

**CBSE Class X English (Language and Literature) Set 3 (2/3/3)**  
**Question Paper with Solutions**

<b>Time Allowed :3 Hours</b>	<b>Maximum Marks :80</b>	<b>Total questions :11</b>
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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) The 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

### Reading Skills

#### 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.

**(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.

**Correct Answer:** (B) Renewable energy sources are inexhaustible whereas alternate energy sources could be exhaustible.

**Solution:** Renewable energy sources are derived from naturally replenished sources such as the sun, wind, and water, making them inexhaustible. On the other hand, alternative energy sources include both renewable and non-renewable sources, which means some could be exhaustible.

### Quick Tip

Understand the subtle differences between terms like *renewable* and *alternative* to identify the correct option.

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

**“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”**

**Solution:** The tone of the writer is optimistic and positive. The passage mentions advancements in renewable technologies, increased demand, and competitive supply chains, which have made alternative energy more affordable and practical for consumers.

### Quick Tip

When identifying tone, look for words or phrases that express the writer’s attitude toward the subject.

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**(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 consumers because the equipment necessary to harness them was too expensive for practical use.

### Quick Tip

Use context clues in the passage to complete sentences logically and accurately.

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**(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

**Correct Answer:** (b) exhaustible and inexhaustible, (e) sustainable and exhaustible.

**Solution:** The words *exhaustible* and *inexhaustible* are clear antonyms, as one refers to something that can be used up while the other cannot. Similarly, *sustainable* and *exhaustible* are opposites because sustainability refers to long-term usage without depletion.

#### Quick Tip

When identifying antonyms, focus on contrasting meanings of words provided in the passage.

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

**Solution:** Wind energy is the leader of the renewable energy pack because it is versatile, efficient, and can be produced on both small and large scales. It serves both individuals and entire communities effectively.

#### Quick Tip

Look for superlative words like “leader” or “most” in the passage to identify the key detail.

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**(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 underground reservoirs of hot water and steam. In contrast, hydroelectricity is produced by the energy of moving water, where the flow rotates turbine blades to generate electricity.

**Quick Tip**

Summarize technical concepts clearly by comparing their processes and sources.

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**(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.

**Correct Answer:** (C) There are plenty of renewable energy sources that can be used to replace traditional energy sources.

**Solution:** The passage emphasizes the importance of renewable energy sources like wind, solar, and geothermal as sustainable solutions to replace traditional fossil fuels. These sources are inexhaustible and environmentally friendly, making them ideal alternatives.

**Quick Tip**

When identifying the message, focus on key ideas or repeated themes in the passage.

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**(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.* Hydroelectricity is generated by the energy of moving water, which powers turbines to produce electricity. This electricity is distributed for both residential and commercial purposes.

### Quick Tip

For *True/False* questions, locate the exact information in the passage to verify accuracy.

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## 2. Read the following text, an excerpt from a case study titled

### “Scouts and Guides Around the World.”

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(1) Many young people aged between 6 and 25 belong to the Scout movement. It is a worldwide organization, which was set up to help young people achieve their full potential as they grow up.

(2) The organization was established in 1907 by a British general called Robert Baden-Powell. While in the army, he wrote a publication about scouting (which means searching and keeping watch) and how to survive in the wild, called ‘Aids to Scouting’. He recalled how popular this was, and the result was another book, ‘Scouting for Boys’, which had less emphasis on the military. To test his ideas, he held a week-long camp for 21 boys from various schools in London, Poole and Bournemouth. This took place in August 1907, on Brownsea Island, in Southern England. These boys had the chance to enjoy outdoors, which became another of the movement’s objectives.

(3) The Scout Movement quickly got established in Europe. It then spread throughout the world, starting in Chile in 1909. To begin with, the focus was on boys aged 11 to 18. However, as the movement grew, it was clear that younger boys, older boys and girls all wanted to be involved too. Baden-Powell’s sister set up the Girl Guides in 1910, and in 1914 she started Rosebuds, later renamed Brownies, for younger girls. The movement’s intention to help young people play useful roles in society applies equally to girls and boys. By 2010, there were 32 million scouts, and by 2006, there were 10 million guides around the world, from a total of 216 different countries.

(4) 2007 marked 100 years of the Scout Movement, and events took place around the world

to celebrate this centenary. To mark the occasion, a colourful badge was produced for scouts to sew onto their uniforms or bags. The design included the official scout emblem, as well as the phrase, ‘one world one promise’, and images of doves and the globe.

(5) 2007 was also the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Baden-Powell’s birth. To honour both occasions, a flame was lit at Baden-Powell’s grave in Nyeri. This is the place in Kenya where he spent the last few years of his life. The flame was then carried through several countries until it reached the UK.

Country	Membership	Population Induction	Scouting Induction	Guiding Induction
India	41,500,000	0.3%	1909	1911
Indonesia	17,100,000	7.2%	1912	1912
Philippines	21,500,000	2.2%	1910	1918
Thailand	13,00,000	1.9%	1911	1957
United States	75,00,000	2.4%	1910	1912

**(i) Infer one reason for the following, based on the information given in paragraph 4:**

*‘Colourful badge was sewn on to the uniform and bags of the Scouts.’*

**Solution:** The colourful badge was designed to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Scout Movement. It symbolized the pride, unity, and achievements of scouts globally and marked a significant milestone.

