

CBSE 12 English (1/5/3) Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 hours

Maximum Marks :100

Total questions :13

General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

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

SECTION A

Reading Skills

1. Read the text given below

(1) Five enterprises received approval and grants for prototype development of sustainable educational toys.

(2) The government authorities, educational institutions, and EdTech start-ups are planning to introduce state-of-the-art, made-in-India educational toys that not only throw light on Indian values and civilizations but also help in developing children's critical thinking and decision-making skills.

(3) One such enterprise is working on different types of projects that can teach children how electromagnets and magnetic fields work. These projects can resolve a lot of issues in many schools in tier two and three cities that don't have proper infrastructure. Another is working on an excavation site to teach children about ancient Indian civilizations. It has implanted a few artifacts at the site, which the children will have to find so that they learn how to preserve and label artifacts. Another start-up has proposed to create miniaturized labs for schools in tier two and three cities where children can learn concepts of Physics. "We will ensure that these prototypes are developed within a year and then the production can be scaled up," says the senior manager of the project, talking about the importance of indigenously-built educational toys.

(4) Playtime is vital for the cognitive development of children, and toys are an essential component that helps enhance specific cognitive abilities and skill sets. "Well-designed toys ignite students' curiosity, increase focus, and can be very beneficial in helping them master a skill and enhance understanding. These can be in the form of visuals, auditory aids, kinesthetic, or a mixture of all three," says the HOD of Early Childhood Education.

(5) Toys offer an engaging avenue to teach mathematical, verbal, and problem-solving skills. "Toys that engage students in experiential learning enhance their special awareness and fine motor skills. Those designed for two or more players help students develop better social skills as they learn to negotiate, settle differences, etc., with their peers."

(6) Experiential gadgets and toys enable students to learn faster and retain lessons longer. "A child's interest is piqued when taught in a contextual framework as opposed to rote learning. The Indian education system has been witnessing several innovations with the development of toys and gadgets that can be used and felt in person or through VR platforms across subjects, be it Science, Technology, Math, or Engineering."

(i): By tier 2 and tier 3 cities, the author refers to:

- (A) Metro cities
- (B) Cities with huge population
- (C) Underdeveloped cities
- (D) Cities with less population

Correct Answer: (C) Underdeveloped cities.

Solution: The passage describes tier 2 and tier 3 cities as being smaller, with less infrastructure and population density compared to major metro cities.

Quick Tip

Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities are considered underdeveloped in the text due to their lack of robust infrastructure, as noted in paragraph (3).

(ii): Complete the sentence with evidence from the text.

The made-in-India educational toys serve a dual purpose of ____.

Correct Answer: Highlighting Indian values and developing critical thinking skills.

Solution: The passage explains that the toys combine education with play, promoting both cognitive development and cultural awareness.

Quick Tip

According to paragraph (2), the toys aim to "highlight Indian values and civilizations" while simultaneously fostering "critical thinking and decision-making" skills.

(iii): The author's point of view that can be inferred from the above passage is that ____.

- (A) Educational toys are the booming business.

- (B) Educational toys are meant to entertain children.
- (C) Educational toys will replace teachers.
- (D) Educational toys will make education more pragmatic.

Correct Answer: (D) Educational toys will make education more pragmatic.

Solution: The author suggests that these toys provide hands-on learning experiences, which make education more practical and grounded in real-world concepts.

Quick Tip

Paragraph (3) highlights how these toys teach practical subjects, such as electromagnets and physics, using a hands-on approach, making education more pragmatic and application-oriented.

(iv): Complete the following sentence appropriately:

Educational toys enhance the personality of children by ----.

Correct Answer: Enhancing cognitive skills and abilities.

Solution: These toys stimulate children’s creative thinking and problem-solving abilities, aiding in their overall cognitive development.

Quick Tip

According to paragraph (4), educational toys support cognitive development through interactive learning methods, including visual, auditory, and kinesthetic techniques.

(v): Read the five headlines (a) – (e), given below :

- (A) Sustainable Educational Toys are Developmentally Appropriate.
- (B) Sustainable Educational Toys Promote Free Play.
- (C) Sustainable Educational Toys Free and Widespread.
- (D) Sustainable Educational Toys Experiential Learning.
- (E) Sustainable Educational Toys Hinder Interaction with People.

Identify the option that displays the headline that DOES/DO NOT correspond with what the passage highlights.

- (A) only (e)
- (B) (a) and (b)
- (C) (c) and (e)
- (D) only (d)

Correct Answer:(C) (c) and (e)

Solution: The passage underscores the benefits of educational toys, such as promoting interaction and social learning, which contradicts the claims made in option (E) and (C).

Quick Tip

In paragraphs (1)-(6), the passage illustrates how these toys foster interaction, collaboration, and engagement, directly opposing the notion in option (E) that they hinder interaction.

(vi) What evidences do you gather from the passage to state that educational system is revolutionized by educational toys? Answer in about 40 words.

Solution: Educational toys transform the education system by integrating learning with play. They enhance creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, offering an engaging and sustainable learning experience that combines entertainment with education.

Quick Tip

Directly reference specific evidence in the passage that supports the claim of revolutionizing education.

(vii) Explain in about 40 words, how education at the grassroots level is benefitted by these projects.

Solution: Grassroots education gains by making learning methods more accessible and creative. These projects actively engage children, especially in rural areas, promoting hands-on learning and inclusivity by involving teachers and parents, thus enhancing overall educational participation.

Quick Tip

Emphasize the specific advantages for rural or underserved communities as highlighted in the passage.

(viii) As opposed to learning by heart, experiential toys:

- (A) Ignite interest
- (B) Challenge the teachers
- (C) Replace textbooks
- (D) Confuse learners

Correct Answer: (A) Ignite interest.

