

**Academic Session 2017-2018**

**CLASS: X**

**ENGLISH**

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**SYLLABUS DIVISION**

**Term 1**

**Term 2**

1. Two Gentlemen of Verona
2. Mrs. Packletide's Tiger
3. The Letter
4. Frog and the Nightingale
5. The Mirror
6. Not Marble, Nor gilded  
monuments
7. Ozymandias
8. Dear Departed
9. Main Coursebook: Units 1 to 3
10. Writing skills: Letter to Editor,  
Article, Story writing
11. Workbook
12. Diary of a young girl by Anne  
Frank: chapters 1 to 5

1. The shady plot
2. Patol babu, the film star
3. Virtually true
4. Rime of the Ancient Mariner
5. Snake
6. Julius Caesar
7. Main Coursebook: Units 4 to 6
8. Writing skills: Letter to Editor,  
Article, Story writing
9. Workbook
10. Diary of a young girl by Anne  
Frank: chapters 6 to 8

## MONTH WISE DISTRIBUTION

### *March to May:*

1. Two Gentlemen of Verona
2. Mrs. Packletide's Tiger
3. The Letter
4. Frog and the Nightingale
5. Writing skills: Letter to Editor
6. Anne Frank: Chapters 1,2 and 3
7. Workbook

### *July:*

1. The Mirror
2. Not Marble, Not gilded Monuments
3. Ozymandias
4. Dear departed
5. Writing skills: Article, Story writing
6. Anne Frank: Chapters 4 and 5
7. Workbook

### *September:*

1. Shady plot
2. Rime of the Ancient Mariner (part 1&2)
3. Main Coursebook- Unit 4
4. Anne Frank- Chapters 6&7
5. Workbook

### *October:*

1. Patol Baby, the film star
2. Virtually True
3. Snake
4. Main Coursebook- Unit 5
5. Anne Frank- Chapters 8&9
6. Workbook

### *November:*

1. Julius Caesar
2. Main Coursebook- Unit 6
3. Anne Frank
4. Revision

ASSESSMENT PLAN (2017-18)

<b>TERM 1</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>MARKS</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
	<b>Term Examination</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>
	<b>Unit Test 1 and 2</b>	40 + 40	10
	<b>Listening &amp; Speaking Skills Assessment:</b> Answering questions based on an audio & speaking on a chosen topic.	5	5
	<b>Homework/Assignments/Regularity/Class Response etc.</b>	5	5
<b>TERM 2</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>MARKS</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
	<b>Term Examination</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>
	<b>Unit Test 3</b>	40	10
	<b>Listening &amp; Speaking Skills Assessment:</b> Answering questions based on an audio & speaking on a chosen topic (January-February 2018)	5	5
	<b>Homework/Assignments/Regularity/Class Response etc.</b>	5	5

## SECTION A- READING

### 1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The death of Dr Christian Barnard, the famous transplant surgeon, has occurred at a time when many of his modern counterparts are facing difficulties. Many of the early problems, such as tissue rejection, have, to a great extent, now been solved, thanks to the introduction of new drugs. However, there remains a major problem. The people in need of transplant surgery far exceed the number of available organs. The shortage of organ donors has caused several doctors to call for urgent improvements to be made in the system by which organs are donated. Many countries, such as Britain, have waiting lists of people whose lives could be saved by being given a kidney, lung, heart, or liver transplant. Sadly, many of them die before they reach the top of those lists. Under the present British scheme, people are asked to carry donor cards, and/or put their names on the national donor register. Thus, if they lose their lives suddenly, for example, in a traffic accident, they have given permission in advance of their deaths for their organs to be donated. If they have not done so, surgeons are faced with the task of asking the distraught next-of-kin for permission to use the organs of the deceased. Of course, often the relatives are too upset even to think of such a thing until it is too late. Organ transplants have to take place quite soon after the death of the donor. Dying and donating organs is not something most of us like to think about, and only about 14% of people have registered. Now, it has been suggested that, instead of the present register, there should be a register of people who wish to opt out of having their organs removed for transplant surgery. Increasing the number of donors is made more difficult because it is such an emotive issue. Just recently, an article in the Journal of the American Medical Association showed that half of the families in the United States refused when asked for permission to use the organs of their loved ones.

Based on your reading of the passage answer the following questions briefly: (1x8=8 marks)

(a) Name the doctor who conducted the first successful organ transplant surgery.

---

(b) What is the greatest problem encountered by the contemporary doctors in transplant surgery ?

---

(c) How are the modern surgeons able to solve the problem of tissue rejection?

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(d) How is carrying donor cards helpful in transplantation of organs?

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(e) Why do many people not want to donate organs?

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(f) Why do many patients who need organ transplant eventually die?

---

(g) Why in Britain only 14% people responded to the organ donation request?

---

(h) How did the families in the US respond when the organ donation request was made to them?

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**2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

Coca-Cola and PepsiCo sold soft drinks containing pesticides harmful to human health and misled India's 1 billion people over claims that their products were safe for human consumption, Indian MPs concluded yesterday. Their report recommended stringent new regulations for fizzy drinks which would "seek complete freedom from pesticide residues [in] aerated beverages". An estimated seven bottles of cold drinks are sold to every Indian each year in a market worth £900m. Coca-Cola and PepsiCo account for more than 80% of the market. The row between soft drink makers and campaigners erupted last summer when a Delhi-based environmental group, the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), claimed that Coca-Cola and PepsiCo products manufactured in India contained toxins far above the norms permitted in the developed world.

Tests by campaigners showed Pepsi's soft drinks had 36 times the level of pesticide residues permitted under EU regulations and Coca-Cola's had 30 times the level. The CSE said that, in all 12 of the soft drinks it tested, toxins including lindane and DDT were found. If ingested over long periods, these chemicals could lead to cancer and failure of the immune system. Similar tests on US colas found no such residues. MPs said yesterday that five laboratories had confirmed, but not replicated, the results on Indian colas. "We did not find exactly the same level of pesticides or the same quantities but this was because they were not exactly the same samples. For example, the batches were different, the manufacturing was different. But all contained pesticides," said Sanjay Nirupam, a member of India's upper house who sat on the joint parliamentary committee. Mr Nirupam added: "The consumer has to be sure if what they are buying is safe. You do not find US colas with pesticides, so why force us to drink pesticides?"

The cross-party committee has been convened only three times before, and experts believe it is inconceivable that India's government would not act on its findings. Evidence to the committee suggested that even the toughest safety requirements would cost companies less than half a penny for each bottle sold. Coca-Cola and PepsiCo have contested the claims, even wheeling out the Bollywood stars Amir Khan and Shah Rukh Khan last year to reassure consumers. Yesterday both companies said they were "reviewing" the report. In a statement PepsiCo reiterated its claim that the company has "always produced beverages in

India that are absolutely safe and made according to the same high quality standards we use around the world".

**2.1. On the basis of your reading of the above passage answer the following questions briefly:** (2 x 4 = 8 marks)

(a) How did the Coca-Cola and PepsiCo mislead the consumers in India?

---

(b) What was the conclusion of the CSE ?

---

(c) What were the harmful toxins found in these drinks? What would be the harmful effects of consuming these drinks?

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(d) What was the stand taken by PepsiCo on this issue?

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**2.2. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate options:**

(1 x 4 = 4 marks)

(a) The phrase 'stringent new regulations' means \_\_\_\_\_ ,

(i) lax new laws

(ii) strict new laws

(iii) harsh new laws

(iv) Both (i) & (ii)

(b) Pick out a word from the following which means the opposite of 'inconceivable'.

(i) unthinkable

(ii) unimaginable

(iii) incredible

(iv) credible

(c) Find a word from the following which means 'a substance used for destroying insects or other organisms harmful to cultivated plants or to animals'.

(i) replicated

(ii) campaigners

(iii) pesticides

(iv) manufacturing

(d) Find a word from the following which means 'customer'.

(i) visitor

(ii) shopper

(iii) consumer

(iv) friend

### 3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

#### MONA LISA'S ENIGMATIC SMILE

For nearly 500 years, people have gazed at Leonardo da Vinci's portrait of Mona Lisa with a sense of bafflement-first she is smiling, then the smile fades, a moment later it returns, only to disappear again. Now scientists claim to have uncovered the secret of how Leonardo produced the optical effects that created Mona Lisa's enigmatic smile.

A team in Europe has found that the artist managed to achieve his trademark smoky effect, known as *sfumato*, on the painting by applying up to 40 layers of extremely thin glaze, thought to have been smeared on with his fingers.

The glaze, mixed with subtly different pigments creates the slight blurring and shadows around the mouth that give Mona Lisa the barely noticeable smile that seems to disappear when looked at directly. Using X-Rays to study paintings, the scientists were able to see how the layers of glaze and paint had been built up to varying levels on different areas of the face. The Sunday Telegraph reported,

"With the drying time for the glaze taking months, such effects would have taken years to achieve."

The scientists at the Laboratoire du Centre de Recherche et de Restauration des Muses de France and the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility also claim that Leonardo used his fingers to apply the glaze to his painting, as there are no brush marks or contours visible on the paintings.

Writing in scientific journal *Angewandte Chemie*, Philippe Walter, who led the team, said "The perfection of Leonardo da Vinci's painting technique has always been fascinating. The gradation of colours from light to dark is barely perceptible. Above all, the way the flesh is rendered gives rise to many comments because of its crucial role in the fascination exerted by Leonardo's portraits.

The thinness of the glaze layers must be underlined-it confirms the dexterity of the painter to apply such thin layers. Moreover, the measured slow and regular evolution of the thickness of the glaze layers implies that numerous layers-have to be applied to obtain the darkest shadows. Even today Leonardo's realization of such thin layers still remains an amazing feat.

The scientists believe that the artist experimented by creating different types of glaze and with different pigments to perfect the *sfumato* effect.

Francis Ames-Lewis of Leonardo da Vinci society said, "Leonardo was concerned with producing smooth tonal gradients from light to dark without any perceptible change like we see in real life, and *sfumato* was essential to this. In the Mona Lisa, he captures an ambiguous and complex personality and conveys it with the help of *sfumato*."

**On the basis of your reading, now answer the following questions:**

1. Why do the people look at Mona Lisa's painting with a sense of bafflement?

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2. What is the secret behind Leonardo's optical effects?

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3. How does Sfumato work?

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4. The technique used by Leonardo required a lot of individual effort. Point out any two examples that show this.

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Find words from the passage that mean the same as:

a. great skill: \_\_\_\_\_

b. unclear: \_\_\_\_\_

c. mysterious: \_\_\_\_\_

d. delicately: \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

#### LANGUAGE FOR ALL SEASONS

People the world over have realized the significance of English as a language of communication. Indeed, it serves as a link between one part of the world and another, and so the non- English speaking countries have shown ample enthusiasm to ensure that their citizens pick up the language.

India adopted English more by chance than anything else, having spent a lot of time under the Britishers' rule. This adoption proved to be to be a boon in disguise, because a liberated India can interact with the rapidly developing Western societies with ease today. The urban Indian's knowledge of English proved to be one of the main reasons why the nation became the leader of the third world nations. The process of accepting English as a language of communication hasn't been free from obstacles.

It cannot be denied that English is the language of the world and the mother tongue of almost 350 million people today. Apart from that is the population that uses it as a second language or a foreign language. At a time when people in a quarter of the world use English in their daily activities, any endeavour to deny its relevance is useless to the extent of being dangerous. As time goes on, the significance of English continues to enhance. It is English that can give us access to heightened levels of technology from abroad, and also help us in picking up the latest in educational developments. Unlike several other languages like French, it is easy to learn too. The syntax doesn't pose problems, the alphabet can be mastered easily and it can be understood even if spoken in variety of ways.

In all the advanced countries, the emphasis is on learning English as a foreign language. In India too, it is possible that the language can be taught in a similar manner. Besides, the average Indian's familiarity with the language in some indirect way can make the process of learning much easier. After all, doesn't even an illiterate person know at least a few words of English today?

Moreover, the resources to learn the language are available and the cost of learning is the lowest. The nation has a large number of teachers, and they need to be utilized properly. Any kind of cynicism towards the study of English is meaningless. Why it is so can be explained very easily. At a time when communication defines the very basis of our lives, learning the language makes a lot of practical sense.

**On the basis of the reading of the passage, answer the following questions:**

a. Which two factors led to the popularity of English language in India?

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b. How are the efforts to deny the relevance of English not only useless but also dangerous?

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c. How can we say that learning the English language in India is easy?

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d. What does the author disapprove?

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**Find words from the passage that mean the same as:**

a. enough or more than enough (1)

b. something that hinders/prevents (2)

c. efforts, exertion (3)

d. intensity of something (3)

**5. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

CHOCOLATE

1. Chocolate -- there's nothing quite like it, is there? Chocolate is simply delicious. What is chocolate? Where does it come from?

2. Christopher Columbus was probably the first to take cocoa beans from the New World to Europe in around 1502. But the history of chocolate goes back at least 4,000 years! The Aztecs, who lived in America, thought that their bitter cocoa drink was a divine gift from heaven. In fact, the scientist Carolus Linnaeus named the plant Theobroma, which means "food of the gods."

3. The Spanish explorer Hernando Cortez went to America in 1519. He visited the Mexican emperor Montezuma. He saw that Montezuma drank cocoa mixed with vanilla and spices. Cortez took some cocoa home as a gift to the Spanish King Charles. In Spain, people began to drink Cortez's chocolate in a drink with chili peppers. However, the natural taste of cocoa was too bitter for most people. To sweeten the drink, Europeans added sugar to the cocoa drink. As a sweet drink, it became more popular. By the 17th century, rich people in Europe were drinking it.