#### Quick Tip

Commemorative symbols like badges often serve as reminders of significant milestones and achievements. They strengthen unity and pride among members.

**(ii) From paragraph 1, we can infer that Scout Movement was set up ----.**

**Solution:** The Scout Movement was set up to help young people achieve their full potential through outdoor activities, leadership development, and life skills. It aimed to guide them towards becoming responsible and active members of society.

### Quick Tip

The Scout Movement focuses on character-building and preparing youth for the future.

(iii) Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from paragraph 4:

*10 years : decade :: 100 years : -----*

**Solution:** The correct word to complete the analogy is **centenary**.

**10 years** represents a **decade**, and **100 years** represents a **centenary**.

### Quick Tip

A “centenary” or “centennial” is a celebration of a 100-year period.

(iv) After reading the passage, bring a contrast between the books ‘Aids to Scouting’ and ‘Scouting for Boys’.

**Solution:** The book ‘*Aids to Scouting*’ was primarily written for soldiers, teaching survival skills like tracking and observation for military use. In contrast, ‘*Scouting for Boys*’ was aimed at young boys, focusing on outdoor adventures, team spirit, and character development. The latter book laid the foundation for the Scout Movement.

### Quick Tip

‘Aids to Scouting’ emphasized military survival skills, whereas ‘Scouting for Boys’ inspired youth through outdoor adventure and character-building.

(v) What does the writer mean by the following phrase?

*‘One world one promise.’*

**Solution:** The phrase “One world one promise” signifies the unity and shared values among scouts worldwide. Despite cultural and geographical differences, scouts across the globe uphold the same principles of service, loyalty, and respect, embodying a common promise to make the world a better place.

### Quick Tip

This phrase emphasizes inclusivity, peace, and cooperation among scouts worldwide.

(vi) According to the chart, which country took maximum time to introduce ‘Guiding’ after ‘Scouting’? Choose your answer from the options given below:

- (A) India
- (B) Indonesia
- (C) Thailand
- (D) Philippines

**Correct Answer: (C) Thailand**

**Solution:** The chart shows that the Thailand introduced ‘Scouting’ in 1910 and ‘Guiding’ in 1940, indicating a delay of 30 years, which is the longest among the given options.

### Quick Tip

Pay attention to data interpretation in charts, focusing on time gaps and comparisons.

(vii) List two reasons why a flame was lit at Baden-Powell’s grave in 2007.

- (a) \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) \_\_\_\_\_

**Solution:** (a) The flame was lit to honour the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Scout Movement.  
(b) It also marked the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of the Scout Movement.

### Quick Tip

Commemorative events often highlight significant milestones and achievements to inspire future generations.

(viii) Fill in the blank by selecting the correct option:

The establishment of Scout Movement from 1907 to 2006 showed \_\_\_\_\_ results.

- (A) uniform
- (B) encouraging
- (C) inconsistent
- (D) disappointing

**Correct Answer: (B) encouraging**

**Solution:** The Scout Movement grew tremendously over a century, involving millions of boys and girls across the world. The consistent increase in membership and its positive global impact make the results *encouraging*.

#### Quick Tip

Focus on words that reflect positive or negative outcomes when analyzing growth and achievements.

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## Section B

### Grammar and Creative Writing Skills

#### GRAMMAR

**3. Complete any TEN out 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.**

Attached is the invoice that \_\_\_\_\_ (detail) the expenses incurred during the team's business trip to Tribogh.

**Correct Answer:** details

**Solution:**

The word "detail" in the bracket needs to be converted to its present tense "details" as it refers to the current state of the invoice. In formal writing, present tense is often used for describing documents.

### Quick Tip

Always ensure the subject-verb agreement matches the context of formal communication.

**(ii) Read the given sentence from a recipe review article. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.**

The upma recipe was so delicious that I couldn't barely stop myself from having a second helping.

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

Error	Correction

**Solution:**

Error	Correction
couldn't barely	could barely

The error is the use of the double negative "couldn't barely." It creates confusion because two negatives cancel each other. The correct sentence should read "I could barely stop myself."

### Quick Tip

Avoid double negatives in writing; they make the sentence grammatically incorrect and harder to understand.

**(iii) Mahi and Pankaj had a conversation about volunteer work. Report Mahi's question.**

**Mahi: How do you balance your volunteer work with your personal life?**

**Pankaj : I set a particular time for volunteering and ensure I have enough time for my personal activities.**

**Correct Answer:** Mahi asked Pankaj how he balanced his volunteer work with his personal life.

**Solution:**

The reported speech changes the question to a statement. The verb “do” is replaced with “did” in the past tense, and “your” changes to “his.” Proper reported speech syntax is followed.

**Quick Tip**

When converting direct speech to reported speech, pay attention to tense changes and pronouns.

**(iv) Read the dialogue between Rita and Jeetu about a hobby course.**

Rita: Why did you decide to take up painting?

