabilities, that's no longer the case.

(5) When it comes to energy efficiency, the leader of the renewable energy pack is wind energy. Behind wind comes geothermal energy, hydropower, nuclear energy and then solar power. Wind power serves both individuals and entire communities. It is versatile and can be produced from small-scale windmills or wind turbines on residential properties. It can also be produced from large-scale offshore wind farms in the ocean.

(6) We generate geothermal power by tapping into underground reservoirs of hot water and steam. Geothermal electricity can directly heat and cool buildings. Generated from the energy of moving water, hydroelectricity (also known as hydropower) is produced when water behind a dam causes turbine blades to move as it flows through an intake. The turbine blades then rotate a generator to produce electricity that is sent to power homes.

(7) Nuclear energy is created in the form of heat through the fission process of atoms. The initial fission process creates energy and triggers a chain reaction that repeats the process and generates more energy. In nuclear power plants, the heat that fission produces creates steam. The steam then rotates a turbine, which leads to the production of electricity.

(8) Solar power most commonly refers to the use of solar cells to create energy. On a small scale, you may see a few solar panels on a house roof used to produce energy for just that one home. On a larger scale, you may see a solar farm used as a power plant to produce electricity for its consumers.

Answer the following questions based on the above passage:

(i) Which of the following statements best describes the difference between renewable energy sources and alternate energy sources?

- (A) Alternative energy sources are more expensive than renewable energy sources.
- (B) Renewable energy sources are inexhaustible whereas alternate energy sources could be exhaustible.
- (C) Alternative energy sources are as renewable as renewable energy sources.
- (D) Renewable energy sources are exhaustible but alternative energy sources are inexhaustible.

The correct answer is: **(B) Renewable energy sources are inexhaustible whereas alternate energy sources could be exhaustible.**

Solution:

The passage clearly mentions that renewable energy sources like wind, solar, and geothermal are inexhaustible and derived from naturally replenished sources.

On the other hand, alternative energy sources are exhaustible, which means they are limited and not naturally replenished in the same way.

(ii) What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from para (4)? Rationalize your response in about 40 words.

Solution: The tone of the writer is **optimistic and encouraging**. The writer mentions how advancements in technology, demand, and competition have made alternative energy sources more affordable and accessible. This reflects progress and a positive outlook on future energy solutions.

(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately: In the past, alternative energy sources were not used much by the consumers because —.

Solution: In the past, alternative energy sources were not used much by the consumers because **the equipment required to harness energy from these sources was too expensive.**

- As per para (4), the cost of technology used for alternative energy was high, making it impractical for consumer use.

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

to (e) below, identify two sets of antonyms:

- (A) generate and produce
- (B) exhaustible and inexhaustible
- (C) subtle and versatile
- (D) power and energy
- (E) sustainable and exhaustible

Solution: The two sets of antonyms are: **(B) exhaustible and inexhaustible (E) sustainable and exhaustible**

- "Exhaustible" means something that can be used up, while "inexhaustible" refers to something that cannot be depleted.
- "Sustainable" means able to be maintained, while "exhaustible" means it can run out.

(v) Who is the leader of the renewable energy pack and why?

Solution: **Wind energy** is the leader of the renewable energy pack. The passage states that wind energy is the most efficient and versatile form of renewable energy, serving both individuals and entire communities. It can be produced from small residential windmills or large-scale offshore wind farms.

(vi) Based on the reading of the passage, examine, in about 40 words, the difference between geothermal electricity and hydroelectricity.

Solution: **Geothermal electricity** is generated by tapping into underground hot water and steam reservoirs. It can directly heat and cool buildings.

In contrast, **hydroelectricity** is produced by water flowing through turbines in a dam, generating electricity via mechanical movement.

(vii) What is the message conveyed by the passage?

- (A) Only those energy sources should be used which are renewable.
- (B) Wind energy is a renewable as well as inexhaustible source of energy.
- (C) There are plenty of renewable energy sources that can be used to replace traditional energy sources.
- (D) Alternative energy sources are the emerging energy trends and are still evolving.

Solution: The correct answer is: **(C) There are plenty of renewable energy sources that can be used to replace traditional energy sources.**

- The passage emphasizes the importance of renewable energy sources such as wind, geothermal, and solar energy, which are capable of replacing traditional fossil fuels. The passage highlights the growing use and potential of these energy sources in the modern world.

(viii) State whether the following statement is True or False with reference to the given extract.

Hydroelectricity as a renewable energy source is used for residential as well as commercial purposes.

Solution: True.

- The passage explains that hydroelectricity (or hydropower) is generated by moving water behind a dam, which powers turbines to produce electricity. This electricity is used for residential and commercial purposes, as stated in the passage.

Quick Tip

- **Focus on Key Messages:** For questions like (vii), identify the overall message or theme of the passage. It's often about the central idea of the text.
- **True/False Questions:** Carefully read the statement and compare it directly with the text. If it matches the information provided, it's True; if not, it's False.
- **Reread the Relevant Sections:** For specific details (like in (viii)), refer back to the exact lines in the passage that discuss the topic.
- **Clarity in Choices:** Make sure your answers directly match the question, and avoid over-explaining.

