

KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN, BHOPAL REGION
PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION I
ENGLISH CORE (301)
CLASS XII , SET -1

Time: 3 Hrs

M.M. 80

General Instructions:-

1. This question paper contains 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The Question Paper is divided into THREE sections-READING, CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS and 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. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions .

Section A (Reading Skills) 22 marks

1. Read the given passage carefully:-

12

The advent of technology in the 21st century has brought profound changes to our way of life. On one hand, it has made communication faster, improved healthcare, and brought the world closer by enabling access to information and services like never before. On the other hand, it has raised concerns over issues like privacy, mental health, and over-reliance on gadgets. One of the most significant changes has been the way people communicate. Social media platforms have become a major part of daily life for millions, allowing people to stay in touch, share experiences, and voice opinions. However, while this has brought a sense of connectivity, it has also led to concerns about superficial relationships and decreased face-to-face interactions. Many studies suggest that prolonged use of social media can lead to issues like anxiety, depression, and a skewed sense of self-worth, especially among teenagers. The introduction of technology in education has been a game-changer.

Online learning platforms, digital classrooms, and access to resources have democratized education, breaking down geographic barriers and providing opportunities for all. But it has also highlighted the digital divide, where those without access to technology are left behind, further exacerbating inequalities. In healthcare, the impact of technology is unmistakable. From robotic surgeries to telemedicine, patient care has improved dramatically. Patients in remote areas can now consult with specialists, and medical advancements have led to better treatments and early diagnosis of diseases. Nevertheless, the cost of technological healthcare can be prohibitive for many, leading to unequal access to these benefits. In conclusion, while technology has undoubtedly revolutionized our world in countless ways, it is crucial to strike a balance. Over-reliance on technology can lead to physical, social, and emotional issues. Societies must address these challenges, ensuring that technology serves as a tool for advancement without compromising human connection and well-being.

On the basis of the reading of the above passage, answer the following questions:-

1. What is one of the main concerns regarding social media usage? **1**
 - a. It improves face-to-face interaction
 - b. It leads to superficial relationships and less real-life interaction.
 - c. It fosters deep and meaningful relationships
 - d. It has no effect on relationships
2. How has technology affected education? **1**
 - a. It has reduced the quality of education
 - b. It has made education inaccessible to many
 - c. It has democratized education by breaking geographic barriers.
 - d. It has made education less relevant

3. What does the passage suggest about the future use of technology? 1
4. Which of the following is a benefit of technology in healthcare? 1
 - a. Increased healthcare costs for everyone
 - b. Improved access to specialists through telemedicine
 - c. Less effective treatments
 - d. Poorer diagnosis methods
5. What is one of the disadvantages of technology in healthcare? 1
 - a. Everyone has equal access to technological healthcare
 - b. It is too slow to implement in hospitals.
 - c. It can be expensive, leading to unequal access
 - d. It reduces the quality of care
6. What is the primary recommendation of the passage? 1
 - a. Society should rely more on technology for everything
 - b. Technology should be banned in healthcare and education
 - c. Societies should balance the use of technology while addressing its challenges
 - d. Technology should replace human interaction.
7. How has technology changed the way people communicate in the 21st century? 2
8. What is the impact of technology on education, and what problem does it pose? 2
9. What are some of the disadvantages of over use of technology? 2

Q.2 Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow

10

1. India is critical in determining the success of the SDGs, globally. At the UN Sustainable Development Summit in 2015, Prime Minister Narendra Modi noted, “Sustainable development of one-sixth of humanity will be of great consequence to the world and our beautiful planet. It will be a world of fewer challenges and greater hope; and, more confident of its success”. NITI Aayog, the Government of India’s premier think tank, has been entrusted with the task of coordinating the SDGs, mapping schemes related to the SDGs and their targets, and identifying lead and supporting ministries for each target. In addition, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has been leading discussions for developing national indicators for the SDGs. State governments are key to India’s progress on the SDGs as they are best placed to ‘put people first’ and to ensuring that ‘no one is left behind’. The UN Country Team in India supports NITI Aayog, Union ministries and state governments in their efforts to address the interconnectedness of the goals, to ensure that no one is left behind and to advocate for adequate financing to achieve the SDGs.



2. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 global goals set by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015 to be achieved by 2030. They are a call for action by all countries to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They serve as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet,

and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. Aligning efforts with the Sustainable Development Goals allows individuals, organizations, and governments to contribute to creating a brighter and more sustainable future for all.

3. Children are at the heart of the world's sustainable development goals. Ensuring their well-being, access to quality education, healthcare, and protection is crucial for building a better future for all. Every action taken towards these goals, no matter how small, is a step towards a more equitable and prosperous world.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above:

1. Complete the following suitably. 1
In the UN Summit, the prime minister said that- Sustainable development of one-sixth of humanity will be of great consequence to the world because ____.
2. What would the following be classified as? 1
Test eyesight, do health check-up, measuring height and weight of school students. Select the appropriate response.
A. Quality Education B. Good Health and Well being
C. No Poverty D. Clean Water and Sanitation
3. Give two tasks NITI Aayog has been assigned to do to attain sustainable goals. 2
4. Paragraph 2 includes words – ‘prosperity’ and ‘poverty.’ 1
Classify the following sentences as: ‘prosperity’ and ‘poverty.’
Sentence 1: Healthy population density is significant in the progress of developed countries.
Sentence 2: Environment protection and development should go hand in hand to alleviate the lapses in the lives of downtrodden in the other countries.
5. Read the following: 1
Seema has installed solar panels on the roof of her house to generate electricity needed. Mohan, her neighbour, grows vegetables in his farm and has won Best Farmer award. Arindam, who lives across, works in Coast Guard is sincere in his job of protection of marine environment.
Select the option that identifies the correct Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) from the collection of 17 global goals Seema, Mohan and Arindam achieved.
A. Seema –13; Mohan14; Arindam -15
B. Seema -7; Mohan15; Arindam -14
C. Seema –7; Mohan – 8; Arindam - 7
D. Seema -; 5 – 4; Arindam -6
6. How can individuals, organizations, and governments contribute to meet the target of SDG by2030? 1
7. Analyse how children are at the heart of the world's sustainable development goals. (Paragraph 3) 2
8. What is the ultimate aim for stakeholders, based on the insights about SDG? 1
A. Promote prosperity while protecting the planet
B. Building healthier communities
C. Reducing the cost of healthcare services
D. Develop at fast pace

Section B (Creative Writing Skills)

18 marks

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the following:-

4

A. You are Jairam Reddy, The Head of the English Club. On the occasion of the International Day of English Language, your school has decided to organize English week. You are required to call a meeting of the office bearers of the English Language Club to plan arrangements for the event. Draft a notice for the same. (Word limit: 50 words)

Or

B. You, as the School Secretary of the Social Science Club, have to write a notice to be put up on the school notice board regarding the need to raise funds for lepers (Hansen's disease) in your city. Funds collected will be sent to the Red Cross, New Delhi. Each donor will be issued a formal receipt for donation. The Red Cross will award a Red Cross to the donors donating more than rupees 500. (Word limit 50 words)

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the following:-

4

A. You are Khushi Singh/Kunal Singh, a student counsellor of N.J. Public School. You are invited by S.M. International School, New Delhi, to address Class XII students on Goal Setting and Time Management. Write a formal reply on his/her behalf, accepting the invitation and confirming your presence at the stated time. Include relevant detail.

Or

B. You are Rohan. You have been invited to attend the wedding of your friend's brother. Respond to the invitation regretting your inability to attend it. Invent necessary details and do not exceed 50 words.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the following:-

5

A. Your school organised a week-long campaign to create awareness of the plight of senior citizens in old age homes and ways of volunteering to bring smiles to their faces. This effort by the students was greatly appreciated. You decide to write a letter to the editor of a local daily to create awareness amongst people all over the city. You are Deepak/Deepa, R.J. International School, New Delhi. You may combine your ideas with the cues given below:-

**HELP THE SENIOR CITIZENS
MAKE THEM SMILE**

- Panel Discussion on 'How to help the elderly'
- Visit to old age homes
- Distribution of hampers
- Cultural programmes
- Pledge to volunteer one hour a week.