Jeetu: I view painting as a form of self-expression and relaxation.

Select the option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue:

Rita asked Jeetu why he had decided to take-up painting. Jeetu calmly explained that ----- self-expression and relaxation.

- (A) he views painting as a form of
- (B) he has viewed painting as a form of
- (C) he viewed painting as a form of
- (D) he is viewing painting as a form of

**Correct Answer:** (C) he viewed painting as a form of

**Solution:**

The reporting speech changed to the past tense because Jeetu’s view about painting is still relevant and ongoing.

**Quick Tip**

When converting direct speech to reported speech, ensure the verb tense aligns with the past tense reporting verb. For example: Direct: “I view painting...” Reported: He *viewed* painting...

(v) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete an issued circular by an organization, to its Managers.

Attached is the new company policy on remote work and \_\_\_\_\_ (it / these / them) should be distributed to all employees as soon as possible.

**Correct Answer:** it

**Solution:**

The pronoun “it” refers to a singular noun, “the new company policy.” Therefore, the correct option is “it.” “These” and “them” are plural pronouns and are incorrect in this context.

**Quick Tip**

Always match the pronoun with the number (singular/plural) of the subject it replaces.

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(vi) Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from a technology company’s product description.

Our latest software solution is designed for help businesses streamline their operations.

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

Error	Correction

**Solution:**

Error	Correction
for help	to help

The preposition “for” is incorrect here. The correct preposition “to” should be used because the phrase “designed to help” is grammatically appropriate.

**Quick Tip**

When expressing purpose or intention, use “to” followed by the base form of the verb.

**(vii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the public health campaign.**

Our goal is to promoting healthier meal choices in schools and at home.

<b>Option No.</b>	<b>Error</b>	<b>Correction</b>
(A)	goal	goals
(B)	choices	choice
(C)	in	at
(D)	promoting	promote

**Correct Answer:** (D) promoting → promote

**Solution:**

The error is “to promoting,” which is incorrect because “to” should be followed by the base form of the verb. Therefore, the correct sentence is “Our goal is to promote healthier meal choices.”

**Quick Tip**

The infinitive “to” must always be followed by the base form of the verb.

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

My visit to the historical museum left me \_\_\_\_\_ deeply appreciative of our ancestors’ struggles and achievements.

- (A) being
- (B) was
- (C) been
- (D) to be

**Correct Answer:** (A) being

**Solution:**

The correct sentence is: “My visit to the historical museum left me *being* deeply appreciative...” Here, “been” fits the grammatical structure as part of the passive verb construction after “left me.”

#### Quick Tip

The verb “left” requires the present participle (being) to describe a state or feeling caused by the action. For example: “My visit to the museum left me *being* appreciative...” This conveys the ongoing impact of the visit.

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**(ix) Report the dialogue between a vendor and his customer, by completing the sentence:**

**Vendor: It seems like you’re in a hurry today!**

**Customer: Yes, I have to pick up my daughter at school soon.**

**The vendor noticed his customer’s sense of urgency and asked about it. The customer confirmed this and explained that -----.**

**Correct Answer:** he had to pick up his daughter at school soon.

**Solution:**

The reported speech changes the present tense “have” to the past perfect tense “had” because the reporting verb is in the past tense.

#### Quick Tip

When converting direct to reported speech, remember to adjust the tense to match the reporting verb.

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**(x) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence to share the latest update on the school art competition.**

**Our talented young artists have done us proud once again as our school’s art team ----- the top spot in the state-level competition.**

(A) won

- (B) win
- (C) is winning
- (D) has win

**Correct Answer:** (A) won

**Solution:**

The sentence is in the past tense (“have done us proud”), so the appropriate verb to indicate a completed action is “won.”

**Quick Tip**

Use simple past tense to express completed actions that happened at a specific point in the past.

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**(xi) Complete the sentence from the song, by filling in the blank with the correct option:**

**The frosty winter mourns your absence,  
The snow flakes and ice \_\_\_\_\_ your warmth.  
The fireplace flickers in longing,  
As the cold night awaits your returns.**

- (A) crave
- (B) craves
- (C) craved
- (D) shall crave

**Correct Answer:** (B) craves

**Solution:**

The subject “snowflakes and ice” is treated as a singular entity (a poetic device), so the singular verb “craves” is correct. It aligns with the present tense description of the scene.

**Quick Tip**

For poetic or literary contexts, objects or natural elements are often treated as singular subjects when personified.

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**(xii) Identify the error and supply the correction for this line from a sociological research paper.**

There's a significant correlation of low income and high crime rates.

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

Error	Correction

**Solution:**

Error	Correction
of	between

The error lies in the use of the preposition “of.” When showing a relationship between two items, the correct preposition is “between.” The corrected sentence is:

“There’s a significant correlation *between* low income and high crime rates.”

**Quick Tip**

Use “between” to show a relationship, comparison, or connection involving two entities.