Question 2. Read the passage given below:

(1) Mango (*Mangifera indica*) is Asia's most popular fruit and it has gained popularity around the world. It has long been a component of culture and religion as a useful and tasty fruit. In addition to taste, it has many good qualities thus making it to be called as 'King of

Fruits”. Major mango-growing states in India include Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are the leading states in mango production.

(2) Mango is grown in an area of 5.58 million hectares of area in the world. India is the largest producer of mangoes with 46.02 and 45.88 percent of the total world area and production, respectively. However, India being the major shareholder in terms of mango production, exports only 0.52% of its total production indicating the huge gap in exporting of mangoes. Peru exports about 46%, Thailand 24%, Mexico 18% and Brazil 11% of their total mango production. These countries are the bigger challenges for Indian mango exports. Hence, efforts are needed to evolve cheap transportation mechanism, increase the trade agreements with major importing countries and enhance the productivity.

(3) The top importing country is United States of America, however, India exports only two percent of its total exports to the USA. The USA, European countries, the UK, Malaysia and Russia can be the other hotspots where India can target to export the mangoes. The critical issue for exporting to the USA is transportation cost (due to sea route distance) and limited shelf life of mango, while for Europe transportation costs as well as competition by African countries are the major hurdles.

The following chart shows the major export destinations of Indian mangoes in 2019–20:

Table : Major export destinations of Indian mangoes in 2019–20 :

| S.No. | Country | Percentage |
|-------|----------------------|------------|
| 1. | U.S.A. | 2 |
| 2. | Kuwait | 2 |
| 3. | Saudi Arabia | 3 |
| 4. | Qatar | 6 |
| 5. | Bangladesh | 6 |
| 6. | Oman | 7 |
| 7. | U.K. | 9 |
| 8. | Nepal | 24 |
| 9. | United Arab Emirates | 33 |
| 10. | Bahrain | 2 |
| 11. | Others | 6 |

(Adapted for academic usage.)

Answer the following questions based on the above passage:

(i) Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of Para

(1):

We can say that for becoming the king of jungle, Lion has to be the strongest, bravest and the fiercest. Similarly, Mango is known as the king of fruits because — .

Solution: Mango is known as the king of fruits because it is the most popular, tasty, and has many good qualities, as described in the passage. It has earned this title due to its cultural significance and nutritional benefits.

(ii) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of Para (2):

The statement that, India is the largest producer of Mangoes with 45.88 percent of the total world production can be attributed to Indian orchardists, is a/an — (fact/opinion) because it is a/an — (subjective judgement/objective detail).

Solution: The statement expresses a perspective or belief about India's mango production, making it an **opinion** rather than a fact.

Since the statement is based on a view or interpretation of a situation, it is considered a **subjective judgment** rather than an objective detail.

(iii) Justify the following in about 40 words: India being the major shareholder in terms of mango production, exports only 0.52% of its total production.

Solution: India's low mango export percentage despite being the largest producer is due to issues like high transportation costs, limited shelf life of mangoes, and insufficient export infrastructure. India needs to improve export strategies and logistics to bridge this gap.

(iv) Based on the table, which three countries were at par with each other in terms of mango import from India in 2019–20?

Solution: The three countries that imported mangoes from India at par with each other in 2019–20 are **Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar**, each with 2% of the total mango export.

(v) The top mango importing country is the U.S.A., however, India exports only two percent of its total exports to the U.S.A. State any one inference that can be drawn from this.

Solution: One inference that can be drawn from this is that although the U.S.A. is the top

importing country, there is still a limited export share from India due to factors such as high transportation costs and competition from other mango-producing countries. This highlights untapped potential for expanding mango exports to the U.S.A.

(vi) In the given sentence taken from para–2, select the option that correctly replaces the underlined word, with its most likely antonym:

These countries are the bigger challenges for Indian mango exports.

- (A) enigmas
- (B) solutions
- (C) provocations
- (D) disputes

Solution:

The correct antonym for "challenges" in this context is **(B) solutions**.

- "Challenges" refers to problems or difficulties. The opposite of challenges is solutions, which represent answers or remedies.

(vii) Why is India described as the largest producer of mangoes in the world? (Answer in about 40 words.)

Solution: India is described as the largest producer of mangoes because it produces 45.88% of the world's total mango supply. India also covers 46.02% of the total global mango-growing area, making it the dominant player in mango production globally.

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

- (A) India needs to produce more mangoes so that more can be exported.
- (B) The UAE imported most mangoes from India in 2019–20.
- (C) India is the largest producer of mangoes and by putting in more efforts, has the potential to be the largest exporter too.
- (D) More study is needed to find ways to increase the export of mangoes from India.

Correct answer: (C) India is the largest producer of mangoes and by putting in more efforts, has the potential to be the largest exporter too.

Solution: The main takeaway is **(C) India is the largest producer of mangoes and by**

putting in more efforts, has the potential to be the largest exporter too.

- The passage suggests that India is the leading producer but faces challenges in exporting, highlighting the potential to increase exports with better strategies and infrastructure.

Quick Tip

- **Antonym Questions:** Identify the word in the sentence that has the opposite meaning to the options provided. Pay attention to the context in which the word is used.
- **Justification Questions:** Look for specific reasons and evidence mentioned in the passage that support the statement or claim being asked about.
- **Main Takeaway Questions:** Focus on the overall theme or conclusion of the passage. This will help you understand what the author is ultimately trying to convey.

