

**TERM II EXAMINATION (2023-24)**  
**CLASS IX – ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)**

**Time: 3 hrs**

**Max. Marks: 80**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections- READING, WRITING & GRAMMAR, and LITERATURE
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

**SECTION A - READING**

**Q1 Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. 10 Marks**

1 For those who like to unravel puzzles, the Rubik's Cube has posed an intense challenge for over four decades. In 1977 when Erno Rubik, a Hungarian sculptor and professor of architecture first introduced the Magic Cube (as it was then called), it mesmerised the world completely. People of all age groups began pitting themselves against this brainteaser that not just stretched their logic skills but was also a supreme test of patience. Many became so obsessed with the coloured puzzle that they would spend hours and days fiddling with it.

2 It is a testimony to its enduring appeal that the Rubik's Cube has sold over 450 million pieces over the past 45 years. Thousands of articles have been written about it, it has been discussed on TV shows, has created its own competitions and championships and it even has a cartoon series dedicated to it. People who have solved the cube are treated like heroes and a handful of those who can crack it blind-folded have achieved instant stardom. In many Western countries the cube can be found on restaurant tables along with salt and cellar. Even an ailment has been named after it as many people have suffered from the Rubik Wrist from long hours of working on the intricacies of the cube

3 Though it has spawned many imitations, the Rubik's Cube remains the singular toy that has tantalised generations with its mind-boggling permutations and combinations. To give an idea of the complexities of the puzzle, there are 43,252,003,274,489,856,000 possibilities of cube solving, which is around 43 quintillion! Though the cube can be solved in 55 moves, to do that one has to master 120 algorithms - a no mean task by any stretch of imagination.

4 When he first invented it, Professor Rubik invited a few friends and students to try and solve what he called a curious phenomenon. Though no one was able to solve it, the cube's effect was addictive. The person, who held it, did not want to let it go and would make multiple attempts at solving it.

5 Seeing its popularity and its impact on the psyche, Professor Rubik patented it and began looking for finances to manufacture it commercially. The cube debuted in 1977 without any publicity or fanfare. But its word-of-mouth publicity was so strong that it soon became one of the most popular toys ever invented by man.

**1.1 On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:**

- i. Which of the following is INCORRECT about Rubik's Cube? 1
  - (a) The Rubik's Cube was found to be a challenging puzzle.
  - (b) The inventor of the Rubik's Cube has interests in sculpture and architecture.
  - (c) The Rubik's Cube became popular soon after its invention.
  - (d) Although very challenging, the Rubik's Cube was not addictive.
- ii. In the expression "pitting themselves against this brainteaser" (paragraph 1), the phrase 'pitting against' is best paraphrased by which of the following options? 1
  - (a) Setting someone or something into an indirect conflict with someone or something else
  - (b) Opposing someone or something
  - (c) Competing against or with someone or something
  - (d) Avenge someone or something

iii. Complete the following with the most suitable phrase from paragraph 2. 1

OPINION	REASON
People who have solved the Rubik's Cube are treated as heroes	.....

- iv. List two pieces of evidence to prove that the Rubik's Cube has an enduring appeal.
- v. Select the option that correctly captures the usage of the word 'crack' from paragraph 2 of the passage.
- (a) You can rely on him to crack the joke, when things get tense in the office.
- (b) The code will help you crack the messages.
- (c) The plate had a crack in it.
- (d) She's calm and strong, and she is just not going to crack under pressure.
- vi. 'a no mean task...' (paragraph 3). What 'task' is referred to here? 1
- vii. What two things resulted in the popularity of the Rubik's Cube even without any 2  
publicity or fanfare?
- viii. Choose the option that CORRECTLY matches the titles with their correct paragraph 1  
numbers.

