

**ANNUAL EXAMINATION
ENGLISH
AE-2023-24-09(B)**

Time : 3 hrs.

M. Marks : 80

THIS PAPER IS DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS :-

Section A : Reading - 20 marks

Section B : Writing Skills & Grammar - 20 marks

Section C : Literature - 40 marks

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. You may attempt any section at a time.
3. All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order and labeled accurately.

SECTION -A (READING) (20 marks)

Q1. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

- (1) As human beings, we all have feelings to express and a romantic side, that sometimes we don't show because of our shyness, our lack of expression, and several other factors. We all like to, at least once in a while, hear or read a piece of poetry. It makes us get identified with romantic poets and admire their inspiration to create verses and transmit them to the people. Some people believe that poetry shouldn't be as relevant as it is, they may think, it is a foolish way of presenting feelings or situations. But we have to confess, that deep within us, there's a need for even a little poetry dose, one that belongs to us. People can think whatever they want to, but that can sometimes be sensitized or even changed, and that's the magic of poetry. (10)
- (2) In today's modern view, poetry has become more than just paragraphs that rhyme at the end of each sentence. Poetry has a lot of freedom when it comes down to structure and style and every poet has their own style. The poet has the ability to use whatever structure of lines, rhyme scheme, alliteration and they may change certain words to fit to their interest.

As a high school student, studying poetry can be a rollercoaster ride. This journey is punctuated by moments of profound appreciation for simpler pieces and intermittent frustration with more complex works. Let's be real here- some poems are just plain confusing and no amount of re-reading seems to help decipher the intended meaning. The puzzlement that results from such instances can be both vexing and demotivating. If solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing

- (3) Conversely, some pieces resonate with the reader's soul, stirring feelings of warmth, happiness, and connection to the world. Often, these compositions centre on themes that are universally understood, such as love, nature, or faith. Being able to actually understand what the poet is trying to say, can feel like a little victory and is a welcome relief after grappling with more perplexing poetry. Then there are poems that are emotionally charged; the ones that make the reader curl up in a ball and cry or jump up and down with joy. One is left in awe of the poet's ability to convey emotion through words. Let's not forget the downright weird poems. These are the ones that defy categorization and leave the reader to their own devices in attempting to interpret meaning. The author's use of figurative language and unconventional imagery can create a sense of bewilderment that is either intriguing or off-putting. Regardless, the reader can appreciate the uniqueness of the work.
- (4) Despite the wide range of emotions and reactions that come with studying poetry, it can be a rewarding pursuit. Not only does reading poetry allow one to appreciate the artistic beauty of the written word but also enables one to develop crucial critical thinking and analytical skills. The process of unlocking a poem's meaning can feel like cracking a code or solving a puzzle but the sense of accomplishment derived from mastering a challenging piece can be deeply gratifying. Finally, impressing an English teacher with a well-analysed poem can be a source of pride and validation.
- (5) If the reader has an open mind and the ability to read in between the lines, they discover more than they have bargained for. Regardless of what the poems contain, all poems display an expression. That very moment when the writer begins his mental journey with that pen and paper, is where all feelings are let out. As poems continue to be written, the reader begins to see patterns within each one of them. Overall, studying poetry is like a box of mixed chocolates, you never know what you're going to get. But whether it's complex, emotional, simple, or just downright weird, there's always something to be gained from the experience. So, let's applaud all the poets out there, for making us laugh, cry, scratch our heads, and occasionally feel like a genius.

i) Which of the following statements best describes the author's attitude towards studying poetry? (1)

- A. Finds poetry to be a frustrating and meaningless endeavour.
- B. Believes that the emotional rollercoaster of studying poetry is not worth the effort.
- C. Recognizes the challenges of studying poetry but also acknowledges the rewards it offers.
- D. Feels that poetry is too obscure and abstract for the average person to appreciate.

ii) What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from paragraph 3? Rationalise your response in about 40 words. (2)

Conversely, some pieces resonate with the reader's soul, stirring feelings of warmth, happiness, and connection to the world.

iii) What is the message conveyed by Hina's experience, in the following case? (1)
Hina spends hours trying to analyse a poem for her assignment and finally feels a sense of accomplishment and pride, once she understands.