Solution: Experiential toys captivate learners by encouraging hands-on participation and sparking curiosity. This active learning method fosters deeper engagement, which helps ignite interest in the subject matter.

Quick Tip

Look for how experiential learning actively engages students and makes learning more stimulating.

(ix) Playing is usually considered a distraction. Is it justified on the part of the narrator to assert that playing is an important aspect of education? Write your answer in about 40 words.

Solution: Yes, playing is integral to education as it fosters well-rounded development. It enhances cognitive, social, and motor skills while encouraging creativity and cooperation, making the learning process enjoyable and less stressful.

Quick Tip

Highlight how play contributes to various aspects of development, making learning both fun and effective.

2. Read the text given below :

(1) People below the age of 20 and above the age of 50 are more likely to believe fake news. Those relatively new to the use of the internet still do not grasp the concept of fake information over these platforms, reveals a new survey "Countering Misinformation in India." This survey has been conducted jointly by the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI).

(2) At least 40% of the respondents believed in "misinformation" received over social media if it came with leading backgrounds and evidence, while 34% of them believe the information when it is shared by a trustworthy organization.

(3) The dominant factor that drives people to forward such information is their belief that it might benefit others and help in their safety. In fact, that was the response of almost 50% of the respondents. This was compounded by the fact that at least 20% of the respondents expressed their lack of trust in conventional media, thus placing their faith in content shared by common people over social media.

(4) But even then, newspapers still remain the top source of information for most. At least 53% of the respondents trust what is generally perceived as neutral media, and only 29% trust technology and social media platforms.

(5) However, what was surprising was that almost 45% of the respondents did not even know about the existence of fact-checking organizations, and most did not even know that journalists had to verify data before they let it out. Only 26% of the respondents believe that it is the responsibility of the media to curb or identify fake news. Many respondents also put the responsibility of identifying such fake news on individuals.

(6) The survey has found that first-time or early users of internet platforms are more susceptible to fake news than others. There is a need for building capacities and creating a National Civic Digital Literacy Strategic Plan.

(i): Select the option that comes under conventional media:

- (A) Instagram
- (B) Newspaper
- (C) Facebook
- (D) E-mail

Correct Answer: (B) Newspaper.

Solution: Conventional media includes long-established means of communication such as newspapers, television, and radio, which have been primary sources of news for many years.

Quick Tip

The passage mentions that traditional media, including newspapers, remain a widely trusted source, with over half of respondents relying on them for information (Paragraph 4).

(ii): Select the correct option: One factor that prompts people to believe fake news is that ____.

- (A) It supports their point of view
- (B) They are biased
- (C) It is from a reliable site
- (D) It has more 'likes' and 'shares'

Correct Answer: (C) It is from a reliable site

Solution: People tend to accept fake news when they believe the source is credible, reinforcing their pre-existing beliefs and making them less likely to question the accuracy of the content.

Quick Tip

According to Paragraph 3, many individuals spread fake news because they assume the source is legitimate or aligns with their own views, leading them to overlook fact-checking.

(iii): What, according to the passage, are the intentions of people who share information?

Correct answer: To benefit others and enhance safety.

Solution: Individuals share information for various reasons, such as spreading awareness, reinforcing their own opinions, or influencing others through their beliefs.

Quick Tip

Paragraph 3 suggests that the primary reason people share content is their belief that it could assist or protect others.

(iv): Which reason, as inferred from the passage, is responsible for journalists spreading misinformation?

Correct Answer: Lack of awareness about fact-checking and data verification.

Solution: Due to time constraints and pressure to release news quickly, journalists sometimes skip verifying facts, which can result in the spread of misinformation.

Quick Tip

Paragraph 5 explains that a significant number of respondents were unaware of the role of fact-checking agencies, leading to journalists unintentionally spreading misinformation.

(v): Complete the sentence appropriately:

The threat faced by the new entrants in social media is **competition from established platforms and credibility issues**.

Solution: New social media platforms face difficulties in gaining recognition due to the dominance of established players and the challenge of proving their reliability.

Quick Tip

The passage emphasizes the struggle of emerging platforms to gain trust and user engagement in a competitive digital space.

(vi): Explain your understanding of the difference between ‘misinformation’ and ‘fake news’.

Solution: Misinformation is the unintentional spread of incorrect details, while fake news is deliberately crafted to mislead and manipulate public perception.

Quick Tip

Understanding intent is key—misinformation arises from errors, while fake news is designed to deceive.

(vii): As per your inference drawn from Para (1), which category of people fall as victims to fake news?

Solution: Individuals who lack awareness, are overly trusting, or fail to cross-check information are the most vulnerable to fake news.

Quick Tip

Focus on characteristics like trustfulness and lack of information verification when identifying potential victims.

(viii): What is the blame game that goes on in fixing the onus of identifying fake news?

Solution: The responsibility for identifying fake news is often deflected between social media platforms, content creators, and the audience, with no single group willing to take full accountability for addressing the issue.

Quick Tip

Pay attention to the shifting of blame among different parties and their reluctance to claim responsibility.

SECTION B

Creative Writing Skills

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

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

(a) Bharat Public School, I.P. Nagar, has recently constructed a Science Park, a dedicated area where specific equipment based on principles of science is set up. As Rashi Kapoor, President of Science Club, draft a notice for the school notice board, informing students of the same. Mention relevant details.

Solution: Notice for School Notice Board

Bharat Public School, I.P. Nagar

Notice

Date: February 19, 2025

Inauguration of Science Park

We are pleased to announce that the school has built a new Science Park featuring state-of-the-art scientific equipment designed to enhance hands-on learning. The park will be inaugurated on 20th January 2025 at 10:00 AM. All students are encouraged to attend the ceremony and explore the interactive exhibits.