PARAGRAPH NUMBER	TITLE
1	(i) Truly tantalising and complex
2	(ii) It's irresistible!
3	(iii) The patent and the popularity
4	(iv) Its never ending appeal
5	(v) Media coverage
	(vi) A Hungarian Magic

- (a) 1-(ii), 2-(v), 3-(vi), 4-(i), 5-(iii)      (c) 1-(vi), 2-(iv), 3-(i), 4-(ii), 5-(iii)
- (b) 1-(v), 2-(iv), 3-(i), 4-(ii), 5-(iii)      (d) 1-(iii), 2-(v), 3-(iv), 4-(ii), 5-(vi)

**Q2 Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. 10 Marks**

**HOW INDIA WENT FROM BEING MILK DEFICIENT TO LARGEST DAIRY PRODUCER**

1 India is the world's largest milk producer. However, this was not the case a few decades ago. The country used to be milk deficient, and imported milk from other countries to serve its growing population. The journey from being a milk deficit country to becoming the world's largest milk producing nation has been exemplary. India accounts for over one-fifth of the global milk production. This is followed by the US, China, Pakistan and Brazil. However, the success did not come overnight. It took years to develop a sector that led to achievements in food security, generating employment opportunities for women, boosting a regular source of income for households in rural areas as well as reducing poverty.

2 During the 1950s and 1960s, the country was heavily dependent on milk imports. It wasn't until 1965, when the Indian government decided to establish a National Dairy Development Board to develop India's dairy sector. Soon in 1970, the country aimed to enhance milk production, which led to the launch of Operation Flood. Come 1998, India surpassed the US and became the largest milk producer in the world.

Per capita availability in 1991 in India	178 gm/day
Per capita availability in 2018 in India	394 gm/day
Per capita availability in 2018 in the world	302 gm/day
Milk production in 1991 in India	55.6 million tonnes
Milk production in 2018 in India	187.7 million tonnes
Milk production growth during 1991-2018 in India	4% CAGR* *Compound Annual Growth Rate

3 According to the figures in a NITI Aayog report, India's milk production is again set to nearly double over the next decade, with the increase in supply far outpacing the demand. This could pave the way for a massive ramp up of exports. The government is trying to set up village-level dairy infrastructure under the National Action Plan on Dairy Development to increase the share of organised milk handling.

4 Experts believe that the milk production in India will nearly double in the next decade or so and will be around 330 million tonnes and the milk supply is pegged to exceed the demand by 38 million tonnes. The dairy sector plans to increase organised milk handling to 41% next year and to 50% in the 3 years. Meanwhile, milk procurement by cooperatives is expected to rise to 20% in 2023 from 10% in 2020 and the private sector's role in milk procurement is

projected to rise to 30 per cent by 2023.

The government needs to identify ways that will enhance the return on investment for Indian farmers. For this, the idea is to focus on new technological means as well as infrastructure. The role of technology has been well established in the last one year on the back of Covid-19-induced lockdown, with tech-driven supply chain platforms capable of linking thousands of milk producers to consumers. Going forward, apart from strengthening milk procurement infrastructure in districts that are still milk deficit, efforts need to be made in penetration of appropriate technology as well.

2.1 On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

- i. Supply two points to justify the following in the context of paragraph 1. 2  
"Rise in milk production has proved to be a great boon for the country."
- ii. Between 1991 and 2018, the per capita increase in the availability of milk in India was: 1  
(a) 178 grams/day (c) 216 grams/day  
(b) 302 grams/day (d) 394 grams/day
- iii. Milk production in India went up between 1991 and 2018 by : 1  
(a) 131.1 million tonnes (c) 133.1 million tonnes  
(b) 132.1 million tonnes (d) 134.1 million tonnes
- iv. Per capita availability of milk in India in 2018 was higher than the world figures by: 1  
(a) 92 grams/day (c) 192 grams/day  
(b) 92 milligrams/day (d) 192 milligrams/day
- v. The word 'exemplary' as used in para 1 is an adjective. If something is 'exemplary', it 1  
(a) sounds like a warning (c) is characteristic of something  
(b) is a good model for others to follow (d) exceeds others' expectations
- .vi. Select the option that correctly indicates the rise in the share of the cooperatives and private sector in milk procurement by 2023. 1