Section - B GRAMMAR AND CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

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

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

Therefore, I request you to please consider this request of — (construct) a park in our society so that each and every person can benefit and we can enjoy a healthy environment amidst the concrete jungle.

Solution: construction

Explanation: The correct form of the verb "construct" is its noun form "construction," which refers to the act of building or creating something.

Quick Tip

When a verb follows "request," it is typically used in its **gerund** (-ing) form. The word "construct" turns into "**constructing**" to fit the sentence structure correctly.

(ii) Read the given sentence from an article on Yoga. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence:

Yoga should help lower blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar, all of which are not good for your heart and blood vessels.

| Error | Correction |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| all of which are not good | all of which are bad |

Explanation: The phrase "are not good" should be replaced with "are bad" to convey a more precise meaning in the context of health.

Quick Tip

In formal writing, using the word "**bad**" is clearer and more direct than saying "not good." "**Bad**" conveys the negative meaning more effectively.

(iii) 'Manthan and Sonalika had a conversation about Sonalika's job interview.

Report Manthan's question.

How are you preparing for the interview?

Solution: Manthan asked Sonalika how she was preparing for the interview.

Explanation: The direct question "How are you preparing for the interview?" is changed to reported speech. The word "how" is used to introduce the reported speech, and the question format is altered to a statement.

Quick Tip

When reporting questions, you need to change the word order to a statement form. Also, shift the tense to **past** when converting to indirect speech. In this case, "are preparing" becomes "**was preparing**."

(iv) Read the dialogue between Meher and her mother, regarding Meher's dance classes.

Mother: Are you enjoying your dance classes?

Meher: Oh Yes! I am loving it. It is so refreshing to attend them after a long day. Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.

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

Meher's mother asked her — . In response, Meher exclaimed and said that she was loving it. She added that it was very refreshing to attend them after a long day.

- (A) whether the dance classes were being enjoyed by her
- (B) whether she is enjoying her dance classes
- (C) whether she was enjoying her dance classes
- (D) whether the dance classes are being enjoyed by her

Solution: Meher's mother asked her (C) **whether she was enjoying her dance classes**. In response, Meher exclaimed and said that she was loving it. She added that it was very refreshing to attend them after a long day.

Explanation: The question in direct speech is about the present continuous action (enjoying), so it needs to be reported in the past continuous tense ("was enjoying").

Quick Tip

In indirect speech, the tense of the original statement is typically **shifted** to the past. "Is enjoying" changes to "**was enjoying**" when reporting the conversation.

(v) Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct option, to complete the line of a circular issued by an organisation, to its stakeholders:

In order to enable the stakeholders to — (access/assess/accent) all the applicable circulars at one place, the provisions of the circulars issued till January 6, 2024, are incorporated in this master circular.

Solution: The correct word is **access**.

Explanation: The verb "access" means to obtain or make use of something. The correct sentence would be: "In order to enable the stakeholders to access all the applicable circulars at one place."

Quick Tip

"**Access**" means to reach or use something. "**Assess**" means to evaluate, and "**accent**" refers to pronunciation. Here, "**access**" is the most appropriate choice.

(vi) Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from a company's orientation programme:

Sentence: A founder's goal, during the first phase, is to learn how to obtain feedback on low prospective and real customers are experience the product.

| Error | Correction |
|----------------|------------|
| are experience | experience |

Quick Tip

The correct phrase is "customers experience the product" because "are" is an auxiliary verb, which is unnecessary here. The verb "experience" should stand alone in this case.

(vii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for a line from a Research Report:

Sentence: In many low and middle income countries, health coverage has improved dramatically in the last two decades, but health outcomes may not.

| Error | Correction |
|---------|--------------|
| may not | may not have |

Quick Tip

In this sentence, the correct form is "may not have" because the action "health outcomes may not have improved" is something that should have been completed in the past. Using "may not" without the auxiliary verb "have" is grammatically incorrect in this context.

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

Sentence: Excited about his newly earned powers, Midas started touching all kinds of things, — each item into pure gold.

1. (A) to turning
2. (B) turning

3. (C) turned

4. (D) turns

Answer: (B) turning

Solution: The verb "turning" is used here as a present participle to indicate the ongoing action or process that happens as a result of Midas touching the items. The structure "started + verb-ing" requires the use of the present participle, making (B) turning the correct choice.

Quick Tip

The correct choice is "**turning**" because it follows "started" which requires the verb in the **gerund** (-ing) form. This matches the sentence's structure.

(ix) Report the dialogue between two friends, Nidhi and Neha, by completing the sentences:

Dialogue: Nidhi: Have you mastered the art of cooking Chinese food?

Neha: Yes, indeed! I have been cooking Chinese food for a month.

Reported Speech: Nidhi asked Neha if she had mastered the art of cooking Chinese food. Neha answered in the affirmative and explained that she had been cooking Chinese food for a month.

Quick Tip

When reporting a question, use "if" or "whether" for yes/no questions. For present perfect continuous tense in direct speech, it changes to past perfect continuous in reported speech.

