

KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN, PATNA REGION

2nd Pre Board Examination 2025

Subject- English Communicative (101)

SET A

Time: 3 hrs.

MM:80

General Instructions

1. This question paper has 12 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper consists of four sections:
Section A - Reading Skills
Section B - Writing Skills
Section C - Grammar
Section D - Literature
3. Read the questions carefully and follow the instructions for each.
4. Adhere to the prescribed word limit wherever mentioned.

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (22 Marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully. (12 Marks)

1. global debate surrounding the ethics of entertainment involving animals and humans has grown sharper over the last three decades. While many nations gradually eliminated animal-based performances, some industries struggled to adapt to the changing moral climate. In India, two strong governmental interventions reshaped the circus landscape: the wildlife protection order of 1991, and two decades later, the prohibition on training minors below eighteen.

2. The former led to the seizure and forced rehabilitation of hundreds of animals—an act that, though well-intended, pushed many trainers into immediate unemployment. Zoos, already overcrowded, could not ensure specialised care, and several animals failed to survive the transition.

3. The latter decision, aimed at safeguarding children, intensified the challenges for circus companies. For nearly a century, young performers had mastered demanding acts such as aerial acrobatics, blindfold cycling, and fire-ring vaulting. Their absence changed the very structure of acts traditionally relied upon to attract crowds.

4. Meanwhile, the global circus scene evolved dramatically. Contemporary circus forms in Europe, South America and East Asia blended physical theatre, digital projections, music and narrative storytelling, reshaping the purpose of circus as an art form. In contrast, many Indian circuses struggled to modernise and suffered dwindling audiences.

5 Once iconic spaces—such as the grounds around historic forts and public parks—gradually denied permission to circuses, citing safety and logistical concerns. Consequently, travelling companies relocated to remote outskirts where visibility was limited, accelerating their decline.

Answer the following questions based on your reading of the passage.

- I Why did several animals fail to survive rehabilitation? (1)
- II. List two ways the ban on minors impacted the Indian circus. (2)
- III. Complete the sentence:
The first government intervention was considered disruptive because..... (1)
- IV. Mention a feature of contemporary circus as described in the passage. (1)
- V. After which paragraph can the following sentence be best placed? (1)
“Many young performers later joined international troupes, where their skills brought them global recognition.”
- VI. State whether the following statement is **TRUE or FALSE**: (1)
The government relocated circus companies to the outskirts intentionally to boost attendance.
- VII. Substitute the word “**eliminated**” (para 1) with a suitable synonym from the passage. (1)
- VIII. What is the central idea of **paragraph 5**? (2)
- IX. What two factors caused the decline of traditional Indian circuses? (2)

2. Read the passage carefully: (10 Marks)

Plastic Waste: A Global Environmental Challenge

Plastic has become an essential part of modern life, but its impact on the environment has grown dangerously. Every year, large quantities of plastic end up in oceans, rivers, and landfills. One environmental report states that nearly 8 million tonnes of plastic enter the oceans annually. These plastics break down into microplastics, which are swallowed by marine organisms such as fish, turtles, and seabirds. Over time, these particles move up the food chain and may reach humans through seafood consumption.

The problem is made worse because many countries lack efficient recycling systems. Single-use plastics—items used once and thrown away—are a major part of the problem. These include water bottles, carry bags, food wrappers, and straws, which often remain in the environment for hundreds of years before they decompose.

The table below shows estimated plastic waste produced in different regions in 2023:

Region	Plastic Waste (Million Tonnes)	% Not Recycled
Asia	112	72%
North America	67	54%
Europe	51	48%
Africa	37	83%
South America	29	69%

Scientists warn that if this trend continues, the damage to marine life may become difficult to reverse. Many countries have started banning plastic bags, promoting reusable materials, and introducing recycling programs, but experts believe meaningful results will depend on collective international action.

Answer the following questions based on the passage above.

- I. Complete the sentence. (1)
Asia produces the highest amount of plastic waste because _____.
- II. True or False. (1)

Plastic waste can decompose quickly because it breaks down within a few days.

True / False.

- III. What percentage of plastic waste remains unrecycled in South America? (1)
A. 69%
B. 83%
C. 72%
D. 54%
- IV. Answer in about **20–40 words**. (2)
How does plastic pollution impact marine life and later reach humans?
- V. Identify whether the statement is **supported or not supported** by the passage. (1)
“Recycling systems are efficient and successful in most countries.” Supported / Not supported
- VI. Fill in the blanks. (1)
A large amount of plastic remains in oceans for _____ because it takes _____ years to decompose.
- VII. Choose the most appropriate conclusion. (1)
The table shows that:
A) Regions producing less plastic waste recycle the most
B) Regions producing more waste manage it better
C) High waste does not always mean high recycling
D) Recycling is equally efficient worldwide
- VIII. Answer in about **20–40 words**. (2)
Why do experts insist on global cooperation rather than individual national efforts to solve plastic pollution?

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS (22 Marks)

3. As a school nurse, Write an e-mail, in not more than **50 words**, requesting permission from the Principal to organize a Health Awareness Seminar for students of Classes IX and X.

You may copy the template given below to write your email. (3)

From:	
To:	
Cc:	
Date:	
Subject:	

4. Write a factual description of a smartwatch you recently bought or seen, in about 100–120 words. (4)
5. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two, (A) or (B), in **120 words**. (7)
A. Many challenges affect the quality of education in India, including unequal access to digital facilities, lack of proper academic guidance, and limited exposure to real-world skill development. As Ritvik /Ritik, 121 Sadar Bazaar, Pune, write a letter to the editor of a national daily highlighting these issues and suggesting practical measures to improve

educational standards for all students. You can take ideas from your **MCB Unit 2: Education**.

