

ANNUAL EXAMINATION-2023-24

CLASS-IX

SUBJECT-ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (Code No.184)

Time : 3 Hours

M.Marks : 80

General Instructions:

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

SECTION-A : READING SKILLS (20 marks)

Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages

1. Read the following text. (10 Marks)
 1. Nature is our mother, our first teacher. The greatest lesson that she teaches us is to maintain an equilibrium in life. We learn to maintain composure through our joys, sorrows and fears. In fact, there are a thousand lessons that nature can teach us, provided we look for them.
 2. With time, a sapling grows into a full-grown tree; something so tiny and delicate develops into a strong tree capable of supporting others. No matter how tall it grows, how much it may flourish, or how many animals and birds it may support, its roots are firmly buried from where it once rose. That's a lesson - to keep ourselves grounded, respect and embrace our roots and give something back to those humble beginnings that nurtured us into who we are.
 3. Then there is the message of peaceful coexistence. 'I am because we are.' Nature provides every creature a chance to exist. However, the existence of one creature or being depends on the existence of the other. The tiger eats the antelope; without the antelope, the tiger wouldn't survive. Likewise, without tigers, the over-abundance of antelopes would cause them to starve to death. Scientists estimate that worldwide, birds eat more than 400 million tonnes of insects each year.

4. I wonder if you have noticed that when birds or squirrels see a predator, they give out an alarm call to their fellow creatures, of the lurking danger. They put themselves in danger to save the lives of others. Many animals, like the salmon, usually die after they spawn, but this doesn't stop them. One life extinguished for the betterment of others- is a small price to pay.
5. The snow melts in the warmth of spring to give birth to fresh green leaves. In autumn these leaves age into shades of gold only to be buried in the cold grave of winter. Change is inevitable; the sooner we embrace this, the better it is for us. We must also understand that even in pain there is growth. If you cut a hole in the tree, it will grow around it. No matter what may come in its way, a river will continue to flow. Similarly, no matter what grief may break our heart, nature teaches us that life goes on.
6. Keep in mind life isn't about making lists and trying to be one step ahead of others. Life is to live. Take a break-stop being a workaholic, and smell the roses, do whatever makes you feel happy and most of all spend some time with nature to pick up invaluable lessons.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- (i) Select the option that suitably completes the dialogue with reference to paragraph 2. (1)

Jai: I've done well for myself in this school. I'm the best they have. I can get admission anywhere. This is my moment!

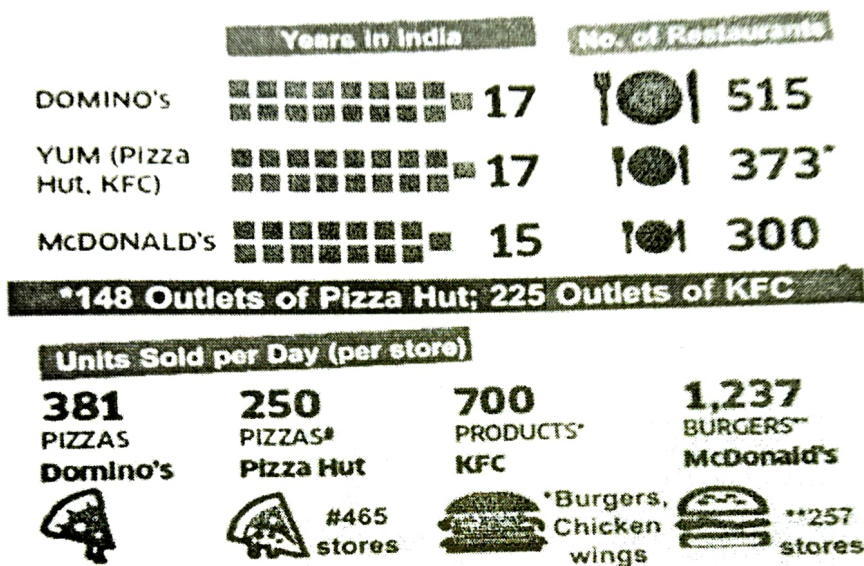
Sid: Congratulations! Just remember, we should _____.