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**CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**

**4. (a) The bursting of the sewage pipe in your colony has led to an overflow of sewage making it impossible to travel on A2 and A3 streets of your colony. The stench is unbearable and the colony gates have to be closed leading to traffic jams. In addition, the overflowing sewage water has become a breeding ground for mosquitoes. As secretary RWA, you have been repeatedly complaining to the civic authorities but to no avail.**

**You are Shanti / Shantam of Kanchan Vihar. Write a letter to your local MLA requesting immediate action.**

**Answer:**

**Shanti Sharma**

Secretary, Residents' Welfare Association (RWA)

Kanchan Vihar

Date: 12 December 2023

**To**

The Honorable Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA)

Kanchan Vihar Constituency

**Subject: Immediate Action Required to Resolve Overflowing Sewage Issue**

**Respected Sir/Madam,**

I write to draw your immediate attention to a serious problem affecting our locality. The bursting of a sewage pipe in Kanchan Vihar has resulted in an unbearable overflow of sewage water on A2 and A3 streets. The situation has become dire for the residents due to the following issues:

1. The stench is intolerable, making it extremely difficult to step out of houses.
2. Traffic congestion occurs as the colony gates remain closed for safety reasons.
3. Stagnant sewage water has become a breeding ground for mosquitoes, posing a significant health risk to residents.

Despite repeated complaints to civic authorities, no concrete action has been taken so far. I, as the Secretary of the RWA, humbly request you to intervene and ensure that the authorities repair the sewage pipe urgently. Additionally, steps must be taken to clean the area, sanitize it, and eliminate the mosquito breeding grounds.

Your prompt action will be highly appreciated by the residents of Kanchan Vihar.

**Yours sincerely,**

**Shanti Sharma**

Secretary, Residents' Welfare Association (RWA)

#### Quick Tip

When writing formal letters, ensure to keep the tone polite and concise. Highlight key issues clearly using bullet points for better readability. Conclude with a respectful appeal for prompt action.

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**(b) As President of the Mountaineering Club of your school, you wish to organize a weekend trek to Kemty Falls. You are Pratibha / Prateek. Write a letter to the Director, Outdoor Adventures mentioning your proposed travel dates, number of students and teacher escorts. Find out about the mode of travel options, boarding, lodging, trekking gear, camping facilities, and cost.**

**Solution:**

**Pratibha Sharma**

President, Mountaineering Club

Springfield High School, Dehradun

Date: 12 December 2023

**To**

The Director

Outdoor Adventures Pvt. Ltd.

Mussoorie, Uttarakhand

**Subject: Inquiry Regarding Weekend Trek to Kemty Falls**

**Respected Sir/Madam,**

As the President of the Mountaineering Club of Springfield High School, I am planning to organize a weekend trek to Kemty Falls. The purpose of this trek is to provide students with a thrilling outdoor experience and to instill a sense of adventure and responsibility.

I request you to kindly share the following details: 1. Proposed travel dates: 22nd and 23rd January 2024.

2. Number of participants: 40 students and 3 teacher escorts.

3. Mode of travel options: Buses or other transport arrangements.

4. Details of boarding and lodging facilities.

5. Availability of trekking gear and camping facilities.

6. Total cost, including food, travel, and accommodation.

I would appreciate it if you could provide a detailed itinerary and breakdown of the expenses at the earliest. This will help us finalize the arrangements and obtain necessary permissions from the school authorities.

Your prompt response will be highly appreciated.

**Yours sincerely,**

**Pratibha Sharma**

President, Mountaineering Club

#### Quick Tip

Always include specific details such as dates, number of participants, and additional queries when writing formal letters related to events or activities. A structured layout ensures clarity and quick responses.

**5. (a) The data given below represents the percentage of some of the electronic devices used in India. Summarize and analyse the data in about 120 words. Give all necessary details and compare the segments where relevant.**

S. No.	Devices	Percentage
1	Television	86%
2	Electronic toys	40%
3	Mobile phones	96%
4	Laptops	38%
5	Refrigerators	69%
6	Kitchen appliances	84%

**Answer:**

The table reflects the use of electronic devices in Indian households, highlighting diverse patterns of consumption. Mobile phones top the list with 96%, showing their indispensability in modern life. Televisions, at 86%, continue to be a primary source of entertainment for Indian families, while kitchen appliances rank close at 84%, indicating their growing importance in simplifying household chores.

Refrigerators, at 69%, signify a strong demand for food preservation and storage. However, laptops and electronic toys show comparatively lower percentages of 38% and 40%,

respectively. This may be due to affordability constraints, less widespread access, or limited demand among specific age groups.

A comparative analysis reveals that essential devices like mobile phones, televisions, and refrigerators are prioritized for their utility. In contrast, laptops and electronic toys, though gaining popularity, remain secondary needs. The data clearly highlights the evolving technological landscape in India, where practical devices drive consumption patterns.

### Quick Tip

When summarizing data, start by identifying the highest and lowest values. Then analyze patterns, trends, and practical reasons for the variations in percentages.

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**(b) Based on the following extract, write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words:**

“One of the biggest changes in our lives over the past decade is the ability to order items online and have them delivered to our doorstep. The prevalence of this raises an important question of how it affects our environment. Though buyers conserve fuel and reduce emissions from their vehicles, it is replaced by additional mileage of truck routes. Also a large amount of wastage is generated from packaging such as cardboard boxes, bubble wraps, plastic bags etc.”