(x) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the part of the disclaimer given in a textbook:

The authors of the book — all reasonable care to ensure that the contents of the book do not violate any copyright or other intellectual property rights of any person in any manner.

1. (A) has been taking

2. (B) have taken

3. (C) has taken
4. (D) have been took

Answer: (B) have taken

Solution: The subject "The authors" is plural, so the verb should agree with it in number. "Have taken" is the correct form of the verb to match with the plural subject "authors" in the present perfect tense.

Quick Tip

The correct choice is "have taken" because the phrase refers to an action completed in the present, so the present perfect tense is required.

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

Planting a tree is a very noble deed and — the earth from global warming!

1. (A) saves
2. (B) saving
3. (C) had saved
4. (D) should save

Answer: (A) saves

Solution: The verb "saves" is in the present tense, which fits the structure of the sentence. The subject "planting a tree" is singular, so the verb needs to be in the third-person singular form, which is "saves."

Quick Tip

The correct answer is "saves" because it is a simple present tense verb used to describe a general truth or fact.

(xii) Identify the error and supply correction for the following note in a toaster's instruction manual:

Use this appliance only for its intentional use as described in this manual. Do not use attachments that are not recommended by the manufacturer.

| Error | Correction |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| intentional use | intended use |

Quick Tip

The correct phrase is "intended use," meaning the use for which the appliance was designed. "Intentional" refers to something done on purpose, which is not the intended meaning here.

CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

Question 4.

(a) As Nalini Sharda of 409, Surya Apartments, Gopalpur, you believe that pedestrian safety is very important. Footpaths on both sides of the main roads of your city need major repairs and on some stretches they need to be constructed.

Write a letter to the MLA of your city area, in about 120 words, stressing the need for footpaths for pedestrian safety. Share your concern for maintenance of existing footpaths and the need to construct new ones where they are required.

Solution: Letter to the MLA regarding the need for footpaths:

From:

Nalini Sharda
409, Surya Apartments
Gopalpur

Date: February 13, 2025

To:

The Honourable MLA
(Name of the MLA)

(Constituency Name)

(Address)

Subject: Request for Repair and Construction of Footpaths for Pedestrian Safety

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to bring to your attention a matter of serious concern regarding pedestrian safety in our city. As a resident of Gopalpur, I have observed that the footpaths on both sides of the main roads in our locality are in a deplorable condition. Many stretches have developed cracks, uneven surfaces, and potholes, posing a serious risk to pedestrians, especially during peak traffic hours and bad weather.

Moreover, there are several stretches where no footpaths exist, forcing pedestrians to walk on the roads, often in close proximity to fast-moving traffic. This not only endangers their lives but also leads to unnecessary accidents.

I request your immediate intervention to ensure the repair of existing footpaths and the construction of new ones where needed. A well-maintained and extended network of footpaths will significantly improve pedestrian safety and encourage people to walk rather than drive, reducing traffic congestion.

I sincerely hope you will take prompt action to address this issue.

Yours sincerely,

Nalini Sharda

Quick Tip

When writing a formal letter, ensure the tone is polite and professional. Always state your concern clearly, and suggest a feasible solution. Also, make sure to include your name, address, and date for proper identification.

(b) As Sohail Khan, the sports captain of Pinnacle Public School, you believe that fitness as a lifestyle should be promoted. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, suggesting the introduction of 'Cycle to School' campaign for school going students. The programme aims to develop the habit of exercising through cycling to maintain fitness and keeping children active. Share the importance and credibility of such a programme and suggest a feasible way to execute it along with possible activities.

Solution: Letter to the Editor regarding the 'Cycle to School' Campaign:

From:

Sohail Khan

Sports Captain

Pinnacle Public School

(City Name)

Date: February 13, 2025

To:

The Editor

(Name of National Daily)

(Address)

Subject: Suggestion for the Introduction of 'Cycle to School' Campaign

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you as the Sports Captain of Pinnacle Public School to suggest the introduction of a 'Cycle to School' campaign for school-going students. This initiative aims to promote fitness as a lifestyle and encourage children to adopt cycling as a form of regular exercise.

In today's sedentary lifestyle, where children are often glued to screens and lead inactive lives, it is imperative to encourage physical activity. Cycling to school not only serves as an excellent form of exercise but also contributes to reducing pollution and traffic congestion. It fosters a sense of responsibility towards the environment while maintaining physical well-being.

To execute this initiative, schools could organize "Cycle to School" days, provide incentives for regular participation, and ensure the safety of students with proper cycling paths and helmets. Local authorities and school management could collaborate to raise awareness and make the initiative more accessible.

I believe this campaign will significantly contribute to the health and well-being of children across the country. I hope you will consider publishing this idea to inspire other schools and communities to adopt it.

Yours faithfully,

Quick Tip

In formal letters to the editor, your tone should be constructive and respectful. Provide a clear suggestion along with reasons, and support your suggestion with practical ways to implement it. This strengthens your argument and makes the suggestion more feasible.

Question 5(A).

An area is believed to be water stressed when annual water supplies drop below 1700 cubic metres per person per year. As per an analysis, we are already surviving with around 1700–1800 cubic metres per year. As our demand for water has increased drastically over the years, per capita water availability has taken a beating. $1 \times 5 = 5$ Based on the given table, write an analytical paragraph, in about 120 words, analysing the possible causes of water scarcity in the future.

