

## CLASS X : SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 2

### SUBJECT: ENGLISH – LANGUAGE & LITERATURE (184)

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

#### *General instructions:*

*Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:*

- This question paper comprises 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.*
- The question paper contains THREE sections –*  
*Section – A: Reading Skills*  
*Section – B: Grammar and Creative Writing Skills*  
*Section – C: Literature Textbook*
- Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each Part*

#### SECTION – A

#### READING SKILLS (20 MARKS)

- Read the following text. (10)**
  - The choices we make on a daily basis—wearing a seatbelt, lifting heavy objects correctly or purposely staying out of any dangerous situation—can either ensure our safety or bring about potentially harmful circumstances.
  - You and I need to make a decision that we are going to get our lives in order. Exercising self-control, self-discipline and establishing boundaries and borders in our lives are some of the most important things we can do. A life without discipline is one that's filled with carelessness.
  - We can think it's kind of exciting to live life on the edge. We like the image of "Yeah! That's me! Living on the edge! Woo-hoo!" It's become a popular way to look at life. But you see, even highways have lines, which provide margins for our safety while we're driving. If we go over one side, we'll go into the ditch. If we cross over the line in the middle, we can/may get killed. And we like those lines because they help to keep us safe. Sometimes we don't even realise how lines help to keep us safe.
  - I'm not proud of this, but for the first 20 years of my life at work, I ignored my limits. I felt horrible, physically, most of the time. I used to tell myself "I know I have limits and that I've reached them, but I'm going to ignore them and see if or how long I can get by with it." I ran to doctors, trying to make myself feel better through pills, vitamins, natural stuff and anything I could get my hands on. Some of the doctors would tell me, "It's just stress." That just made me mad. I thought stress meant you don't like what you do or can't handle life, and I love what I do. But I kept pushing myself, travelling, doing speaking engagements and so on— simply exhausting myself.
  - Finally, I understood I was living an unsustainable life and needed to make some changes in my outlook and lifestyle.
  - You and I don't have to be like everyone else or keep up with anyone else. Each of us needs to be exactly the way we are, and we don't have to apologise for it. We're not all alike and we need to find a comfort zone in which we can enjoy our lives instead of making ourselves sick with an overload of stress and pressure.



- (2) If we move back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the gaps in our knowledge become very pronounced, especially when we move outside the ranks of the aristocracy. The polemicist Thomas Nashe was much in demand in the 1590s, and he is undoubtedly the only writer in English literary history who was offensive enough to provoke the authorities into closing the playhouses and censoring the press. Yet, we do not know when he died.
- (3) As for portraits, well, few images of notable figures from the 16<sup>th</sup> century exist. It is a striking fact that among writers of the 'middling sort', only John Donne and Michael Drayton appear to have had portraits commissioned in the 1590s. Spenser was the most famous poet of the day, inspiring fellow writers to cast poems and pens into his grave in Westminster Abbey, yet, his appearance remains a mystery.
- (4) The major change in biography occurred in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. In the early 1600s, what we might term 'citizen portraiture' came into vogue. Not only did middle-ranking civic figures have their pictures painted, but so did the upper echelons of the trades, including writers.
- (5) Seventeenth century writers started to record details of their subjects, one reason why we know so much more about the life of John Milton than of William Shakespeare. The most important figure in this revolution was John Aubrey (1626-97), who dedicated his life to recording the details of the nation's most celebrated and significant writers, intellectuals and scientists.
- (6) Aubrey has not really received his due, hindered by the lack of a proper edition of his Brief Lives and the assumption that because he deals in gossip he must be trivial. He thought of himself as the 'hint keeper', and he was the father of modern biography. His writing was a triumph of dedication, ingenuity and humanity.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage.

- i. The history of gossip turns into the history of biography when it starts to obtain details of \_\_\_\_\_. (1)
  - A. personalities
  - B. choices and quirks
  - C. likes and dislikes
  - D. all of these
- ii. We can find a pronounced gap in our knowledge if we go back to the \_\_\_\_\_ century. (1)
- iii. Who was a polemicist and the only writer in English literary history who provoked authorities into closing playhouses? (1)
- iv. What do you think was the main reason why we have little content or information about 16<sup>th</sup> century writers? (1)
- v. When did the change about biography writers come? (2)
- vi. Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below. (1)
 

**Assertion :** John Aubrey was the father of modern biography.

**Reason :** His writing was not a triumph of dedication.

  - A. Both the assertion and reason are true and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
  - B. Both the assertion and reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
  - C. The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
  - D. The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- vii. The term 'citizen portraiture' came into existence in \_\_\_\_\_. (1)
  - A. 1600s
  - B. 1700s
  - C. 1590s
  - D. 1697s
- viii. The antonym of the word 'delightful' as given in paragraph 2 is \_\_\_\_\_. (1)
- ix. In which century did the major change in biography occur? (1)



ix. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies its correction. (1)

I have lived in New York since six years.

