

केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन, बंगलुरु संभाग  
KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN, BENGALURU REGION  
प्री बोर्ड परीक्षा 2025-26  
PRE-BOARD-EXAMINATION 2025-26

CLASS: X

MM: 80

SUBJECT: ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE (101)

TIME: 3 Hrs.

**General Instructions:** Read the following instructions very carefully and follow them:

(i) The question paper is divided into **four** sections A, B, C and D.

**Section A** Reading Skills

**22 marks**

**Section B** Writing Skills

**22 marks**

**Section C** Grammar

**10 marks**

**Section D** Literature Textbook

**26 marks**

(ii) There are **12** questions in the question paper. All questions are compulsory.

(iii) Answers should be brief and to the point.

(iv) You may attempt any section at a time.

(v) All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

**SECTION A: READING SKILLS (22 Marks)**

**1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow** **12M**

**HOW ENERGY- EFFICIENT FANS CAN ENHANCE PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL HEALTH IN RURAL INDIA**

January 4, 2024 TOI BEEP Ministry of Power

1 India, a land of diverse cultures and landscapes, is home to a significant rural population facing multifaceted challenges. Among these challenges, health and financial stability stand prominently. In rural areas, the absence of proper ventilation and cooling mechanisms can lead to adverse health effects, while financial limitations often impede progress. However, introducing efficient fans in these regions can act as a catalyst for positive change, fostering health improvements and economic prosperity.

2 In rural India, extreme climatic conditions, especially during the summer months, create discomfort and health hazards due to inadequate ventilation. Homes often lack proper airflow, leading to increased temperatures and the accumulation of pollutants, affecting respiratory health. Such conditions significantly impact vulnerable populations, including children, elderly individuals, and those with pre-existing health conditions.

3 Introducing efficient fans can transform these living conditions. Energy-efficient ceiling fans or solar-powered fans, specifically designed for rural areas, can effectively mitigate indoor heat and improve air circulation. These fans not only reduce indoor temperatures but also decrease the concentration of pollutants, alleviating the risk of respiratory illnesses. Moreover, the introduction of efficient fans in rural households can lead to substantial financial benefits. Traditional fans often

consume significant electricity, imposing financial burdens on households. However, energy-efficient fans, such as those powered by solar energy or designed for low power consumption, offer cost-effective solutions. They reduce electricity bills, enabling them to allocate resources towards other essential needs, such as education and healthcare.

4 Furthermore, the implementation of efficient fans can create economic opportunities within rural communities. Initiatives focusing on the installation, maintenance, and repair of these fans can generate employment opportunities for local residents.

5 To ensure the successful implementation and sustainability of efficient fan initiatives in rural India, several factors need consideration. Firstly, community engagement and awareness programs play a crucial role in promoting the benefits of these fans and encouraging their adoption. Collaboration with local leaders, community organizations, and governmental bodies can facilitate the dissemination of information and garner support for these initiatives. Secondly, addressing affordability and accessibility is pivotal. Implementing subsidies or financing options for purchasing energy-efficient fans can make them more accessible to households with limited financial resources. Moreover, partnering with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and financial institutions can aid in providing financial assistance or microcredit options for purchasing and installing these fans.

6 In conclusion, the introduction of efficient fans in rural India holds immense potential to bring about positive transformations in health and economic prosperity. By improving ventilation, reducing health risks, decreasing energy consumption, and fostering economic opportunities.

**I According to the passage, what *secondary benefit* arises from implementing efficient fan initiatives? (1M)**

- A. Increase in local employment through installation and repair work.
- B. Rapid urbanization of rural areas by introducing new technology.
- C. Elimination of all health problems in villages.
- D. Reduction in poverty due to modernization.

**II The phrase “vulnerable populations” in the passage refers to groups of people (para 2) (1M)**

- a) Who are strong and financially stable, able to adapt easily to harsh living conditions.
- b) That work in government programs to install energy-efficient fans in rural areas.
- c) Communities that live in luxury and enjoy good ventilation and cooling systems.
- d) People who are more likely to suffer harm or face risks

**III Mention two ways in which efficient fans improve financial stability. (para 3) (2M)**

**IV Find a word from the passage that means “a person or thing that triggers significant change” (para 1) (1M)**

**V. What is the overall message of the passage? (2M)**

**VI. Which of the following is *not* mentioned as a factor necessary for successful implementation?** (1M)

- A. Community engagement and awareness
- B. Government collaboration
- C. Investment in space exploration programs
- D. Affordable financing options.

**VII. Which phrase from paragraph 3 bears the same meaning as ‘substantially lessen’?** (1M)

**VIII. Fill in the blank by choosing the appropriate option from those given in the bracket.** (1M)

(The tone of the author in this passage is \_\_\_\_\_ (sarcastic and critical / persuasive and pragmatic/ pessimistic and doubtful)

**IX. Give two reasons why subsidies and financing options are important for rural adoption?** (2M)

**2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow** 10M

### THE ENCHANTING TAPESTRY OF NORTH-EAST INDIA

1. Nestled in the embrace of the Eastern Himalayas, North-East India unfolds like a delicate painting brushed with hues of emerald valleys, mist-clad mountains, and crystal-clear rivers. Often referred to as the “Land of the Seven Sisters and One Brother,” this captivating region—comprising Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, and Sikkim—is a treasure trove of nature, culture, and mystique.