Table on water availability

| Year | Population (Million) | Per capita water availability (m ³ /year) |
|------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 1951 | 361 | 5177 |
| 1955 | 395 | 4732 |
| 1991 | 846 | 2209 |
| 2001 | 1027 | 1820 |
| 2025 | 1394 | 1341 |
| 2050 | 1640 | 1140 |

(A) Analytical Paragraph on Water Scarcity:**Based on the table:**

The analysis of the water availability trend in India indicates a serious decline in per capita water availability. In 1951, the country had a relatively high per capita availability of 5177 cubic metres of water. However, as the population grew rapidly, this number decreased substantially over the decades. By 1991, it had dropped to 2209 cubic metres per person, and by 2001, it had further reduced to 1820 cubic metres. The most alarming projection shows that by 2050, per capita water availability will be as low as 1140 cubic metres per person. This steep decline in water availability can be attributed to various factors such as increasing

population, rapid urbanization, and rising demand for water in agriculture, industries, and daily consumption. Additionally, the depletion of natural water sources, poor water management, and climate change are exacerbating the situation. If the current trends continue, the country could face severe water stress in the coming decades.

Quick Tip

When writing an analytical paragraph, always focus on presenting the data logically. Analyze trends or issues using facts, and suggest potential causes and impacts. Always connect the numbers or facts to the broader issue or solution.

5 (B) There are many types of bottles available in the market. This chart compares the disadvantages and advantages of various types of bottles. Based on the chart, write an analytical paragraph, in about 120 words, analysing the pros and cons of each and selecting a suitable one.

| | Chemical Free? | Environmentally Friendly? | Recyclable? | Durable? | Lightweight? | Easy to Clean? | Dish washer safe? | Affordable? |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------|--------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Glass Bottles | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | No |
| Silicone Bottles | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | Yes | Yes | No |
| Stainless Steel Bottles | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | No |
| Plastic Bottles | No | No | Yes | - | Yes | - | - | Yes |

(Adapted for academic purpose.)

(B) Analytical Paragraph on Bottles Comparison:

Based on the chart:

The chart presents an overview of the advantages and disadvantages of various types of bottles—Glass, Silicone, Stainless Steel, and Plastic. Glass bottles are environmentally friendly, chemical-free, recyclable, and durable, but they are not lightweight and are not dishwasher-safe, making them less convenient for daily use. Silicone bottles, on the other

hand, share many of the same benefits but are more lightweight and easier to clean. However, they are not as durable as glass bottles and are not dishwasher-safe. Stainless steel bottles offer durability, are lightweight, and are dishwasher-safe, but they do not have the same level of cleanliness assurance as glass or silicone bottles. Plastic bottles, while recyclable and affordable, have significant drawbacks—they are neither environmentally friendly nor chemical-free, making them the least suitable choice. Given these factors, stainless steel bottles seem to be the most balanced option for those looking for durability, cleanliness, and ease of use, while silicone bottles might be preferable for those seeking a lightweight and more eco-friendly option.

Quick Tip

When comparing different options, ensure you weigh the pros and cons clearly. Always focus on the most important criteria for your decision, and provide an explanation based on the features given in the chart or table.

Section - C LITERATURE TEXTBOOK

Question 6.(A) Read the given extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two:

(A) The train pulled out of the station — Pranjol buried his nose in his detective book again. Rajvir too was an ardent fan of detective stories but, at the moment he was keener on looking at the beautiful scenery. It was green, green everywhere. Rajvir had never seen so much greenery before. Then the soft green paddy fields gave way to tea bushes. It was a magnificent view. Against the backdrop of densely wooded hills a sea of tea bushes stretched as far as the eye could see. Dwarfing the tiny tea plants were tall, sturdy, shade-trees and amidst the orderly rows of bushes busily moved doll-like figures. (Glimpses of India — Tea from Assam)

Glimpses of India — Tea from Assam

(i) State any one inference about Rajvir from the given context: “Rajvir too was an ardent fan of detective stories, but at the moment he was keen on looking at the

beautiful scenery.”

(i) Inference about Rajvir:

Rajvir, although an ardent fan of detective stories like Pranjol, is depicted as someone who appreciates nature and is curious about the world around him. His keen interest in the beautiful scenery overpowers his usual passion for reading detective stories.

Quick Tip

In literary questions like these, focus on character traits derived from the actions and descriptions in the text. Always link your inference to specific information provided in the extract.

(ii) **True or False:**

Statement: The reason Rajvir was interested in looking at the beautiful scenery was that the detective book he was reading was not interesting.

Answer: False. The extract suggests that Rajvir was simply more interested in the scenery at that moment, not that the detective book was uninteresting.

Quick Tip

Pay close attention to the details in the extract. Often, answers to True/False questions are based on direct textual evidence.

(iii) **People who live in big cities are always fascinated by the natural beauty and abundant greenery. Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract.**

People from urban areas, who are used to the hustle and bustle of cities, often find the tranquility of nature captivating. In the extract, Rajvir’s fascination with the lush greenery and tea plantations reflects how people, especially city dwellers, marvel at the natural beauty that is often absent in urban environments. The expansive green fields and tea bushes provide a refreshing contrast to the concrete jungles of cities.