Option No.	Error	Correction
A.	have	had
B.	lived	living
C.	in	at
D.	since	for

x. Choose the correct option to fill in the blank. (1)

Rahul: Ma'am! Rohan has fracture in his hand. Would he be giving his exams?

Teacher: Yes, I have talked about the same with him. He says he \_\_\_\_\_ write the exams as the fracture is in his left hand.

- A. should  
B. would  
C. can  
D. must

xi. Dia and Nia had a conversation. Read the dialogues given below and choose the correct option. (1)

Dia: \_\_\_\_\_?

Nia: I don't have any special plan.

- A. Have you ever visited rock garden  
B. Do you think we should go somewhere this weekend  
C. What are you doing this weekend  
D. How about planning to visit a zoo this Sunday

xii. Fill in the blank using correct option. (1)

Thai Pongal \_\_\_\_\_ every year in the month of January in Tamil Nadu.

- A. celebrates  
B. is celebrated  
C. celebrated  
D. had celebrated

### WRITING (10)

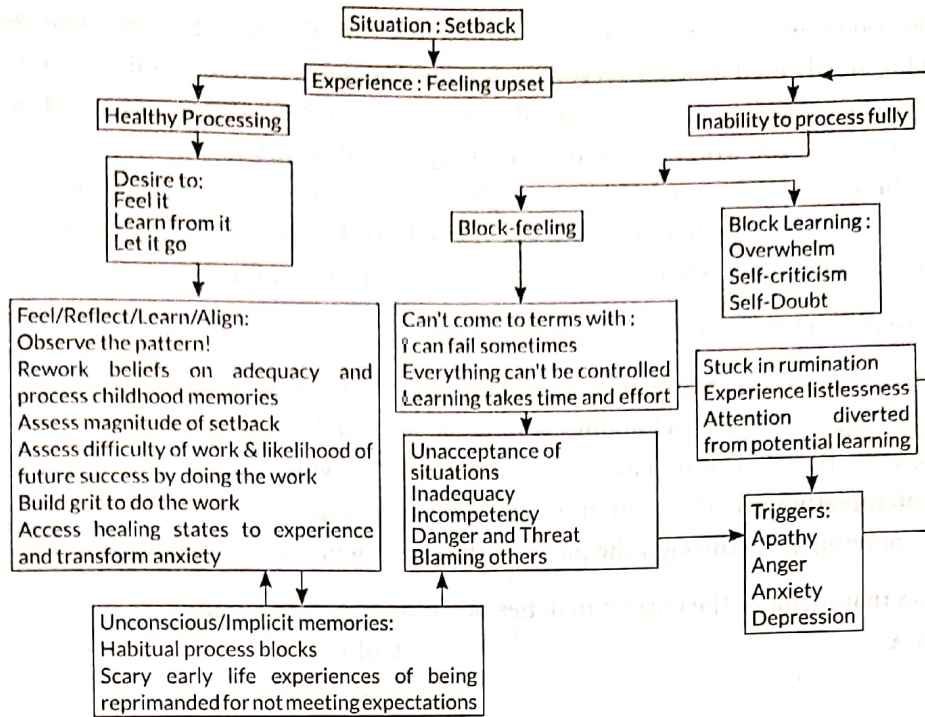
4. A. Stakeholders associated with education of children are concerned about the poor reading habits of students these days. There are multiple reasons for the same like academic pressure, social media, video games addiction, etc. As a concerned parent, write a letter to the editor in about 100-120 words, expressing your concern. Suggest some ways in which children could be directed towards this habit of reading books and so many other dimensions to their lives. You are Madhav/ Madhavi. (5)

OR

4. B. Injuries and deaths taking place due to underage driving are being reported on a daily basis. Write a letter, in about 120 words, to the Commissioner of Traffic Police asking him to be very strict in such cases and also take necessary steps to stop this practice. You are Punit, 619/23, Palam Vihar, Gurugram. (5)

5. A. Study the concept chart from the self- help magazine section of a monthly publication.

(5)



Write a paragraph in not more than 120 words, analysing the listed responses to the situation when one faces setbacks.

OR

5. B. Read the given details that shows the number of girls and boys studying mechanical engineering at Indian Universities. (5)

- From 1998 to 2018, the number of female engineering students saw a clear uptrend in universities.
- In 1998 to 2008, the number of male students slightly fell from 14,000 to 12,000.
- The number of female students was relatively low at around 2,000 in the year 1998.
- By each decade, female students grew steadily by 2,000 and grew sharply over time.
- By 1998, there was one woman to every seven men.
- By 2018, there was one woman to every two men.