For more details, please contact the undersigned.

Rashi Kapoor

President, Science Club

Quick Tip

Essential Elements of a School Notice:

- Include the institution's name and the word **NOTICE**.
- Use direct, simple language to communicate the event.
- Be sure to mention key details like date, time, and venue.
- Conclude with the issuer's name and role.

OR

(b) You are the President, RWA Silver Oak Society. Draft a notice for the society notice

board informing residents about the appointment of security guards at Gate Nos. 2, 3, and 4 and an increase of 1,000 in the annual maintenance charges to meet the expenditure. Mention relevant details.

Solution: Notice for Society Notice Board

RWA Silver Oak Society

Notice

Date: February 19, 2025

Appointment of Security Guards and Maintenance Update

We would like to inform all residents that security guards have now been appointed at Gate Nos. 2, 3, and 4 to enhance security measures within the society. To accommodate these new expenses, the annual maintenance charges will be increased by 1,000 starting February 2025.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact the undersigned.

President

RWA Silver Oak Society

Quick Tip

Key Points for Drafting a Society Notice:

- Start with the society name and the word **NOTICE**.
- Clearly state the purpose, like changes in security or fees.
- Include detailed information such as dates and charges.
- Finish with the issuer's name, title, and signature.

4: Attempt ANY ONE of the following two, in about 50 words. (a). You are a student counsellor of N.J. Public School. You are invited by S.M. International School, Kala Puram, to address Class XII students on Goal Setting & Time Management. Write a

formal letter of reply accepting the invitation and confirming your presence at the stated time, including relevant details.

Solution: Formal Letter of Acceptance

Letter

N.J. Public School

15th January 2025

The Principal

S.M. International School

Kala Puram

Subject: Acceptance of Invitation to Address Class XII Students

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am delighted to accept your kind invitation to speak to the Class XII students on "Goal Setting & Time Management." I confirm my presence at the scheduled time, 10:00 AM, on 20th January 2025. It would be a pleasure to guide and interact with the students on this crucial topic.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Warm regards,

[Your Name]

Student Counsellor

N.J. Public School

Quick Tip

Essential Aspects of Formal Replies:

- Acknowledge the invitation courteously.
- Clearly indicate acceptance or decline.
- Mention important event details such as date and time.
- Use a professional and structured format.

OR

(b). You are Mr. Anmol Gupta. You are planning to celebrate your sister's silver jubilee wedding anniversary. Draft the invitation card to be sent to relatives and friends, sharing all relevant details.

Solution: Invitation Card

Invitation Card
<u>You Are Cordially Invited</u>
Occasion: Silver Jubilee Wedding Anniversary
Hosts: Mr. Anmol Gupta & Family
Date: 25th January 2025
Time: 7:00 PM onwards
Venue: Lotus Banquet Hall, Green Park, New Delhi
Join us as we celebrate 25 years of love and togetherness with an evening of joy, laughter, and cherished memories. Your presence would mean the world to us.
Warm regards,
Anmol Gupta

Quick Tip

Guidelines for Crafting Invitation Cards:

- Clearly mention the event, date, time, and venue.
- Use an inviting and warm tone.
- Keep the message brief yet informative.
- Optionally include RSVP details.

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

(a) You are Niharika / Nitish, a qualified software engineer. You saw the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Draft an

application for the position advertised.

<p style="text-align: center;">TECH MAHINDRA Requires Software Engineer</p> <p>Qualification : B.E. Computer Science Experience : Min. 2 yrs. In the relevant field Age : Not more than 28 years Skills : Knowledge of HTML, Research skills, Software building</p> <p>Apply to The Manager, Tech Mahindra, 40, L.G. Road, Teenalipuram.</p>
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Solution:

15, Sunrise Apartments,

Teenalipuram,

Date: 17th January 2025

The Manager,

Tech Mahindra,

40, L.G. Road,

Teenalipuram.

Subject: Application for the Position of Software Engineer

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am excited to apply for the Software Engineer position at Tech Mahindra, as advertised. I hold a B.E. in Computer Science and have over two years of experience in software development. My skill set includes expertise in HTML, research, and software development, allowing me to contribute effectively to your team.

I have enclosed my résumé for your review. I am eager to discuss how my experience and passion for technology can add value to your company. Looking forward to the opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Niharika/Nitish

Quick Tip

Key Elements of a Job Application:

- Mention the job position explicitly.
- Highlight your relevant qualifications and experience.
- Maintain a professional and concise tone.
- Attach or mention the enclosed résumé.

(b) The civic authorities have upgraded the central park in your colony with a walking track, open-air gym, and a children’s play corner with swings. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your views on the responsibilities of citizens to support civic authorities in ensuring the upkeep of neighbourhood parks.

- Purpose – Help Civic Authorities/Upkeep maintenance of parks
- Conduct R.W.A meetings.
- Put up notices.
- Increase the number of garbage bins and create awareness of its proper utilization.
- Put notices on the fixed timings of parks and instructions on how to use the park effectively.
- Motivate residents to plant more trees and flowers in the park.

Solution:

25, Green Valley Apartments,

Teenalipuram,

Date: 17th January 2025

The Editor,

Daily Chronicle,

Teenalipuram.

Subject: Citizens’ Role in Maintaining Neighborhood Parks

Dear Sir/Madam,

The recent renovation of the central park with new amenities is a remarkable effort by the civic authorities. The addition of a walking track, an open-air gym, and a children’s play area has significantly improved community engagement. However, maintaining these facilities is a shared responsibility.

