

**KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN AGRA REGION**  
**PRE-BOARD 3 ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE (CODE NO:101)**

**CLASS X (2025- 26)**

**TIME: 3 HRS**

**MAX MARKS: 80**

**General Instructions:**

Read the following instructions carefully and strictly follow them:

I. This question paper has 10 questions. All questions are compulsory.

II. This question paper contains four sections:

- Section A: Reading skills
- Section B: Writing skills
- Section C: Grammar
- Section D: Literature Textbook.

III. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.

IV. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary

V. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

**SECTION A - READING**

**(22 Marks)**

12 Marks

**1. Read the following passage**

**In defence of waiting**

1. It is a familiar sight around us: serpentine queues outside temples, patients waiting patiently in crowded hospitals, or students refreshing websites for examination results. These intervals, though woven into our daily lives, are usually dismissed as irritants.

2. In a society that increasingly prizes speed, waiting is treated as inefficiency, almost as failure. Delivery apps measure themselves in minutes, trains boast reduced travel times, and conversations collapse on instant replies. Yet the neglected intervals of waiting may hold

lessons that speed cannot offer. Far from being wasted time, waiting is the architecture through which endurance, reflection, and patience quietly take shape.

3. Modern technology has worked tirelessly to erase waiting. A film that once required a trip to the cinema is now streamed in seconds. A letter that once travelled across oceans is replaced by the instant message. While these advances undoubtedly ease life, they also erode our tolerance for pause. The smallest delay is now felt as inconvenience. In making efficiency absolute, we risk forgetting that time not filled with activity is not necessarily empty. 4. Waiting is never just about clock time. It is about how human expectation shapes experience. In some contexts, it breeds frustration, in others, it deepens awareness. The interval, whether dreaded or cherished, is active not, passive. 5. History and literature offer countless illustrations.

Farmers have long known that the harvest ripens only in its own season, and impatience cannot hasten it.

6. Artists too speak of the “fallow period”, when inspiration is absent but imagination is silently ripening. Across fields, the wisdom is the same: waiting protects depth from the shallowness of haste. Why, then does waiting trouble us so much today?

**Answer the following, based on the passage above.**

- i. What happens when inspiration is absent? (1)
  - a) Imagination appears slowly
  - b) Imagination ripens silently
  - c) Imagination appears suddenly
  - d) Imagination disappears slowly
- ii. Fill in the blank with appropriate word/phrase (1)

Technology erases waiting but erodes -----
- iii. True or False (1)

Students refreshing websites for examination results is not an example for waiting
- iv. Rectify the given false statement. (1)

Farmers wait impatiently till the harvest ripens.
- v. Why is the time spent in waiting is active, not passive? (1)
- vi. Complete with suitable reason (1)

The society dismisses waiting as inefficiency because -----
- vii. Delivery apps measure themselves in minutes. Analyse the statement (2)
- viii. What are some virtues shaped in us while waiting, as mentioned in the passage? (2)
- ix. How does technology erase waiting? (2)

**2. Read the following passage 10 marks**

1. We depend on insects in many ways for producing food for the world's population. They pollinate our crop plants, break down decaying plant and animal matter, and are natural pest controllers. We also consume honey from honeybees. 2. Insects are all around us. However, many of us would be reluctant to indulge in entomophagy, to eat insects or their larvae. One reason for this is probably neophobia, the fear of trying out anything new. 3. At the same time, humans are currently worried about the over-exploitation of the planet.

There is a need for foods that provide high-quality calories without consuming large amount of natural resources. Insects fit the bill. Their protein content is typically 40% by dry weight, the fat content 20-30% and they also have minerals like potassium and iron.

4. Nearly a fourth of the world's population already eats edible insects. Some insects are regarded as delicacies. Mexican escamole, known as the "caviar of the desert". tastes like richly buttered baby corn but is the fried pupae and larvae of the velvety tree ant. The practice of consuming insects is rooted in nutritional needs, cultural habits, and folk medicine. Tribal and rural populations in the Northeast reputedly consume more than 100 edible insect species for their protein, and they are also sold in local markets.

5. Collecting insects from nature may not be sustainable, as insect populations may be depleted. Some groups have thus taken up semi-domestication, where insects and their larvae are nurtured and harvested by humans. 6. Ethnobiologists at the Nagaland University in

Lumami have been studying traditional methods of insect farming and how they can be adapted to cultivating new insects.

7. The World Health Organization has opined that insects in diets may be the key to achieving sustainable food production. Insect processing strategies may make them more acceptable. Grasshopper, locusts, and cricket powder (or flour) are now used as a protein supplement. As dietary trends evolve as we get used to dry land millets and grow curious about lab-grown meats, we may well have insects on our plates soon.

