

SAMPLE PAPER - 1
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (Code No. 184)
CLASS-X- (2024-25)

Time allowed: 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

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

SECTION A
READING SKILLS (20 marks)

1. Read the following text:

(10 Marks)

1. Known as 'The Great Stone Face', Buster Keaton is celebrated as one of the greatest silent film comedians who left an indelible mark on cinema with his innovative approach to physical comedy and filmmaking. Born in 1895, Keaton's career began in vaudeville, where he performed with his family. The Three Keatons specialised in knockabout acrobatics, with Buster being used as a 'human mop'. Already accustomed to taking tumbles without suffering injury, Buster learned how to get laughs at an early age. He also discovered that he got more laughs when he was serious, so he adopted his trademark deadpan expression. Keaton's experiences on stage honed his comedic timing and physical agility that later defined his film career.
2. One of Keaton's most notable contributions to cinema was his mastery of the art of visual storytelling. His films often featured elaborate, intricate gags that required meticulous planning and precise execution. A prime example is *Steamboat Bill, Jr.* (1928), which includes one of Keaton's most famous stunts: a façade of a building falling around him while he remains unscathed, perfectly positioned by sheer luck and expert timing.
3. Another of Keaton's masterpieces is *The General* (1926), a film widely regarded as one of the greatest comedies ever made. The film showcases Keaton's remarkable ability to blend action, humour and narrative seamlessly. Moreover, his dedication to performing the dangerous and elaborate train chase stunts himself demonstrate his extraordinary commitment to his craft.
4. Silent films relied heavily on visual storytelling due to the absence of synchronised sound. This required filmmakers to innovate with visual gags, physical comedy, and expressive cinematography to convey their stories and humour effectively. Keaton's films were distinguished by their inventive use of these elements. He often employed elaborate set pieces and ingeniously designed props to create humour that was both visually arresting

and narratively coherent.

5. Despite his immense talent and critical acclaim, Keaton's career faced challenges with the advent of sound films as he struggled with the changing demands of the industry. Nevertheless, his films are celebrated for their innovative comedy and filmmaking techniques. Keaton passed away in 1966, but his influence on the art of film comedy remains timeless, inspiring generations of filmmakers and comedians who continue to draw from his pioneering techniques and unique style.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i) What was the impact of Keaton's deadpan expression on his comedic style? (Paragraph 1)
- ii) Complete the following sentence appropriately with reference to Paragraph 3: (1)
- iii) How did Buster Keaton's background in vaudeville influence his film career? (Paragraph 1) (2)
- iv) Select the option that best justifies the following statement using an example from the text (Paragraph 2): (1)
- 'One of Keaton's most notable contributions to cinema was his mastery of the art of visual storytelling.'*
- a) The elaborate stunt in *Steamboat Bill, Jr.* (1928), where a building façade falls around Keaton while he remains unscathed due to expert timing.
- b) Keaton's dedication to performing the dangerous and elaborate train chase stunts himself in *The General* (1928).
- v) State whether the following statement is True or False with reference to Paragraph 5: (1)
- Buster Keaton's influence is considered timeless due to his pioneering techniques in physical comedy and visual storytelling.*
- vi) What can be inferred about Keaton's reaction to the advent of sound films and the challenges he faced? (Paragraph 5) (1)
- a) Keaton embraced the arrival of sound films and easily adapted to the new demands of the industry.
- b) Despite his talent, Keaton struggled with the transition to sound films due to the changing demands of the industry.
- c) Keaton refused to work in sound films and focused only on silent films.
- d) Keaton's career was unaffected by the advent of sound films.
- vii) What were the hallmarks of Keaton's films? (Paragraph 4) (2)
- viii) Fill in the blank with the correct option from those given (Paragraph 4): (1)
- In the line 'Silent films relied heavily on visual storytelling due to the absence of synchronised sound', the phrase 'synchronised sound' refers to _____.*
- a) the visual effects used in silent films
- b) the sound that matches the actions or movements on screen
- c) the lack of any sound in silent films
- d) the background music in silent films

2. Read the following text . (10 marks)

1. Wearable technology (WT) refers to hands-free electronic gadgets integrated into clothing, implants, or accessories worn on the body. WT has applications in healthcare, transportation, and electronics. Utilizing Internet of Things (IoT) technology, wearable devices exchange data without human interference, especially in healthcare, where they monitor patients' health continuously.