- A. Only those with natural talent for poetry should engage with it.
B. Persistence makes studying poetry a rewarding pursuit.
C. Study of poetry is guaranteed to impress others.
D. The efforts of studying poetry is inversely proportional to the rewards gained.

iv) State whether the following lines display an example of a simple / complex / emotionally charged/ downright weird, poem. (1)

This is the debt I pay
Just for one riotous day,
Years of regret and grief,
Sorrow without relief.

v) Based on the reading of the passage, examine, in about 40 words, how studying poetry can be like a rollercoaster ride. (2)

vi) The passage includes some words that are synonyms of each other. From the sets (a)-(e) below, identify two sets of synonyms: (1)

- a. Intriguing- vexing
b. Deciphering - interpreting
c. Appreciation - vexing
d. Simple - challenging
e. Perplexing - bewildering
- A. a and b
B. c and d
C. d and e
D. b and e

vii) Complete the sentence appropriately.

We can say that the author's tone becomes more neutral and objective when discussing weird poems, compared to other types of poetry because _____ (1)

viii) Complete the sentence appropriately.

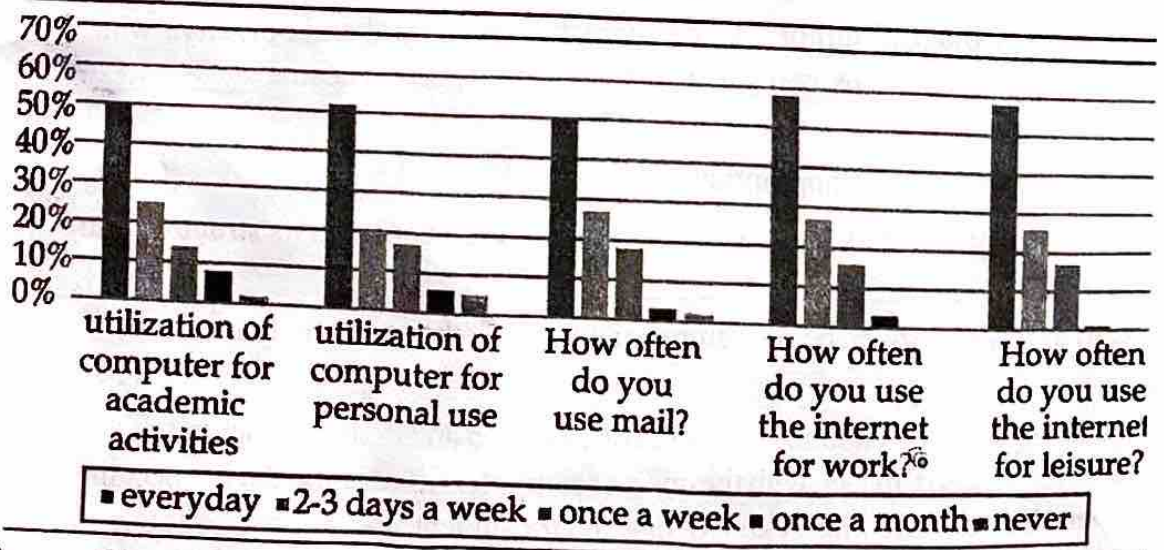
We can say that poetry has a lot of freedom when it comes to its structure and style because _____ (1)

Q2. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow: (10)

1. Technology has revolutionized the field of education and its importance in schools cannot be ignored. In fact, with the onset of computers in education, it has become easier for teachers to impart knowledge and for students to acquire it. The use of technology has made the process of teaching and learning all the more enjoyable. At present, many schools and universities have been implementing Internet based learning as it supplements the conventional teaching methods. The Internet provides

a wide variety of references and information to academics as well as scientific researchers. Students often turn to it to do their academic assignments and projects.