4. Later, people started using chocolate in pastries, like pies and cakes. In 1828, Dutch chocolate makers started using a new process for removing the fat from cocoa beans, and getting to the center of the cocoa bean. The Dutch chocolate maker Conrad J. van Houten made a machine that pressed the fat from the bean. The resulting powder mixed better with water than cocoa did. Now, some call van Houten's chocolate "Dutch chocolate."

5. It was easy to mix Dutch chocolate powder with sugar. So other chocolate makers started trying new recipes that used powdered chocolate. People started mixing sweetened chocolate with cocoa butter to make solid chocolate bars. In 1849, an English chocolate maker made the first chocolate bar. In the 19th century, the Swiss started making milk chocolate by mixing powdered milk with sweetened chocolate. Milk chocolate has not changed much since this process was invented.

6. Today, two countries - Brazil and Ivory Coast - account for almost half the world's chocolate. The United States imports most of the chocolate in the world, but the Swiss eat the most chocolate per person. The most chocolate eaten today is sweet milk chocolate, but people also eat white chocolate and dark chocolate.

7. Cocoa and dark chocolate are believed to help prevent heart attacks, or help keep them from happening. They are supposed to be good for the circulatory system. On the other

hand, the high fat content of chocolate can cause weight gain, which is not good for people's health. Other health claims for chocolate have not been proven, but some research shows that chocolate could be good for the brain.

8. Chocolate is a popular holiday gift. A popular Valentine's Day gift is a box of chocolate candies with a card and flowers. Chocolate is sometimes given for Christmas and birthdays. Chocolate eggs are sometimes given at Easter. Chocolate is toxic to some animals. An ingredient in chocolate is poisonous to dogs, cats, parrots, small rodents, and some livestock. Their bodies cannot process some of the chemicals found in chocolate. Therefore, they should never be fed chocolate.

1. Who was the first European to discover cocoa beans and in which year?

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2. Who was Montezuma? How did he like his cocoa beans?

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3. What name did Linnaeus give to the cocoa plant? Why?

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4. How did cocoa drink gain popularity over the years in Europe?

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5. Explain how van Houten created the famous Dutch chocolate.

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6. What other varieties of chocolate became popular in Europe? What other purposes were chocolates used for other than as a drink?

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7. How is chocolate harmful for animals?

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8. What are the health benefits and disadvantages of cocoa beans for humans?

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9. Choose words from the passage which have a similar meaning to the following words:

a) Holy (para 2) \_\_\_\_\_

b) Process (para 4) \_\_\_\_\_

c) Famous (para 8) \_\_\_\_\_

d) Poisonous (para 8) \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

The village of Vestmannaeyjar, in the far northern country of Iceland, is as bright and clean and up-to-date as any American or Canadian suburb. It is located on the island of Heimaey, just off the mainland. One January night in 1973, however, householders were shocked from their sleep. In some backyards red-hot liquid was spurting from the ground. Flaming "skyrockets" shot up and over the houses. The island's volcano, Helgafell, silent for seven thousand years, was violently erupting!

Luckily, the island's fishing fleet was in port, and within twenty-four hours almost everyone was ferried to the mainland. But then the agony of the island began in earnest. As in a nightmare, fountains of burning lava spurted three hundred feet high. Black, baseball-size cinders rained down. An evil-smelling, eye-burning, throat-searing cloud of smoke and gas erupted into the air, and a river of lava flowed down the mountain. The constant shriek of escaping steam was punctuated by ear-splitting explosions.

As time went on, the once pleasant village of Vestmannaeyjar took on a weird aspect. Its street lamps still burning against the long Arctic night, the town lay under a thick blanket of cinders. All that could be seen above the ten-foot black drifts were the tips of street signs. Some houses had collapsed under the weight of cinders; others had burst into flames as the heat ignited their oil storage tanks. Lighting the whole lurid scene, fire continued to shoot from the mouth of the looming volcano.

The eruption continued for six months. Scientists and reporters arrived from around the world to observe the awesome natural event. But the town did not die that easily. In July, when the eruption ceased, the people of Heimaey Island returned to assess the chances of rebuilding their homes and lives. They found tons of ash covering the ground. The Icelanders are a tough people, however, accustomed to the strange and violent nature of

their Arctic land. They dug out their homes. They even used the cinders to build new roads and airport runways. Now the new homes of Heimaey are warmed from water pipes heated by molten lava.

**Choose the correct option.**

1. The village is located on the island of-

- A. Vestmannaeyjar
- B. Hebrides
- C. Heimaey
- D. Helgafell
- E. Heimma

2. The color of the hot liquid was-

- A. orange
- B. black
- C. yellow
- D. red
- E. gray

3. This liquid was coming from the -

- A. mountains
- B. ground
- C. sea
- D. sky
- E. ocean

4. The island's volcano had been inactive for-

- A. seventy years
- B. seven thousand years
- C. seven thousand months
- D. seven hundred years
- E. seventy decades

5. Black cinders fell that were the size of\_\_

- A. baseballs
- B. pebbles
- C. golf balls
- D. footballs
- E. hail-stones

6. Despite the eruption-

- A. buses kept running
- B. the radio kept broadcasting
- C. the police kept working
- D. street lamps kept burning
- E. the television kept broadcasting

7. This volcanic eruption lasted for six \_\_\_\_.

- A. weeks
- B. hours
- C. months
- D. days
- E. years

7. Read the passage given below carefully:

### DAIJA

It was Monday morning when the phone rang. It was my mother. After talking for a minute she said, "I am giving the phone to someone. Talk to her."

"Hello," came a familiar voice and I immediately knew who was at the other end. I was very happy to hear that voice. It had been too long.

"Daija! How are you? When did you come there?"

"Just yesterday. I am fine. How are you?" said Daija.

Daija was my grandparents' helping hand for many years. She came to work for them for almost 51 years ago. My mother was just seven years old then. Daija came unannounced. She had heard that my grandparents were looking for a maid and she travelled for two days to apply for the job. She was around 20 years old then.

Daija was puny. She frequently laughed out aloud. Her husband had left her for another woman but this had not embittered her about life. Slowly, she became part of the family. Her real name was Kamlaben but my mother would call her "Daija" affectionately and it stuck to her for the rest of her life. Her personality was such that she became the life of every festival and get-together. She was a good dancer and though she did not have a good voice, she enjoyed singing too.

When my mother was married and moved to another town, Daija cried more than my grandmother. When my mother was pregnant, she came to live with her. Every winter, we used to go to our grandparents' place for holidays and she became our playmate. She would hide some special food from my grandmother to give us later.

My grandmother could not do without her. When my grandfather died 10 years ago, she became my grandmother's sole companion. They had disagreements but that didn't bother either of them.

But once grandfather was gone, Daija started feeling insecure. My grandmother, who was six years older than Daija, was also not keeping well. Daija would take care of her but who would take care of Daija? She was already 72. One day, she came to my mother and took out about Rs 6,000, which she had saved. She said, "Kamala, please secure a place for me in an old age home. I may not be staying here for a long time." My mother dismissed her but that act remained in her mind. Sometimes, she would discuss Daija's future with my father.

Daija, too old by now to do everything herself, had other maids helping her. She was now the task manager. At times, we could not differentiate her from our grandmother. She was as influential.

Then, one day after 45 years, without warning, her husband came to visit her. She had no feelings. She had not seen him for all these years. The other woman had passed away leaving her grown-up son, who was earning a decent life for himself. The husband himself

had made a name in palmistry. Now he was expecting her to come back. She was not sure. He left without an answer. It took her a long time to decide. She finally decided to go. The day she left, a vacuum was created in our lives. There was no one to take her place. Today, we miss he laughs, her unconditional love and her spontaneity. She still visits my grandmother on every festival. These days, Daija has been travelling around with her husband, and his son takes care of her. Some people like Daija leave a void in our lives, and are always remembered.

**On the basis of your reading of the above passage, complete the following statements briefly:**

1. Daija came to their house\_\_\_\_\_
2. Daija’s personality was\_\_\_\_\_
3. Her husband had\_\_\_\_\_
4. The narrator could not differentiate between Daija and her grandmother because\_\_\_\_\_

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- a. What was Daija’s husband doing?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. For how long did Daija serve the family of the writer?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Find words from the passage which mean the same as the words given below:**

- a. space: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. avoided: \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

Shall I compare thee to a summer’s day?  
Thou art more lovely and more temperate  
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,  
And summer’s lease hath all too short a date;  
Sometimes too hot the eye of heaven shines  
And often is his gold complexion dimmed:  
And every fair from fair declines.  
By chance or nature’s changing course untrimm’d,

But thy eternal summer shall not fade  
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ows't  
Nor shall death brag thou wander'st in his shade  
When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st.  
So long as man can breathe, or eyes can see  
So long lives this, and gives life to thee.

**William Shakespeare**

**On the basis of your reading, complete the statements given below:**

The poet compares his friend to (a) \_\_\_\_\_

The darling buds of spring shake because (b) \_\_\_\_\_

The beauty of every beautiful object decreases because of chance and (c)

'So long lives this and this gives life to thee. 'This' here stands for (d) \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

#### **Downfall of the Lobster**

Despite the popularity of the langouste (or the spiny Lobster) as it is often called all over the world, Indian chefs continue to be embarrassed about putting it on the menu, arguing that it is "only a crayfish and not a real lobster." In the process, all of us lose out. The distinctive character of the lobster, for me, has always been that it is a fish that is comfortable with its size. I am not a fan of the giant prawns that restaurants in India (and much of the far East) like serving because they always seem to have no real taste. They remind me of normal size prawns that have been zapped with some dangerous gamma ray till they mutate bizarrely and grow to a terrifying size. Given a choice, I will always take small prawns over big.

With the lobster, on the other hand, size is not necessarily a disadvantage. While baby lobsters can be delicate and delicious, even the largest lobster can have a sweet and tasty flesh.

A bad chef will use the lobster in prawn recipes and thereby gain nothing from substitution. But a good chef will stick to dishes that show up the sweet flesh of the lobster to the best advantage. In classic French cooking they use butter, cream, mornay sauce, veloute sauce or béchamel.

- (a) Indian chefs are embarrassed at putting the langouste on the menu because:
- (i) it is not popular
  - (ii) it is not tasty
  - (iii) it is difficult to cook

- (iv) they think of it as cray fish, not lobster
- (b) Lobsters are:
  - (i) big in size                      (ii) medium sized
  - (iii) tiny                              (iv) enormous
- (c) The writer considers large prawns:
  - (i) oversized and bizzare
  - (ii) unappetizing
  - (iii) delicious
  - (iv) rare
- (d) The writer would rather have:
  - (i) small or big prawns
  - (ii) small and big prawns
  - (iii) small prawns than big ones
  - (iv) big prawns than small ones
- (e) "all of us lose out." "All" refers to :
  - (i) the diners                      (ii) the chefs
  - (iii) the waiters                      (iv) the children

**10. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:**

This aversion to noise I should explain as follows: If you cut up a large diamond into little bits, it will entirely lose the value it had as a whole; and an army divided up into small bodies of soldiers, loses all its strength. So a great intellect sinks to the level of an ordinary one; as soon as it is interrupted and disturbed, its attention distracted and drawn from the matter in hand; for its superiority depends upon its power of concentration – of bringing all its strength to bear upon one theme, in the same way as a concave mirror collects into one point all the rays of light that strike upon it. Noisy interruption is a hindrance to concentration. That is why distinguished minds have always shown such an extreme dislike to disturbance in any form, as something that breaks in upon and distracts their thoughts. Above all have they been averse to that violent interruption that comes from noise. Ordinary people are not much put out by anything of the sort. The most sensible and intelligent of all nations in Europe lays down the rule, Never Interrupt! as the eleventh commandment. Noise is the most impertinent of all forms of interruption. It is not only an interruption, but also a disruption of thought. Of course, where there is nothing to interrupt, noise will not be so particularly painful. Occasionally, it happens that some slight but constant noise continues to bother and distract me for a time before I become distinctly conscious of it. All I feel is a steady increase in the labour of thinking – just as though I were trying to walk with a weight on my foot. At last I find out what it is.

**1. Complete the following statements as briefly as possible. Write your answers against the correct blank number.**

- i) The superiority of a great intellect depends on \_\_\_\_\_

- ii) The eleventh commandment laid down, specifies \_\_\_\_\_
- iii) The steady interruption of noise makes the author \_\_\_\_\_
- iv) The author tries to investigate where the \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Find words in the passage which have similar meanings:**

- i) dislike -
- ii) rule -
- iii) barrier -
- iv) aggressive -

3. The author uses similes to explain his point of view. Quote and explain a simile that he uses in the passage. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Explain "a steady increase in the labour of thinking."

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**11. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:**

The New Year is the time for resolution. Mentally at least most of us compile formidable lists of 'do's and 'don'ts'. The same old favourites recur year in and year out with the children, do a thousand and one job about the house, be nice to people we don't like, drive carefully, and take the dog for a walk every day. Past experience has taught us that certain accomplishments are beyond attainment. If we remain deep rooted liars, it is only because we have so often experienced the frustration that results from failure.

Most of us fail in our efforts at self improvement because our schemes are too ambitious and we never have time to carry them out. We also make the fundamental error of announcing our resolution to everybody so that we look even more foolish when we slip back into our bad old ways. Aware of these pitfalls, this year I attempted to keep my resolution to myself. I limited myself to two modest ambitions, to do physical exercise every morning and to read more in the evening. An overnight party on New Year's Eve provided me with a good excuse for not carrying out either of these new resolutions on the first day of the year, but on the second, I applied myself assiduously to the task.