2. Smartwatches (SWs), a popular wearable device, resemble traditional wristwatches but offer smartphone-like features. They produce and process vast amounts of real-time and historical data, enabling health analytics and personalized feedback. While fitness trackers initially led the market, advanced devices like SWs now dominate. Large companies such as Apple, Samsung, and Garmin hold over 55% market share.

3. The global wearable market grew significantly between 2016 and 2022, increasing from USD 16 billion to USD 73 billion. SW shipments rose from 41.44 million units in 2017 to an estimated 109.2 million in 2023. In the U.S., SW sales exceeded 60% in 2019, marking a 50% increase over the previous year. Experts predict that SWs will overtake fitness trackers due to their versatility and consumer demand.

4. In India, wearable device sales grew by 30.9% in one quarter of 2019 and 123.6% year-on-year, highlighting the expanding market. Globally, the market is expected to reach USD 198.90 million by 2026, with SWs becoming as indispensable as mobile phones.

Based on your reading of the passage, answer the following questions.

i. What does the term “continuous monitoring” in the first paragraph imply about the role of WT in healthcare?

- A. Constant and uninterrupted observation
- B. Irregular and periodic tracking
- C. Temporary health checks
- D. Rare use of technology

ii. Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason below:

Assertion: SWs are more popular than simple fitness trackers.

Reason: SWs offer features similar to smartphones.

- A. Both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason explains the assertion.
- B. Both the assertion and reason are true, but the reason does not explain the assertion.
- C. The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
- D. The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

iii. Identify the word in paragraph 3 that highlights the initial trend of wearable devices. (1 mark)

iv. How has IoT enhanced the functionality of wearable devices? (2 marks)

v. Fill in the blank: (1 mark)

In 2019, wearable device sales in India grew by _____ compared to the previous year.

vi. What does the rise in global SW shipments suggest about consumer preferences for wearable devices? (2 marks)

vii. Complete the sentence: (1 mark)

The large-scale investment by companies such as Apple and Samsung reflects their belief in _____.

viii. Suggest a reason why the writer mentions the expected rise in SW shipments by 2023. (2 marks)

ix. In the context of the last paragraph, explain the significance of wearable devices becoming equivalent to mobile phones in market demand. (2 marks)

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR
GRAMMAR

(20 Marks)
10

3. Complete *any ten* of twelve of the following tasks, as directed.

I. Fill in the blank with the correct option to complete the opening line of a formal letter:

1

Dear Miss. Ritu

We are pleased to inform you that your request for the upcoming interview with the board of directors _____.

- A. had approved
- B. will have been approved
- C. has been approved
- D. have approved

II.

1

Read the given sentence from a sales report. Identify the error and supply the correction in the given format. Over the past year, the company has continued to strives tirelessly to meet consumers' demands.	
ERROR	CORRECTION

III. Neha asked the following question to her friend, Richa.

1

Have you finalised the destination for the school reunion next week?

Report Neha's question correctly.

IV. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete an official announcement.

1

Attention students

Please be informed _____ (that/ these/ this) the deadline for submitting the registrations for the students' counsel has been extended for all the students of classes VI-XII.

V. Read Meera's reply to her boss, regarding an important presentation.

1

I am working on it, ma'am. I'll have the presentation ready for you very soon today.

Report Meera's reply by completing the following sentence correctly.

Meera told her boss that she was working on it and said _____.

VI. Identify and correct the error in the given line taken from an online news report: 1

We have all options to choose from.

Option No.	Error	Correction
A	all	several
B	options	option
C	choose	chooses
D	from	with

VII. Complete the given school announcement by selecting the correct option to fill in the blank. 1

Great news, everyone!

Our school's photography team has successfully _____ the first position at the National Convention.