2. The present generation is well updated with the use of Internet and computers. The rapid development in computer technology and increase in accessibility of the internet for academic purposes has changed the face of education for everyone associated with it. According to the latest insights, as to how exactly modern students of today prefer to use technology and how does their learning get an impact if they use technology, it was revealed that with the use of modern equipment technology and tools, the learning and interactivity of students has increased. They also find it much more interactive, as well as full of interesting areas, when aided by technology. The transfer of knowledge becomes very easy and convenient, as well as effective. The use of the internet allows students to find amazing convenience, they can find various kinds of help, tutorials and other kinds of assisting material which could be used to academically improve and enhance their learning.
3. However, research on Internet is very different from traditional library research, and the differences can cause problems. The Internet is a tremendous resource, but it must be used carefully and critically. Let's look at the data arising out of recent survey that was done to ascertain the time spent on utilization of the computer and Internet. According to a 2018 academic student e-book experience survey, conducted by PEW Research Department, when reading for pleasure, almost 74% of respondents said they preferred print books for leisure whereas, 45% of respondents chose e-books rather than the printed versions, for research or assignments.
4. When asked what e-book features make them their favourite for research, the respondents were clear. Having page numbers to use in citations, topped the list [75%]; followed by the ability to resize text to fit a device's screen [67%]; the ability to bookmark pages, highlight text or take notes for later reference [60%]; downloading the entire e-book [57%]; and allowing content to be transferred between devices [43%] were the varied responses.

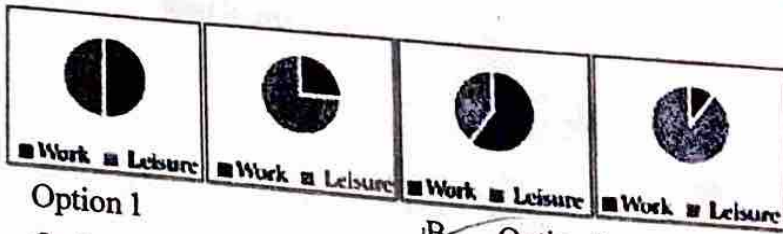


- i) Choose the correct synonym of the underlined word from paragraph 2: (1)
 The rapid development in computer technology and increase in accessibility of the internet for academic purposes has changed the face of education for everyone associated with it.

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- A. Unattainability
- B. Availability
- C. Innovatively
- D. Incredibly

ii) Based on the graphical chart in the passage, choose the option that correctly states the depiction of Internet usage for work and for leisure, for once a month. (1)



- A. Option 1
- B. Option 2
- C. Option 3
- D. Option 4

iii) Based on the given graphical representation of data in the passage, choose the option that list the statements that are true with respect to the usage of email. (1)

1. The everyday usage of email is more than the everyday usage of computer for personal use.
2. About 18% people use email once a week.
3. There are smaller number of email users using it 2 or 3 times a week than the one's using it once a month.
4. Less than 5% of people never use the email.

- A. 1 and 3
- B. 2 and 4
- C. 1 and 2
- D. 3 and 4

iv) Based on the given graphical chart, pick the option that lists the area of zero response from respondents. (1)

- A. Never use the Internet for work and leisure.
- B. Daily use the computer for academic activities.
- C. Writing and receiving emails once a week.
- D. Using the Internet for personal tasks once a month.

v) In the cartoon, the student's reaction reveals that he is _____ (1)



- A. indignant
- B. ~~haughty~~
- C. embarrassed
- D. inquisitive

vi) Which of the following statement is not substantiated by information in paragraph 3-4? (1)

- A) About 3 quarters of the respondents preferred print books for recreational reading.
- B) A little less than a 50% of the respondents voted for e-books for research or assignments.
- C) ~~More than 50% respondents stated enjoying both versions of books for leisure reading.~~
- D) The survey was intended for understanding the e-book experience among students.

vii) ".... but it must be used carefully and critically." The idea of being careful and critical while using the Internet, is mainly a reference to _____ (1)

- A. hardware malfunction.
- B. ~~plagiarism.~~
- C. troubleshooting.
- D. Virus threats.

viii) Arrange the given e-book features preferred for research from the least favourite to the most favourite- (1)

1. Downloading the entire e-book.
2. Choosing page numbers in citations.
3. Highlighting text.
4. Resizing text to fit screen.

- A. 1, 3, 4, 2
- B. 3, 2, 1, 4
- C. ~~2, 4, 3, 1~~
- D. 4, 1, 2, 3

ix) State any two uses of internet, for the students, as given in the passage. (2)

SECTION B (GRAMMAR & WRITING SKILLS) (20 marks)

Q3. Attempt ANYTEN of the following questions: (1x10=10)

i. Fill in the blank with the correct form of the verb:

Robert _____ (work) in that store for six years.