Residents should actively participate in R.W.A. meetings, ensuring cleanliness and discipline in park usage. Adequate garbage bins should be placed to prevent littering, and awareness campaigns can encourage proper waste disposal. Displaying notices on park usage guidelines and designated timings can enhance efficiency. Furthermore, encouraging tree plantations will help in beautifying the space and preserving the environment.

I urge all citizens to be mindful of their responsibilities to maintain the park's beauty and usability.

Yours sincerely,

Reena/Trikha

Quick Tip

Effective Letter to the Editor Tips:

- Express appreciation for improvements.
- Propose practical ways to maintain public spaces.
- Keep the tone formal and solution-oriented.
- End with an appeal for collective responsibility.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the following two questions in 120-150 words.

(a) You are Vinita, a student of Class XII. You decide to write an article on 'Impact of OTT Platforms on Youth' for your school magazine. You may use the cues given below along with your own ideas to compose this article.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• easy to access• teens' addiction to OTT• insomnia | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• violent & brutal scenes |
| Suggestions : | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• censor for OTT• choice of content | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• time limitation• parental monitoring |

Solution:

Impact of OTT Platforms on Youth

OTT platforms have transformed entertainment by making content easily accessible at any time. Unfortunately, this convenience has led to addiction among young people, who often spend long hours binge-watching shows. This excessive screen time is linked to sleep disorders, particularly insomnia.

In addition, many shows include violent and graphic scenes, which can have a harmful impact on young viewers' minds. To combat these issues, it is important to implement more stringent censorship on OTT platforms and introduce content filters for age-appropriate viewing.

It is also crucial for parents to monitor their children's viewing habits and enforce time limits to encourage a healthier balance between screen time and other activities. With careful control, we can maximize the benefits of OTT platforms without letting them negatively affect our youth.

Quick Tip

Tips for Writing an Article:

- Begin with an engaging opening that introduces the topic.
- Provide both positive and negative aspects of the subject.
- Offer practical suggestions or solutions to resolve the issues.
- End with a positive and thought-provoking conclusion.

(b) Your school recently organized an adventure trip to Manali. Students from various classes joined the trip and participated in various activities. As a student editor, write a report on the trip to be published in your school newsletter. You are Lata of Class XII. Use the cues given below along with your own ideas to compose this report.

- date, duration
- no. of students
- activities :
trekking, river rafting
- students' feedback

Solution:

Adventure Trip to Manali: A Thrilling Experience

From 10th to 15th January 2025, our school organized an exhilarating adventure trip to Manali, where 50 students from Classes IX to XII participated, along with four teachers.

The trip was filled with action-packed activities, including a scenic trekking adventure in the hills, an exciting river rafting experience in the Beas River, and camping under the starlit sky. Each student embraced the challenges, making lasting memories of their time in the lap of nature.

The feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive. Many students praised the well-planned itinerary and the opportunity to develop teamwork and problem-solving skills. The trip not only provided a refreshing break from academics but also strengthened bonds among peers and teachers alike.

Quick Tip

Tips for Writing a Report:

- Start by stating the event's title, date, and objectives.
- Mention important details such as activities, participants, and key events.
- Conclude by summarizing the event's impact and feedback.
- Maintain clear, concise language throughout.

SECTION C

Literature

(TEXT BOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT)

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions on ANY ONE of the given two.

(a) Sometimes I feel myself I can hardly bear

The thought of so much childish longing in vain,

The sadness that lurks near the open window there,

That waits all day in almost open prayer.

For the squeal of brakes, the sound of a stopping car,

Of all the thousand selfish cars that pass,

Just one to inquire what a farmer's prices are

And one did stop, but only to plow up grass

In using the yard to back and turn around;

And another to ask the way to where it was bound;

(A Roadside Stand)

(i) Select the option that has the same literary device as in 'The sadness that lurks near the open window there'.

(A) Lucy moved across the room like a warship sailing into battle.

(B) Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.

(C) The water-wraith was shrieking.

(D) The pen is mightier than the sword.

Correct Answer: (C) The water-wraith was shrieking.

Solution: The literary device used in the given line is personification, as the sadness is described as if it has human-like qualities. Similarly, in (C), "The water-wraith was shrieking" also personifies the water-wraith by attributing it a human action, thus both employ personification.

Quick Tip

The line uses personification, where non-living entities or abstract concepts are given human-like traits, as seen in option (C) as well.

(ii) They prayed for the stopping of a car. When one car finally stopped, it brought ___ to the people of the roadside stand.

- (A) Help
- (B) Happiness
- (C) Disappointment
- (D) Cash flow

Correct Answer: (C) Disappointment

Solution: The car that stopped did not fulfill the hopes of the roadside people as it neither bought any goods nor offered assistance. Instead, it was used merely for turning around, leading to the people's disappointment.

Quick Tip

The stopping of the car didn't bring relief or help, instead, it simply disappointed the roadside stand people by not meeting their needs.

(iii) Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line, "...childish longing in vain".

Solution: The line portrays the futile and unmet desires of the rural people who long for urban recognition and support, but these wishes are unacknowledged and ignored by the city dwellers.

Quick Tip

The line reflects the contrast between the aspirations of rural people and the indifference of city dwellers.

(iv.) Complete the sentence appropriately.

The emotion of the poet reflected in the above extract is

Correct Answer: Sympathy.

Solution: The poet exhibits sympathy for the plight of the rural people who are ignored and neglected by the urban society despite their desperate efforts.

Quick Tip

The poet shows empathy for the rural people's hardships and their unnoticed struggles, evoking a feeling of sympathy.

(v) The expression 'selfish car' suggests that

Solution: The phrase "selfish car" symbolizes the thoughtless nature of the city dwellers who pass by without stopping to help or acknowledge the needs of the people at the roadside stand.