The daily exercise lasted only eleven minutes and I proposed to do them early in the morning before anyone had got up. The self discipline required to drag myself out of bed eleven minutes earlier than usual was considerable. Nevertheless, I managed to creep down into the living room for two days before anyone found me out. After jumping about in the carpet and twisting the human frame into uncomfortable positions, I sat down at the breakfast table in an exhausted condition. It was this that betrayed me. The next morning the

whole family trooped in to watch the performance. That was really unsettling but I fended off the taunts and jibes of the family good humouredly and soon everybody got used to the idea. However, my enthusiasm waned. The time I spent at exercises gradually diminished. Little by little the eleven minutes fell to zero. By January 10th I was back to where I had started from. I argued that if I spent less time exhausting myself at exercises in the morning, I would keep my mind fresh for reading when I got home from work. Resisting the hypnotizing effect of television, I sat in my room for a few evenings with my eyes glued to a book. One night, however, feeling cold and lonely, I went downstairs and sat in front of the television pretending to read. That proved to be my undoing, for I soon got back to the old bad habit of dozing off in front of the screen. I still haven't given up my resolution to do more reading. In fact, I have just bought a book entitled 'How to Read a Thousand Words a Minute'. Perhaps it will solve my problem, but I just have not had time to read it.

Q.1 Why do most of us fail in our efforts for self-improvement?

---

Q.2 Why is it a basic mistake to announce our resolution to everybody?

---

Q.3 Why didn't the writer carry out his resolution on New Year's Day?

---

Q.4. Find out the words in the above passage which convey the similar meaning to the following:

(1) Overwhelming: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Drawbacks: \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Decrease: \_\_\_\_\_

**12. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:**

1. The doctors clamouring against reservations for OBCs have demanded that merit be the sole criteria for admission to medical and engineering colleges. Then, how is it that they haven't objected either to the NRI quota or candidates who procure admission on the basis of capitation fee? Does this not affect quality? Reservation was introduced in the Kolhapur State as early as in 1902 and in the State of Mysore in 1921. In Tamil Nadu, where the human health index is much better than in other states, there is as much as 69 per cent reservation. Let us take for a moment that upper caste doctors are meritorious. But is this of any help to the nation when many of them use elite institutes as springboard to go abroad for higher wages. Nearly 70 per cent of doctors from AIIMS go abroad. How are these elite institutes, under such circumstances, serving the interests of the common people? On the other hand, it has been in Tamil Nadu that a good number of SC/ST/OBC doctors, who

procured admission into colleges due to the reservation policy, stick to their state or hometown, resulting in better healthcare services.

2. Reservation is not a phenomenon exclusive to our country. The American MNC, IBM, voluntarily introduced reservations for Blacks in 1930. In Malaysia there are reservations not just in jobs but also in contracts, licenses and company shares for Malays. Reservation for the depressed and weaker sections exists in many countries like Brazil, South Africa, Japan, Netherland and Ireland. There is 50 per cent reservation for Blacks and women in the medical faculty of Harvard University. And the Whites have never made an issue of being eligible only for 50 per cent of the seats. In fact, it is the handful of anti- reservationist doctors, who talk of disintegration of society on account of reservation, who are really responsible for creating dissension and obstacles in the ways of social justice of the OBCs. The media have, of course, played a negative role. But it is a reality that Indian society is constituted on caste lines .If the anti reservations are so concerned about the disintegration of society on caste lines, they should first lead the struggle against social discrimination.

3. Reservation assures a job or admission even if they get less percentage of marks. In one of the cases, a person was in Indian Revenue Service. He saw that candidates getting high marks in a competition were not necessarily successful in the field. Merit, as it is being presently understood, does not include honesty, hardwork and patriotism. In the American school system, besides the syllabus, students have to undergo practical training in social services, etc. and marks are added in the certificate based on performance in this area. The only people talking of merit today are those who have studied in public schools or whose children study in such schools.

4. The expenditure incurred on education in public schools is 50 to 100 times more than those of corporation/ government schools. There is a vast difference in quality between the teachers of public and government schools. Parents who can afford to send their children to public schools are mostly educated. They not only teach the children themselves at home but also provide coaching for them. On the other hand, parents who send their children to corporation/ government schools are mostly uneducated. These children have to lend a helping hand to their parents after school hours. Under such circumstances, what is wrong if such students ask for concession of a few marks?

5. Reservation will bring unity in society. Reservation in elite institutes will enable people from different social strata to come together and establish bonhomie among them. It is true that reservation is not a permanent solution to the vexed problem of our society. As and when equal and compulsory education is introduced in the country, Dalits and OBCs will not stake their claims to reservation.

6. Reservation is not a panacea for the economic backwardness of the country. For this purpose, the government has already launched many schemes. Reservation is only a

concession given to socially and educationally backward people, so that they may integrate with the mainstream.

**On the basis of your reading the passage, answer the following questions:**

(a) Why were the Indian doctors clamouring against reservation?

---

---

(b) What ideas do you know about reservations in Malaysia and Harvard University?

---

---

(c) What do the Indians and the Americans think about merit?

---

---

---

(d) What solution has been suggested in the passage about reservation?

---

---

---

**On the basis of reading the passage, find words that are similar in meaning to the following:**

(a) to get hold of (para-1) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) discord (para- 2) \_\_\_\_\_

(c) acquired (para- 4) \_\_\_\_\_

(d) annoyed(para -5) \_\_\_\_\_

**13. Read the poem carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

So often these days we hear and speak of the conquest of Nature, the taming of a river, the war against insects, and so on. these phrases are often used without consciously attaching any value to the, but they have an underlying attitude of hostility towards Nature and Nature's creatures, a view point which seems to assume Nature as an enemy that needs to be vanquished.

Alternatively, Nature is seen merely as a resource to be exploited, take the maximum out of it, regardless of what this does to the natural processes and to the creatures which depend on these processes. It is this attitude which views fellow human beings as a resource to be exploited, or other human communities as enemies to be conquered.

There is a growing lack of sensitivity and respect for our fellow creatures. This attitude is being drilled into a child by social forces, which can only be countered by environmental education. Yet, sadly, in most cases this is not done. What is done is to talk about the food web and the energy cycles and ecological balance and how removal of any element disrupts the whole system, and how this can affect human beings too.

What this approach lacks is the essential interaction with Nature and with other human beings. Indeed, in many environmental activities the opposite takes place. A classic example of this is the making of a herbarium, or even worse, an insect collection, as common in both formal and non- formal education in India. A child is often encouraged to pluck leaves and flowers and run after butterflies with a net, and is part of a large group of children similarly marauding a patch of nature. It is even worse when the activity is also competitive, that is, who collects the maximum. A lot of knowledge may be gained, but this knowledge emphasises exploitation and conquest, not sensitivity and respect. Learning under a tree rather than a classroom, is far more effective and long lasting.

The alternative is to take up activities where ecological balance, ecological diversity, animal behaviour, human plurality and other such concepts and systems are introduced with the stress on their intrinsic worth. Materials, processes and living beings do not exist only for human use, they are worthwhile in themselves.

**1. Based on your reading of the passage, complete the following sentences:**

- a. Man's attitude towards Nature shows \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Human beings exploit Nature without \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Environmental education can help people \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. Modern education emphasises on \_\_\_\_\_.
- e. Education is not practical and does not \_\_\_\_\_.
- f. Ecological balance implies \_\_\_\_\_.

**2. Find words in the passage that mean the same as:**

- a. lack of sympathy: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. inherent: \_\_\_\_\_

**14. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.**

By the time a child is six or seven she has all the essential avoidances well enough by heart to be trusted with the care of a younger child. And she also develops a number of simple techniques. She learns to weave firm square balls from palm leaves, to make pinwheels of palm leaves or frangipani blossoms, to climb a coconut tree by walking up the trunk on

flexible little feet, to break open a coconut with one firm well-directed blow of a knife as long as she is tall, to play a number of group games and sing the songs which go with them, to tidy the house by picking up the litter on the stony floor, to bring water from the sea, to spread out the copra to dry and to help gather it in when rain threatens, to go to a neighboring house and bring back a lighted faggot for the chief's pipe or the cook-house fire. But in the case of the little girls all these tasks are merely supplementary to the main business of baby-tending. Very small boys also have some care of the younger children, but at eight or nine years of age they are usually relieved of it. Whatever rough edges have not been smoothed off by this responsibility for younger children are worn off by their contact with older boys. For little boys are admitted to interesting and important activities only so long as their behavior is circumspect and helpful. Where small girls are brusquely pushed aside, small boys will be patiently tolerated and they become adept at making themselves useful. The four or five little boys who all wish to assist at the important, business of helping a grown youth lasso reef eels, organize themselves into a highly efficient working team; one boy holds the bait, another holds an extra lasso, others poke eagerly about in holes in the reef looking for prey, while still another tucks the captured eels into his lavalava. The small girls, burdened with heavy babies or the care of little staggerers who are too small to adventure on the reef, discouraged by the hostility of the small boys and the scorn of the older ones, have little opportunity for learning the more adventurous forms of work and play. So while the little boys first undergo the chastening effects of baby-tending and then have many opportunities to learn effective cooperation under the supervision of older boys, the girls' education is less comprehensive. They have a high standard of individual responsibility, but the community provides them with no lessons in cooperation with one another. This is particularly apparent in the activities of young people: the boys organize quickly; the girls waste hours in bickering, innocent of any technique for quick and efficient cooperation.

**Choose the correct option.**

1. The primary purpose of the passage with reference to the society under discussion is to
  - a) explain some differences in the upbringing of girls and boys
  - b) criticize the deficiencies in the education of girls
  - c) give a comprehensive account of a day in the life of an average young girl
  - d) delineate the role of young girls
  - e) show that young girls are trained to be useful to adults
  
2. The word 'brusquely' (line 22) most nearly means
  - a) quickly
  - b) gently
  - c) nonchalantly
  - d) abruptly
  - e) callously

3. The list of techniques in paragraph one could best be described as
- household duties
  - rudimentary physical skills
  - important responsibilities
  - useful social skills
  - monotonous tasks
4. It can be inferred that the 'high standard of individual responsibility' (line 38) is
- developed mainly through child-care duties
  - only present in girls
  - taught to the girl before she is entrusted with babies
  - actually counterproductive
  - weakened as the girl grows older.
5. The expression 'innocent of' (line 42) is best taken to mean
- not guilty of
  - unskilled in
  - unsuited for
  - uninvolved in
  - uninterested in
6. It can be inferred that in the community under discussion all of the following are important except
- domestic handicrafts
  - well-defined social structure
  - fishing skills
  - formal education
  - division of labor
7. Which of the following if true would weaken the author's contention about 'lessons in cooperation' (line 39)?
- I Group games played by younger girls involve cooperation  
II Girls can learn from watching boys cooperating  
III Individual girls cooperate with their mothers in looking after babies
- I only
  - II only
  - III only

- d) I and II only
- e) I, II and III

8. Which of the following is the best description of the author's technique in handling her material?

- a) Both description and interpretation of observations.
- b) Presentation of facts without comment.
- c) Description of evidence to support a theory.
- d) Generalization from a particular viewpoint.
- e) E. Close examination of preconceptions.

## **SECTION B- WRITING & GRAMMAR**

### **FORMAL LETTER**

*Word Limit: 120 words*

*Marks: 5*

#### **IMPORTANT POINTS**

- Formal Letter is written in formal language. Sentences should be short and to the point.
- Use Passive Voice where possible.
- State the purpose clearly and concisely.
- Be positive and polite.
- Write one idea in one paragraph.
- Always plan your letter. State the reason for writing the letter clearly and present the facts in logical order.
- Subject should be brief.
- Write within the word limit. (150 Words)

#### **AVOID THESE COMMON ERRORS**

- Don't write Your's instead of Yours.
- Don't write the entire letter in one paragraph.
- Don't ask the editor to do something about a problem. Students fail to realise that letters are meant to draw the attention of the concerned authorities to a particular problem.

## FORMAT OF FORMAL LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF A NEWSPAPER

SENDER'S ADDRESS

DATE

RECEIVER'S ADDRESS

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

DEAR SIR

PARA 1 - STATE THE PROBLEM (Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper....)

PARA 2 - CAUSES OF THE PROBLEM AND RESULTS OF THE PROBLEM.

PARA 3 - SUGGESTIONS/ HOW TO COMBAT THE PROBLEM

PARA 4 - CLOSING STATEMENT (I hope you will publish this letter in your newspaper and bring this problem to the attention of the concerned authorities.)

YOURS SINCERELY

SIGNATURE

(NAME)

*7 Hemkund Towers  
Secundrabad*

*14 May 2017*

*The Editor  
The Secundrabad Times  
M.G. Road  
Secundrabad*

*Sub: INADEQUATE SUPPLY OF WATER DURING SUMMER MONTHS*

*Sir*

*Through the columns of your newspaper, I would like to draw the attention of the civic authorities to the inadequate supply of water to our colony during summer months.*

*It is unfortunate that the concerned authorities have failed to provide this basic amenity despite*

*constant reminders. During the summer months water supply becomes erratic and is often supplied for only an hour in the morning. Also, the water is unfit for drinking purposes and the residents have to buy the expensive distilled bottled water which is a strain on our finances in these times of global recession.*

*The government should ensure that more water purification plants are set up to cater to more people across the city. Also, steps like rain water harvesting can ensure that enough water is stored to meet the needs of the people during the peak of summer. The Jal Board should ensure that the water pipes are in good condition and repair the leaks to minimize the wastage of water. I hope you will publish this letter in your newspaper and bring this issue to the attention of the concerned authorities.*

*Thanking you*

*Yours sincerely  
Rakshita/ Mohit*

1. We are now hearing more and more cases of Dengue and Malaria, not just during the monsoon season but in other seasons too. Using your own ideas and those given in the unit 'Health and Medicine', write a letter to the Editor of a leading national daily, telling him what you think about these medical issues and what should be done to prevent them.