- (a) become strong despite our weakness
 (b) be kind and supportive towards everyone
 (c) respect the origins from where we have grown
 (d) nurture ourselves well from beginning
- (ii) What quality/ qualities do the birds and squirrels display when they warn others of possible danger? Choose one option from the following. (1)

2. Read the following text.

1. According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), fast foods are a quick alternative to home-cooked meals. They are also high in saturated fat, sugar, salt and calories. Eating too much fast food has been connected to, among other things, obesity, colorectal cancer and high cholesterol. Still, the traditional family dinner is increasingly being replaced by eating "on the run". Fast food's portability allows for on-the-go consumption, similar to the convenience of carrying a mobile phone in a handbag instead of being tethered to a work desk with a desktop. As a result, the time invested in food preparation is getting lower and lower. 54% of the Indians are aged below 25 years and eating out is their favourite outdoor entertainment. Much of the retail boom in India could be attributed to these young consumers.
2. Organized fast food service sector in India and elsewhere, busy lifestyles of people and dual-working families with children have provided the perfect platform for fast food companies to flourish, which offer quick meal solutions. As a result, the fast food industry has witnessed a tremendous growth rate, McDonald's alone serves 46 million people worldwide each day. Fast-food chains are still less than 5% of India's food services market-the global average rests at 20%.
3. India's food services market was estimated at 4,236 billion in 2020. Fast food chains in India have a market size of 348 billion and account for 54% of the total sales. This is estimated to reach 64% by 2025. Covid dealt a body blow to the food services industry because of long lockdowns. However, large players were quick to remedy the impact on business by scaling their existing delivery capabilities. Fortunately, these chains had the infrastructure and process for delivery services in place long before the spread of the pandemic, which enabled them to adapt swiftly to government regulations.
4. The large food chains are set to gain a bigger share of the food services market on the back of a young population, value pricing, and increased invasion in tier two and three cities. The more recent popularity of online food ordering and food delivery platforms have enabled food

chains to reach more consumers.) Fast food chain Burger King reported a blockbuster IPO last year, meanwhile, Dominos and pizza franchise in India recently revised its potential store opening target in India from the earlier 2,000 to 3,000. McDonald's, Burger King, Domino's plan to deepen their reach in India's smaller cities, and benefit from a younger demographic expecting to clock a compound annual growth rate of 23% between 2021 to 2025.



Answer the following questions, based on the passage above. (10 marks)

- (a) Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of paragraph 1.

The convenience that fast food can be eaten 'on the run' is comparable with _____ in a handbag as opposed to having a desktop that keeps one tied to their work desk. (1)

- (b) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of the passage. (1)

We can infer that the large food service chains particularly in India were able to buffer their businesses and revenues during the pandemic owing to their ability to adapt to the new regulations, infrastructure and the flexibility of their delivery service, is _____ a/an fact/opinion because it is a/an _____ subjective judgement/objective detail.

(c) "The traditional family dinner is increasingly being replaced by eating on the run". Justify the following, in about 30-40 words. (2)

(d) Based on the results of the study, which two concerns showcase the flip side of the popularity of fast foods as referred to in the passage? (1)

(i) _____

(ii) _____

(e) Study the statement: 'McDonald's alone serves 46 million people worldwide each day.' State any one inference that can be drawn from this. (1)

(f) Select the option that correctly displays what "demographic" signifies (Reference-Paragraph 4) (1)



Image (i)



Image (ii)



Image (iii)



Image (iv)



Image (v)

(g) Infer the reasons responsible for the large food chains set to gain a bigger share of the food services market on the back of a young population in India. Answer in about 30-40 words. (2)

(h) Six statements about the trends in fast food sector in India are given below. Which of the following statements are INCORRECT with reference to the study mentioned in the passage? (1)

(i) The share of fast food chains in food services market is below 5%.

(ii) The share of fast food chains in food services market is 20%.

(iii) Branded fast food services fall under organized sector in India.

(iv) Branded fast food services fall under unorganized sector in India.

(v) By 2025, the total sales in the fast food market will grow by 64%.