You may begin like this :

As a responsible citizen, I believe .....

You may end like this :

For these reasons, I believe, we need to limit the wastage associated with online shopping.

**Answer:**

The rise of online shopping has revolutionized our lives, offering unmatched convenience. However, its environmental impact cannot be ignored. While it reduces the need for individual vehicle emissions, the cumulative effect of delivery trucks traveling long distances adds to carbon emissions.

Another critical concern is packaging waste. Products are often wrapped in layers of plastic, bubble wrap, and cardboard, which contributes to land and water pollution. These materials

are rarely biodegradable, further damaging the ecosystem.

To address this, consumers must choose environmentally responsible sellers that use sustainable packaging. Companies, too, must adopt green logistics, such as optimizing delivery routes and promoting reusable packaging. By balancing convenience with sustainability, we can reduce online shopping's adverse impact on the environment.

#### Quick Tip

When analyzing extracts, focus on identifying the problem, explaining its causes, and providing practical solutions. End with a positive outlook or call to action.

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## Section C

### LITERATURE

**6. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any ONE of the given two**

**(a) Tenth May dawned bright and clear. For the past few days, I had been pleasantly besieged by dignitaries and world leaders who were coming to pay their respects before the inauguration. The inauguration would be the largest gathering ever of international leaders on South African soil. The ceremonies took place in the lovely sandstone amphitheatre formed by the Union buildings in Pretoria. For decades this had been the seat of white supremacy, and now it was the site of a rainbow gathering of different colours and nations for the installation of South Africa's first democratic non-racial government.**

*(Nelson Mandela – Long Walk to Freedom)*

**(i) What do you infer from the following statement? “The inauguration would be the largest gathering ever of international leaders on South African Soil.”**

**Correct Answer:** The statement highlights the global importance of the event.

**Solution:**

The inauguration symbolized the dawn of a new democratic era in South Africa. Leaders from various countries attended the event, marking it as a globally significant occasion. This gathering celebrated the end of apartheid and reflected international support for equality and justice.

#### Quick Tip

Focus on terms like "largest gathering" and "international leaders" to infer the importance and scale of the event.

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**(ii) Explain in about 40 words the effective shift from white supremacy to a rainbow gathering.**

**Correct Answer:** The shift reflects peace, diversity, and inclusion.

#### Solution:

South Africa transitioned from decades of racial discrimination under white supremacy to becoming a unified, diverse nation. The term 'rainbow gathering' signifies peace, inclusiveness, and the coexistence of different races under the new democratic government led by Nelson Mandela.

#### Quick Tip

Connect historical terms like "white supremacy" with symbolic concepts like "rainbow gathering" to understand societal shifts.

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**(iii) Which phrase would correctly substitute 'pleasantly besieged' in the given sentence from the extract?**

**Correct Answer:** *Overwhelmed in a positive way.*

#### Solution:

The phrase 'pleasantly besieged' can be replaced with "overwhelmed in a positive way." It captures the idea of being surrounded by dignitaries and world leaders, an experience that was both grand and enjoyable for the narrator.

### Quick Tip

Pay attention to tone modifiers like "pleasantly," which add positivity to otherwise negative words like "besieged."

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**(iv) State True or False with reference to the given extract.**

The past of the 'amphitheatre' had been a seat for theatrical performances.

**Correct Answer:** False

**Solution:**

The amphitheatre mentioned in the extract had historically been a symbol of white supremacy, not for theatrical performances. It became a site for celebrating unity and the establishment of South Africa's democratic government.

### Quick Tip

Always read between the lines and cross-check phrases from the passage for accuracy.

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**(b) Anyone could ramble on and leave big spaces between the words, but the trick was to come up with convincing arguments to prove the necessity of talking. I thought and suddenly I had an idea. I wrote the three pages, Mr. Keesing had assigned me and was satisfied. I argued that talking is a students' trait and that I would do my best to keep it under control, but that I would never be able to cure myself of the habit since my mother talked as much as I did if not more, and that there's not much you can do about inherited traits.**

(From the Diary of Anne Frank)

**(i) State any one inference about Anne from the given context.**

"Anyone could ramble on and leave big spaces between the words, but the trick was to come up with convincing arguments to prove the necessity of talking."

**Correct Answer:** Anne was clever and witty. She knew how to use arguments smartly to justify her actions, showing her intelligence and presence of mind.

**Solution:** Anne was not only articulate but also insightful. She cleverly turned the situation to her advantage by creating a logical argument for her talkative nature. This highlights her creativity and sharp reasoning skills.

**Quick Tip**

Highlight Anne's wit and ingenuity while inferring her cleverness.

---

**(ii) In about 40 words, elaborate on the justification Anne gives for her talkative nature.**

**Correct Answer:** Anne justified her talkative nature by calling it an inherited trait.

**Solution:** Anne defended her talkative nature by stating that talking is a student's characteristic. She humorously explained that her habit was inherited from her mother, who talked just as much, if not more. Her witty explanation satisfied Mr. Keesing.