2. Gauri saw the following information regarding an exciting discovery. She decides to write a letter to the editor of a national daily about the advancement in science and its effect on our lives. Write the letter in 120 words using your own ideas and those in the unit 'Science' in the MCB.

### **DOWNSIZING TRANSMITTERS**

A radio transmitter as small as your thumb could be used to replace the gigantic mobile telephone masts. This will definitely change the structure of the world of telecommunication. This gadget has been designed by an electronics expert at Leeds university, England.

3. It is said "You educate a man; you educate a man. You educate a woman: you educate a generation". But you recently visited a village in Haryana and were shocked to see the condition of women. Men dominate and ill treat them. They are not even given the basic facilities and have no say in the family decisions. The reason according to you and others is illiteracy because girls are not allowed to get education and hence no nothing about their rights.

Using your own ideas and those given in the MCB unit 'Education', write a letter to the Editor of a leading national daily, telling him what you think about the condition of women and illiteracy and what should be done to set things right.

4. The discrimination on the basis of Caste and class is a major hurdle for National Integration of India. The people engaged in weakening the unity of the country tried desperately to create divisions and rifts in the name of caste, creed and culture.

Using your own ideas and those given in the MCB unit, 'National Integration', write a letter to the Editor of a leading national daily highlighting the significance of national integration.

5. In a world which is rapidly getting digitised, people depend on computers and related technologies for their entertainment too. This has led to a sharp decline in reading habits of children as well as adults. Write a letter to the Editor of a leading newspaper highlighting the 'Joys of Reading'.

## ARTICLE

*Word limit: 120 words*

*Marks: 5*

### Why do we write articles?

An article presents information on a variety of themes in a long and sustained piece of writing. It usually expresses diverse opinion on some issue of social interest.

### Points to remember

- Give a **title** at the top followed by the **writer's name**
- Title should catch a reader's attention and encapsulate the theme.
- The article should contain:
  - An **introduction** to the theme/topic (one paragraph)
  - Body -**causes/ effects/ present state of things** (two or three paragraphs)
  - Conclusion -**suggestions/ measures to improve the situation**, personal observations, predictions and summing up of the main points raised in the article.
- The article should be well **organized, systematic and coherent**.
- Write **simple, short sentences** with emphasis on flow and connectivity.
- Pay attention to **grammar, vocabulary and spellings**.
- Make your article as interesting as possible. Originality of ideas is required.
- Read newspaper articles regularly and be in touch with what's happening around the world.

- Write within the **word limit**.

**The recent ban on polybags in Delhi has sparked off a debate about the necessity and effectiveness of such a step. Write an article on the need to ban polybags.**

### BAN ON POLYBAGS

- By Pushpa

*The recent decision by the government to ban the use of polythene bags in shops and other commercial establishments is a step in the right direction. Though the consumers may face a problem initially as we have become used to the convenience of carrying goods in the light, cheap, durable and waterproof polybags. But their effect on the environment has been immensely harmful and to save the earth we have to find a solution to this menace.*

*The non-biodegradable polythene bags which have been used indiscriminately for the past twenty-five years or so in India have had irreversible consequences for the environment. These plastic bags are non-porous and hence choke the soil and suffocate the roots of plants. When disposed off they clog drains and the toxic chemicals in them make the soil unsuitable for plants to grow. Many cows and stray animals who feed on garbage dumps have suffered due to consumption of plastic bags. When used for storing food, the bags cause contamination of food and thus health hazards.*

*An alternative to the plastic bags has to be found. Many shopkeepers have started using cloth or jute bags but many are deterred as they are expensive options. The authorities have to ensure that these environment friendly options are available at low cost. Also, awareness amongst people is required so that as customers they refuse to accept plastic bags. Along with the ban the government should publish advertisements in the newspapers and in other forms of media informing people about the need of such a ban. Enforcement of such a ban would require active cooperation from the people.*

*The onus for saving the environment is on us. Many environment friendly decisions have to be taken by the government even though they may be unpopular. It is imperative that we take these steps now before it is too late to save our planet.*

1. Many precious lives are lost in road accidents. In most cases rash or negligent driving is the major cause. Using the points given below write an article on the topic, Prevent Road Accidents.

*Deaths on roads..... matter of serious concern.....losing dear ones..... Indian roads particularly notorious..... too many vehicles.... poor condition of roads..... non adherence to traffic regulations.... stringent traffic rules.....strict compliance.....punishment for non compliance.*

2. You are Anil/ Anita of Class X. You are quite impressed by the Cleanliness drive launched by the Indian Prime Minister. This campaign was officially launched on 2 October 2014 at Rajghat, New Delhi, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself cleaned a road. The campaign is India's biggest ever cleanliness drive and 3 million government employees and schools and college students of India participated in this event. It has been carried forward since then with famous people from all walks of life joining it. (Source: Wikipedia)

Using your own ideas and those given in the Unit '*Health and Medicine*', write an article for your school magazine highlighting the importance of Cleanliness.

3. You are disturbed when you witness that children are victims of many hateful factors. It is strange that a large chunk of children are still languishing in the hell of child labour. Though there are talks of abolishing child labour yet a lot more needs to be done. As Akhil/ Anahita write an article for "The Radius News" expressing your concern and the need to take concrete steps to abolish child labour.

4. Internet surfing, I-pads, Tabs, Mobile phones and other such gadgets are making us accustomed to digital world. Parents are now getting worried and feel that these might hamper their academics and also the social development of their child.

You are Rupen/ Rushika. Using your own ideas and those taken from the Unit '*Science*' of your Course book, write an article for your school magazine stating the benefits and the harmful effects of these gadgets.

5. Earlier, a journey to "Incredible India" was desired by most foreign tourists. But unfortunately India has now become synonymous with tourist harassment. Foreigners are afraid of coming to our country. It is becoming worse and it's imperative now to promote tourism and make it a safe destination for tourists.

As Salina/ Subir, write an article for your school magazine discussing this issue. Also discuss how important it is to promote tourism as it is an important source of earning foreign currency. Also use ideas given in the Unit '*Travel and Tourism*' of your Course book.

## SHORT STORY

**Word Limit: 150 words**

**Marks: 10**

**Begin with the basics of a short story:**

Once you've chosen an idea, you need to remember the basics of a short story before writing one. The steps to a good short story are:

- Introduction: introduce characters, setting, time, weather, etc.
- Initiating action: the point of a story that starts the rising action.
- Rising action: events leading up to the climax or turning point.
- Climax: the most intense point or turning point of the story.
- Falling action: your story begins to conclude.
- Resolution: a satisfying ending to the story in which the central conflict is resolved – or not! You don't have to write your short story in order. If you have an idea for a great conclusion, write it down. Move backward or forward from your starting idea (it may or may not be the

beginning of the story) and ask yourself questions. "What happened before this?" "What happens next?"

### **Find inspiration from real people:**

If you have trouble understanding or finding attributes of a character, turn to your life. You can easily borrow attributes of people you know or even strangers you notice.

- For example, you might notice that someone is always drinking coffee, talks in a loud, booming voice, is always typing away at the computer, etc. All of these observations would together make a very interesting character. Your character can even blend attributes of a number of people

### **Organize your thoughts:**

After you've prepared the basic elements of your story, it can be helpful to make some sort of time-line to help you decide what should happen when.

- Your story should consist at least of an introduction, initiating incident, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. You can draw or write a visual with very simple descriptions of what should happen in each of these stages. Having this done will help you keep focused when writing the story, and you can easily make changes to it, so that you are able to keep a steady flow as you write the full story.

*(source: <http://www.wikihow.com/Write-a-Short-Story>)*

1. Going for long walks has always been a passion with me. As usual I was walking in the thick green forest when I heard that voice.....
2. As the ticket inspector asked for the ticket, I dug my hand into my pocket.....
3. I was very tired and hungry. I looked around and to my surprise there was no one on the road. Suddenly, I saw a cottage on the other end of the road. I somehow reached there and knocked at the door, then .....
4. It was evening and I was already late. I increased my pace thinking mum would be livid. I took the turn to the next lane and saw a woman crying.....
5. It was getting dark and I was already late. I hastened my pace thinking mum would be livid. I took the turn into the next lane and saw a woman crying.....

## GRAMMAR

### Rules

#### ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

Examine the following sentences:

1 Anu has broken the window. (active)

The window was broken by Anu. (passive)

2 The company is launching a new car this year. (active)

A new car is being launched by the company. (passive)

In the above sentences, there are two major changes to be noted. Primarily, the subject and the object have exchanged their places and secondly the verbs have undergone a change. In an active voice sentence, the subject is active and in a passive voice sentence the subject is passive or inactive.

If the subject in the active voice sentence is unknown or unimportant or obvious, 'by+object' is omitted from the sentence in the passive voice.

We make milk from butter.

Butter is made from milk.

When a sentence has two objects, only one of the objects is taken to the subject position. The sentence can be changed into the passive in two ways:

Prakash told me a story. (active)

I was told a story by Prakash. (passive)

A story was told to me by Prakash.(passive)

When the verb in a sentence is intransitive, it cannot be changed into the passive form:

Snow falls in winter.

He left for Mumbai yesterday.

The children are enjoying themselves.

### SUBJECT VERB AGREEMENT

**The verb always agrees with the subject in number or person**

Lisa **loves** eating mangoes

They **love** playing chess

**Here are some rules to remember:**

- When the subject of a sentence is singular, the verb must also be singular. When the subject is plural, the verb must be plural.

Ex :Henry likes Deepak. (singular)

Henry and Deepak like Mary. (Plural)

- When the subject is of the phrase one of, followed by a plural noun, the verb is singular and agrees with one, which is singular.

Ex: one of the students in our class was praised by the teacher.

Priya is one of my best friends.

- When a sentence has two singular subjects joined by the conjunction and the verb must be plural.

Ex: Bishakha and Suman go to the same school

- When two or more nouns represent a compound name of one person or thing, then the compound is thought of as singular and takes a singular verb.

Ex: the horse and carriage is waiting at the door.

Slow and steady wins the race.

- When the subject is the introductory there, the verb agrees with the real subject that follows it.

Ex: there was a cruel king.

There are six teachers in our department.

- 'A lot of' and 'plenty of' take a plural verb when they denote number, they take a singular verb when they denote quantity or amount.

Ex: There is a lot of oil in Assam.

There are a lot of hill stations in our country.

Where are plenty of roses found?

There is plenty of water in the well.

- 'Both' always takes a plural.

Ex: both the hill stations were simply great.

- 'A number of' means 'several' or 'many' and is therefore always followed by a plural verb.

Ex: There have been a number of important incidents this year.

A large number of people are waiting to meet the prime minister.

- A singular collective noun like 'a herd of cattle', 'a team of players', 'a fleet of ships', 'a troop of soldiers' and 'a bunch of flowers' always takes a singular verb.

Ex: There was a herd of cattle in the middle of the road.

This is a lovely bunch of flowers.

A troop of soldiers is marching through the streets.

- A dozen takes a plural verb

Ex: there are a dozen shoes in the cupboard.

- A pair of when applies to things like scissors, shoes, trousers, where two components are always thought of together, takes a singular verb.

Ex: A pair of scissors is lying on the table.

- A plural word must take a plural verb.

Ex: The scissors are in the drawer.

His trousers were very fashionable.

- Class names such as clothing, footwear, scenery, crockery, fruit, hair, furniture, stationary are singular and must take a singular verb.

Ex: the furniture here is of the best quality.

Fruit is very good for health.

- News is always treated as singular so is advice, business and information.

Ex: the news is that the President will visit our school next week.

This is good advice.

- Names of certain diseases, sciences and branches of knowledge which end with s are also singular.

Ex: mumps is a painful disease.

Mathematics is my favourite subject.

- Some of or half of take a plural verb if the reference is to number but a singular verb if reference is to amount or quantity.

Ex: some of the boys are dishonest.

Half of the books were sold.

- Many refers to number is thus plural; much refers to amount so is singular.

Ex: many of the apples were rotten.

Much of the truth was not told.

- People, poultry, repairs, clergy, studies, and cattle are always in plural.

Ex: the people of our town are very educated.

The clergy have arrived.

The cattle were grazing in the field.

- When a plural number applies to distances, weights, heights or amounts of money , it is taken as a whole and is therefore treated as singular. Thus it takes a singular verb.

Ex: thousand miles is a long distance.

One lakh rupees is a lot of money.

- If the title of a book or the name of a house or a hotel is plural it takes a singular verb since it is only one title or one building.

Ex: The Adventures of Tom Sawyer is an interesting book.

- If two or more singular subjects are preceded by either , either of, neither, neither of, each , each of, everyone, many a, none, none of, nobody are somebody, the verb is the singular

Ex: Either Neetu or her brother has won the prize.

Everyone is equal in the eyes of god

Each of the boys has worked well.

Neither of them comes on time.

Somebody has stolen my aunt's purse.

Nobody is to be blamed.

#### IV. Reported Speech

Remember:

Speaker's words   Reported statement changes

present simple -----past simple

present continuous -----past continuous

past continuous-----past perfect continuous

present perfect/past simple-----past perfect

will-----would

shall -----should

is -----was

must -----had to

can -----could

tomorrow -----the next day/the following day

yesterday-----the day before

here -----there

this -----that

today -----that day

tonight ----- that night

last Tuesday -----the previous Tuesday

the day after tomorrow ----- in two days time

ago ----- before/previously

## WORKSHEET 1

### I. Complete the news stories accompanying the following headlines by filling in the blanks.

#### 1. Plane tyre bursts while landing

The passengers of an Air India flight had a narrow escape when a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ landing.

#### 2. Telephone calls to become expensive

Telephone calls ..... from 1<sup>st</sup> of July according to the MTNL  
spokesperson Mr. Rajesh Kapoor.