OR

B. You are Preeti Singh, a resident of M-114, Model Town, New Delhi. You see the following advertisement in a newspaper and decide to apply for the same.

Situation Vacant

Required an M.A. Political Science, B.Ed, female to teach Senior Secondary classes in M.J. Model School. New Delhi. Candidates with technical knowledge and good communication skill will be preferred. Salary no bar for deserving candidates.

Apply with complete Resume latest by 20 March 20XX.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the following:-

5

A. For admission to colleges, there is a lot of competition today. For one available seat, there are hundreds of candidates. Such a situation leads to stress on the minds of students in the schools. However, the practice of yoga can help them feel calm and stress-free. Write an article, in about 120-150 words, on the topic, 'Importance of Yoga for Students'. You are Karan/Karuna.

Or

B. The Ministry of Transport, New Delhi organised a one day 'Auto-Mela' at the Institute of Driving, Saket, to motivate women drivers to take up commercial driving. The day long event was inaugurated by the Commissioner of Police, Mr.S.P. Mehra.

The event started with an introduction to commercial driving-its rules and regulations. This was followed by a basic training session in self-defence, a run through of the licensing procedures and a sale of second-hand cars. You are Anita/Anil, Staff Reporter of 'The Daily News'. Write a report in 120-150 words mentioning date, main features, purpose and response of participants.

Section C: Literature Text Book and Supplementary Reading Text (40)

7. Read the following extracts carefully and answer ANY ONE of them: -

1x6=6

*A. "When aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid."*

a. Read the statement given below:-

Aunt Jennifer's plight is best explained by her hands, they hold both her freedom and the instrument of her imprisonment.

Choose the option that best explains the above statement, as per the extract.

- i. Aunt Jennifer's hands are terrified, but when she is dead, her tigers will roam free.
- ii. Aunt Jennifer knits her desires, but is over powered by the wedding ring she wears.
- iii. Aunt Jennifer's tigers are proud and unafraid, but she is mastered by ringed ordeals.
- iv. Aunt Jennifer makes panel of tigers when she has time from her responsibilities.

b. Which of the following cannot be inferred from the given extract?

- i. Aunt Jennifer's tigers will keep her alive in everyone's memory.
- ii. Aunt Jennifer feels oppressed and constricted in her marriage.
- iii. Even in death, Aunt Jennifer cannot escape patriarchal subjugation.
- iv. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance as a lasting symbol of her desires.

c. What makes the tigers 'proud and unafraid'?

d. Choose the option that does not reflect the movement implied by 'prancing'.

- i. Bounding
- ii. Frolicking
- iii. Strutting
- iv. Shuffling

e. Which poetic device is used in 'terrified hands'?

f. Choose the option that does not reflect what the tigers represent in the poem:-

- i. Aunt Jennifer's undying hopes
- ii. Aunt Jennifer's falling marriage
- iii. Aunt Jennifer's artistic skill
- iv. Aunt Jennifer's frustrations

OR

*B. "And such is the grandeur of the dooms
We have imagined for the mighty dead;
All lovely tales that we have heard or read:
An endless fountain of immortal drink,
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink."*

- a. Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?
- The beauty of nature
 - The power of imagination
 - The immortality of art and literature
 - The inevitability of death
- b. State whether the given extract is True or False, with reference to the extract. By referring to the dead as 'mighty', the poet emphasizes their importance and the power they exerted on the people.
- c. Complete the given sentence appropriately:-
The endless fountain of immortal drink is an apt analogy for the tales of the mighty dead because _____
- d. The use of the word 'brink' in the extract suggests that the immortality that is being poured onto us is on the verge of **overflowing**. This creates a powerful image of _____
- e. Based on the poem's rhyme scheme, evident in 2-5 lines, which word would rhyme with line 1?
- said
 - think
 - tombs
 - none
- f. Select the option that is NOT true about the lack of punctuation at the end of the line 1 in the extract.
- Creates a sense of continuity and flow that connects the line with the second line.
 - Encourages the reader to continue reading seamlessly without any pause.
 - Create a sense of anticipation and expectation for the reader.
 - Encourages a revisit to the ideas in the proceeding lines.