- a) is working
- b) ~~has been working~~
- c) have been working
- d) works

ii. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the live feed on a school news channel.

Congratulations Change Makers!

The regional competition awards have been announced and our school's Music club _____ the first prize.

- a) ~~has won~~
- b) had been won
- c) will win
- d) was winning

iii. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete an online update.
 The climate control comment by an activist _____ on social media yesterday.

- a) blow up
- b) is blown
- c) will be blown
- d) blew up

iv. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a school magazine report:

In order to balancing the sentiments of the Eagles and the Hawks, the Student Council suggested a rematch between the teams.

	ERROR	CORRECTION
A.	balancing	balance
B.	of	at
C.	suggested	suggests
D.	between	among

v. Sunil shared some information with Tarun, about a holiday at sea. Report Tarun's question.

Did you enjoy travelling by sea?

vi. Complete the line from a self-awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option:

The river runs through your veins
 The trees and mountains _____ your name
 The moon and stars watch over
 You're guiding your way back home
 To dream the night away.

- a) Will call
- b) Had called
- c) Call
- d) Calls

~~vii.~~ Report the dialogue between a grandson and his grandfather by completing the sentence:

Grandson: Grandpa, who are your superheroes?

Grandpa: All who show kindness and compassion to others are my superheroes.

In response to the question about his superheroes, grandpa says that _____.

viii. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option:

His sister _____ often complain about his unusual behavior.

- a) will
- b) would
- c) could
- d) might

~~ix.~~ Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option for the given line, from a doorway sign.

Caution! You _____ not enter.

Only employees are allowed beyond this point.

- a) need
 c) could
- b) must
 d) might

achieve
 achieve

- x. Identify the error in the given newspaper headline and supply the correction:
 Athletics Star Helps State Stays Ahead of Competition
 Use the given format for your response.

ERROR	CORRECTION

xi. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the text message below.

Let's meet another day since neither Kelvin nor Samantha _____ free today as they have tennis coaching.

- a) were
 c) are
- b) is
 d) be

xii. Rambo jumped _____ the river to escape the honeybees which were chasing him.

- a) in
 c) inside
- b) into
 d) on

- Q4. (A) You are Nitesh/ Neha. Today is your birthday and your father has gifted you a laptop. You are really elated to own it as you wanted to have it for a long time. Before going to bed, you intend to share your joy with your diary. Write a diary entry in 100-120 words expressing your feelings. (5)

OR

- (B) Write a paragraph describing your feelings about the sudden winter break that was declared due the high pollution level in your city. Also, mention about how you utilized that break in a constructive way in about 100-120 words.

- Q5. (A) Write a short story with a suitable title using the given line as the opening line: (5)

Rohan was returning from the Music Academy. He was very happy as he was selected among the top ten singers for taking part in the show 'India's Got Talent' to be aired on television. He wanted to share his happiness with his family and friends so he was in a hurry. His joy and happiness knew no bounds but suddenly all his happiness vanished when.....

OR

- (B) Write a short story revolving around the belief 'Where there's a will there's a way.'

SECTION- C (LITERATURE) (40 MARKS)

- Q6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given: (5)

- (A) I will arise and go now, for always night and day
 I hear the lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;

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While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements grey,

I hear it in the deep heart's core.

- i) Explain the literary device used in the second line. (2)
- ii) In the last line, the poet is referring to the sounds of _____. (1)
 - a. lake water lapping gently by the shore.
 - b. busy roads during night and day.
 - c. his heart beats.
 - d. fiercely gushing laps of water by the shore.
- iii) The poet wants to shift to Innisfree _____. (1)
 - a. immediately for a few days.
 - b. forever.
 - c. for a few days and nights.
 - d. for as long as he can hear the lake water.
- iv) The poet is reminiscing the sounds of the lake water while he _____. (1)

OR

(B) No motion has she now, no force—

She neither hears nor sees,

Rolled round in earth's diurnal course,

With rocks and stones and trees.