#### 3. Work on Metro commences on 21<sup>st</sup> August

....., said Mahesh Verma , chairperson of DMRC.

#### 4. 24 killed in terrorist attacks

About 24 people \_\_\_\_\_ when terrorists attacked a  
border check post in Poonch sector.

#### 5. PM to visit Russia

Prime Minister \_\_\_\_\_ November 2010.

### II. Rearrange the following to form meaningful sentences:

a. thirst-quenchers/ one/ of/ the/ best/ water melon/ in summer/ is

\_\_\_\_\_

b. the/ cultivated/in/ 96 countries/ it is/ around/ world

\_\_\_\_\_

c. grown/ about 5000 years/ first/ ago/ it/ in/ was/ Africa

\_\_\_\_\_

### III. Read the dialogue given below and complete the passage.

Interviewer: So, Why do you want to be a computer programmer?

Ravi: Well, I don't like working in a fast food restaurant and I want to make more money.

Interviewer: I see. Do you have any experience?

Ravi: No, but I am a fast learner.

Interviewer: What kind of a computer do you use?

Ravi: Computer? Uhm... let me see. I can use a Mac. I also used Windows 95 once.

Interviewer: We will get back to you.

Ravi Recently attended an interview for the selection for the post of computer programmer. At the interview he was asked \_\_\_\_\_ . To this he replied that \_\_\_\_\_ . When the interviewer asked \_\_\_\_\_ , he replied that \_\_\_\_\_ . Finally the interviewer wanted to know \_\_\_\_\_ . Ravi replied that \_\_\_\_\_ . Finally the interviewer said that \_\_\_\_\_ .

**IV. In the following passage there is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheets.**

The body could be consider a permanent furnace. \_\_\_\_\_

The food we take in is fuel, who the body burns up. \_\_\_\_\_

In these process, about 2500 calories are being used \_\_\_\_\_

Every day in the body. Its enough heat to bring 23 litres \_\_\_\_\_

of water to the boiling point! What happened to all \_\_\_\_\_

this heat in a body? If there weren't temperature \_\_\_\_\_

controls in the body, we could certainly think of ourself \_\_\_\_\_

as hot stuff! But we all know that the heat of the \_\_\_\_\_

body don't go up unless we are sick. We know \_\_\_\_\_

that our body heat remains at a average temperature \_\_\_\_\_

of 37 degrees centigrade. Perspiration are one of the \_\_\_\_\_

ways to keep our body furnace in a normal temperature \_\_\_\_\_

of 37 degrees centigrade.

**V. The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correct word against the correct blank numbers.**

In July, 2012, Physicists with CERN in Switzerland (a) \_\_\_\_\_

announces the discovery of a new subatomic particle (b) \_\_\_\_\_

that looked like the Higgs boson. The discovery and (c) \_\_\_\_\_

confirmations of this particle is crucial for (d) \_\_\_\_\_

scientists as it helps them complete his model of how (e) \_\_\_\_\_

the universe was formed.

**VI Choose the best word from the options given below to complete the following passage:**

Nasruddin returned (a) \_\_\_\_\_ the stable (b) \_\_\_\_\_ a long face. "I'm terribly sorry", he told Faruk but my donkey is psychic and she says the future doesn't bode well (c) \_\_\_\_\_ your relationship with her.

- |             |          |           |         |
|-------------|----------|-----------|---------|
| (a) i. with | ii from  | iii. in   | iv. by  |
| (b) i. by   | ii. from | iii. with | iv. for |
| (c) i. from | ii. for  | iii. in   | iv. To  |

**WORKSHEET 2**

**I. In the passage given below one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it in your answer sheets.**

The idea of police system to protect a city \_\_\_\_\_  
originated London. In 1737, a law was passed \_\_\_\_\_  
creating a police system 68 men. But as the \_\_\_\_\_  
city grew poverty increased, looting and rioting \_\_\_\_\_  
were soon out control in London. In 1829, \_\_\_\_\_  
Sir Robert Peel formed London Metropolitan Police \_\_\_\_\_  
with headquarters in Scotland Yard. \_\_\_\_\_  
This new force Peel \_\_\_\_\_  
had created was larger, better trained, and \_\_\_\_\_  
more highly disciplined any other \_\_\_\_\_  
police force ever been. \_\_\_\_\_

**II. In the following passage there is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheets.**

The electric cooker is ready with \_\_\_\_\_ is kept ready  
(a) lid and inner plate. Then one cup rice (a) \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) is washed in clean water. It is put the (b) \_\_\_\_\_  
(c) cooker two cups of water. The cooker (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
(d) is ready to switched on. The indicator (d) \_\_\_\_\_  
(e) is set twenty minutes. After it is (e) \_\_\_\_\_  
(f) switched, it is left to cool for (f) \_\_\_\_\_  
(g) few minutes before opening the lid .Care (g) \_\_\_\_\_  
(h) should be taken opening so that steam (h) \_\_\_\_\_  
coming out of the cooker does not scald the hand

**III. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences.**

1. alarming/ is assuming/ pollution/ proportions/ noise

---

2. speeding car/ it/ the wail/ could be/ of a fire engine/ or/ of thunder/ of the brakes/ the screech/ the roar/ of a

---

3. pollute/ as much as/ noise/ smoke/ our environment/ foul water/ and /dirty air/litter

---

4. cause/noise/ mental/ and/ illness/can/deafness

---

5. as it causes/ danger/ a person/ the body/ even while/ sleeps/ to noise/ causing/ reacts/ to his heart/ the blood vessels/ to expand

---

**IV. Read the passage given below and fill in each blank with one word only.**

Once upon a time, there lived a herd (a) \_\_\_\_\_ eighty thousand elephants (b) \_\_\_\_\_ the bottom of the majestic Himalayas. Their leader was a magnificent and rare white elephant who (c) \_\_\_\_\_ an extremely kind- hearted soul.

- |             |         |          |           |
|-------------|---------|----------|-----------|
| (a) i. with | ii of   | iii. for | iv. along |
| (b) i. in   | ii. of  | iii. at  | iv. on    |
| (c) i. is   | ii. was | iii. are | iv. were  |

**V. In the following passage there is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheets.**

Finally, one day,Sunita ran out in patience.	(a) _____	_____
Enough was enough. She decide to confront	b) _____	_____
Suruchi. She asked her why she was been nasty	(c) _____	_____
to her. She had done nothing to offend you. She	(d) _____	_____
knew the confrontation will mean the end of their	(e) _____	_____
relationship.		

### WORKSHEET 3

**I. In the passage given below one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it in your answer sheets.**

Cartoonists say that the cartoons make \_\_\_\_\_  
us laugh the most are fact the \_\_\_\_\_  
cartoons that are hardest make. Even \_\_\_\_\_  
celebrated cartoonists R K Laxman admit \_\_\_\_\_  
that a cartoon is not a piece of cake. Laxman \_\_\_\_\_  
says he has wait for over six hours \_\_\_\_\_  
which includes spending lot of time \_\_\_\_\_  
Scanning newspapers and TV channels before any idea strikes him.

**II. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences.**

1. the/is/ world/ wrestling/ oldest sports/ in/ the/ one/ of

\_\_\_\_\_

2. of/ Europe/ ancient/ people/ cave/ wrestling/ have/ been/ drawings/ in/ found

\_\_\_\_\_

3. television/ amateur wrestling/ very different/ the/ from/ is/ professional/ wrestling/  
on/ seen/ the

\_\_\_\_\_

4. sport/ not/ money/ amateur wrestlers/ do/ wrestle/ love/ for/ they /wrestle/ for the  
/of the

\_\_\_\_\_

5. the/ Olympics/ the top goal/ nearly/ at/ every/ of/ is/ to compete/ amateur wrestler

\_\_\_\_\_

**III. Fill in the blanks with one word only.**

Four persons were injured (a) \_\_\_\_\_ the demonstration. Three (b) \_\_\_\_\_ them are students (c) \_\_\_\_\_ the university, the fourth is here for a holiday.

- (a) i. from                      ii at                      iii. of                      iv. on  
(b) i. in                      ii. of                      iii. off                      iv. at  
(c) i. in                      ii. at                      iii. of                      iv. into

**IV. Complete the following based on the conversation given below:**

Suresh: Can I go for shopping now?

Shyam: No, you can't.

Suresh: Why do you stop me?

Shyam: Because you have not completed your home work.

Suresh: Oh! Completing the HW will take another 4 hrs.

Suresh asked whether (a) \_\_\_\_\_ Shyam said (b)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Then Suresh wanted to know  
(c) \_\_\_\_\_ Shyam replied that he (d)  
\_\_\_\_\_

**V. The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correct word against the correct blank numbers:**

Dolphins are highest intelligent marine mammals (a) \_\_\_\_\_  
and is a part of the family of the toothed (b) \_\_\_\_\_  
whales that including Orcas and pilot whales. (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
they are found worldwide, mostly inside (d) \_\_\_\_\_  
shallow seas of a continental shelves and (e) \_\_\_\_\_  
are carnivores, mostly eating fishes and squid. (f) \_\_\_\_\_  
Dolphin colouration varied, but they (g) \_\_\_\_\_  
are generally grey in colour of darker (h) \_\_\_\_\_  
backs than the rest of there bodies. (i) \_\_\_\_\_

**WORKSHEET 4**

**I. Complete the passage by filling in the blanks with the most appropriate word:**

Thoughts are magnetic and thoughts (a) \_\_\_\_\_ a frequency. As you think those thoughts are sent out (b) \_\_\_\_\_ the universe and magnetically attract all like things that are there on (c) \_\_\_\_\_ same frequency.

- |             |         |          |             |
|-------------|---------|----------|-------------|
| (a) i. are  | ii have | iii. had | iv. will be |
| (b) i. into | ii. in  | iii. to  | iv. across  |
| (c) i. the  | ii. a   | iii. all | iv. at      |

**II. In the following passage there is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheets.**

Most of us have experience prejudice \_\_\_\_\_  
for some way during our lives. It may \_\_\_\_\_  
have be name-calling, being left out \_\_\_\_\_  
in activities or bullying. Some of these \_\_\_\_\_  
incidents hurt but is soon forgotten. \_\_\_\_\_  
Others left the deep impression on \_\_\_\_\_  
our minds that affected us for much \_\_\_\_\_  
years. Others' attitude can make them \_\_\_\_\_  
difficult for a student to succeeding. \_\_\_\_\_

**III. In the passage given below one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it in your answer sheets.**

Children love picnics and outings of their parents \_\_\_\_\_  
though they are equally happier doing things with \_\_\_\_\_  
them around the house. A parent may make \_\_\_\_\_  
his child feels special by following some simple \_\_\_\_\_  
rituals. Bedtime stories, the game of cards or \_\_\_\_\_

simply talking and laugh together before going to \_\_\_\_\_  
bed- some give children a wonderful sense \_\_\_\_\_  
of well being. They hardly ever forgot these moments \_\_\_\_\_  
and cherish them throughout these lives. \_\_\_\_\_

**IV. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences.**

a. starts/the family/a/ is the/education/teacher/ from/of/ and/child/ mother/first

\_\_\_\_\_

b. number/are/in India/of/illiterate/but/uncountable/women

\_\_\_\_\_

c. their/in the /celebrated/the birth/daughter/never/early Vedic/people/of a  
/neglected/son/their/period/but

\_\_\_\_\_

d. and/a/during/the daughters/the scene/burden/the later/ were/burden/Vedic  
Age/considered/changed/social

\_\_\_\_\_

## WORKSHEET 5

### I. Fill in the blanks with one word only.

1. South Asia is blessed with a \_\_\_\_\_ of perennial rivers rising \_\_\_\_\_ the Himalayas. The icy region has a \_\_\_\_\_ number of glaciers. These glaciers are the reservoirs, feeding the great \_\_\_\_\_ of South Asia. But due to global warming these \_\_\_\_\_ are melting and in the process may unleash devastating floods. The same process will \_\_\_\_\_ to the drying up of perennial rivers. It has also been \_\_\_\_\_ that in 40 years there will be no glaciers. Scientists have \_\_\_\_\_ that the glaciers in the Himalayas are retreating.

2. The joint family system has \_\_\_\_\_ drastic changes in recent times. Unlike the \_\_\_\_\_ when grandparents, uncles, their wives and the children used to live under \_\_\_\_\_ roof, now the system of \_\_\_\_\_ families has become the order of the day. \_\_\_\_\_ factors have led to the disintegration of the joint family system. The most \_\_\_\_\_ is urbanization. The employment opportunities for the youth are far \_\_\_\_\_ in the urban areas because of the setting up of the industries. Property disputes are another \_\_\_\_\_ for people's preference for settling away. Sour relations \_\_\_\_\_ mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law have forced many people to opt for an independent \_\_\_\_\_. The people today are much more individualistic \_\_\_\_\_ they were earlier. As a result of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the joint family system, the aged have lost \_\_\_\_\_ traditional source of economic, moral and social support.