2. From the mighty Brahmaputra meandering gracefully through Assam’s verdant plains to the living root bridges of Meghalaya that stand as marvels of indigenous wisdom, the region is nature’s masterpiece. The snow-draped peaks of Sikkim, the untamed forests of Arunachal Pradesh, and the rhythmic dance of rain in Cherrapunji paint a scene of rare serenity. Wildlife lovers find paradise in sanctuaries like Kaziranga National Park, home to the famed one-horned rhinoceros, and Namdapha, a haven for exotic species.

3. The cultural fabric of the North-East is woven with countless traditions, languages, and art forms. Each festival bursts forth in vibrant celebration—Bihu in Assam echoes the rhythm of rural joy, Hornbill Festival in Nagaland dazzles with tribal grandeur, Losar in Sikkim ushers in Tibetan charm, and Chapchar Kut in Mizoram reverberates with song and dance. The people’s warmth and their deep harmony with nature lend a rare authenticity to every traveller’s experience.

4. For the seeker of thrills, the North-East offers a playground of adventure—trekking through misty trails, rafting down roaring rivers, or exploring the hidden caves of Meghalaya. Beyond its scenic charm lies a growing promise of eco-tourism, ensuring that development walks hand in hand with conservation.

5. The North-East of India is not merely a destination—it is an emotion, a melody of nature and humanity intertwined. As roads lengthen and hearts open, this enchanted realm beckons travellers to discover India’s most pristine and poetic corner, where every mountain whispers a story and every river sings a song.

**I. How does the cultural fabric of North-East India contribute to its uniqueness?**  
(para 3) (2M)

**II. Which phrase best captures the essence of the article’s tone?** (1M)

- a) Analytical and detached
- b) Critical and argumentative
- c) Descriptive and celebratory
- d) Informative but pessimistic

**III. Which of the following is NOT a true statement about North-East India according to the passage?** (1M)

- a) North-East India is known for its natural beauty and diverse landscapes.
- b) The region is home to several wildlife sanctuaries, including Kaziranga National Park.
- c) North East India is a single, culturally homogeneous entity
- d) Festivals like Bihu, Hornbill, and Losar reflect the region’s vibrant cultural heritage.

**IV. What is the cultural significance of the Hornbill Festival?** (1M)

**V. The author refers to North-East India as “a melody of nature and humanity intertwined” to emphasize—** (1M)

- a) The unity between cultural traditions and natural landscapes
- b) The technological growth of the region
- c) The dominance of human settlement over forests
- d) The isolation of the region from the rest of India

**VI. The description of “living root bridges of Meghalaya” primarily signifies \_\_\_\_\_** (A historical record of ancient trade routes / The community’s sustainable relationship with nature.) (1M)

**VII. How does the author blend factual information with imagery in the article?** (1M)

- a) By presenting statistical data about wildlife
- b) By using poetic language to describe real geographical features
- c) By limiting the discussion to natural resources
- d) By avoiding emotional appeal and focusing on logic

**VIII. What role does eco-tourism play in North-East India?** (2M)

### SECTION B- WRITING SKILLS (22 marks)

**3.** You are Jatin, monitor of class XA of Vidya Bharati School, Jaunpur. Write an application to the principal of your school requesting him/her to do the needful to fix the faulty interactive board in your class. (50 words) (3M)

**4.** Write a factual description of the family car that your father has recently purchased, highlighting its key features and functionalities. (100 words) (4M)

**5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two given below.**

**(7M)**

**A.** You are Fatima/Fahad residing at 25 Saket Nagar Jaipur. You have observed that the modern, fast-paced urban lifestyle is leading to an increase in health problems like stress, obesity, and diabetes, particularly among young people. Using your own ideas along with those from MCB unit Health and Medicine, write a letter to the editor of a national daily, drawing attention to this growing concern and suggesting ways to promote a healthier way of life. (120 words)

**OR**

**B.** Your school has taken several initiatives to promote inclusivity, such as providing wheelchair accessibility, using inclusive language in curriculum materials, and organizing sensitization workshops for teachers and students. However, there's still a need to raise awareness about the importance of inclusive education and encourage more students to get involved in promoting inclusivity.