Quick Tip

The term "selfish car" highlights the disregard and lack of compassion shown by the urban travelers toward rural hardships.

vi. Based on the rhyme scheme evident in the last two lines of the extract, which word would rhyme with the last line?

Options: Brass, reply, sound

Correct Answer: Sound

Solution: The rhyme scheme in the final lines of the extract indicates that "sound" would rhyme with the last line as it shares the same ending sound.

Quick Tip

In the rhyme scheme, words with similar terminal sounds such as "bound" and "sound" create a harmonious pattern.

(b) ... but soon
put that thought away, and
looked out at Young
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes, but after the airport's security check,
standing a few yards away, I looked again at her, wan, pale
as a late winter's moon and felt that old
familiar ache, my childhood's fear,
(My Mother at Sixty-six)

i Select the correct option. The impact of 'merry children' on poet's mind

- (A) caused anxiety
- (B) created a sense of longing
- (C) brought comfort
- (D) reminded her of her own childhood

Correct Answer: (C) brought comfort

Solution: The sight of happy children playing reminded the poet of the joyful and carefree moments of her own childhood, providing her with comfort amidst her present sadness and concern.

Quick Tip

The image of "merry children" invokes memories of innocence and joy, contrasting with the poet's sorrow and worry about her mother.

ii. The tone of the poet expressed in the above lines is

- (A) sadness and helplessness
- (B) excitement and eagerness
- (C) appreciation and gratitude
- (D) anger and anxiety

Correct Answer: (A) sadness and helplessness.

Solution: The poet's tone expresses the sorrow and helplessness she feels as she watches her

aging mother, reflecting her deep emotional vulnerability.

Quick Tip

The tone emphasizes the poet's despair as she confronts the inevitability of aging and the impending separation from her mother.

iii. The words 'wan, pale' indicate the mother's ____.

Correct Answer: deteriorating health and fragility.

Solution: The poet's use of 'wan' and 'pale' vividly describes the frailty of her mother's health, which brings forth feelings of sorrow and helplessness in the poet.

Quick Tip

'Wan' and 'pale' are used to depict the ill-health and weakness of the poet's mother, amplifying the poet's emotional turmoil.

iv. Complete the following sentence appropriately.

The poet looked at her mother again to ____.

Correct Answer: remember her appearance and silently convey affection.

Solution: The poet gazes at her mother one last time, trying to engrave her image in her memory, knowing that time is fleeting and emotions are difficult to express.

Quick Tip

The poet's action is a way of preserving the moment and the emotional connection, knowing that time is short.

v. Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line 'felt that old familiar ache'.

Solution: The phrase 'old familiar ache' evokes the poet's long-standing fear of separation from her mother, a deep emotional pain that resurfaces whenever she faces the possibility of loss.

Quick Tip

This line highlights the poet's emotional vulnerability, tied to a lifelong fear of losing her mother.

vi. 'put that thought away'. What is the intention of the poet that can be inferred from the above line?

Solution: The poet consciously pushes aside the painful thought of her mother's aging and impending death in an effort to focus on the present moment and maintain composure.

Quick Tip

The poet tries to redirect her emotions and maintain her focus, refusing to be consumed by sadness in the final moments with her mother.

8. Read the two extracts given below and answer the questions on ANY ONE.

(a) The reason the programme has been so successful is because it is impossible to go anywhere near the South Pole and not be affected by it. It's easy to be blase about polar ice caps melting while sitting in the comfort zone of our respective latitude and longitude, but when you can visibly see glaciers retreating and ice shelves collapsing, you begin to realise that the threat of global warming is real. Antarctica, because of her simple eco-system and lack of biodiversity, is the perfect place to study how little changes in the environment can have big repercussions.

(Journey to the End of the Earth)

i. As per the given extract, the reason for the success of the programme is

- (A) the participation of young students.
- (B) the journey to Antarctica.
- (C) the exposure to reality.
- (D) it was impossible to go near the South Pole.

Correct Answer: (C) the exposure to reality.

Solution: The success of the program is attributed to the direct exposure of participants to the tangible effects of climate change, which makes the abstract threat of global warming

more real and immediate.

Quick Tip

The program's impact stems from the participants' firsthand experience with the visible changes in Antarctica, making global warming more relatable.

ii. Complete the following sentence.

The warning that can be inferred from the above extract is ____.

Solution: The extract highlights the danger of climate change, emphasizing that the rapid melting of glaciers and collapsing ice shelves serve as clear indicators of the imminent environmental threats facing the planet.

Quick Tip

Focus on how the retreating glaciers and collapsing ice shelves point to the larger crisis of global warming and its long-term consequences.

iii. State whether the statement given is TRUE or FALSE with reference to the extract.

Global warming is a threat to human survival.

Correct Answer: TRUE

Solution: The extract underscores that the impact of global warming, especially in Antarctica, is real and severe, threatening ecosystems, biodiversity, and ultimately human survival.

Quick Tip

Global warming is a global crisis that extends far beyond environmental issues, posing a significant risk to humanity's survival.

iv. Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line, "It's easy to be blasé about polar ice caps melting while sitting in the comfort zone".

Solution: The line suggests that people often remain indifferent to global issues like climate

change because they are not directly affected by its consequences, especially when they are removed from the situation geographically or emotionally.

Quick Tip

This line highlights the disconnect between people's everyday lives and the more distant, global consequences of their actions.

8. (b) From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers inhabiting Pratibandapuram. The State banned tiger hunting by anyone except the Maharaja. A proclamation was issued to the effect that if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated. The Maharaja vowed he would attend to all other matters only after killing the hundred tigers. Initially the king seemed well set to realise his ambition.