**Answer the following, based on the passage above.**

i. We depend on insects to produce food for the world's population. Give evidence from the passage to support this statement. (1)

ii. Neophobia is the fear of trying out anything new: Aquaphobia is ----- (1)

- a) intense irrational fear of water
- b) intense fear of aquatic animals
- c) intense fear of aquatic plants
- d) intense fear of aquatic pictures and videos

iii. Complete the following suitably (1)

The practice of consuming insects is rooted in -----

iv. Rectify the given false statement (1)

Many of us are ready to indulge in entomophagy

- v. Which of the following is not opined by WHO? (1)
- a) Insects in diets help to achieve sustainable food production
  - b) Insects in diet is not permissible
  - c) Insect processing strategies may make them more acceptable
  - d) Insect powder is a protein supplement.
- vi. True or False (1)
- As a sustainable and alternative protein source edible insect diet has a chance of evolution.
- vii. Insects fit the bill. Explain (2)
- viii. What steps are taken to reduce insect depletion? (2)

### SECTION B - WRITING SKILLS

(22 Marks)

3. You are Sravan/ Savitha of class X Section B. Write an application to the Principal for a change of section. Provide reasons. (3)
4. Write a factual description, in not more than 100 words about your School Building. (4)
- 5(A) Today's youth is prone to many diseases due to consumption of junk food. Your recipe and your routine can make you healthy, happy and active. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily to create awareness in our youth about the necessity of healthy diet and daily exercise, using ideas from MCB - Unit Health and Medicine and your own ideas. You are Savitha/Sangeeth, H.NO.20, Sector II Chennai, TN. (7)

**OR**

5(B) Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily about the importance of national integration suggesting ways to promote it among the youth.

6(A) Write an article on 'Education for Empowerment' highlighting NEP - National Education Policy 2020 and its fresh perspective on education. (150 words) Clues: Inclusivity, equity, global citizenship, early school education, multilingualism, skill development, girl education- holistic development - child centric approach- critical and analytical thinking. (8)

**OR**

6(B) Write an article on 'Atithi Devo Bhava Programme' highlighting its importance in promoting tourism

Clues: India, a land of rich geographical diversity attracts tourists - tourism stimulates economic growth, it creates job opportunities - Atithi Devo Bhava programme treats guest as god.

**SECTION C - GRAMMAR**

**(10 Marks)**

7. Complete the tasks (A) to (C) as directed

A. Fill in the blanks (i) -(iii) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets.

(3)

(i) She -----be (may, shall, must) late, but she'll be here.

(ii) The teacher, as well as her students ----- (is, are, were) enjoying the class.

(iii) He ----- (used to, would, should) go for swimming daily when he was in class V.

B. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the correct word and the incorrect word. The first one has been done as an example. (4)

Text	Incorrect word	Correct word
On my childhood days	On	In
i. I use to enjoy harvest	-----	-----
ii. season. I like to sit	-----	-----
iii. and watched the reapers	-----	-----
iv. reaping and tell	-----	-----
endless stories.		

C. Do as directed

i. Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases to form meaningful sentences. (1)

Ravi: How do you take care of your jasmine plants?

Raveena: / 4 - 6 hours of /I provide / give /direct sunlight daily/and I also/manure and water/ to my jasmine plants.

ii. Report the dialogue to complete the paragraph that follows (2)

Seena: How did you spend your week end?

Sohan: I went to my home town to celebrate harvest festival.

Seena: Oh! It sounds interesting, though I haven't celebrated harvest festival.

Seena asked Sohan how he ----- his week end. Sohan replied that he ----- to his home town to celebrate harvest festival.

## SECTION D - LITERATURE TEXT BOOK

(26 Marks)

8. Read the given excerpts and answer the questions briefly for any two excerpts of the three given: (2X4=8)

A) A faint memory stirred up in Patol Babu's mind. Some priceless words of advice given in a deep, mellow voice.

- i. In which context did Patol Babu remember the priceless words of advice?
- ii. Who gave him this priceless advice?
- iii. How did it influence him?
- iv. What was the advice?

B) And what was in it father?

That doesn't matter now. I am thinking of destroying it and making another.

- i. Analyse the situation when Abel said the above line.
- ii. What is 'it' here?
- iii. Why does he want to destroy it?
- iv. What is his next plan?

C) Antony: You all did see that on the Lupercal

I thrice presented him a kingly crown,  
which he did thrice refuse, was this ambition?

- i. When did Antony deliver these lines?
- ii. Why does Antony refer to Caesar's denial of a kingly crown?
- iii. What is 'Lupercal'?
- iv. Why does Antony want to prove that Caesar was not ambitious?

9. Answer any five of the following six questions in about 40 words each. 5\*2=10

I. At a young age the two boys Nicola and Jacopo experienced the sunny as well as dark shades of life. Prove with evidence from the poem.

II. Packletide's tiger shoot was planned with the co-operation of the villagers. Identify evidence from the story.

III. How was John Hallock forced to attend the Ouija Board party? What happened in the end?

IV. Evaluate the authoritarian nature of the frog in the poem 'The Frog and the Nightingale'. How did the creatures of the Bingle Bog react to his croaking?

V. 'As you sow, so shall you reap.' Your actions have direct and unavoidable outcome. How does it come true with the ancient mariner?

VI. How does the poet describe the day and the atmosphere when he had seen the snake?  
(Poem-Snake)

10. Answer any one of the following two questions in about 150 words. (8)

I. Time destroys the gilded monuments of princes and huge statues of powerful monarchs. But literature lasts long. Prove it with the help of the poems 'Ozymandias' and 'Not Marble nor the Gilded Monuments'

**OR**

II. 'Alidisplayed qualities of love, patience, hope and faith'. Elucidate with reference to the lesson "The Letter".

.....