### II. In the following passage there is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheets.

Life was not as it seems to be. \_\_\_\_\_

It is full of up and downs. The grass \_\_\_\_\_

always look greener on the other side. \_\_\_\_\_

We have a habit to grumbling. \_\_\_\_\_

We are ever satisfied. We \_\_\_\_\_

make our lives misery by \_\_\_\_\_

expectation too much from everyone. \_\_\_\_\_

This is what we face disappointment. \_\_\_\_\_

So never expect nothing and be happy. \_\_\_\_\_

**III. In the passage given below one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it in your answer sheets**

She one of those pretty, charming \_\_\_\_\_  
young ladies, born, as if an \_\_\_\_\_  
error destiny, into a family of clerks. \_\_\_\_\_  
She no dowry, no hopes, no means \_\_\_\_\_  
of known, appreciated, loved and \_\_\_\_\_  
married by man either rich or \_\_\_\_\_  
distinguished; so allowed herself \_\_\_\_\_  
to marry a petty clerk the office \_\_\_\_\_  
of Board of Education. \_\_\_\_\_

**IV. Rearrange the following group of words and phrases in correct order to form meaningful sentences**

1. pose/the hazards/numerous/plastics/are  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. the unhygienic/scene/bag garbage/presents/the plastic/an ugly  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. in these bags/their way/the "Throwaway culture"/finding/drainage/results/in to the city/system  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. drains/the cost of/as a result/maintaining/get blocked/it increases/and  
\_\_\_\_\_

**V. Read the passage given below and fill in each blank choosing the correct options given in brackets.**

Indifference a) \_\_\_\_\_ (at, towards, to, with) the choice of books is, of course, a mistake but giving too much importance to it is equally wrong. We can't lay b) \_\_\_\_\_ (up, on, along, down) any hard and fast rules about reading, c) \_\_\_\_\_ (neither, either, never, nor) can always read according to a plan either.

**VI. Complete the following passage by choosing the most appropriate options from the ones given below. Write your answers in the answer sheets against the correct blank number. Do not copy the entire passage.**

The history of man is replete (a) \_\_\_\_\_ crime and folly. Wars between nations, religious prosecutions, ethnic cleansing and other forms of genocide (b) \_\_\_\_\_ a heavy toll of human lives. The Spanish conquest of South America was (c) \_\_\_\_\_ by the extinction of millions of 'natives' through killings and disease.

- |     |       |              |      |             |
|-----|-------|--------------|------|-------------|
| (a) | (i)   | with         | (ii) | of          |
|     | (iii) | as           | (iv) | at          |
| (b) | (i)   | have taken   | (ii) | has taken   |
|     | (iii) | was taken    | (iv) | taken       |
| (c) | (i)   | accomplished | (ii) | accompanied |
|     | (iii) | associated   | (iv) | allowed     |

**VII. The following paragraph has not been edited. One word had been omitted in each line. Write the omitted word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after in your answer sheet against the correct blank number as shown in the example.**

	Before omitted	after
The Braille system is one the	e.g. one	of the
most widely used alphabet the blind.	(a)	_____
had helped many blind people to enjoy	(b)	_____
the pleasures reading and writing	(c)	_____
In fact, today there are a hundred	(d)	_____
Braille magazines newspapers.	(e)	_____
There are 'Talking Books' the blind.	(f)	_____
These are long-playing records books.	(g)	_____
There also special 'Talking Books'.	(h)	_____
for the blind children.		

## WORKSHEET 6

**I. Read the following conversation and fill in the blanks to complete the passage given below: (3 marks)**

Woman : Can I speak to Paul, please?  
Peter : Paul has gone out. I don't know when he'll be back. Do you want to leave a message?  
Woman : I'll try again.  
A woman phoned at lunch time yesterday and asked (a) \_\_\_\_\_.  
Peter told her (b) \_\_\_\_\_ and he further (c) \_\_\_\_\_ but she said that she would try again later.

**II. Complete the passage given below by choosing the correct alternatives:**

There is no doubt that fish as food (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (am/ is/ are/ was) very good for us. Not only (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (does/ did/ do/ done) it contains proteins, important vitamins and minerals (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (and/ or/ but/ as) it is also low in fat and calories. In white fish (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (a/ an/ the/ there) fat content can be low as 15 or 25 and (e) \_\_\_\_\_ (an/ their/ that/ this) average serving provides at least one third of the daily recommended amount (f) \_\_\_\_\_ (in/ on/ of/ at) niacin which is vital for healthy skin.

**III. In the passage given below, there is one error in each line. Write the mistake and the correct word in your answer sheet against the correct blank. The first one has been done for you.**

	Incorrect	Correct
Millions of birds who live	who	which
in the planet have some sort of language	a. _____	_____
through which they communicate. They dont	b. _____	_____
have speech as we do but had particular	c. _____	_____
sounds and action through which they convey	d. _____	_____
their feelings to other birds. The laws of Nature our	e. _____	_____
beyond humans understanding and have bestowed on	f. _____	_____
every living being traits by which it can communicate.		

**IV. In the following passage there is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheets.**

All life on earth can ultimately been \_\_\_\_\_  
traced back on the sea. Creatures \_\_\_\_\_

have limbs or fingers rather than fins \_\_\_\_\_  
 has evolved from fishes about 335million \_\_\_\_\_  
 years before, and this evolution still \_\_\_\_\_  
 remain a mystery. The new fossil \_\_\_\_\_  
 find in rock formation near Scotland \_\_\_\_\_  
 provides one of the few clue to what \_\_\_\_\_  
 has been happening on these 30 million years. \_\_\_\_\_

**V. The following paragraph has not been edited. One word is missing in each line. Write the missing word along with the word which comes before and the word which comes after it. Underline the missing word. The first one has been done as an example.**

	Before	Missing	After
Buddha taught people many	e.g. people	<u>in</u>	many
different ways. He taught children telling	(a)	_____	_____
stories. He gave detailed explanations the	(b)	_____	_____
path to the wise. To others, taught without	(c)	_____	_____
speaking any words all.			

**VI. Read the conversation given below and fill in the blanks that follow:**

Anish: Where are we going to have our dinner?

Reena: Shall we go to the Smarat Hotel?

Anish: I'm afraid, I haven't got enough money to go to a five star hotel.

Anish and Reena were discussing their plan for dinner. Anish asked Reena (a) \_\_\_\_\_ . Reena suggested (b) \_\_\_\_\_ . But Anish hesitated saying (c) \_\_\_\_\_ to go to a five star hotel.

**VII. Read the following passage. Fill in the blanks with appropriate word. (1x 3 = 3 marks)**

Kathy has penned (a) \_\_\_\_\_ book titled 'The Ashes of the Prey', a thriller novel (b) \_\_\_\_\_ a lawyer (c) \_\_\_\_\_ runs into piles of trouble after an accident.

## WORKSHEET 7

### I. Read the passage and fill in the blanks with one of the given options:

To achieve true happiness (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (of, for, at, in) work there are other things worth striving (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (at, for, of, in) besides a fat pay cheque. In a recent poll, one third (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (among, for, in, of) the workers said a flexible schedule (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (was, is, among, are) one of the most important factors (e) \_\_\_\_\_ (for, of, in, at) job satisfaction. Rank and title (f) \_\_\_\_\_ (may, also, will, would) make employees feel important and respected.

### II. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences.

1. closed seasons/ many communities/ follow/ traditional practices/ of forest dwellers/ of maintaining/ and fishermen

---

---

2. as no hunting/ the wildlife population/ its numbers/ or fishing/ during this time/ can recoup/ is allowed

---

---

3. have been/ and social customs/ because of/ many species/ centuries/ conserved/ such religious/ through the

---

---

4. of living beings/ conservation of/ large mammals/ to maintain/ will help/ the entire web

---

---

5. practices /these /can save/ the / from /traditional /disaster/environment/complete

---

---

### III. Read the following conversation and complete the passage.

Patient: Doctor, I think I am going mad.  
Doctor: Why do you think so?  
Patient: I have started writing letters to myself.  
Doctor: When did you write the last one?  
Patient: Yesterday, doctor.  
Doctor: What have you written in it?  
Patient: I don't know! I haven't received it yet!

The patient told the doctor \_\_\_\_\_ . The doctor asked \_\_\_\_\_ . The patient replied \_\_\_\_\_ .

\_\_\_\_\_. The doctor wanted to know \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_. The patient told him \_\_\_\_\_. The  
doctor enquired \_\_\_\_\_. The patient  
exclaimed \_\_\_\_\_.

**IV. The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correct word against the correct blank numbers:**

Education provides a essential qualification (a) \_\_\_\_\_  
to fulfilling certain economic, political and cultural (b) \_\_\_\_\_  
functions and improves woman's socio-economic status. (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
it brings reduction of inequalities. If their (d) \_\_\_\_\_  
standard of living has improved, (e) \_\_\_\_\_  
they will indirectly uplift the level of the society. (f) \_\_\_\_\_  
if they are financially strongest, they will take proper (g) \_\_\_\_\_  
care of their children while provide them with good education. (h) \_\_\_\_\_

**V. Read the following passage. Fill in the blanks with appropriate word. (1x 3 = 3 marks)**

We all drink coffee (a) \_\_\_\_\_ pleasure. It is an inspirational drink that has become aspirational. Coffee (b) \_\_\_\_\_ us alert and therefore helps us perform (c) \_\_\_\_\_ reduce stress.

**VI. Complete the following passage choosing the correct options given in brackets.**

Indifference a) \_\_\_\_\_ (at, towards, to, with) the choice of books is, of course, a mistake but giving too much importance to it is equally wrong. We can't lay b) \_\_\_\_\_ (up, on, along, down) any hard and fast rules about reading, c) \_\_\_\_\_ (neither, either, never, nor) can always read according to a plan either.

**VII. Expand the following headlines:**

**a) CHEMICAL IN PLASTICS AFFECTS INTESTINE**

The chemical Bisphenol A used in plastic containers and drinking cans \_\_\_\_\_ as per a French study.

**b) EXPERT HAILS INDIA'S NUCLEAR CAPACITY**

Dr. Morris Rosen, an expert of the International Atomic Energy (IAEA), \_\_\_\_\_ while visiting the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board yesterday.

**c) MANY CASES OF POLIO DETECTED IN INDIA**

Despite serious efforts of the government many \_\_\_\_\_

**WORKSHEET 8**

**I. In the following passage there is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheets. (1/2 x 8 = 4 marks)**

	Incorrect word	correct word
Contrary by the popular belief, the dreaded Aedes	by	to
i. mosquito, the carrier of the many feared Dengue	_____	_____
ii. virus, stricken between dawn and dusk.	_____	_____
iii. Much conventional types strike usually at night.	_____	_____
iv. The Aedes mosquito must breed anywhere near	_____	_____
v. your home by tin cans, coconut shells, piles	_____	_____
vi. of garbage or even in your flower vase. Which	_____	_____
vii. is more important is that they breeds in fresh water	_____	_____
viii. and it can be stop from breeding by keeping the	_____	_____
surroundings of your house clean		

**II. In the passage given below one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it in your answer sheets.**

To criticize means consider the	_____
merits and demerits something	_____
and judge it accordingly. Your	_____
judgement is prime importance	_____
critical writing. It involves a	_____
close analysis the topic in	_____
question, followed evaluation.	_____
One should try comment critically.	_____

**III. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences. (1x3=3 marks)**

(a) marshland/ ecosystem/ under/ urbanization/ Delhi's/ threat/ last/ is/ from

\_\_\_\_\_

(b) dheerpur/ site/ north/ close/ located/ in/ the/ Delhi/ is/ Yamuna/ to/ the/ at

\_\_\_\_\_

(c) wetland/ aquatic/ and/ birds/ that/ marshland/ plants/ attract/ have

---

**IV. Read the conversation given below and complete the passage that follows:**

Jatin: Will you come with me to watch a movie tonight?

Vikram: I would have but I need to finish my English homework.

Jatin: Then I shall ask Ravi.

Jatin asked Vikram (a) \_\_\_\_\_. Vikram replied that he would have but (b) \_\_\_\_\_. Jatin then said (c) \_\_\_\_\_.

**V. Rearrange the following to form meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example.**

a) every day/gives us/what/much more than/can buy/a/money/little mediation

---

b) methods of mediation / different temperaments / so many/have been developed / wonderful / to suit

---

---

c) With / by linking us / they / attain / our inner selves / equanimity / help us

---

---

**VI. In the following report there is an error in each line. Write the mistake along with your answer against the correct blank number in your answer sheet. First one is done as an example: (3 marks)**

New Delhi, Oct 24

A Madhya Pradesh Court in Monday sentenced a tantrik for death for the gruesome murder of a person under Ujjain six day ago. The tantrik had Killed Amit Jain's father which was a jeweller. After killing he the tantrik ran off with Rs. 2 lakhs. These case is referred to CBI by the local police.

<i>Incorrect</i>	<i>Correct</i>
in	on
a)_____	_____
b)_____	_____
c)_____	_____
d)_____	_____
e)_____	_____
f)_____	_____

## WORKSHEET 9

### 1. Read the following conversation and complete the passage.

Scientist : God, we have decide we no longer need you. We can clone people, transplant hearts and do all kinds of things which were once considered miraculous.

God: All right, to see whether or not you still need me, why don't we have a man-making contest?

Scientist: Okay, Great!

God: We are going to do this just like I did it in the old days with Adam.

Scientist: That's fine. Let me scoop up a handful of mud.

God: Wait! Not so fast pal. Get your own mud.

The scientist approached God and told him \_\_\_\_\_. God patiently heard him out and then suggested \_\_\_\_\_. The scientist agreed. God said that \_\_\_\_\_. The scientist accepted the challenge and said \_\_\_\_\_. Shaking his head in disapproval God told him \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

### II. The following passage has not been edited. Find the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet. The first one has been done as an example: (½ x 8 = 4 marks)

	Before	Word	After
i. The telephone there for your convenience, not			_____
ii. for convenience of your callers. Yet, as soon as			_____
iii. we hear the phone ring, we act if we are fire fighters			_____
iv. rushing to a fire- alarm fire. We run pick it up as if			_____
v. our lives depended on the call being answered once.			_____
I have seen people interrupt quiet family dinners,			
vi. dedicated reading times meditation periods to answer			_____
vii. those seemingly urgent phone calls, many which turn out			_____
viii. to be ones could have been taken later.			_____

### III. In the passage given below one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it in your answer sheets

The television has always very controversial. \_\_\_\_\_

While the positive aspects the electronic \_\_\_\_\_

media innumerable, their negative \_\_\_\_\_

impact children cannot be denied. \_\_\_\_\_

For new piece of information that \_\_\_\_\_

a child learns the discovery or National \_\_\_\_\_

Geographic Channel, are also \_\_\_\_\_

unrealistic stunt shows parents dislike. \_\_\_\_\_

Computers and TV have students to lose \_\_\_\_\_

interest studies. \_\_\_\_\_

**IV. Compete the following conversation between a secretary and her boss in a suitable way.**

Boss : Mary, why haven't you put away the files as yet ?