(vi) By 2025, the total sales in fast food market size will grow by 10%

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR (20 Marks)

GRAMMAR (10)

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following questions as directed. (10)

(a) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter. (1)

Respected Sir/Ma'am

Subject: Low voltage and frequent breakdown of electricity

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to draw your kind attention towards the poor supply of electricity in our area. The area _____ frequent outages and low supply as a rule. (suffer)

(b) Read the given sentence and identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence. (1)

The Government of India ban the production and use of plastic bags in our country in the year 2022.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

(c) Radhika shared some information with Ram about her school trip. Report Ram's question. (1)

What did you learn from the museum visit?

(d) Read the dialogue between Kanchan and Maitreyi and choose the correct option for the reported speech. (1)

Kanchan: My new dress is very pretty.

Maitreyi: Will you show it to me?

Kanchan told her friend Maitryi that her new dress was very pretty. Maitryi asked her if _____ .

- (i) she will show the new dress to her.
 - (ii) she will show her dress to her?
 - (iii) she would show the new dress to her.
 - (iv) would she show the new dress to her?
- (e) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the tagline of the American Express. (1)

“_____ live life without it.”

- (i) Will
 - (ii) Don't
 - (iii) Doesn't
 - (iv) Do
- (f) Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from the opposition parties' current political strategy. (1)

There's nothing people may do to stop the powerful forces of nature.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- (g) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report. (1)

A ministry official said that multimedia systems has delayed due to the war in Ukraine, while the supply of network switches was running two years behind schedule.

Option No.	Error	Correction
(i)	has delayed	had been delayed
(ii)	the war	War
(iii)	Supply	Supplies
(iv)	was running	were running

- (h) Identify the error on a shop's hoarding and supply the correction, for the following instruction in a restaurant. (1)

Note-servers must wash their hands before carrying the dishes and living.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- (i) Report the dialogue between Ranbir and a policeman by completing the sentence into reported speech. (1)

Ranbir: Where is my car? I remember parking it here.

Policeman: The car has been towed away as you parked it in the 'no parking zone.'

Ranbir asked the policeman standing there where his car was and added that he remembered parking it there. The policeman replied that the car _____ in the 'no parking zone.'

- (j) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence. (1)

I met a young smart fan _____ wanted a 'selfie' with me. So, we sat on the top of a boundary wall.

- (i) which (ii) who
(iii) whose (iv) whom

- (k) Complete the line from a poem on human apathy, by filling in the blank with the correct option. (1)

Yes, and how many ears must one man have

Before he can hear people cry?

Yes, and how many deaths will it take till he knows

That too many people _____ ? (die)

- (i) died (ii) have died
(iii) will die (iv) can die

- (1) Identify the error and supply correction, for the following note in a private bank's instruction manual to its customers. (1)

ICICI Bank

Never reply to e-mails asking for our password or PIN. Do safe banking with us.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

WRITING (10 Marks)

- 4A. Write a descriptive paragraph, in about 100-120 words, on 'My Grandmother'. Take the information given below in the input. (5 Marks)

most amazing person — she always puts a smile on our faces — had the funniest laugh — would help anyone no matter what the situation was — always had a welcoming home — could talk to her about anything — made the best idlis and payasam — raised me to be a better person — everyone who met her will cherish forever.

OR

- 4B. A science fest was organized in your city to mark the birth anniversary of the famous anthropologist Charles Darwin. Describe the event in 100-120 words using the following hints.

-held at Parade Ground on July 6 – inaugurated by Dr. A.K Sinha, a famous sociologist – five colleges and ten schools participated – career options in science stream displayed achievements in science and technology highlighted through posters and power point presentations – role of science in growth of cultures depicted in models.

- 5A. Write a short story in 100-120 words, with the help of the cues given below. Give a suitable title to the story. (5)

It was Mohini's first day at the new school. She was feeling very nervous. She stood in a corner and watched the students who were laughing and talking excitedly. When she saw four senior students advancing towards her, she.....

OR

- 5B. 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 in 100-120 words.

SECTION-C-LITERATURE (40 Marks)

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

6A. GERRARD: (pleasantly) Why, this is a surprise, Mr-er-

INTRUDER: I'm glad you're pleased to see me. I don't think you'll be pleased for long. Put those paws up!

GERRARD: This is all very melodramatic, not very original, perhaps, but...

INTRUDER: Trying to be calm and -er-

GERRARD: 'Nonchalant' is your word, I think.

INTRUDER: Thanks a lot. You'll soon stop being smart. I'll make you crawl. I want to know a few things, see.