(The Tiger King)

i Select the correct option:

'... he would attend to all other matters only after killing hundred tigers'. This reflects Tiger King's ----.

- (A) courage
- (B) determination
- (C) selfishness
- (D) kindness

Correct Answer:(C) selfishness.

Solution: The statement highlights the king's self-centered obsession with fulfilling the prophecy of killing one hundred tigers to avoid his death. It demonstrates his singular focus on this personal goal at the expense of everything else.

Quick Tip

This statement reflects the Maharaja's overwhelming obsession with his own survival and ambition, disregarding other matters in his pursuit.

ii Complete the sentence appropriately.

From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers. The above statement is ironical in the sense ____.

Solution: The irony lies in the fact that the celebration was short-lived, as the Maharaja's true intention was to hunt and kill all the tigers, making it a temporary moment of relief for them before their inevitable fate.

Quick Tip

Irony occurs because the celebration is a false sense of relief. It's ironically followed by the destruction the Maharaja plans to bring upon the tigers.

iii if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated.

What trait of the king is reflected in the above line?

Solution: This statement reveals the king's authoritarian and domineering attitude, as he not only asserts his control over tiger hunting but also punishes anyone who dares to challenge his authority in the matter.

Quick Tip

This line emphasizes the Maharaja's need for absolute control and his hypocrisy, where he alone is allowed to hunt tigers, while others are harshly penalized.

iv. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.

The King's ambition is to save people from the tigers.

Correct Answer: FALSE

Solution: The king's ambition is not to protect people from tigers but to eliminate them in order to fulfill the prophecy and secure his own life. His actions are driven by personal desire rather than a sense of duty toward others.

Quick Tip

The king's ambition is rooted in his selfish desire to defy the prophecy, and it has nothing to do with the welfare of the people or tigers.

9. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions on ANY ONE.

(a) "Why do you do this?" I ask Saheb whom I encounter every morning scrounging for gold in the garbage dumps of my neighbourhood. Saheb left his home long ago. Set amidst the green fields of Dhaka, his home is not even a distant memory. There were many storms that swept away their fields and homes, his mother tells him. That's why they left, looking for gold in the big city where he now lives. "I have nothing else to do," he mutters, looking away. "Go to school," I say glibly, realizing immediately how hollow the advice must sound. "There is no school in my neighbourhood. When they build one, I will go."

(Lost Spring)

i. Choose the correct option:

The expression 'scrounging for gold' refers to ____.

- (A) searching for gold items.
- (B) looking for something that can fetch money.
- (C) rummaging the garbage.
- (D) digging to find food to eat.

Correct Answer: (B) looking for something that can fetch money.

Solution: The phrase "scrounging for gold" is a metaphor that illustrates Saheb's act of searching through garbage dumps for valuable items that could potentially help him earn money.

Quick Tip

The term "scrounging for gold" refers to Saheb's attempt to find anything in the garbage that could be sold or used to earn money.

ii. The influence of nature in Saheb’s life was that it ____.

- (A) brought prosperity
- (B) yielded food for them
- (C) gave them home
- (D) brought disaster

Correct Answer: (D) brought disaster.

Solution: The storms in Saheb’s native Dhaka destroyed his family’s fields and home, forcing them to leave in search of a better life, thus nature played a destructive role in their lives.

Quick Tip

Natural calamities such as storms caused the destruction of Saheb’s home and livelihood, forcing his family to migrate to the city.

iii. Complete the sentence with an appropriate word.

Saheb’s conversation with the narrator draws ____ of readers towards Saheb.

Correct Answer: sympathy

Solution: Through his conversation with the narrator, Saheb’s difficult living conditions and his lack of opportunities, such as access to education, evoke a deep sense of sympathy from the readers.

Quick Tip

The conversation exposes Saheb’s struggles, making it easy for the readers to feel compassion and concern for his situation.

iv. Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line “... realizing how hollow the advice must sound.”

Solution: The narrator realizes the pointlessness of suggesting that Saheb should go to school, as there is no school in his neighborhood, making the advice seem unrealistic and out of touch with Saheb’s reality.

Quick Tip

This line emphasizes the disconnect between well-meaning advice and the harsh realities faced by Saheb, where basic necessities like schools are unavailable.

v. The expression ‘when they build one, I will go’ indicates Saheb’s ___ to go to school.

Correct Answer: willingness

Solution: Saheb expresses his desire to attend school, but his willingness is tempered by the lack of proper facilities, highlighting his hope for the future when the necessary infrastructure is in place.

Quick Tip

The phrase reflects Saheb’s eagerness to go to school, but he is constrained by the absence of educational resources in his neighborhood.

vi. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.

‘... his home is not even a distant dream’ states that Saheb sees his home often in his dream.

Correct Answer: FALSE

Solution: The phrase means that Saheb has completely lost connection with his past and no longer dreams of his home. The harsh realities of his current life overshadow any memories of his previous home.

Quick Tip

The line suggests that Saheb’s home has faded from his memory as he has become entirely focused on surviving his present circumstances.

9. (b) Then the poet spoke. He couldn’t have addressed a more dazed and silent audience – no one knew what he was talking about and his accent defeated any attempt to understand what he was saying. The whole thing lasted about an hour; then the poet

left and we all dispersed in utter bafflement – What are we doing? What is an English poet doing in a film studio which makes Tamil films for the simplest sort of people? People whose lives least afforded them the possibility of cultivating a taste for English poetry. The poet looked pretty baffled too, for he must have felt the sheer incongruity of his talk about the thrills and travails of an English poet. His visit remained an unexplained mystery.

(Poets and Pancakes)

i. Choose the correct option:

The reason for the bewilderment of the audience is ____.