**Quick Tip**

Focus on Anne's humorous justification and link it to inherited traits.

---

**(iii) Which one of the following best describes the tone of the given extract?**

- (A) derogatory
- (B) persuasive
- (C) nostalgic
- (D) cautionary

**Correct Answer:** (B) persuasive

**Solution:** The tone of the passage is persuasive because Anne argues convincingly to defend her habit of talking. She presents her reasons smartly and in a light-hearted manner, successfully persuading her teacher to accept her explanation.

**Quick Tip**

Identify the tone by understanding Anne's use of logical arguments and humor.

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(iv) Which phrase would correctly substitute ‘ramble on’ in the given sentence from the extract?

**Correct Answer:** ‘go on talking’

**Solution:** The phrase ‘ramble on’ means to talk continuously and at length without focus. The most appropriate substitute from the context would be ‘go on talking,’ which conveys the same meaning in a simpler form.

**Quick Tip**

Substitute phrases based on their contextual meaning.

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7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any ONE of the given two

(a) *He stalks in his vivid stripes*

*The few steps of his cage,*

*On pads of velvet quiet,*

*In his quiet rage.*

(i) Explain the contrast created by the words, ‘stalks’ and ‘few steps of his cage’.

**Solution:**

The word “stalks” suggests the tiger’s power, strength, and wild nature as he moves with grace and authority. In contrast, “few steps of his cage” highlights the confinement and restrictions imposed on him. This contrast creates a vivid image of the tiger’s suppressed rage and his helplessness in captivity.

**Quick Tip**

Focus on contrasts in literary imagery to emphasize themes like freedom and captivity.

---

(ii) Which of the following best describes the tiger’s feelings in the context?

(A) anger

- (B) conflicted
- (C) pessimism
- (D) apprehension

**Correct Answer:** (A) anger

**Solution:**

The tiger's feelings reflect anger because he is trapped in a confined space. He stalks his cage in quiet rage, indicating his frustration and aggression at being denied his freedom.

**Quick Tip**

Focus on key phrases like “quiet rage” to understand the emotional tone of the text.

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**(iii) Comment in about 40 words on the poet's use of imagery in the above extract.**

**Solution:**

The poet uses powerful imagery to depict the tiger's situation. The phrases “vivid stripes” and “pads of velvet quiet” convey the tiger's majestic beauty, while “few steps of his cage” and “quiet rage” highlight his confinement and anger.

**Quick Tip**

Imagery appeals to senses and emotions. Analyze descriptive words to uncover deeper meanings.

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**(iv) Which word in the stanza means the same as ‘clear and bright’?**

**Correct Answer:** vivid

**Solution:**

The word “vivid” in the line “He stalks in his vivid stripes” means clear, bright, and colorful. It emphasizes the striking appearance of the tiger's stripes.

### Quick Tip

Synonyms are often embedded in descriptive words. Look for context clues within the stanza.

*(b) And no one buys a ball back, Money is external*

*He is learning, well behind his desperate eyes*

*The epistemology of loss, how to standup.*

**(i) When the poet says that “no one buys a ball back”, what does he refer to in the context of the poem?**

### Solution:

The phrase “no one buys a ball back” symbolizes the inevitability of loss. The poet refers to how some losses, like the boy’s ball, cannot be recovered with money, teaching the boy an important life lesson about acceptance and resilience.

### Quick Tip

Symbolism is a key device in poetry. Relate objects like “ball” to abstract ideas like loss.

**(ii) Complete the sentence with an appropriate option:**

*The lines from the poem tell us that the boy is experiencing -----.*

- (A) distress
- (B) terror
- (C) realisation
- (D) elation

**Correct Answer:** (C) realisation

### Solution:

To select the correct answer, we consider the meaning of each option:

**Distress** refers to extreme anxiety or sorrow.

**Terror** means intense fear.

**Realisation** means coming to understand something.

**Elation** means great happiness or excitement. Since the correct answer is **(C) realisation**, it suggests that the boy is experiencing a moment of understanding or awareness about something important in the poem.

#### Quick Tip

Pay attention to emotional clues like “desperate eyes” to determine the tone.

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**(iii) What is the significance of the term “desperate” used to describe the boy’s eyes in the poem, and how does it contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem?**

**Solution:**

The word “desperate” describes the boy’s emotional state as he faces the reality of loss. It highlights his helplessness and inability to control the situation. This contributes to the somber and reflective tone of the poem, emphasizing themes of growing up and learning about loss.

#### Quick Tip

Analyze descriptive adjectives like “desperate” to understand emotional depth in poetry.

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**(iv) Identify and discuss the poet’s use of metaphor in the poem “The Ball Poem”.**

**Solution:**

The poet uses the ball as a metaphor for life’s possessions and losses. The loss of the ball represents the inevitable losses we face in life. It teaches the boy a deeper lesson about letting go, resilience, and accepting change.

#### Quick Tip

Metaphors often convey abstract ideas. Relate objects like “ball” to life experiences or lessons.