- i) Explain the literary device used in the second last line. *alliteration* (2)
- ii) The term 'Earth's diurnal course' refers to _____. (1)
 - a. the course of actions performed on the Earth's surface.
 - b. Earth's rotation on its axis causing day and night.
 - c. Earth's revolution causing seasons.
 - d. Earth's orbit around the Sun.
- iii) According to the poet, his beloved has now become a part of nature. (1)
- iv) The poet's beloved can neither see nor hear because she _____. (1)
 - a. is visually impaired.
 - b. is sleeping.
 - c. has lost all her senses.
 - d. is lifeless and inactive.

Q7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given: (5)

(A) That is extremely interesting, but you seem to miss the point of my remark. I said, you were luckier than most melodramatic villains. It was not a tribute to your intelligence.

- i) The tone of the speaker in the given extract is _____.

- a. sarcasm
 - b. disappointing
 - c. melodramatic
 - d. appreciative
- ii) The word melodramatic can be used synonymously with _____ (1)
- a. exaggerated
 - b. sentimental
 - c. sensational
 - d. emotional
- iii) Which intelligent act of the listener evoked the remark by the speaker as given in the extract? (2)
- iv) At the end of the play, _____ proved to be smarter than the _____ (1)

OR

(B) "I used to be so," Maria Sharapova recalls. I missed my mother terribly. My father was working as much as he could to keep my tennis-training going. So, he couldn't see me either. "Because I was so young, I used to go to bed at 8 p.m. The other pupils would come in at 11 p.m. and wake me up and order me to tidy up the room and clean it. Instead of letting that depress me, I became more quietly determined and mentally tough. I learnt how to take care of myself. I never thought of quitting because I knew what I wanted. When you come from nothing and you have nothing, then it makes you very hungry and determined."

i) Maria Sharapova had to live without her parents being around because _____ (1)

- A. they were too preoccupied with their own lives.
- B. her mother was not in the US and father worked long hours.
- C. they had other children to look after besides Maria.
- D. they were working hard to support the family in Russia.

ii) The speaker put up with all the humiliations and insults because she _____ (1)

iii) Choose the option that reveals the character traits of the speaker in the above extract. (1)

- 1. Resilient
 - 2. Compassionate
 - 3. Loyal
 - 4. Obstinate
 - 5. Honest
- A. Option 1 and 2
 - B. Option 3 and 4
 - C. Option 2 and 5
 - D. Option 1 and 4

iv) Explain the line "Instead of letting that depress me, I became more quietly determined and mentally tough." (2)

Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 60 to 80 words: (4×3=12)

(5) 'They have eyes like ours.' What similarity does the poet find in the eyes of people all over the world? Explain with reference to the poem 'No Men Are Foreign' by James Kirkup.

- Why was Einstein remembered as a world citizen? (A Truly Beautiful Mind)
- What does the root of the tree look like when it is pulled out of the earth cave? What happens to it when it is left exposed?
- Explain why Kalam's father says, "You may give them your love but not your thoughts"? (My Childhood)

Greed and stinginess can provoke even a saint towards anger and vengeance. Elucidate on this statement based on your reading of the poem 'A Legend of Northland.'

Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 60 to 80 words: (2×3=6)

- Why did the king postpone the execution the next day? (A Kingdom of Fools)
- 'It took a fire for me to stop focusing on my feelings of insecurity and open up to all the wonderful people around me.' What does this statement say about the character of the protagonist in the story 'A House is not a Home'?
- Which incident made grandfather firmly decide that he didn't want to keep Toto as a pet? (Adventures of Toto)

Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100 to 120 words: (1×6=6)

- The lives of Ustad Bismillah Khan and Evelyn are sagas of great struggle. Based on your reading of the text 'Sound of Music', express your admiration for the two musicians in the form of a diary entry.

OR

- Elements of nature can be both a source of destruction or tranquillity. Compare and contrast the brutality of nature with its pacifying and soothing effect based on your reading of the poems 'Wind' and 'Rain on the Roof'.

Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100 to 120 words: (1×6=6)

- Olga and Behrman play a vital role in bringing about a transformation in the attitude of the protagonists and instigate in them a change in their perspective towards life. Elucidate on this statement based on your reading of the texts 'Beggar' and 'Last Leaf'.

OR

- Why did the angels bring a leaden heart and the dead bird when they were instructed by God to bring the two most precious things in the city? (The Happy Prince)

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from 2/1/24