As Tarun/Tanvi residing at 65, Mount Road Hyderabad, write a letter to the editor of a national daily discussing the significance of inclusive education and its benefits for students with diverse abilities. Suggest practical ways to promote inclusivity in schools and encourage readers to get involved in creating a more inclusive environment. Use your own ideas along with those from MCB Unit 'Education' to write this letter. (120 words)

**6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two questions given below.**

**(8M)**

**A.** In a world grappling with environmental challenges, the concept of sustainability has become more critical than ever before. At the forefront of sustainable living lies the simple yet powerful mantra of "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle," commonly known as the Three R's. Using ideas from the MCB unit Environment as well as your own ideas write an article for your school magazine on the topic "Embracing the Three R's of sustainability". (150 words)

Hints: Impact of human activities on the environment- ways to reduce waste - examples of reusing items- the importance of recycling and proper disposal of recyclable materials-  
- Role of schools and communities in promoting sustainability

**B.** Incorporating your original ideas along with ideas from MCB Unit National Integration write an article on the critical need for fostering national identity among citizens, emphasizing that unity is possible and necessary despite the presence of diverse regional, religious, and cultural backgrounds. **150 words**

Hints: Importance of national identity-challenges of diversity- role of education in promoting national integration- ways to foster national identity (shared history, values, traditions)-benefits of unity and harmony

**SECTION C: GRAMMAR (10 Marks)**

**7. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in the brackets. (3M)**

Rapid urbanisation (i) \_\_\_\_\_ (has led, lead, leads, was leading) to significant changes in the environment. Policymakers (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (must, could, might, should) act swiftly to curb the harmful effects of unchecked development. The sustainability of cities now depends (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ (on, upon, within, amid) a delicate balance between progress and preservation.

**8. . In the following paragraph, one word has been omitted in each line. In your answer sheets, remember to write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, as shown. (4M)**

sl no	Text	Word Before	Omission	Word after
eg	The environment is most precious resource.	Is	the	Most
<b>i</b>	We reduce waste and plant more trees.			
<b>ii</b>	This planet is only home we have.			
<b>iii</b>	Each action, big or small, make difference.			
<b>iv</b>	We act now to protect nature.			

**9. Do as directed (3M)**

**I Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence. (1M)**

Raghu: How was the Crafts Mela that you attended in Faridabad?

Salim: impressive/ what/ much/ and/more/imagined/ it/grand/had/was/I/than

**II Report the conversation given below by filling in the blanks to complete the following paragraph. (2M)**

Preeti: Where did you spend your holidays?

Varun: I went to my hometown to meet my grandparents.

Preeti asked Varun (i) \_\_\_\_\_. Varun replied that (ii) \_\_\_\_\_.

**SECTION D: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK (26 Marks)**

**10. Read the given extract and answer the questions briefly, for ANY TWO extracts, of the three, given. (4+4=8M)**

A. "I have seen a week-end cottage near Darking that I should rather like to buy," said Miss Mebin with seeming irrelevance. "Six hundred and eighty, freehold. Quite a bargain, only I don't happen to have the money." (Mrs Packletide's Tiger)

**I. Who is Miss Mebin talking to? (1M)**

- II. Why is Miss Mebin talking about the cottage when she can't afford to buy it? (1M)
- III. What character trait of the speaker is seen in these lines? (1M)
- IV. What does the phrase, 'seeming irrelevance' here mean? (1M)

**B.** And immediately I regretted it.

I thought how paltry, how vulgar, what a mean act!

I despised myself and the voices of my accursed human education.

And I thought of the albatross

And I wished he would come back, my snake. (Snake)

- I. What did the poet regret? (1M)
- II. What made the poet think of the albatross? (1M)
- III. Why did the poet despise himself? (1M)
- IV. Why did he wish the snake to come back? (1M)

**C. Mrs Jordan:** No, that'll never do. We want a verse that says how much we loved him and refers to all his good qualities and says what a heavy loss we've had.

**Mrs Slater:** You want a whole poem. That'll cost a good lot.

**Mrs Jordan:** Well, we'll think about it after tea, and then we'll look through his bits of things and make a list of them. There's all the furniture in his room. (The Dear Departed)

- I. What tone does Mrs. Jordan's request convey? (1M)
- II. What does Mrs Slater's response reveal about her character? (1M)
- III. Comment on the irony in the above lines. (1M)
- IV. What does the conversation reveal about the relationship between the daughters and the "deceased"? (1M)

**11. Answer any five of the following six questions in about 30-40 words each. (5x2=10M)**

- I How does the character of the two boys Nicola and Jacopo influence the narrator's perception of life? (Two Gentlemen of Verona) (2M)
- II How does the author blend reality and fantasy in "Virtually True"? (2M)
- III How does the postmaster's character evolve throughout the story? (The Letter) (2M)
- IV How does Patol Babu's passion for acting influence his response to the opportunity in the film? (2M)
- V What lesson does the poem convey through the mariner's experiences? (2M)
- (The Rime of the Ancient Mariner)
- VI The frog exploits the nightingale's lack of confidence to serve his own interest. Do you agree? why/why not? (2M)

**12. Answer any one of the following two questions in about 150 words. (1x8=8M)**

**I)** How do the poems "Ozymandias" and "Not Marble, nor the Gilded Monuments" challenge the idea of grandeur and legacy? What insights do they offer into the nature of art, power, and human mortality? Support your answer with textual evidence and analysis.

OR

**II)** Discuss the significance of the character of Mark Antony in the play. How does he manipulate the crowd's emotions and turn them against the conspirators? What does his character reveal about the power of rhetoric and persuasion? (Julius Caesar)

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