(a) Option 1 (b) Option 2 (c) Option 3 (d) Option 4

- vii. Choose the option that correctly matches the words and expressions from the passage with their intended meanings. 1

WORD/EXPRESSION	MEANING
1. Outpacing	(i) to enable or cause something to happen
2. Pegged to	(ii) lagging behind something
3. Pave the way for	(iii) estimated to be or fixed at
4. Ramp up	(iv) sharp increase in something
5.	(v) surpassing or exceeding something

- (a) 1-(ii), 2-(iii), 3-(i), 4-(iv) (c) 1-(ii), 2-(iii), 3-(iv), 4-(v)  
(b) 1-(v), 2-(ii), 3-(iv), 4-(i) (d) 1-(v), 2-(iii), 3-(i), 4-(iv)

- viii. List the things that the government needs to focus on to enhance the return on investment for Indian farmers. 2

**SECTION B - GRAMMAR AND WRITING SKILL**  
**GRAMMAR (10 MARKS)**

Q3 Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions: (1x10)

i. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.  
Yesterday, when I \_\_\_\_\_ home late at night, I \_\_\_\_\_ to find my house unlocked.  
(a) had returned, was shocked (c) was returned, got shocked  
(b) returned, was shocked (d) had to return, were shocked

ii. Read the conversation between two friends. Complete the sentence by reporting the conversation.

Ankit : May I drop you there in my car at the airport?

Atul : Thanks a lot. It will be a great help to me.

When Ankit asked Atul if he might drop him at the airport in his car. Atul thanked him adding that it \_\_\_\_\_.

iii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from an article on environment.

In this way, we \_\_\_\_\_ wage the war against environmental destruction with a two-pronged approach of rationality and sensibility, and some day, win the battle altogether.

(a) will (b) can (c) might (d) could

iv. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line from a health report.

Tobacco breaks down quickly in the human body, so addicts can need to smoke or chew some on a regular basis to maintain the desired effects of nicotine on the brain to keep their focus intact.

Option No.	Error	Correction
(a)	can	might
(b)	or	and
(c)	on	In
(d)	their	the

v. Complete the given narrative, by filling in the blank with the correct option.  
All sorts of cruelties \_\_\_\_\_ upon them but the farmers remained united.

(a) are being inflicted (c) were inflicted  
(b) had inflicted (d) might be inflicted

vi. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word given in the bracket.  
This song \_\_\_\_\_ (trend) as the most popular song for months now.

(a) trends (b) is trending (c) has been trending (d) was trending

vii. Report the dialogue between a beggar and a woman by completing the sentence.

Lady: Aren't you ashamed of not working?

Beggar: Madam, begging is also a work.

An annoyed lady asked a beggar \_\_\_\_\_, to which the beggar retorted that begging was also work.

viii. Identify the error in the given sentence, from a security report of a residential area and supply the correction.

Most of the people would have hand over the thief to the police so as to get rid of him and to safeguard their household goods.

Use the given format for your response.

ERROR	CORRECTION
hand	handed

ix. Ramneek told Shefali about his unavailability for her party. Report Ramneek's inability to attend Shefali's party.  
Ramneek told Shefali, "I can't join your party. I have an appointment with a dentist."

x. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.  
John has lost little pens he had in his pencil box.

Use the given format for your response.

ERROR	CORRECTION

xi. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between a husband and wife.

Ryan : I have invited four of my friends for dinner today.

Renee : Then I will invite my friends also.

When Ryan told Renee that he \_\_\_\_\_ four of his friends for dinner that day, Renee remarked that she \_\_\_\_\_ also.

- (a) had invited, would invite her friends
- (b) has invited, will invite her friends
- (c) was inviting, would invite her friends
- (d) will be inviting, she will invite my friends

xii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction for the following.

Have you ever learn from a mistake you have made?

Use the given format for your response.