- (A) unknown identity of the visitor.
- (B) that the speaker had not been introduced to them.
- (C) the visit of an English poet to a Tamil film studio.
- (D) that they did not understand English.

Correct Answer:(C) the visit of an English poet to a Tamil film studio.

Solution: The audience was confused because the presence of an English poet in a Tamil film studio was completely out of place, given the stark difference in the audience’s cultural and linguistic background.

Quick Tip

The visit was jarring for the audience as they couldn’t relate to the poet’s talk, and the context of the visit seemed disconnected from their own lives.

ii. By ‘thrills and travails’ the author refers to ____.

- (A) joy and happiness
- (B) interest and aspiration
- (C) excitement and pain
- (D) shocks and surprises

Correct Answer: (C) excitement and pain.

Solution: The expression ”thrills and travails” refers to the mix of emotional highs and lows the poet experiences in his career, encompassing both the exciting and challenging moments.

Quick Tip

The phrase “thrills and travails” refers to the emotional extremes—both the joys and hardships—that a poet faces in their life.

iii. Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line, “He could not have addressed a more dazed and silent audience”.

Solution: The poet’s speech failed to connect with the audience, who were utterly confused and silent due to their lack of understanding of both the poet’s language and the subject matter.

Quick Tip

The line highlights the deep disconnection between the poet and the audience, who struggled to comprehend the topic and language of his talk.

iv. The failure of the speaker to connect with the audience with reference to the extract is his ___.

Correct Answer: lack of understanding of the audience’s context.

Solution: The poet’s failure to connect was primarily due to his lack of awareness regarding the cultural, linguistic, and educational background of the audience, making his talk irrelevant and unrelatable.

Quick Tip

The poet’s speech was disconnected from the audience’s reality, highlighting the importance of understanding your audience’s context before speaking.

v. What information in the extract reveals the fact that the people have no exposure other than to their own circle?

Solution: The audience’s confusion regarding English poetry and their inability to understand the poet’s speech reveal their limited exposure to foreign or different cultural

forms of expression.

Quick Tip

The audience's unfamiliarity with English poetry and their confusion during the event reflect the insular nature of their cultural experiences.

vi. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.

The audience were enthralled by the poet's impressive speech.

Correct Answer: FALSE

Solution: The audience was not impressed by the poet's speech. Instead, they were baffled and disconnected, as they couldn't understand the language or the context of what was being discussed.

Quick Tip

Rather than being captivated, the audience was puzzled and uninterested due to the irrelevant nature of the poet's talk for them.

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

i. Explain the inference that can be drawn from the line:

“Will they make them sing in German, even the pigeons?”

(The Last Lesson)

Solution: The line underscores the forced imposition of German culture, symbolizing the loss of freedom and identity. The mention of pigeons reflects the poet's sorrow for the suppression of the native language and culture. It portrays how the community had to abandon their own language under the German rule. The pigeons, often symbols of freedom, highlight the contrast between the natural and the repressive forces at play.

Quick Tip

The line vividly portrays the extent of the oppression and the painful loss of cultural heritage.

ii. **“Father laughed, but there was terror in my heart.” What does the above statement speak of the father?**

(Deep Water)

Solution: The father’s laughter reveals his casual, perhaps dismissive attitude toward the situation, failing to comprehend the depth of his son’s fear. It contrasts sharply with the narrator’s inner terror, emphasizing the emotional disconnect between them. The father’s laughter highlights his failure to recognize the true extent of the boy’s fear of water.

Quick Tip

The contrast between the father’s lightheartedness and the son’s intense fear underscores the gap in their emotional understanding.

iii. **The tigers in the panel that she made will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.**

What is the tone of the poet reflected in the above lines?

(Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers)

Solution: The tone of the poet is one of admiration and awe for the tigers, which symbolize fearlessness, strength, and independence. This contrasts with Aunt Jennifer’s own oppressed life, where she feels constrained and submissive. The tigers represent the courage and freedom she yearns for but cannot achieve.

Quick Tip

The tigers serve as a metaphor for the poet’s desire for strength and autonomy, highlighting the contrast with Aunt Jennifer’s reality.

iv. **What is Pablo Neruda’s complaint against fishermen?**

(Keeping Quiet)

Solution: Neruda criticizes the fishermen for their destructive actions towards nature, specifically for killing whales without consideration for the ecological balance. He advocates for a moment of silence and reflection to allow humanity to realize the harm caused by their

actions and strive for a more harmonious relationship with nature.

Quick Tip

Neruda calls for a deeper reflection on humanity's relationship with the environment and the harm caused by indiscriminate actions.

v. How and why does Keats relate 'mighty dead' to the 'Thing of Beauty'?

(A Thing of Beauty)

Solution: Keats connects the 'mighty dead' to the 'Thing of Beauty' by recognizing that the deeds and sacrifices of great individuals from the past continue to inspire and provide beauty. Their stories, much like nature's beauty, offer solace and motivation to future generations. Their legacies are revered as eternal sources of beauty and inspiration.

Quick Tip

Keats celebrates the enduring impact of heroic figures whose stories serve as timeless sources of inspiration and beauty.

vi. "Jansie, knowing they were both earmarked for the biscuit factory, became melancholy." What inference about Jansie's character is drawn from the above line?

(Going Places)

Solution: Jansie's practical and pragmatic nature is evident in her resignation to the bleak future that awaits her. Unlike Sophie, who dreams of a better life, Jansie faces reality and acknowledges their constrained circumstances. Her melancholy arises from this acceptance of their social limitations, revealing her mature outlook on life.

Quick Tip

Jansie's realistic and grounded perspective stands in stark contrast to Sophie's more imaginative and idealistic nature.