Quick Tip

For elaboration questions, relate your response to the extract while explaining in simple terms. Use your own experiences or observations to build a coherent response.

(iv) Which phrase would correctly substitute ‘doll– like figures’, in the given sentence from the extract? Dwarfing the tiny tea plants were tall sturdy shade–trees and amidst the orderly rows of bushes busily moved doll–like figures.

The phrase “doll-like figures” in the sentence can be replaced with “tiny figures” or “small people” to convey the image of the people working amongst the tea bushes in a miniature, almost delicate manner.

Quick Tip

When substituting phrases, ensure that the new phrase retains the meaning and imagery of the original. Avoid changing the tone or style of the sentence.

OR

(B) I went back to the bazaar and sat down in the shelter of the clock tower. The clock showed midnight. I felt for the notes. They were damp from the rain. Anil’s Money. In the morning he would probably have given me two or three rupees to go to the cinema, but now I had it all. I couldn’t cook his meals, run to the bazaar or learn to write whole sentences any more. I had forgotten about them in the excitement of the theft. Whole sentences, I knew, could one day bring me more than a few hundred rupees. It was a simple matter to steal and sometimes just as simple to be caught. **(B)** The Thief’s Story

(i) Which of the following is NOT a reason why Hari Singh thinks he would not be able to write whole sentences?

- (A) Anil would not be there to teach him.
- (B) He had robbed Anil and left.
- (C) He would not go back to Anil to learn.
- (D) He had no money to take admission in school

Answer: (D) He had no money to take admission in school.

Solution: Hari Singh is reflecting on his inability to learn whole sentences, not because of financial constraints, but due to the theft and his decision to leave Anil.

Quick Tip

Pay attention to the reasons provided in the text and eliminate options that don't directly relate to the character's situation or thoughts.

(ii) Why is it fair to say that Hari Singh's tone, when he says "I couldn't cook his meals, run to the bazaar or learn to write whole sentences any more," is filled with remorse and regret? Answer in about 40 words.

Answer: Hari Singh's tone in the statement reflects regret because he realizes that by robbing Anil and running away, he has lost the opportunity to learn important life skills. His remorse stems from the realization that Anil, who had trusted him, would no longer be there to guide him, and he would not be able to continue learning basic skills such as cooking or writing sentences, which could have helped him in life.

Quick Tip

To analyze tone, look for words or phrases that express guilt, regret, or any strong emotion. Link these to the actions or consequences mentioned in the text.

(iii) What do you infer about Hari Singh from this statement?

"Whole sentences, I knew, could one day bring me more than a few hundred rupees."

Answer: From the statement "Whole sentences, I knew, could one day bring me more than a few hundred rupees," we can infer that Hari Singh is beginning to value education and learning. Despite his past actions, he recognizes that literacy and education hold the potential for a better future and more substantial rewards than petty theft.

Quick Tip

Inferences are often about a character's evolving mindset. Look for clues in their thoughts or actions that hint at their personal growth or realizations.

(iv) True or False:

Statement: The reason Hari Singh was filled with a feeling of guilt was because Anil trusted

him.

Answer: True. Hari Singh feels guilty because Anil trusted him, and his actions have betrayed that trust. This guilt is a major source of his remorse.

Quick Tip

For True/False questions, focus on the key emotions or actions of the character. Often, guilt or regret is tied to a betrayal or loss of trust, as seen in this example.

Question 7: Read the given extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two:

(A) The true Chameleon is small

A lizard sort of thing;

He hasn't any ears at all,

And not a single wing,

If there is nothing on the tree,

'Tis the Chameleon You see

(How To Tell Wild Animals)

(i) Fill in the blank with one word:

When the speaker says "If there is nothing on the tree, 'Tis the Chameleon you see", he refers to — as characteristic trait of a true Chameleon.

Answer: When the speaker says "If there is nothing on the tree, 'Tis the Chameleon you see," he refers to **camouflage** as the characteristic trait of a true Chameleon.

Quick Tip

When filling in the blank, look for words in the text that describe the animal's characteristics, especially those linked to its behavior or appearance.

(ii) What does the speaker mean when he says, 'A lizard sort of thing'?

Answer: The speaker is drawing a comparison between the Chameleon and a lizard because of their similar appearance. Both animals are small and have similar body shapes, leading the speaker to describe the Chameleon as being "like a lizard."

Quick Tip

In literary analysis, metaphors or comparisons (like “a lizard sort of thing”) help us understand the poet’s perception of the subject. Look for comparisons or descriptions that create a clearer mental image.

(iii) Which of the following best describes the speaker’s disposition while describing the Chameleon?

Answer: (B) playful

The speaker is presenting the Chameleon in a lighthearted, whimsical manner. The use of simple language and playful description suggests a tone of amusement or fun, rather than indifference, dismissal, or respect.

Quick Tip

The tone of the speaker can often be inferred from their choice of words and style. Look for clues like humor, irony, or exaggeration to determine the speaker’s disposition.

(iv) Comment on the poet’s use of language in these lines. Answer in about 40 words.

Answer: In these lines, the poet uses simple and descriptive language to convey the Chameleon’s physical traits and its elusive nature. The phrase “nothing on the tree” highlights the animal’s ability to blend into its environment, emphasizing its camouflage. The tone is playful, adding a light-hearted element to the description.