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**8. Answer any FOUR of the following questions in 40-50 words each.**

**(i) Explain the irony in the chapter, “A Letter to God”.**

**Solution:**

The irony in “A Letter to God” is that Lencho, a poor farmer with immense faith in God, prays for help and receives money from the post office employees who collect funds to help him. Ironically, Lencho assumes the employees are thieves and accuses them of stealing part of the money. This highlights Lencho’s unwavering trust in God but lack of faith in humans.

**Quick Tip**

Irony often involves a twist between expectation and reality. Focus on the contradiction in Lencho’s perception and the actions of the post office employees.

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**(ii) “During our childhood in Goa, the baker used to be our friend, companion and guide.” What does this statement imply in relation to the character of the baker? (Glimpses of India)**

**Solution:**

The baker in Goa was a significant figure in the lives of children. He was not only a provider of bread but also a beloved friend and companion. Children eagerly awaited his arrival for the sweet bread-bangles. The baker symbolized joy, tradition, and an integral part of their lives, highlighting his strong cultural and emotional connection with the community.

**Quick Tip**

Focus on the role of traditional figures like bakers in fostering joy and community bonding. Highlight their cultural significance.

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**(iii) It is our attitude towards a situation that makes it positive or negative. Do you agree with it? Express your views with reference to the poem ‘Dust of Snow’.**

**Solution:**

Yes, the poem “Dust of Snow” by Robert Frost illustrates how attitude determines our response to situations. The poet initially feels gloomy, but a small incident—snow falling from a crow—changes his mood positively. This reflects how even minor events can transform negativity into hope if perceived with an open mind.

#### Quick Tip

Focus on how perspective influences outcomes. A positive mindset can transform small moments into meaningful experiences.

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**(iv) Belinda and other animals have been described as brave. But on seeing the pirate they behaved in a cowardly way. How did they react? (A Tale of Custard, The Dragon)**

#### Solution:

In “A Tale of Custard, The Dragon,” Belinda and her pets boast of their bravery. However, when the pirate arrives, they panic and hide. Ink the cat, Blink the mouse, and Mustard the dog all flee in fear. Surprisingly, Custard, who was always mocked for being cowardly, bravely fights and defeats the pirate, proving his true courage.

#### Quick Tip

Focus on contrasts in character behavior. Highlight how Custard’s actions defy expectations and reveal the theme of hidden bravery.

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**(v) Flying is a natural act in birds. Then why was the young seagull ‘exhausted by the strange exercise’? Justify the given statement with reference to baby seagull’s fear. (His First Flight)**

#### Solution:

The young seagull was afraid to fly because he feared falling. Despite his siblings flying confidently, his lack of self-belief held him back. When hunger forced him to take his first flight, the physical effort and emotional strain left him “exhausted by the strange exercise.” This highlights how overcoming fear can be both challenging and liberating.

### Quick Tip

Overcoming fear requires courage and effort. Focus on the emotional and physical challenges the seagull faces in taking its first flight.

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## 9. Answer any TWO out of the three questions in 40-50 words each.

**(i) Do you think Bholi could have confidently refused to marry Bishamber if she wasn't educated? Give reasons. (Bholi)**

### **Solution:**

Bholi's education played a pivotal role in shaping her confidence and self-respect. Initially timid and neglected, education transformed her into a courageous individual. It taught her the importance of equality and dignity. When Bishamber insulted her father and demanded dowry, Bholi refused to marry him. Her education empowered her to reject societal pressure and stand up for herself, even if it meant staying unmarried. Without education, Bholi would have lacked the confidence to oppose such injustice, remaining trapped in societal norms.

### Quick Tip

Education is the key to empowerment. It equips individuals with the confidence to challenge unfair practices and uphold their dignity.

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**(ii) Who was Henry? What role did he play in Ausable's plan? (The Midnight Visitor)**

### **Solution:**

Henry, though entirely fictional, was an integral part of Ausable's ingenious strategy to outwit Max. When Max threatened Ausable with a gun, Ausable remained calm and spun a story about an upcoming delivery of drinks by a waiter named Henry. This quick thinking created confusion and panic in Max's mind. Coupled with the fabricated balcony story, Henry's "arrival" added pressure, forcing Max to act impulsively. Thinking Henry might discover him, Max leaped to his doom. Ausable's presence of mind, combined with his fictitious story, effectively neutralized the situation without any physical confrontation.

### Quick Tip

Quick wit and calm thinking in moments of crisis can often outsmart even the most dangerous opponents.

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**(iii) Horace Danby was a typical thief. Describe how he planned his work. (A Question of Trust)**

**Answer:**

Horace Danby was not an ordinary thief; he was a meticulous planner who executed his crimes with precision and caution. Unlike common criminals, Horace Danby lived a quiet and respectable life, earning his livelihood by repairing locks. However, every year, he planned and committed one well-organized theft to sustain his passion for rare and expensive books.

Horace's method of planning was systematic. Before committing the theft, he gathered detailed information about the target house. He studied its layout, the daily routine of its occupants, and the security arrangements. He would ensure that the house was empty at the time of the burglary. Horace wore gloves during the operation to avoid leaving fingerprints, highlighting his attention to detail.