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

(i) . **My stamp collecting, for example, that’s a temporary refuge from reality.** (*The Third Level*)

How can a hobby give one an escape from reality?

Solution:

Hobbies offer a much-needed break from the stresses of life. For instance, stamp collecting can transport an individual to a world of personal interest and joy, providing temporary relief from life’s difficulties and offering a mental escape.

Quick Tip

Recognize the importance of hobbies in offering a peaceful refuge, enabling relaxation and personal growth through their escapist nature.

(ii).

“I will have nothing to do with it,” Yumi said, “I am a poor person and it is not my business.” (*The Enemy*)

What inference can be drawn about the character of the speaker from the above expression?

Solution: Yumi’s statement reflects her reluctance to engage in matters that do not directly affect her. It shows her submissiveness to her social status and her fear of crossing societal boundaries, revealing her cautious and reserved nature in the context of her poverty.

Quick Tip

Focus on Yumi’s mindset shaped by her social circumstances, which influence her cautious and reserved behavior.

(iii). **“The words that Annan spoke to me that day made a deep impression on me.”**

How was Annan able to inspire Bama? (*Memories of Childhood*)

Solution: Annan inspired Bama by emphasizing the transformative power of education in overcoming social discrimination. His words encouraged her to pursue education as a means to combat the caste prejudices she faced, leading to her determination to excel.

Quick Tip

When discussing inspiration, focus on how the actions or words of others ignite personal change and motivate individuals to overcome adversity.

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words:

a. “Well I’ll be a manager then – yes, of course – to begin with.” (*Going Places*)

Sophie (*Going Places*) lives in a world of fantasy. Douglas (*Deep Water*) faces reality and realizes the importance of learning how to swim. Analyze based on the two texts the importance of doing things rather than mere dreaming. Write an article on how the youth of today must inculcate an attitude of doing rather than dreaming.

You may begin: *The youth today must*

Solution:

The youth today must prioritize action over mere fantasy. Sophie, in *Going Places*, spends her time dreaming about a life of luxury, but her fantasies lead to disappointment. In contrast, Douglas from *Deep Water* takes proactive steps to face his fear of water and learns to swim. His journey highlights the importance of confronting challenges directly.

The youth should understand that success is not achieved through dreams alone. Practical efforts, hard work, and persistence are essential. The key is to turn aspirations into reality through consistent action. Dreaming can inspire but must be accompanied by determined actions. Thus, young individuals must develop a 'doing' mindset to ensure progress in life and realize their potential.

Quick Tip

Contrast the results of dreaming and doing, emphasizing the importance of action in transforming dreams into tangible achievements.

b.

**Where the peasants are so crushed and fear-stricken, law courts are useless. (*Indigo*)
As a motivational speaker, give a speech advising students how to overcome fear and**

lead a successful life. Use material from the two texts to support your views.

You may begin like this: *Dear Students, The emotion of fear will always interfere and interrupt your path to success. . .*

Solution:

Dear Students,

The emotion of fear will always interfere and interrupt your path to success. Fear is a powerful obstacle that can prevent you from reaching your potential. In *Indigo*, the peasants overcame their fears under Gandhiji's guidance and fought for justice. Similarly, in *Lost Spring*, fear prevents the glass-blowers from taking action and breaking free from poverty. To overcome fear, you must face your challenges with courage and determination. The first step is believing in yourself and taking initiative. Fear only has power over you if you let it. Embrace courage, and your fears will diminish. Success comes to those who rise above fear and persist toward their goals.

Quick Tip

Use examples from the texts to show how confronting fear head-on is crucial for success, offering strategies to handle and overcome it.

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

a.

“It’s got nothing to do with my face and what I look like.” (*On the Face of It*)

As Derry, write a diary entry regretting how you wasted your time indulging in self-pity and frustration, and how your encounter with Mr. Lamb transformed your personality.

You may begin like this: *I do really thank my stars for bringing Mr. Lamb into my life. . .*

Solution:

Diary Entry

Date:

I am so grateful that fate brought Mr. Lamb into my life. He made me realize how much time I had wasted wallowing in self-pity, avoiding the world because of my appearance. I always thought I was unworthy of acceptance and chose to shut myself off from life.

Meeting Mr. Lamb completely changed my perspective. His inspiring words and his positive attitude towards life taught me that who I am on the inside is what truly counts. He showed me that I am more than just my face, and that confidence and action matter the most. I now feel ready to embrace the world and live life fully.

Quick Tip

Emphasize the role of Mr. Lamb in Derry's transformation, focusing on how his encounter shifted Derry's mindset from self-doubt to self-empowerment.

b. “The boy drank the milk of an English cow... and was tutored in English.” (*The Tiger King*)

Write an article using material from the text, on the pros and cons of western influence on Indian society.

You may begin like this: *Indian's exposure to English language and western influence...*

Solution:

Article: The Impact of Western Influence on Indian Society

The exposure of Indian society to western influence began during colonial times and continues to shape the nation's modern identity. In *The Tiger King*, the presence of English language and western customs highlights the contrasting forces at play. While there have been significant advancements, such as in education, infrastructure, and technology, these changes have come at the cost of traditional values.

On the positive side, the introduction of English education has opened doors for Indians globally, and the infusion of modern technologies has led to progress in various sectors. However, the cons of western influence include a dilution of India's cultural heritage, with many younger generations opting for western lifestyles and ideologies over local traditions. Therefore, while embracing modernity is crucial, it is essential to preserve the unique cultural identity that makes India distinct.

Quick Tip

Approach the discussion with a balanced perspective, providing examples from the text to illustrate both the advantages and disadvantages of western influence on Indian society.