Analyse the details and write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words on the given details.

## SECTION-C

### LITERATURE TEXTBOOKS (40 MARKS)

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (5)

A. It was during the meal that, just as Lencho had predicted, big drops of rain began to fall. In the north-east, huge mountains of clouds could be seen approaching. The air was fresh and sweet. The man went out for no other reason than to have the pleasure of feeling the rain on his body.

i. What can be expected in the north-east region? (1)

ii. Why did Lencho move out while having his meals? (2)

iii. Which word has the same meaning as 'advance towards' in the given extract? (1)

A. Predicted

B. Pleasure

C. Went out

D. Approaching

iv. 'Huge mountains of cloud' means \_\_\_\_\_. (dark and large clouds/very small white clouds) (1)

OR

B. "Ramlal stood rooted to the ground, his head bowed low with the weight of grief and shame. The flames of the sacred fire slowly died down. Everyone was gone. Ramlal turned to Bholi and said, "But what about you, no one will ever marry you now. What shall we do with you?" And Sulekha said in a voice that was calm and steady. "Don't you worry, Pitaji! In your old age, I will serve you and Mother and I will teach in the same school where I learnt so much. Isn't that right, Ma'am?" The teacher had all along stood in a corner, watching the drama. "Yes, Bholi, of course," she replied. And in her smiling eyes was the light of a deep satisfaction that an artist feels when contemplating the completion of her masterpiece.

- i. Bholi had refused to get married because \_\_\_\_\_ . (1)
- ii. Pick the sentence that brings out the meaning of 'contemplating' as used in the extract. (1)
- A. Contemplating sharing my belongings with someone is definitely tough.
- B. She took some time to respond as she was contemplating what to say.
- C. I was contemplating my reflection in the mirror and was speechless.
- D. She was contemplating through the pages of the document that was with her.

iii. Pick the option that includes the correct matches of Column A with Column B. (1)

**Column A**

- I. Bholi  
II. Ramlal  
III. Teacher

**Column B**

- p. independent and confident  
q. burden less and free  
r. sense of contentment and accomplishment  
s. embarrassed and anxious

- A. I-q; II-s; III-r  
B. I-p; II-s; III-r  
C. I-r; II-q; III-p  
D. I-p; II-q; III-s

iv. Why did the teacher stand in one corner watching the drama? (2)

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (5)

A. He stalks in his vivid stripes

The few steps of his cage,

On pads of velvet quiet,

In his quiet rage.

He should be lurking in shadow,

Sliding through long grass

Near the water hole

Where plump deer pass.

i. Looking at the caged tiger we \_\_\_\_\_ . (1)

ii. How does the tiger show his helplessness? (1)

A. Through his hiding in the shadow

C. Through his walking quietly

B. Through his controlled anger

D. By sitting near the water hole

iii. Choose the correct synonym of rage. (1)

A. Indifference

C. Fury

B. Peacefulness.

D. Favour

iv. How does the poet show his pity for tiger? (2)

OR

B. Belinda giggled till she shook the house,  
And Blink said Weeek! Which is giggling for a mouse,  
Ink and Mustard rudely asked his age,  
When Custard cried for a nice safe cage.

i. Who was Blink in the given passage? (1)  
A. Kitten  
B. Dog  
C. Mouse  
D. Dragon

ii. What made Blink giggle? (2)

iii. What did Mustard ask Custard? (1)

iv. Belinda giggled till she \_\_\_\_\_ the house. (1)

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words. (4 × 3 = 12)

i. How can one have peace of mind according to Gautam Buddha? (3)

ii. How was the first experience of the young seagull about his flight? How did his family celebrate? (3)

iii. What did Anne think of her grandmother after her death? (3)

iv. Why did Lomov visit Chubukov's house? (3)

v. What did Mandela think about freedom during his childhood? (3)

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. (2 × 3 = 6)

i. What were the events that happened on the day of the theft? (3)

ii. What instances show that Bholi was a neglected child? (3)

iii. What guesses are made by Think-Tank about the books found on Earth? (3)

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (1 × 6 = 6)

A. 'Humanity still exist', this is what we come across after reading the chapter, 'A Letter to God' in which a poor farmer had a staunch faith in God. Along with the same, the helpfulness of the post office employees is beautifully depicted. Write a paragraph on the values touched upon in this chapter. Give the paragraph a suitable title too.

OR

B. What kind of person is Valli? Illustrate your answer from the text that you have read.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (1 × 6 = 6)

A. What changes came in the lifestyle of Matilda after she lost the necklace? Prepare a speech draft with reference to the chapter, 'The Necklace' in not more than 120 words.

OR

B. What information did Ausable give about the imaginary balcony? Why did he do so?