Quick Tip

In literary questions about language use, always consider how word choices help build imagery or tone. In this case, the simplicity of language emphasizes the Chameleon’s invisibility and the light-hearted nature of the poem.

OR

(B) My head is full of whispers

Which tomorrow will be silent.

Listen. The glass is breaking.

The trees are stumbling forward
into the night. Winds rush to meet them.
The moon is broken like a mirror,
its pieces flash now in the crown
of the tallest Oak.

(The Trees)

(i) Identify the figure of speech used in the line: “The trees are stumbling forward into the night.”

Answer: The figure of speech used in this line is **personification**. The trees are described as if they are human beings stumbling forward, giving them human-like qualities.

Quick Tip

Personification is a figure of speech where non-human objects or abstract concepts are given human qualities. Look for verbs or actions that are typically associated with people or animals.

(ii) Explain the significance of the line: “The moon is broken like a mirror, its pieces flash now in the crown of the tallest Oak.”

Answer: This line uses a simile to describe the moon, comparing it to a broken mirror. The image of the moon being broken reflects a sense of fragmentation or disarray, while the “pieces” flashing in the tree crown could symbolize the beauty and brilliance of the moon, still visible despite its brokenness. This image conveys a feeling of something both beautiful and fleeting.

Quick Tip

Similes compare two things using “like” or “as.” In poetry, these comparisons often convey deeper meanings or emotions. Pay attention to the imagery and mood created by such descriptions.

(iii) Complete the sentence with the appropriate option.

Answer:In the third line, the word ‘Listen’ is used to **(C) emphasise listening carefully as a**

change is about to take place.

The word "Listen" prepares the reader for an imminent change or significant event. It calls attention to the moment and signals that something important is about to happen.

Quick Tip

Words like "Listen" often serve as cues in literature to focus the reader's attention on an important moment or shift. In such cases, the action or event following the cue is crucial to understanding the significance.

(iv) What does the line: "My head is full of whispers which tomorrow will be silent" tell us about the poet's state of mind?

Answer: This line suggests that the poet's mind is filled with unspoken thoughts or uncertainties. The "whispers" symbolize fleeting or quiet thoughts that will eventually fade, indicating that the poet may be experiencing confusion, anticipation, or inner turmoil. It reflects a state of mind that is restless or unsettled, but also transient.

Quick Tip

In questions about the poet's state of mind, look for emotional or sensory language that indicates how the poet is feeling. The use of words like "whispers" suggests inner dialogue or thoughts, indicating a reflective or contemplative state.

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

(i) What idea does the Postmaster come up with? What did he do to stick to his resolution?

Solution: The Postmaster realizes that Lencho, a poor farmer, is steadfast in his belief that God will help him. To fulfill his resolution, he decides to collect money from his colleagues, despite the fact that the amount is beyond his own means. He does this to support Lencho's faith and provide him with help.

Quick Tip

In such questions, focus on the character's inner thoughts and actions. The Postmaster's resolution is motivated by compassion and belief in faith.

(ii) Briefly bring out the contrast between the young seagull's initial attempts to fly and his first successful flight.

Solution: The young seagull's initial attempts to fly were marked by fear and hesitation. He feared the vastness of the sky and was too scared to leap off the ledge. However, in his first successful flight, driven by hunger and the encouragement of his family, he overcame his fear and soared into the sky, feeling the thrill of freedom and success.

Quick Tip

The contrast highlights the theme of overcoming fear and gaining confidence through persistence and encouragement.

(iii) Explain why Amanda wants to be an orphan.

Solution: Amanda yearns to be an orphan because she feels stifled by her mother's constant instructions and scolding. She imagines that being an orphan would bring her freedom, silence, and the chance to roam freely without any constraints or responsibilities.

Quick Tip

Amanda's wish reflects her desire for autonomy and escape from the restrictions imposed on her by her mother's rules.

Solution: (iv) Mijbil turned out to be a playful pet. Elaborate.

Mijbil, the otter, turned out to be a highly playful and affectionate pet. He would often engage in playful activities, like splashing water and rolling around, bringing joy to his owner. His mischievous nature and endearing antics made him a delightful companion.

Quick Tip

In questions about animals as characters, focus on their behavior and interactions with humans, as these often highlight their role in the story.

(v) Ogden Nash uses vivid imagery in ‘The Tale of Custard the Dragon’ to appeal to the senses. Elaborate the imagery used for the Pirate.

Solution: Ogden Nash uses vivid imagery to describe the pirate as a fearsome figure, with his "beard like a tree" and "eyes like a red-hot stove." These descriptions appeal to the senses by evoking a visual and intense feeling of terror, which contrasts with Custard's calm and timid nature.

Quick Tip

Imagery in poetry uses sensory details to create a vivid mental picture. Focus on how the poet describes appearance, sounds, or emotions.

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

(i) What does Mr. Herriot mean by “happy period” for himself and his partners?

Explain.

Solution: Mr. Herriot refers to the "happy period" as a time in their practice when they were constantly busy with a variety of cases and had a great deal of satisfaction in helping animals. It was a time when they worked hard but also experienced the joy of seeing animals recover and knowing they had made a difference.