Mary : Sir, I am sorry. I was just going to do it today.

Boss : (a) \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Mary : I was waiting (b) \_\_\_\_\_ .

Boss : (c) \_\_\_\_\_ .

Mary : It was supposed to come this morning .

Boss : (d) \_\_\_\_\_ .

Mary : I will just call up and ask them.

**V. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences.**

1. is it/ that / attracts/ so many/ to it/ about prayers/ people/ what/ \_\_\_\_\_
2. offer/ peace/ of hope/ and/ of mind/ a lot/ prayers \_\_\_\_\_
3. anything/ the faith/ they give/ to believe/ can/ that/ happen/ you \_\_\_\_\_
4. an/ ought/ with/ honest/ heart/ offered/ prayers/ to be \_\_\_\_\_
5. modern /are losing/ prayers / interest in / people /world/ in the \_\_\_\_\_

## Literary Terms & Poetic Devices

Imagery is the use of language to represent experiences of the senses --- what can be seen, heard, touched, tasted, and smelt. With vivid, skilful imagery, poets and other writers can evoke deeply felt responses from the reader.

When you find a reference to some person, character, or event—real or fictional, past or present – you have encountered an allusion. It can come from literature, myth, history or even any religious book. Have you heard of the expression ‘sour grapes?’ This expression refers to a fable in which a fox who could not reach a bunch of grapes said they were probably sour anyway.

A figure of speech, in which two basically unlike things are directly compared, usually with like or as, is called a simile. A writer sees and brings out the likeness in the two items in a fresh and clear way.

A metaphor is an implied comparison between things essentially unlike, often with no clue words. It does not use the words like or as. It is not always confined to poetry: it occurs even in daily conversation. You may refer to a studious classmate as a ‘bookworm’ and someone who is speechless may be called ‘tongue-tied.’

In poetry, exaggeration is called hyperbole. In advertising, similar exaggeration is called hype. For example you might read a claim that you can ‘recapture the magic of childhood’ by buying a certain collector’s doll that is a ‘big’ seven inches high. Another good example is ‘I’m so hungry I could eat a bear,’ or ‘He cried his eyes out.’

Alliteration is the repetition of initial and stressed sounds at the beginning of words or in stressed syllables of words. A common example is tongue twisters. Alliteration is popular in our language (safe and sound, rough and ready, through thick and thin) because it gives pleasure in itself. But it is also used, where possible, to echo the sense and provide emphasis. It creates melody, establishes mood, calls attention to certain words and points to similarities and contrasts.

Onomatopoeia is the use of words having sounds that suggest their meaning or which imitate the sound associated with them.

Tone is the author’s or poet’s attitude, stated or implied, towards a subject or audience. The tone can be serious, indignant, angry, sad, humorous.

Personification is when human characteristics are assigned to nonhuman things.

Irony is in general, a contrast between what really is and what appears to be. You have probably heard the expression ‘Thanks a lot!’ used sarcastically, spoken in a way to mean, ‘Thanks for – nothing.’ You might have come in from a snowstorm and remarked, ‘Nice day, uh?’ In each case you are saying one thing while meaning another, often emphasizing that meaning by the tone of your voice.

**Identify what literary / poetic device the underlined words refer to:**

a) Nothing is so beautiful as spring---

When weeds, in wheels, shoot long and lovely and lush

Thrush's eggs look little low heavens.... \_\_\_\_\_

b) The Romeo whistled at the pretty girl. "Will you be my Juliet?" he called. \_\_\_\_\_

c) He looked at her and gave his heart away. \_\_\_\_\_

d) As he got out of his strawberry- coloured car, his immense fists looked like two slabs of slightly gnawed ham. He waddled over to the counter and snarled under his garlic-laden breath.... \_\_\_\_\_

e) She pushes cloth

through a pounding needle, under,

around, and out,

breaks thread with a snap

againstfingertbone.

Sleeve after sleeve, sleeve.

It is easy. The same piece.

For eight or nine hours, sixteen bundles maybe

250 sleeves to ski coats, all the same.

It is easy. \_\_\_\_\_

f) To him the moon was a silver dollar, spun

into the sky by some mysterious hand; the sun

was a golden coin... \_\_\_\_\_

g) The moan of doves in immemorial elms,

The murmuring of innumerable bees \_\_\_\_\_

h) Till last by Philip's farm I flow

## SECTION C- LITERATURE

### Lesson 1: Two Gentlemen of Verona

- A J Cronin

Two Gentlemen of Verona, by A J Cronin, is the touching story of Jacopo and Nicola, two brothers aged 12 and 13 who do odd jobs and live a hard life themselves to sustain and treat their elder sister Lucia who is suffering from tuberculosis of the spine.

A J Cronin uses the title of William Shakespeare's famous play, The Two Gentlemen of Verona in an ironic manner. Cronin's portrayal of these modern "gentlemen" of Verona re-defines the concept of what it means to be a gentleman, Cronin shows us that one may polish boots or sell newspapers, but it is the magnanimity of heart and the nobleness of purpose that actually determines whether one is a true "gentleman".

#### Short answer questions (30 - 40 words)

1. What happened to their father?
2. How were the boys thrown to the street?
3. Although Nicola and Jacopo are young boys, the author refers to them as gentlemen. Why does he do so?
4. How did the war affect the boys?
5. The two boys impacted the author by their presence. Why and how?

#### Sample Question and Answer

6. Who was Lucia? What is her role in the story?  
Lucia was Jacopo and Nicola's sister. She was fighting the deadly disease of tuberculosis in a sanatorium a few kilometres outside Verona. She fulfils an important function in the plot - that of a tool used by the narrator to bring forth the humanity and the gentlemanly behaviour of the two boys, who have been tempered by the brutal steel of war.

#### Long answer questions (100 words)

1. Tough days never last but tough people do. Explain this statement with reference to the two boys.
2. The boys show great sense of self respect even in the most adverse circumstances. Instead of resorting to begging, they do brisk work to survive. Together they redefine the meaning of chivalry and gentlemanly behaviour. Based on the above statement, justify the title of this chapter by giving suitable examples.
3. 'Man is both the creator and a victim of war' On the basis of your reading of the story 'The Two Gentlemen of Verona', write a paragraph discussing the phenomenon of war, man's role in espousing hatred and its consequences.

## Lesson 2: Mrs.Packletide's Tiger

*-Saki*

In 'Mrs.Packletide's Tiger,' Saki (H.H. Munro) tackles the Victorian-Edwardian fascination with wild-game hunting, as well as the timeless drive to keep up with the Joneses. In this case, the person with whom Mrs.Packletide must 'keep up' is not named Jones, but Mrs.Bimberton. Mrs.Bimberton has recently travelled in one of those new-fangled contraptions, the airplane, piloted by an Algerian aviator. As a result, she has become the toast of British-occupied India.

Mrs.Packletide, her greatest rival, cannot stand this. What great feat could she accomplish that would render Mrs.Bimberton's meager by comparison? She decides to shoot a tiger. Fortunately, she has enough money to accomplish almost anything she wishes, and she offers a reward of a thousand rupees to anyone, or any group, that can assist her in reaching her goal. A nearby native village takes up the challenge. As it happens, a very elderly tiger, who is no longer able to chase down antelopes for supper, has taken to preying on the village's domesticated animals, and the villagers would like to get rid of him as much as Mrs.Packletide would like to bag him.

So the villagers construct a platform in a leafy tree for Mrs.Packletide, and strategically tether a goat 'with a particularly persistent bleat' underneath it. Armed with a rifle, Mrs.Packletide, accompanied by her paid companion Louisa, waits through the night for the tiger to appear. At last the tiger is seen making his way into the clearing. Instead of attacking the terrified goat, however, the tiger lies down. 'I believe it's ill,' Louisa says, but the tiger rises again and heads for the goat. Mrs.Packletide fires, and the tiger falls.

When the smoke clears, however, it is apparent that it was the goat that Mrs.Packletide shot; the tiger has died of a heart attack. The villagers will not give away Mrs.Packletide's secret, for they are a thousand rupees richer. Mrs.Packletide assumes she can trust Louisa for the same reason.

But Louisa, who seems to felt herself underpaid and underappreciated for some time, informs Mrs.Packletide that she'll require a little extra funding to insure that the story doesn't happen to leak out. Specifically, what Louisa needs is the money to buy a small cottage near Dorking. People are very surprised when Louisa, a humble paid companion, suddenly becomes a homeowner; but they are even more surprised when Mrs.Packletide gives up her newfound hobby, big-game hunting. 'The initial expenses are so heavy,' she tells those who ask the reason.

### Multiple Choice Questions:

1. The tiger died from
  - a. Fear
  - b. Loud sound of the gun
  - c. Heart failure

d. Bullet wound

2. Louisa Mebbin got the villa by

- a. Extortion
- b. Blackmailing
- c. Goodwill
- d. Threat
- e. All the above

3. Mrs.Packletide invited Loona Bimberton and the rest of her friends to:

- a. Honour Mrs.Loona Bimberton
- b. For self glorification
- c. To gift Loona Bimberton a tiger-claw brooch
- d. To show off her hospitality

4. Nimrod is mentioned in the story because:

- a. Mrs.Packletide worshipped Nimrod
- b. He was Mrs.Packletide's inspiration to organize hunting
- c. Nimrod was a tiger hunter
- d. Just because Nimrod was a hunter

5. The most striking weakness of the tiger that resulted in his easy death was that:

- a. It was deaf
- b. It was old and infirmed
- c. It had a weak heart
- d. It could not run away
- e. A and D
- f. B and C

### **Short Answer Questions(30 - 40 words)**

#### **Sample Questions and Answers.**

1. Why did Mrs.Packletide decide to shoot a tiger?

Mrs.Packletide's arch rival Mrs.Loona Bimberton had flown in an airplane for eleven miles and this was the talk of the town. In order to achieve something else and thereby to enhance her glory, Mrs.Packletide decided to shoot a tiger which was a very rare act by a woman at that time.

2. Who was Nimrod? Explain, "her sudden deviation towards the footsteps of Nimrod."

A character in the Old Testament of the Bible, Nimrod was a hunter. Mrs.Packletide's deviation towards Nimrod's footsteps refers to her thinking of killing a tiger.

### Answer the following questions

1. Mrs. Packletide arranged a lunch ostensibly in Loona Bimberton's honour. What does ostensibly here tell about Mrs. Packletide's intentions?
2. Why is the tiger in the story considered to be the most suited one for Mrs. Packletide's plan?
3. What were the two instincts that rendered the villagers to accept Mrs. Packletide's offer of a thousand rupees?
4. Why were children posted on the outskirts of the jungle?
5. Why were cheaper kinds of goats left about with elaborate carelessness near the infirm tiger?
6. Why is the goat's bleat said to have been a gift?
7. Why did mothers carrying their babies home through the jungle after the day's work in the fields hush their singing?
8. What was Louisa Mebbin's 'protective elder-sister' attitude? Give an example for this while she served Mrs. Packletide.
9. What did the tiger do when it sighted the tethered goat? Why did it do so?
10. Why did Miss Mebbin want the goat unhurt?
11. Who discovered that the tiger had died of a heart failure? Why did it annoy Mrs. Packletide? Why was it 'pardonable'?
12. Why were the villagers ready to connive at the fiction that the tiger had been shot dead?
13. Why did Mrs. Packletide face the press cameras with a light heart?
14. Why did Loona Bimberton refuse to look at an illustrated paper for weeks?
15. How did Bimberton thank Mrs. Packletide for the tiger claw brooch?
16. "There are limits beyond which repressed emotions become dangerous." Explain with reference.
17. Why did Miss Louisa Mebbin say that everyone would be amused if they knew the tiger had not really been shot dead? Was Miss Mebbin trying to give Mrs. Packletide away? How?
18. Miss Mebbin was the villain who ultimately drew benefit out of a rivalry that existed between Loona and Packletide. Discuss.

19. Depict the instances of humour in the chapter, Mrs. Packletide's tiger?

**Reference to the context.**

1. Louisa Mebbin's pretty week-end cottage, christened by her "Les Fauves" and gay in summer-time with its garden borders of tiger-lilies, is the wonder and admiration of her friends.

- A. How did Louisa manage to buy the cottage?
- B. What is the irony behind the name of Louisa's cottage? Why do you think she planted tiger-lilies on the border?
- C. Why is her cottage a source of wonder and amazement for her friends?

2. "No one would believe it," said Mrs.Packletide, her face changing colour as rapidly as though it were going through a book of patterns before post-time. "Loona Bimberton would," said Miss Mebbin. Mrs.Packletide's face settled on an unbecoming shade of greenish white.

- A. What wouldn't anyone believe in Mrs.Packletide's opinion?
- B. Why did her face change its color?
- C. Why is the rapidity of Mrs.Packletide's changing colour compared to that of going through a book of patterns before post time?
- D. What hidden threat lay in Miss Mebbin's mentioning Loona Bimberton's name?

**Long Answer Questions (100 words)**

1. Mrs.Packletide and Ms.Loona Bimberton are shown to be self-centred and materialistic women. They represent the hypocrisy prevalent in the upper class of society. Discuss this issue in light of the lesson "Mrs.Packletide's Tiger".