Despite his careful planning, Horace's downfall came when he underestimated the clever woman at Shotover Grange. She outwitted him by pretending to be the lady of the house and tricked him into opening the safe, which led to his eventual arrest.

### Quick Tip

To answer character-based questions effectively, describe the character's traits, actions, and include references to their role in the story with supporting details.

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**10. Answer any ONE of the following questions in about 100-120 words.**

**(a) Compare and contrast the lives of Valli and the other character, who displayed similar character traits.**

Compare and contrast the lives of Valli and the other character, that you have chosen from the text of Two Stories about Flying.

You may begin this way.

The characters who are fearless and determined from two texts are Valli and ——.

(Reference: Madam Rides a Bus & Two Stories about Flying)

**Solution:**

Valli, from “*Madam Rides a Bus*”, and the young seagull, from “*Two Stories about Flying*”, share remarkable traits of courage, determination, and fearlessness. Valli, despite her young age, was sensitive and ambitious. She undertook a solo bus journey, driven by her strong desire to explore the world. Her determination overcame the fear of traveling alone. She displayed maturity beyond her years by saving money for the trip.

Similarly, the young seagull was afraid to fly initially. However, driven by hunger and the need to survive, he overcame his fear and successfully took his first flight. His courage marked the beginning of independence.

Both characters demonstrate that bravery and self-reliance help overcome challenges. Valli and the seagull inspire us to conquer fear and embrace growth.

**Quick Tip**

Courage often stems from a strong will. Challenges become stepping stones when faced with determination.

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**(b) Based on your understanding of the Play ‘The Proposal’, what do you think of relationships?**

**Prepare a speech draft on relationships based on Natalya’s and Anne Frank’s characters.**

**You may begin this way.**

**Good morning everyone.**

**Relationships are the bond between two people based on mutual likes, understanding, need, or love. I’d like to discuss relationships as portrayed in the two texts .....**

**You may end this way.**

**To conclude, I’d like to say that .....**

**Thank you,**

(Reference: The Proposal from the Diary of Anne Frank)

**Solution:**

*Good morning everyone.*

Today, I'd like to talk about relationships. Relationships are the foundation of human existence, and both Natalya and Anne Frank's lives provide insights into this vital aspect of life.

In "*The Proposal*", Natalya's relationship with Lomov portrays relationships driven by mutual need and societal expectations. Despite petty arguments and pride, their bond reflects practicality over emotion. This highlights how relationships are often shaped by circumstances rather than feelings.

In contrast, Anne Frank's diary reflects her loving and hopeful nature. Her relationship with her family, especially her father, demonstrates understanding and emotional support during adversity. Through Anne, we see how love and trust sustain relationships even in dire situations.

*To conclude*, relationships thrive on understanding, patience, and emotional connection. We must nurture them with care to make them meaningful.

#### Quick Tip

Strong relationships are built on mutual respect, emotional understanding, and the ability to overcome differences.

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**11. Answer any ONE of the following questions in about 100-120 words.**

**(a) Griffin's brilliance as a man of science fades before his darker traits. Give reasons from the text to support your answer. (Reference: Footprints Without Feet)**

**Solution:**

Griffin, the protagonist of "*Footprints Without Feet*", is depicted as a brilliant scientist who discovers the formula for invisibility. His scientific achievement is remarkable, proving his intellect and innovation. However, Griffin's brilliance is overshadowed by his darker traits. Griffin misuses his scientific power for personal gain and unethical acts. After becoming

invisible, he indulges in criminal activities such as theft, breaking into shops, and harassing people. He burns down his landlord's house in anger, showing his violent and impulsive nature. Instead of using his discovery for the benefit of humanity, Griffin turns into a fugitive and a menace to society.

Thus, Griffin's genius as a scientist fades because of his greed, lack of morals, and inability to control his darker instincts. His story serves as a warning about how brilliance, when devoid of ethics, can lead to downfall.

#### Quick Tip

True brilliance lies not just in talent but in using it responsibly for the good of society.

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**(b) Hari Singh says – “He knew it but neither his lips nor his eyes showed anything.” Anil successfully addressed the situation by not addressing it all. Elaborate based on your reading of *The Thief's Story*.**

#### **Solution:**

In “*The Thief's Story*”, Anil's response to Hari Singh's betrayal showcases maturity, wisdom, and kindness. Hari Singh steals Anil's money but later feels guilty and returns it. Anil, despite realizing the theft, does not confront Hari or show any sign of disappointment. Instead, he treats Hari with the same trust and compassion as before.

By not addressing the incident directly, Anil teaches Hari Singh a profound lesson. His silence conveys forgiveness and understanding, inspiring Hari to introspect and change his ways. Anil's approach shows that trust and kindness can have a greater impact than punishment. This subtle and gentle method transforms Hari Singh and instills in him a sense of responsibility.

Anil's silent response proves that addressing mistakes with empathy and trust can reform even the most hardened individuals.

#### Quick Tip

Sometimes, silence and kindness speak louder than words. Forgiveness has the power to inspire positive change.

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