8. Read the extracts given below and answer ANY ONE of them:-

1x4=4

A. You lose all earthly sense of perspective and time here. The visual scale ranges from the microscopic to the mighty; midges and mites to blue whales and icebergs as big as countries. Days go on and on and on in surreal 24 hour austral summer; light, and a ubiquitous silence, interrupted only by the occasional avalanche or calving ice sheets, consecrates the place.

- a. The 'visual scale' refers to –
- A measuring device
 - Range of things one can see
 - Visionary's belief
 - The magnitude of preparation
- b. Four people give reason for the author's feeling while travelling. Choose the option that correctly summarizes it based on your understanding of the extract.
- Person 1: I think the author is being paranoid about leaving her hometown.
- Person 2: I think, she is bewildered by the travel
- Person 3: As far as I can judge, Tishani is being hypocritical because she is comparing the two places.
- Person 4: In my opinion, she is amazed by the grandeur of the icy region.
- Person 1
 - Person 2
 - Person 3
 - Person 4
- c. Select the option that correctly fits the category of 'microscopic to the mighty' out of the ones given below:-
- Trace of a skin cell : trace of a bird's eggs
 - A grain of rice : a field of rice
 - A scoop of ice-cream : an ice-cream cone

D. A drop of water; an ocean

- i. A,B
- ii. C,D
- iii. A, C
- iv. B,D

d. What can be the consequence of avalanche?

OR

B. "You are well", Sadao agreed. He lowered his voice. "You are so well that I think if I put my boat on the shore tonight, with food and extra clothing in it, you might be able to row to that little island not far from the coast. It is so near the coast that it has not been worth fortifying. Nobody lives on it because in storm it is submerged. But this is not the season of storm. You could live there until you saw a Korean fishing boat pass by. They pass quite near the island because the water is many fathoms deep there.'

The young man stared at him, slowly comprehending. 'Do I have to?' he asked.

"I think so", Sadao again said gently. "You understand-it is not hidden that you are here."

a. "The arrangement of food and clothing by Dr. Sadao portray him as :

- i. A kind and compassionate person
- ii. An experienced sailor
- iii. A good event organiser
- iv. A good adviser

b. "not been worth fortifying" What does it indicate?

c. What is the speaker's tone in the expression: Do I have to?

d. "It is not hidden you are here." Why did Dr. Sadao say so?

- i. To explain why he cannot stay there anymore
- ii. To remind him that he has tried to hide his presence.
- iii. To explain that it is necessary and good for both of them
- iv. To assert that his house is not a hiding place.

9. Read the extracts given below and answer ANY ONE of them:-1x6=6

A. "Suddenly the book assumed tremendous significance...the poet who had visited Gemini Studios! In a moment I felt a dark chamber of my mind lit up a hazy illumination."

a. Which book is being referred to here?

- i. The Name of the Rose
- ii. Joatham Valley
- iii. The God That Saved
- iv. The God That Failed

b. Where did the narrator come across this book?

c. Name the poet who visited the Gemini Studios.

d. Why was the Englishman's visit to the studio referred to as 'unexplained mystery'?

- i. Nobody took interest in his lecture
- ii. Nobody had any particular interest for English poetry.
- iii. None could understand the language of the poet.
- iv. Both ii and iii

e. What was the reason of the cheap cost of the book?

- i. It was the offer given by the writers of the book
- ii. It was special student edition due to the anniversary of Russian Revolution.

- iii. It was not worth reading.
- iv. None of the above
- f. The poet mentioned in the above lines is the editor of _____.