- A. bagging
- B. bagged
- C. will bag
- D. had bagged

VIII. Detect the error and supply the correction for the given observation by a friend.

I'm quite certain that it needn't be Jack's jacket. It's too small. 1

ERROR	CORRECTION

IX. Report the dialogue between a coach and his team, by completing the sentence. 1

Coach: Did everyone understand the new strategy?

Team: Yes, we all got it, thank you!

The coach asked if everyone had understood the new strategy, to which the team _____ and expressed their gratitude.

X. Select the correct option to complete the given sentence from a handbook for leaders. 1

The leader _____ consider the well-being of his team before making a decision.

- A. will
- B. must
- C. might
- D. can

XI. Complete the given sentence about the reaction of some students, by selecting the correct option: 1

The group of students _____ excited at the prospect of the upcoming carnival.

- A. are
- B. has
- C. is
- D. were

XII. Read the conversation about social media, between a public speaker and his audience.

1

Audience: How do you think social media influences people's concentration span?

Speaker : I believe social media has shortened people's concentration span by showing the highlight reels of people's lives within a few seconds.

Report the speaker's response by completing the following sentence.

The speaker remarked _____ by showing the highlight reels of people's lives within a few seconds.

WRITING SKILLS

NOTE: All details presented in the questions in the writing section are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

4 A. Write a letter to the Manager of ABC Stationery Supplies, Delhi, placing an order for books, notebooks, and other items required for your school's upcoming academic session. Provide the necessary details such as quantity, specifications, and a request for prompt delivery. You are Priya/Pranav, Estate Manager of Bright Future School, 78, Green Valley Road, Delhi.

OR

4 B. You recently bought a new smartphone from Galaxy Electronics, Karol Bagh, Delhi. After using it for a few days, you discovered defects such as screen flickering and frequent system crashes. Write a letter of complaint to the Manager, requesting a replacement or repair. You are Saurabh/Sneha of 25, Malviya Nagar, Delhi. (100-120 words)

5 A. The popularity of fast food has grown globally, offering convenience and affordability but raising concerns about health and environmental impacts. Write a paragraph analysing this argument, considering alternative explanations or evidence that strengthens or counters it.

OR

5 B. Rohit Sharma is considering launching an eco-friendly clothing brand. He is passionate about sustainable fashion but is apprehensive about the challenges involved. Analyze his SWOT notes to present your opinion on whether or not he should proceed with the venture.

STRENGTH

- Innovative, eco-friendly designs
- Growing demand for sustainable products
- Established contacts with fabric suppliers
- Passion for environmental causes

WEAKNESS

- High production costs
- Limited knowledge of marketing strategies

- No prior business experience
- Dependence on premium pricing

OPPORTUNITIES

- Collaborations with influencers
- Participation in eco-friendly expos
- Increasing consumer awareness of sustainable fashion
- Potential for online sales

THREAT

- High competition from established brands
- Volatile fashion trends
- Economic instability affecting consumer spending
- Challenges in maintaining supply chain ethics

SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)

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

NATALYA: No, you're simply joking, or making fun of me. What a surprise! We've had the land for nearly three hundred years, and then we're suddenly told that it isn't ours! Ivan Vassilevitch, I can hardly believe my own ears. These Meadows aren't worth much to me. They only come to five dessiatins, and are worth perhaps 300 roubles, but I can't stand unfairness. Say what you will, I can't stand unfairness. (The Proposal)

- I. Who does the speaker find surprising? 1
- A. Vassilevitch was ready to marry her for dowry.
 B. Vassilevitch was ready to show her land's documents.
 C. Chubukov wanted money in return of Oxen Meadows.
 D. Vassilevitch was cracking jokes on her and her family.
- II. Why is it fair to say that the speaker is a strong-willed and determined person? Answer in about 40 words. 2
- III. What unfairness does the speaker refer to in the above lines? 1
- IV. If an actor were to enact this extract, what would he be required to focus on, while modulating his voice? 1

OR

B. Max was slender, a little less than tall, with features that suggested slightly the crafty, pointed countenance of a fox. There was about him – aside from the gun – nothing especially menacing.