- (i) Why is Gerrard surprised? (1)
- (ii) The phrasal verb "paws up" means _____ . (1)
- (a) Feet up (b) Hands up
(c) Lie down (d) Curl up
- (iii) The intruder's behavior to Gerrard was _____ . (1)
- (a) pleasant and unbelievable
(b) impolite and stern
(c) gentle and humble
(d) unusual, unexpected and dramatic.
- (iv) The intruder is boastful. He threatens Gerrard, "I'll make you crawl." Was he able to carry out his threat? What happened to him? (2)

OR

6B. Most of the teachers discouraged her but percussionist Ron Forbes spotted her potential. He began by tuning two large drums to different notes. "Don't listen through your ears," he would say, try to sense it some other way." Says Evelyn, "Suddenly I realised I could feel the higher drum from the waist up and the lower one from the waist down." Forbes repeated the exercise, and soon Evelyn discovered that she could sense certain notes in different parts of her body. "I had learnt to open my mind and body to sounds and vibrations." The rest was sheer determination and hard work.

(i) Ron Forbes identified Evelyn's potential. (1)

(ii) Which of the following statements is not true with reference to the extract? (1)

(a) ✓ Evelyn was doubtful if she would be able to differentiate between higher and lower notes.

(b) Ron encouraged Evelyn as he identified her potential.

(c) Evelyn was quite focused to achieve success as a percussionist.

(d) Evelyn's teachers were not in favour of her continuing to play music.

(iii) Evelyn's success was achieved with _____ . (1)

(a) Sheer dedication

(b) Hard work

(c) Response to musical notes

(d) ✓ a, b and c

(iv) Which qualities of character enabled Evelyn to achieve unprecedented success in life? (2)

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

7A. Let us remember, whenever we are told
To hate our brothers, it is ourselves
That we shall dispossess, betray and condemn.
Remember we who take arms against each other.

- (i) The poem makes us ponder upon _____ . (1)
- (ii) "Hating" people from different lands is _____ . (1)
- (a) A known and acceptable fact
- (b) Condemning our own selves
- (c) A prevalent phenomenon
- (d) A progressive perception
- (iii) Having a sense of superiority is _____ . (1)
1. Harmful for fostering human relations.
 2. Healthy for our own development.
 3. A motivation to develop better skills.
 4. Always helpful in maintaining relations.
- (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 2, 3 and 4
- (c) Only 1 (d) Only 2
- (iv) "The poem advocates the need for peace and love in the world."
Elucidate. (2)

OR

7B. Then the matter
Of scorching and choking
In sun and air,
Browning, hardening,
Twisting, withering,
And then it is done.

- (i) What remains to be done to kill a tree after its root has been pulled out? (1)
- (ii) "And then it is done."
'It' stands for _____ . (1)

- (iii) Find a word in the extract which means the same as the given words: (1)
"Blazing, Torrid, Searing".
- (iv) Why does the poet use the word "kill" rather than "cut" in the poem ? (2)

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

- (a) Santosh decided to fight the system in her own 'quiet way', says the author. How did Santosh rebel but quietly?
- (b) What made the atmosphere in and around the Pashupatinath temple full of 'febrile confusion'?
- (c) Which expressions on Kezia's face annoyed her father?
- (d) Right from his childhood Kalam was very enterprising. Discuss.
- (e) What did the doctor do when the snake was absorbed in looking into the mirror?

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

- (a) Wisdom and far-sightedness were the most important qualities of the guru's character. Discuss.
- (b) How did the Happy Prince discover true happiness? How did he spread it?
- (c) Describe Iswaran's style of storytelling. How is it interspersed with the childhood influences ?

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

Suppose you are Saint Peter and were denied food by the old woman. Angered by her greed, you turned that woman into a woodpecker. Write a diary entry in about 100-120 words describing your experience.

OR

What important lessons can educationists today learn from the biographical sketch of the great scientist, Einstein?

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

Imagine Behrman survives the attack of pneumonia. His family takes him back to his native countryside in order to serve the old man and nurse him back to health. As Johnsy, write a letter to Behrman expressing your gratitude.

OR

What values did Olga exhibit while saving the life of Lushkoff? ✓

□□□