ERROR	CORRECTION

### CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (10 MARKS)

Q4 Attempt **ANY ONE** from the two questions given below. (5x1=5)

You found a collared cat wandering near your home. It was searching for food and looked scared. Write a diary entry expressing your feelings about it and what you decided to do in 100 to 120 words.

OR

Write a story in 100-120 words with the help of the opening lines. Give a suitable title.  
*It was Mohini's first day at the new school. She was feeling very nervous. She stood at the corner and watched the students who were laughing and talking excitedly.....*

Q5 Attempt **ANY ONE** from the two questions given below. (5x1=5)

The annual winter fete was organized by your school. Read the cues and describe the event in 100-120 words.

- Held after a long gap- everyone was excited- rides- special attractions- an opportunity to enjoy with friends and family- what made it a memorable experience

OR

Taking help from the given cues, write a paragraph in 100-120 words on "My Grandmother"

- Most amazing person- always a smile on her face- would help anyone no matter what the situation is- can talk to her about everything- amazing cooking skills- raised me with good values- a person to remember

## SECTION C-LITERATURE

40

## Reference to Context

10

(5)

Q6 Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two extracts given.

A. After school, we went home and told our respective parents about the incident. Lakshmana Sastry summoned the teacher, and in our presence told the teacher that he should not spread the poison of social inequality and communal intolerance in the minds of innocent children. He bluntly asked the teacher to either apologize or quit the school and the island. Not only did the teacher regret his behaviour, but the strong sense of conviction Lakshmana Sastry conveyed ultimately reformed this young teacher.

- (i) The "teacher" mentioned in the extract is Kalam's \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) science teacher (c) high school teacher  
(b) old teacher (d) elementary school teacher
- (ii) Replace the underlined words with one word from the passage.  
Rohan was ordered to go to the Principal's office by the teacher.
- (iii) How can you say that the teacher agreed with what Lakshmana Sastry said?
- (iv) Which words can be used to describe the teacher?  
1. narrow minded 2. progressive 3. courageous 4. intolerant  
5. liberal 6. insensitive  
(a) 1,3 and 5 (b) 2, 4 and 6 (c) 2, 3 and 4 (d) 1,4 and 6
- (v) What did the children tell their respective parents?

OR

B "...far away in a little street there is a poor house. One of the windows is open, and through it I can see a woman seated at a table. Her face is thin and worn, and she has coarse, red hands, all pricked by the needle, for she is a seamstress. She is embroidering flowers on a satin gown for the loveliest of the Queen's maids of honour, to wear at the next Court ball. In a bed in a corner of the room her little boy is lying ill. He has a fever, and is asking his mother to give him oranges. His mother has nothing to give him but river water, so he is crying. Swallow, little Swallow, will you not bring her the ruby out of my sword hilt? My feet are fastened to this pedestal and I cannot move."

- (i) Briefly mention in 40 words, why is the mother not paying attention to her ill son? 2
- (ii) Complete the analogy. 1  
rough: coarse:: fixed: \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) The seamstress is 1  
(a) overworked but content. (c) hardworking but poor.  
(b) well paid but dissatisfied. (d) appreciated but unhappy.
- (iv) The phrase "poor house" is an example of 1  
(a) transferred epithet (b) visual imagery (c) metaphor (d) refrain

Q7 Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two extracts given.

(5)