OR

- B. "On Saturday they make their weekly pilgrimage to watch United. Sophie and her father and little Derek went down near the goal-Geoff,as always, went with his mates higher up. United won two-nil and Casey drove in the second goal, a blend of innocence and Irish genius, going round the two big defenders on the edge of the penalty area, with her father screaming for him to pass, and beating the hesitant goalkeeper from a dozen yards."
- a. Their visit to the match was like a 'weekly pilgrimage' refers to-
 - i.Strong bond as a family
 - ii.love for a fixed routine
 - iii.similar feelings of devotion
 - iv.excitement for the match
 - b. Based on the following statements, choose the correct option.
 Assertion : "Geoff, as always, went with his mates higher up."
 Reason1: Geoff was not very close to his family and lived in his own world.
 Reason 2 : Geoff was rude and indifferent towards everyone around him and didn't care about anyone at all.
 - i. Reason1 and Reason 2 both can be inferred from the assertion.
 - ii. Reason 1 can be inferred but Reason 2 can't be inferred from the assertion.
 - iii. Reason 1 cannot be inferred but Reason 2 can be inferred.
 - iv. Reason 1 and Reason 2 cannot be inferred.
 - c. 'Sophie glowed with pride.' Her pride is the result of_____.
 - d. Choose the option listing the situation in which one would be 'ecstatic'.
 Scenario 1 : Going to an old age home and listening to them share stories from the past.
 Scenario 2 : Being seated next to your favourite pop singer during a short flight.
 Scenario 3 : Going to a dog show and losing your pet there.
 Scenario 4: Coming home and finding that there are 11 messages from your Principal in your email inbox
 - i. Scenario 1
 - ii. Scenario 2
 - iii. Scenario 3
 - iv. Scenario 4
 - e.What do you know about Danny Casey after reading the given extract?
 - f. What was the result of the match?.

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following questions in about 40-50 words:- 2x5=10

- a. Who does the poet in A Roadside Stand accuse of being beneficent beast of prey and why?
- b. Rationalize why Keats uses the metaphor 'an endless fountain of immortal drink' in his poem, 'A Thing of Beauty'.
- c. Imagery was an effective literary device to bring out the contrast between the 'merry children' and 'mother'. Comment.(My Mother at Sixty Six)
- d. Gandhi makes it clear that money and finance are a secondary aspect of the struggle in Champaran. Comment on the aspect that you think was most important for Gandhi.

- e. How does Umberto Eco explain his capacity of doing so much work? What are interstices and how does Eco use them?
- f. What is 'linguistic chauvinism'? Analyse the order from Berlin in this light.(The Last Lesson)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in about 40-50 words: - (2x2=4)

- a. When did the Tiger King stand in danger of losing his kingdom? How was he able to avert the danger?.
- b. What do you mean by 'waking dream wish fulfilment'? What would you describe as your 'waking dream wish fulfilment'? (The Third Level)
- c. Why did Derry go back to Mr. Lamb's garden even after opposition by his mother?

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 120-150 words. 5

A. The prose selections, Deep Water and Indigo, bring out the importance of overcoming fear, in order to be able to lead our lives successfully.

Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write the address in about 120-150 words elaborating on occurrences from the two texts to inspire your audience and to convince them about the importance of overcoming fear.

You may begin like this-

Good Morning Students!

We all know what it's like to be afraid. Fear is our body's natural response to a perceived threat or danger.

OR

B. "The daughter stood there quite embarrassed and hardly knew what to answer. That morning she had felt so happy when she thought how homelike and Christmassy she was going to make things for the poor hungry wretch." The tramp is a fraud, but he displays the beauty of his heart. On the other hand, the ironmaster's daughter is just opposite to her father.

Every human being is endowed with some positive characteristic or beauty of heart, and that comes out automatically when the time comes. Similarly, both the tramp and the daughter exchange the beauty of their hearts at the right time. How? Justify your answer.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 120-150 words: - (1x5=5)

A. A grown up Zitkala-Sa, reflects on the incident about cutting of her long hair and is conflicted that she did not do enough to resist and surrendered easily.

She decided to write a diary entry as the grown-up Zitkala-Sa, expressing these thoughts. You can start like this:-

I find myself reflecting on an event that happened many years ago.

OR

B. Both the General (The Enemy) and the Maharaja (The Tiger King), deal with death. They are powerful figures confronted by a similar fate.

You wish to include the qualities of both these characters in your speech to speak about satire. Write the speech for a gathering of students of grade XII showing similarity between these two characters.