“The report,” he murmured. “The report that is being brought to you tonight concerning some new missiles. I thought I would take it from you. It will be safer in my hands than in yours.”

I. What does the term “crafty” most closely mean in the context of describing Max’s features? (1)

- A) Honest
- B) Deceptive
- C) Robust
- D) Charismatic

II. What might be the significance of the report on new missiles in the narrative, and how does Max fit into this scenario? (2)

III. The description of Max’s features suggests that he is _____ . (1)

IV. Choose the most fitting analogy pair from the options provided. (1)

Crafty : Fox :: _____ : _____

- A) Lethal : Snake
- B) Steady : Lion
- C) Sharp : Rabbit
- D) Fierce : Hawk

Q7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 5

A. My head is full of whispers
which tomorrow will be silent.
Listen. The glass is breaking.
The trees are stumbling forward
into the night. Winds rush to meet them.
The moon is broken like a mirror,
its pieces flash now in the crown
of the tallest oak.

I. The whispers will be silent tomorrow because _____ 1

II. *Listen. The glass is breaking.* Why does the poetess want the readers to pay attention to the movement of trees? Answer in about 40 words. 2

III. Which of the following poetic devices has been used in the sixth line of the stanza? 1

- A. Alliteration
- B. Simile

- C. Metaphor
- D. Oxymoron

IV. Briefly describe how nature welcomes the trees as they move out. 1

OR

B. (I am an orphan, roaming in the street,
I pattern soft dust with my hushed, bare feet.
The silence is golden, the freedom is sweet.)

I. Is the speaker an orphan? Why does she say so? 2

II. Complete the following suitably.
The above stanza is given in parentheses because _____ 1

III. Select the option that applies the same rhyme scheme as the lines of the given extract. 1

A. Under a splintered mast, torn from ship and cast near her hull,	B. Children three that nestle near, Eager eye and willing ear, Pleased a simple tale to hear
C. I shut my eyes and all the world drops dead; I lift my lids and all is born again. (I think I made you up inside my head.)	D. Out of the starless night that covers me, (O tribulation of the wind that rolls!) Black as the cloud of some tremendous spell

IV. What is the significance of the reference of feet in 'I pattern soft dust with my hushed, bare feet.' 1

Q 8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words. (4x3=12)

I. What is the significance of the phrase, "...age-old, timetested furnaces still exist"? (Glimpses of India-I) 3

II. Comment on the ironic ending of the story 'A Letter to God'. 3

III. *Mr Keesing was trying to play a joke on me with this ridiculous subject, but I'd make sure the joke was on him.* How did Anne ensure this? (From the Diary of Anne Frank) 3

IV. How does the poet use humor and exaggeration to convey the moral of the story? Provide examples from the poem 'The Tale of Custard the Dragon'. 3

V. Comment on the humour of the language that Maxwell uses to highlight the special characteristics of Mijbil displayed in the bathroom. 3

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in about 40-50 words. (2x3=6)

I. How does Think-Tank behave when he is proved wrong? What does it show about him? (*The Book That Saved the Earth*) 3

II. What specific characteristics of Griffin contributed to his downfall, as he turned out to be his own adversary? (*Footprints Without Feet*) 3

III. What led Matilda to hold Mme Forestier accountable for her unhappy life? Was Mme Forestier genuinely responsible for Matilda's situation? (*The Necklace*) 3

Q.10 Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. 1x6=6

(A) "Humanity still exists", this is what we get to know after reading 'A Letter to God' in which firm faith in God of a poor farmer and helpfulness of the post office employees are aptly depicted. Write a paragraph on the values as exhibited by the characters in the story. Give the paragraph a suitable title.

OR

(B) Describe the value of freedom for human beings and how it is important for the growth of civilisation and humanity as described in the lesson 'Nelson Mandela : Long Walk to Freedom'.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 100-120 words. (1x6=6)

i. Write a dialogue between Bholi and her father who was regretful of his actions to marry her off and the treatment bestowed upon her since childhood. How does Bholi make her stance clear to him about her future?

OR

ii. How did the lady in red manage to outsmart and out maneuver the other thief, Horace Danby, by robbing the safe without leaving a single fingerprint?