Quick Tip

In such questions, focus on how the character reflects on a particular period, emphasizing their emotions and experiences.

(ii) Justify how Ebright's mother played an important part in becoming him a scientist.

Solution: Ebright's mother played a crucial role in his journey to becoming a scientist by encouraging his curiosity and supporting his interests. She provided him with books and materials that sparked his interest in nature and science, helping him develop his research skills and fueling his determination to explore and learn.

Quick Tip

Look for specific instances where the character's family members support their ambitions. This shows how their encouragement shapes the character's future.

(iii) A well-known book of nursery rhymes saved the world from a Martian invasion.

Comment with reference to 'The Book that Saved the Earth'.

Solution: In "The Book that Saved the Earth," the nursery rhyme book plays a pivotal role in protecting Earth from Martians. The Martians, who misunderstood the rhymes as powerful and destructive, were intimidated and fled. This highlights the humor and irony of how something so innocent and harmless can have such an enormous impact when misunderstood.

Quick Tip

In such questions, focus on how literary devices like irony and humor are used to create unexpected or comical outcomes in the story.

Question 10. Answer any one of the following two questions in 100–120 words:

(A) A desire is more personal whereas a vision has broader connotations. You have been asked to present an analysis of Valli's desire and Mandela's vision and how they are respectively fulfilled. Write this presentation draft including your insights, in about 120 words, comparing the approaches of both Valli and Mandela.

You may begin like this:

One acknowledges that both, Valli and Mandela — however, (Reference - Nelson Mandela - A Long Walk to Freedom Madam Rides a Bus)

Solution: One acknowledges that both, Valli and Mandela, were driven by strong aspirations, but while Valli's desire was personal and focused on experiencing a bus ride, Mandela's vision was broader, aimed at achieving equality and justice for his people. Valli's journey in "Madam Rides a Bus" was driven by a simple, innocent wish to break free from the constraints of her village life, whereas Mandela's vision, as described in "A Long Walk to Freedom," was rooted in the collective struggle of an entire nation against apartheid. Both

were fulfilled, but Valli's desire was achieved in a moment of personal triumph, while Mandela's vision unfolded over many years of sacrifice and struggle, impacting an entire country.

Quick Tip

Compare personal desires with larger societal visions in both literature and real life. Pay attention to how each character's journey reflects their aspirations.

(B) You have been chosen to address the student gathering from the nearby schools, to speak on “How to Deal with Loss – Personal or Material”. Prepare the speech draft in not more than 120 words, with reference to the commonality of themes in John Berryman's “The Ball Poem” and “A Sermon at Benaras”.

Solution: Good morning everyone. Today, I'd like to discuss two pieces of literature that offer a powerful insight into how we can learn to deal with loss. In John Berryman's “The Ball Poem,” the loss of a simple ball becomes a metaphor for deeper, personal loss. Berryman shows us that while material possessions can be lost, the lessons we learn from those losses stay with us. Similarly, in “A Sermon at Benaras,” the poet speaks of the impermanence of life and how accepting loss can bring inner peace. Both pieces teach us that loss, whether material or personal, can lead to growth and understanding if we accept it with grace.

To conclude, I'd like to say that loss, though painful, is an inevitable part of life, and learning to cope with it is crucial for personal growth. Thank you.

Quick Tip

Focus on how different literary works present the same theme. Analyze how the writers use symbols to communicate broader messages about life and loss.

Question 11. Answer any one of the following two questions, in 100–120 words:

(A) Imagine that Griffin's conscience pricks him and he decides to write a diary entry, about misusing science and endangering society, in the context of his own experience.

Write this diary entry, as Griffin, in about 120 words.

Diary Entry:

Date: 12th March, 2024

Today, as I sit and reflect on my actions, my conscience pricks me. The path I have chosen, the reckless use of science, has cost society dearly. I sought to make myself invisible, to gain power over others, but in doing so, I endangered innocent lives. My scientific knowledge, once a tool for progress, has now become a weapon of destruction. I used my intellect for selfish purposes, ignoring the consequences of my actions. The invisibility I sought has left me alone and isolated. I have become a prisoner of my own creation. I must warn others—science, if misused, can destroy not only the fabric of society but also one’s own soul.

Quick Tip

When writing a diary entry, reflect on the emotional journey and the impact of the character’s actions on themselves and others.

(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 their experiences, challenges and interaction with other characters.

In the light of the above information, trace the character arc of Matilda in Guy De Maupassant’s ‘The Necklace’, in about 120 words.

Solution: Matilda Loisel, in Guy De Maupassant’s ”The Necklace,” begins as a discontented and materialistic woman, dissatisfied with her modest life and dreaming of wealth and luxury. She borrows a beautiful necklace to attend a high-society event, only to lose it. Faced with the consequences, she and her husband sacrifice everything to replace it, living in poverty for ten years. During this time, Matilda transforms. The hardship forces her to work hard and endure suffering, leading her to develop a more realistic understanding of life. When she learns that the necklace was a fake, her character arc reaches its climax—she has gone from vanity and superficiality to a deep appreciation of life’s true value.

Quick Tip

Focus on the change in the character's outlook and behavior from the beginning to the end of the story. Character arcs reflect the internal transformation influenced by external events.