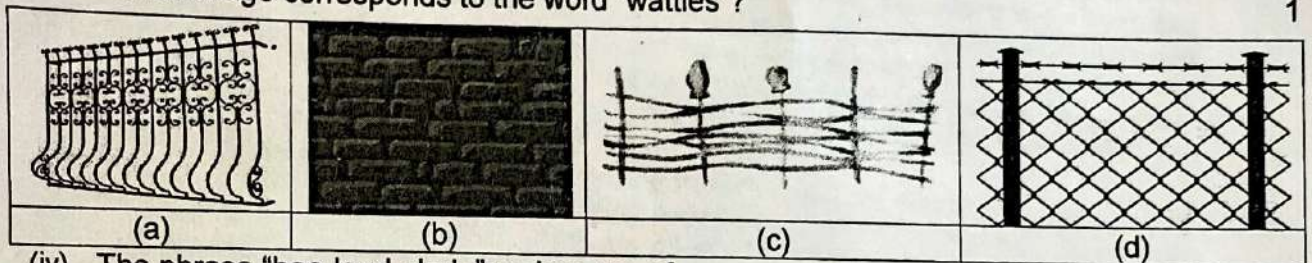
A. So hack and chop  
But this alone won't do it.  
Not so much pain will do it.  
The bleeding bark will heal  
And from close to the ground  
Will rise curled green twigs,  
Miniature boughs  
Which if unchecked will expand again  
To former size.

- (i) What does the word "this" refer to in the second line? 1
- (ii) The word "miniature" has been used to describe the boughs because 1  
 (a) the tree is very old and weak. (c) they need more nourishment.  
 (b) they have just sprouted. (d) they are not growing properly.
- (iii) What does the poet mean by the phrase "the bleeding bark"? Explain in 40 words. 2
- (iv) What will happen if the tree remains "unchecked"? 1  
 (a) It won't grow properly. (c) The tree will stop growing.  
 (b) It won't be taken care of. (d) The tree will be allowed to grow.
- OR

B.

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,  
 And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made:  
 Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honeybee,  
 And live alone in the bee-loud glade.

- (i) The repetition of the word "go" highlights the poet's 1  
 (a) willingness to go (c) aversion to settle down  
 (b) urgency to go (d) dislike for cities
- (ii) What does the poet intend to do at Innisfree? 1
- (iii) Which image corresponds to the word "wattles"? 1



- (iv) The phrase "bee-loud glade" makes use of 1  
 (a) only visual imagery (c) only onomatopoeia  
 (b) only auditory imagery (d) both visual and auditory imagery
- (v) The poet is at / in a 1  
 (a) lake (b) busy city (c) quiet place (d) place full of bees

**Q8 Answer ANY FOUR questions in 40 to 50 words each. 3x4=12**

- (i) How does Kezia's views about her father change overnight?
- (ii) "If one has a clear goal along with determination, then no obstacle can stop that person." Discuss this statement in relation to Sharapova's meteoric rise to success and fame.
- (iii) On the basis of your reading of "A Truly Beautiful Mind" briefly explain what kind of environment a school should have for the proper education of students.
- (iv) What important lessons did the young doctor learn after his encounter with the deadly snake?
- (v) "Though the poet terribly missed the beloved but he reconciled with her death in a unique and sensible manner" Do you agree? Give reasons.

**Q9 Answer ANY TWO questions in 40 to 50 words each. 3x2=6**

- (i) "Art is not only about beauty. It also helps us to stay away from negativity and gives our life new hope and direction". How can this statement be applied to Behrman's masterpiece?
- (ii) Why did Iswaran have an important place in Mahendra's life?
- (iii) How is the story "The Kingdom of Fools" a stern warning about staying away from foolish people?

**Q10 Answer ANY ONE question in 100 to 120 words.**

**6**

(i) Attempt a character sketch of Gerrard.

**OR**

(ii) Imagine yourself to be Evelyn Glennie. Write a letter to your teacher, Ron Forbes telling him about your success and achievements. Do not forget to mention how you are thankful to him for his support and guidance without which you would not have been able to achieve your goals.

**Q11 Answer ANY ONE question in 100 to 120 words.**

**6**

(i) "Everybody has the ability to transform in a positive way. All they need is a chance, love and compassion." How is this statement true in the case of Lushkoff, the beggar? Support your answer with examples from the text.

**OR**

(ii) The young narrator from "A House is not a Home " finally realized how his insecurities prevented him from interacting with wonderful people around him and consequently he failed to cope up with new changes and challenges. But later he was able to "rebuilt" his life with the help of people's goodness and kindness. Present his realizations and the lessons he learnt in the form of a conversation with his mother.