

English Language and Literature -Code No. 184
MARKING SCHEME
Pre- Board CLASS-X- (2025-26)

General Instructions: -

1. *The Marking Scheme carries only suggested value points for the answers / sample answers. The value points are in the nature of Guidelines only and do not constitute the complete answer. The students can have their own expression and if the expression is correct, then due marks should be awarded accordingly.*
2. *If a student has attempted an extra question, answer of the question deserving more marks should be retained and the other answer scored out with a note "Extra Question".*
3. *If more than one option is mentioned in the answer of multiple choice questions, then no marks to be awarded.*

A: READING (20 marks)

Discursive Passage

1.	Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.	10
I	Because the UN General Assembly declared May 21 as the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development to highlight the richness of world cultures and the importance of intercultural dialogue for peace and sustainable development.	1
II	D. Reducing the number of UN resolutions.	1
III	Economic.	1
IV	A. Promoting peace, stability and development.	1
V	(b) fair wages.	1
VI	Because cultural diversity drives development not only economically but also enriches intellectual, emotional, moral and spiritual life; it helps reduce poverty and is therefore essential for achieving sustainable development.	2

VII	A. i and iii.	1
VIII	Because media and ICTs can foster dialogue among civilizations, increase mutual understanding and respect, and make cultural expressions more widely accessible — thereby promoting acceptance and recognition of cultural diversity.	2

Case-based Passage

2.	Answer the following questions, based on the passage above	10
I	involves very high costs and complex management.	1

II	“the vehicles emitting pollutants are affecting the environment adversely.”	1
III	Growth.	1
IV	Even though the city has an extensive road network, it still cannot meet the transport demand effectively — i.e., having many roads has not prevented congestion.	1
V	A. road transport is seen as more convenient and affordable.	1
VI	Because congestion causes air pollution, loss of time/productivity and health problems, so residents are concerned and look for solutions.	1
VII	Both are measures to reduce the number of private vehicles on roads by sharing rides, thereby helping to decrease congestion and pollution.	1
VIII	If citizens adopt suggested measures (use public transport, carpooling, avoid unnecessary vehicles) and authorities improve public transport infrastructure and enforce traffic management, this coordinated action would reduce vehicle numbers, smooth traffic flow, lower pollution, and thus create an organized traffic system.	2
IX	Organised/smooth	1

	SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 marks)				
	GRAMMAR (10 marks)				
3.	Complete any ten of twelve of the following tasks, as directed.				10x1=10
I	Informative.				1
II	She does not like to watch television in the evening.				1
III	Had left.				1
IV	He told his friend that he would help him with his homework the next day / the following day.				1
V	About.				1
VI	The librarian told the students not to make so much noise.				1
VII	Remembering.				1
VIII	Where are you going without telling me?				1
IX	He asked me if/whether I knew the way to the library.				1
X	Must.				1
XI	Many.				1
XII	Little.				1
	WRITING SKILLS (10 marks)				
4	Format-1	Content-2	Organisation of ideas-1	Accuracy-1	1X5=5
A.	Letter to the Director of Education Content may include the following points: Introduction: Student (Cultural Secretary) raising concern about declining awareness of traditional arts among youth. Significance of Cultural Awareness: → Preserves India’s diverse heritage. → Promotes respect for traditions and different communities.				

	<p>→ Connects students with history and values.</p> <p>Proposals/Measures:</p> <p>→ Organising workshops and clubs on folk dance, music, handicrafts, classical painting.</p> <p>→ Annual exhibitions and cultural festivals in schools.</p> <p>→ Inviting local artisans to mentor and train students.</p> <p>→ Integrating cultural projects into curriculum for experiential learning.</p> <p>Benefits:</p> <p>→ Encourages creativity and cultural pride.</p> <p>→ Strengthens livelihood opportunities for artisans.</p> <p>→ Builds students' sense of identity and belonging.</p> <p>Formal closing with request: Urging Directorate to support pilot programme and extend resources.</p>
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OR

B.	<p>Letter to the Editor</p> <p>Content may include the following points:</p> <p>Introduction: Concern about sedentary lifestyle of students due to gadgets/screens.</p> <p>Problems Identified:</p> <p>→ Obesity, poor posture, low stamina.</p> <p>→ Lack of concentration, stress, reduced social interaction.</p> <p>Suggested Measures:</p> <p>→ Daily fitness and yoga sessions in schools.</p> <p>→ Sports clubs, inter-school competitions.</p> <p>→ Parent awareness about reducing screen time.</p> <p>→ Community sports events and fitness challenges.</p> <p>Benefits:</p> <p>→ Improved physical and mental health.</p> <p>→ Better discipline, teamwork and focus in academics.</p> <p>→ Builds lifelong habits of fitness.</p> <p>Formal closing with appeal: Requesting publication to spread awareness widely.</p>			
5	Content - 2	Organisation of ideas - 2	Accuracy - 1	1X5=5

Note:

- No title
- Analytical writing doesn't require a 'correct' answer. All perspectives are valid as long as the reasoning is strong and evidence is used effectively.
- The writer must address the strengths of their chosen candidate and **contrast** them with the other candidate/s' qualities to highlight why their choice is better, in order for it to be considered an analysis.
- A recommended approach would be to know the specific needs of the event/audience and match them with the strengths of the candidate/s, ensuring a logical / audience-focused approach.