OR

B. Environmental concerns such as plastic waste, air pollution, and deforestation continue to harm our planet. Local communities often neglect sustainable practices and ignore conservation measures. As Rosa D'Silva of 87 Manor Lane, Kochi, write a letter to the editor of a national daily discussing the importance of protecting our environment and suggesting steps individuals and schools can take to promote eco-friendly living. You can take idea from your **MCB Unit 4 : Environment**.

6. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two, (A) or (B), in **150 words**. (8)

A. Imagine you are Raj Malhotra, a student of Class X. Write an article for your school magazine on the topic: "Advances in Science: Shaping the Future of Humanity" highlighting how scientific innovation benefits healthcare, communication, and sustainable technology. You may use your own ideas along with cues from **MCB Unit 3: Science and Technology**.

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• life-changing innovations• medical technology• digital learning• environment-friendly inventions. |
|--|

OR

B. Many incidents in India today show the need for unity among people of different religions, languages, and regions. Write an article for the "Social Harmony" column of your local newspaper on the topic:

"National Integration – The Key to India's Progress."

Use the given clues, along with your own ideas and those you may have gathered from Unit 6: National Integration.

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why national integration is important for India's peace and development• The challenges and threats to unity in a diverse country• Practical steps that citizens, especially youth, can take to promote harmony |
|---|

SECTION C: GRAMMAR (10 Marks)

7. Fill in the blanks (i) – (iii) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets. 3X1=3

The rapid development of artificial intelligence (i) _____ (may / must / might) revolutionize global communication within the next decade. Advanced translation systems (ii) _____ (enable / enables / enabling) people to interact effortlessly across languages. However, (iii) _____ (several / much / most) ethical concerns need to be addressed before complete integration.

8. In the following paragraph, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it. 1×4=4

The first one has been done for you.

S.No.	Text	Word before	Omission	Word after
E.g.	The scientist presented her research clarity.	research	with	clarity
(i)	Many students struggle complex equations.			
(ii)	The committee agreed implement new rules.			
(iii)	She was confident her ability succeed.			
(iv)	Climate change affects regions different ways.			

9. Do as directed:

- (a) Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases into a meaningful sentence. (1)

ENERGY SOURCES / THE EARTH / DEPEND ON / RENEWABLE / MANY SPECIES / FOR SURVIVAL

- (b) Report the dialogues to complete the paragraph that follows. (2)

Scientist: We will conduct a night-time survey to track the movement of rare birds.

Assistant: Is it safe to work in the forest after dark?

Scientist: Yes. We use specialised equipment and follow all safety protocols.

The scientist informed the assistant that (i) _____ to track the movement of rare birds. The assistant asked (ii) _____. Scientist replied in affirmation that they use specialised equipment and follow all safety protocols.

SECTION D: LITERATURE (26 marks)

10. Read the given excerpts and answer the questions briefly for **ANY TWO** excerpts of the given three: (4×2=8)

- A. "Cowards die many times before their deaths;
The valiant never taste of death but once.
Of all the wonders that I yet have heard,
It seems to me most strange that men should fear."

(Julius Ceaser)

(i) What does Caesar mean when he says that "cowards die many times before their deaths"?

(ii) How does this speech reveal Caesar's view of bravery?

(iii) What does this speech show about Caesar's attitude towards fear?

(iv) How does this extract show that Caesar is confident before going to the Senate?

- B. The nightingale was delighted to sing;
But the frog, with a sneer, remarked,
"Your song lacks force and clarity, my dear,
But don't worry — under my guidance,
You'll soon become a star."

(The Frog and the Nightingale)

- (i) What attitude does the frog display in this excerpt?
- (ii) How does the frog manipulate the nightingale psychologically?
- (iii) What does this passage reveal about the nightingale's weakness?
- (v) How does this moment foreshadow the nightingale's downfall?

C. "It felt real — more real than anything outside the computer.

Sebastian was there, struggling, trapped.

If I quit the game, he would remain stuck forever.

I knew I had to go on."

(From Virtually True)

- (i) What does the narrator mean by "felt real"?
- (ii) Why does the narrator believe Sebastian is trapped?
- (iii) How does this excerpt show the blurring of boundaries between virtual and real worlds?
- (iv) What quality of the narrator is highlighted through his decision?

11. Answer ANY FIVE of the following in 30–40 words each.

(5 × 2 = 10 marks)

- (i) How do the two brothers in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* demonstrate true nobility despite their poverty?
- (ii) What does Mrs Packletide's Tiger reveal about the human desire for social superiority?
- (iii) Why does the mariner in *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* face suffering even after confessing his crime?
- (iv) Why is Helen upset with modern writers, and how does this form the comic conflict in the story?
- (v) Why does the actor become enthusiastic about performing his role, even though it is very small?
- (vi) What does Ali's daily visit to the post office reveal about his character?

12. Attempt ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 150 words.

(8 marks)

- (i) Discuss how the poem "Ozymandias" presents the theme of the impermanence of power. How does the image of the shattered statue warn rulers about pride and arrogance?

OR

- (ii) In *Julius Caesar*, how does the assassination scene show the conflict between personal loyalty and political ambition? Explain how Brutus justifies his actions and why the audience may still question his judgment.