A Option 1:
Guest Artist for Cultural Festival

Content may include the following points:

Choice 1: Mr. Arvind Menon

Experienced in classical dance; promotes discipline and heritage.

Encourages students to appreciate traditional culture.

Ideal if aim is to preserve roots and connect with Indian identity.

Choice 2: Ms. Kavita Rao

Contemporary artist; creative and innovative style.

Addresses modern social issues → connects with youth.

Interactive performances engage students more effectively.

Analysis:

Mr. Menon: Best if the purpose is traditional exposure and heritage preservation.

Ms. Rao: Best if the purpose is youth engagement and innovation.

Either may be chosen, but choice must be justified with festival's objective.

OR

B Option 1:
Best Partner for Rohan (Science Exhibition)

Content may include the following points:

Neha:

Creative and confident, but sometimes careless.

Risk of compromising accuracy.

Kabir:

Disciplined, detail-oriented, systematic researcher.

Complements Rohan's reasoning and teamwork skills.

Reliable partner for error-free, well-researched work.

Sameer:

Good speaker and presenter.

However, avoids preparation; may leave workload on others.

Analysis:

Kabir emerges as the best choice → balances Rohan's strengths and weaknesses.

Partnership ensures accuracy, organisation, and clarity in the exhibition project.

SECTION D: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK (40 marks)		
6	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for any one of the two, given	1x5=5
A	Prose	
I	Belief practical (agricultural), emotional (faith).	2
II	The rain symbolised a divine blessing ensuring prosperity and security.	1
III	Lencho is simple, hardworking and deeply faithful.	1
IV	Correct option: B (Nouns – ii ; Verbs – I, iv ; Adjectives – iii, v).	1
OR		
B	Prose	
I	C. settling	1

II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ provides readers with direct insight into her thoughts, emotions, and experiences -- by experiencing the events through Bholi's eyes, , easy to understand the depth of Bholi's vulnerability and distress ✦ allows the author to convey the impact of the teacher's kindness and the cruelty of her classmates' laughter more effectively draws readers into Bholi's world and enhancing their engagement with the narrative	2
III	Uncontrollably	1
IV	(Any one feature from each point) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ The teacher approaches Bholi with kindness and understanding, offering a supportive presence and gentle encouragement ✦ The other girls display insensitivity and cruelty by laughing at Bholi's stammering and distress 	1

7	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for any one of the two, given.	1x5=5
A.	Poetry	
I	A. i, iii, v.	1
II	It suggests severe confinement and restricted movement — the tiger's natural range is reduced to a few pacing steps, indicating captivity.	2
III	"few steps of his cage."	1
IV	The suppressed fury and dignity of a powerful creature resisting captivity.	1
OR		
B.	Poetry	
I	D. Custard was pretending to be timid while actually strong.	1
II	Bravery was not obvious; it lay beneath his fearful exterior.	1
III	By presenting a dragon who cries for a cage and appears cowardly while actually brave — this role reversal and the reactions of other characters create comic contrast and mock-heroic effect.	1
IV	"laughed in rage."	1

	[This is advisory in nature as it offers a guideline / a playful instruction]	
8	Answer any four of the following five questions, in about 50 words.	4x3=12
Content – 2	Expression – 1	Accuracy – Deduct up to 1 mark from overall
I	Mandela on courage: Courage = not absence of fear, but triumph over it; inspires persistence despite fear; bravery lies in action.	3

II	Valli's independence: Curious; bus journey alone; learns responsibility; experiential learning outside classroom.	3
III	Tea as identity: Popular beverage; symbol of hospitality; regional varieties show culture.	3
IV	Tiger in cage: Contrast of majesty in wild vs confinement in cage; highlights helplessness.	3
V	Custard: Irony; cowardly appearance but brave actions; others the opposite.	3
9	Answer any two of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.	2x3=6
Content – 2 Expression – 1 Accuracy – Deduct up to 1 mark from overall		

I	Refusal of unfair marriage proposal: Confidence, moral courage, dignity, inspires equality and self-respect.	3
II	Grieving mother story: Death universal; realization helps acceptance; healing through resilience and compassion.	3
III	Returning stolen money: Honesty, restores trust, kindness leads to transformation.	3
10.	Answer any one of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words	1x6=6

Content – 3 Expression – 2 Accuracy – 1

A.	A Letter to God + The Black Aeroplane - Lencho's crops destroyed; writes to God with faith; hope sustains him. - Pilot lost in storm; mysterious plane; hope guides him to safety. - Common message: Hope provides courage, action, survival.	
OR		

B.	Fire and Ice + The Trees - Fire = desire, Ice = hatred → both destructive. - Trees confined = exploitation of nature, longing for freedom. - Both warn of destructive human behaviour; message = responsibility.	
11.	Answer any one of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words	1x6=6

Content – 3 Expression – 2 Accuracy – 1

A.	A Triumph of Surgery + The Making of a Scientist - Dr. Herriot observes Tricky; patience and proper care cure him. - Ebright: curiosity, experiments, persistence, mother's guidance. - Message: Observation, patience, guidance vital for success.	
OR		

B.	Footprints Without Feet + The Book That Saved the Earth - Griffin misuses invisibility for crime → downfall. - Martians misuse power to invade → defeated by simple book. - Message: Knowledge without ethics is dangerous; responsibility is essential.	
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