2. Mrs.Packletide manages to win the battle with Loona Bimberton, but is blackmailed by her paid companion Loona Bimberton. She realizes that the incidental expenses are too high. Elaborate the statement: *Pride hath a fall.*

3. Do you agree with the view that the author ridicules the pretentious nature of the upper class of the prevailing society? Justify your answer.

4. Greed for money makes the people do the strangest of things ever possible. Mrs. Packletide's tiger highlights the aspect of man's greed and how it happens to rule us. Discuss this in context of the villagers.

### Lesson 3: The Letter

*-Dhumaketu*

“The Letter” is a story written by “Gaurishankar Govardhandas Josh”, popularly known as Dhumaketu, a famous Indian writer. The story tells “How the feelings and emotions of a man should be taken care of”. What would be the consequences if anybody’s emotions are hurt”? “The patience exerted by an old man for waiting letter from his daughter and hoping till his death”.

The story begins with a man named “Coachman Ali” who is walking towards a post office as usual in the cold morning bearing tattered clothes. A deathly silence prevails all around. On reaching the post office, he seems to be as happy as a pilgrim would be on reaching his destination. He enters the office and sits at the corner where he was accustomed to sit for the last five years. The clerk begins sorting out the letters in his speed, flinging the letters to the corresponding peons.

Ali was a clever hunter and derived pleasure from the bewildered terror of the dying birds. As his skill increased, so did his hunting. But this was probably disliked by his daughter. The day his daughter left him after marrying with a soldier, his regiment in Punjab, he stopped hunting. He could no longer enjoy the screams of dying birds. He had understood the meaning of love and separation.

Since then, he had been regularly visiting post office in early morning expecting a letter from his daughter Miriam, but it doesn’t come and returns home empty handed. The post office staff often laughs at him when they see his habits. The clerk even calls out his name; jokingly even there was no letter on his name. Also there were often discussions on his lunacy. For several days, Ali did not come to the post office. Everyone was curious to know the reason behind this. At last, he comes again, but, now it was difficult for him even to breathe and there were clear signs of his approaching end.

Finally, he meets the post master and asks him for Miriam’s letter. As the post master was in hurry and was about to leave the country, he scolded him by saying that he would not eat his letter, if it would come. Then Ali called a clerk and gave him five golden guineas and asked him to deliver his letter, if it would come, to his grave. He slowly left him and was not seen by any one after that.

One day, the post master’s daughter fell ill and he was anxious to hear from her. He searched for the letter from his daughter from the pile of letters and picked up a letter of the name he expected. It was addressed to “Coachman Ali”. Now he realized about his haughty temper towards Ali. He called Lakshmi Das, a clerk and asked him to find out Ali. That day he did not receive his letter and decided that he would hand over Ali’s letter to him, himself. Next morning, he opened the door and saw Ali leaning on a stick with tears in his eyes. His eyes had a light so unearthly that the post master was scared. But, suddenly he disappeared. Then Lakshmi Das came and told him that Ali had died three months back.

Now the post master was bewildered and confused. He still had Miriam's letter in his hand. That evening he himself went to Ali's grave to place the letter. Then, his attitude changed. He now saw the letters as the essential human hearts, not just the pieces of paper. He understood the essential human worth of a letter.

### Multiple Choice Questions

1. *Ali came to the wooden arch of a building, and was filled with joy. This building was a*

- a. temple
- b. post office
- c. house
- d. police station

2. *In his younger days Ali was a*

- a. teacher
- b. coach man
- c. hunter
- d. tailor

3. *Ali opened his old tin box and gave the surprised clerk*

- a) five golden guineas
- b) a letter
- c) an address
- d) a gold chain

4. *When the post master saw Mariam's letter he mistook it to be*

- a) an old letter
- b) his daughter's letter
- c) the clerk's letter
- d) a currency note

5. *The postmaster is waiting for his daughter's letter because*

- a) she was ill
- b) she was to have a baby
- c) she had forgotten him
- d) she had fought with him

6. *Miriam was now married to a*

- a) policeman in the same town
- b) soldier in Punjab
- c) postman in Punjab
- d) coachman in the town

7. *The peons had come to the post office to*

- a) discuss their master's scandals
- b) show off their smart turbans
- c) collect the mails for their firms
- d) represent their profession

8. *The postmaster lost his temper with Ali because*

- a) he did not understand the old man's sorrow
- b) he was worried about his own daughter
- c) he was tired
- d) he did not like him

9. *The postmaster is astonished to know that Ali had died three months ago because*

- a) Ali was a strong man
- b) Lakshmi Das had seen Ali
- c) the postmaster opened door to him at five
- d) the letter had finally arrived

10. *The postmaster and Lakshmi Das placed Miriam's letter on Ali's grave because*

- a) Ali had asked them to
- b) The postmaster wanted to
- c) That was the address on the letter
- d) Miriam had said so

**Reference to Context:**

**Read the following extract and answer the questions below: 3 marks)**

“Here look at this!” and Ali produced an old tin box and emptied five golden guineas into the surprised clerk’s hands. “Do not look so startled”, he continued.

- a. Who is Ali speaking to?
- b. What did Ali give him? Why? (1/2+ 1/2)
- c. What was the reaction of the listener when he received the money from Ali?

**Short Answer Questions (30 - 40 words)**

**Sample Question and Answer**

1. Who was Ali? What peculiar obsession did he have?  
 Ali was an old coachman who at the prime of his life had been an adept and brutal shikari. His daughter Miriam had left him and settled in unknown parts with her husband.  
 Ali’s peculiar obsession was to go to the post office everyday, whatever the weather, at the stroke of dawn. He went in the hope of receiving a letter from his daughter Miriam and he had undertaken this journey for the last five years.
2. Why does Ali’s situation in the story evoke the reader’s pity?

3. 'Ali is an embodiment of love and patience' Justify the statement?
4. Why was Ali's visit to the post office compared to the pilgrimage?
5. In the lesson 'The Letter' what transforms Ali and how?
6. How did he relate his pain to the pain of the animals?
7. What proved Ali's talent as a shikari?
8. "It's a mad man, sir, who worries us by calling everyday for letters that never come."
  - a) Who is the mad man here?
  - b) Which letter is being referred to here?
9. Whom did Ali meet on his way back from the Post Office? What request did he make to him? Why did he do so?
10. Describe the change in the postmaster's attitude? Why was the postmaster tortured by doubt and remorse?
11. '*He dropped it as though it had given him an electric shock*'. What is being referred to? Why was it such a shock?
12. What was the change noticed in Ali by the postmaster, the night when he went to receive the letter?
13. What do we understand about Ali's character from his regular visits to the post office in spite of all the humiliation that he faced?

### **Long Answer Questions (100 words)**

1. The people at the post office ridiculed Ali. The Post master is no different and calls Ali a pest. He doesn't realize the essential human worth of a letter, till the time he himself faced a similar situation. Elaborate in about 100 words how everyone must perform their duty with dedication, warmth and patience.
2. Ali was fixed and determined in his purpose and nothing could deter him from it. Elaborate the statement, discussing how these qualities are important to attain success in life.
3. The story tries to bring forth the aspect that whatever may be one's status or position in life, the love and concern for children, which a parent possesses, is the same. Elaborate in about 100 words.
4. Ali's predicament sensitises us to the apathy faced by old people these days. At this ripe old age, when one should relax and enjoy the company of other people, there are people like Ali, who crave for companionship and most of the times feel neglected. Write a paragraph on the need to be sensitive towards the old.

## Lesson 4: A Shady Plot

### **-Elsie Brown**

The story is about a man who starts getting arrogant about his ability to bring forth ghost stories at his will and how he copes with the situation when he realizes that he gets (the unwilling) help from a real ghost. The ghost demands a favour from him which he is unable to fulfill. The ghost then plays havoc with his married life leading to various comic situations.

The ghost named Helen appears and tells John that she belongs to a group of ghosts that help the writers to give ideas to write their stories, but she won't be helping him as the ghosts are going on strike due to the Ouija boards that give the ghosts no time to rest. While leaving she asks the writer to give her a promise to stop his relatives and friends from using the Ouija board. Quite ironically, what happens that his wife actually buys an ouija board and moreover arranges a party of Ouija boards.....to add to the grief John is asked by his wife to use the Ouija board. During the party, Helen, through the Ouija board displays the words TRAITOR. All the ladies, including Lavinia interpret it as a fact that John has had an affair with the ghost and is therefore a flirt.

### Multiple choice questions

1. The Ouija board lead to Hallock
  - a. Summoning Helen
  - b. Fighting with his wife
  - c. Comparing Laura to a crocodile
  - d. Listening to Helen's voice all over the room
  
2. Who refuses to touch the Ouija board?
  - a. Hallock
  - b. Lavinia
  - c. Gladolia
  - d. Laura
  
3. Who calls the apparitions out of their beds?
  - a. Jenkins
  - b. The writers
  - c. The Hallock family members
  - d. The Ouija Fanatics

### Short answer questions (30 - 40 words):

#### Sample Answer

1. Does the narrator like ghost stories? Give reasons for your answer.  
The narrator is arrogant in his attitude and belief that he is a good writer of stories and particularly ghost stories as they seem to flow easily out of his pen. Also, they

help in paying the rent and for other essentials. Therefore he may not be passionate about writing them, but definitely seems to regard them with some affection.

2. What are the things the ghosts are not able to do now? Instead, what are they forced to do?
3. Why did Gladolia decide to leave the house?
4. Why did John excitedly allow his wife to go back to her grandmother?
5. When does the narrator often get an assignment to write stories?

**Reference to the context questions:**

1. *"Well you needn't be, because I just came to tell you to stop bothering us for assistance, you aren't going to get it. We're going on strike."*

- a) Name the speaker and listener.
- b) How was the author bothering the speaker?
- c) Why are "they" going on strike?

2. *"John! Oh, John!" called the voice of my wife. I waved my arms at the ghost with something of the motion of a beginner when learning to swim.*

*"Madam, I must ask you to leave, and at once. Consider the impression if you were seen here – "*

- a. Why did he wave his arms at the ghost?
- b. What was he afraid of?
- c. To what does he compare the waving of his arms?

3 *"I thought you were Helen of Troy," she murmured. "I used to be Helen of Troy, New York," said the ghost. "And now I'll be moving along, if you'll excuse me. See you later."With that she telescoped briskly, till we saw only a hand waving farewell.*

- a. Who is referred to as Helen of Troy?
- b. Why is she referred to as Helen of Troy? How is it proved wrong?
- c. How does the ghost disappear? What is her final gesture to the Hallocks'?

**Long answer questions: (100 words)**

1. Taking ideas from the story "The Shady Plot", elaborate the statement: "Mutual trust is key to a happy married life".
2. John Hallock was quite "cocky" about his abilities to write ghost stories. How is his confidence shaken and how does he acquire it back?

## Lesson 5: Patol Babu, Film Star

- Satyajit Ray

This is the story of a former versatile theatre artist who has to struggle for a living doing various odd jobs. At the age of 52, he gets to play a very small but speaking part in a film for which he is offered some money. It is interesting to read how he uses his theatre experience to planning and executing his monosyllabic role to perfection because he has been taught by his mentor to put up his best, no matter how small or insignificant a role is. As regards money he does not wait to be paid his remuneration, although he does need money. For him twenty odd rupees is nothing when measured against the intense satisfaction of a small job done with perfection and dedication. The sad part of the story is that Patol Babu has all the qualities of a film star but is not destined to be one.

### Questions:

1. *It sent a shiver down his spine just to think of such lines.*
  - a. Who is the person being referred to?
  - b. What does "such lines" refer to?
  - c. Why did "such lines" send a shiver down "his" spine?
  
2. *Patol Babu suddenly felt a little nervous. Should he ask somebody? There was Naresh Dutt there, should he go and remind him?*
  - a. Why was Patol Babu nervous?
  - b. Who was Naresh Dutt?
  - c. What did Patol Babu want to remind Naresh Dutt?
  
3. *Ten minutes or so later Naresh Dutt went looking for Patol Babu near the paan shop and found that he was not there. "That's odd- the man hadn't been paid yet. What a strange fellow!"*
  - a. Why was Naresh Dutt looking for Patol Babu?
  - b. Why did Patol Babu not stay there?
  - c. What does this highlight about his character?
  
4. What were Patol Babu's feelings when he came to know of his dialogue?
5. Who is Patol Babu's mentor? What words of his resound in his mind?
6. How does he implement the above words of his mentor in practical life?
7. What did Patol Babu ask Baren Mullick to add authenticity to his role when his turn for the shoot came? What happened thereafter?

### Long Answer type question (80 to 100 words)

1. Patol Babu gets inspired by the words of his mentor and feels that a task done with perfection and dedication gives an intense satisfaction and hence leaves without his remuneration. Taking cues from this lesson, write in about 100 words on the topic: *Are you working for the money or for what you love?*

2. *"Passion leads to success"*. Elaborate the statement with reference to the lesson, Patol Babu, Film star.
3. A faint memory was stirred in Patol Babu's mind. Some priceless words of advice given in a deep mellow voice. Elaborate on the statement *"The advice of our elders and teachers always comes to our rescue as they have wisdom and experience of life"*.
4. Success quotient varies from person to person. Many want materialistic gains but a few want only fulfilment. Explain how Patol babu displays value of selflessness and in giving your best to whatever work you are entrusted with. Though poor and little known, Patol babu enjoys unlimited happiness.

## Lesson 6: Virtually True

- Paul Stewart

The story "Virtually True" is about a boy called Sebastian Shultz who gets trapped in a computer game in a motorway accident and another boy who plays these games in order to try and set Sebastian out. Sebastian had slipped into a coma after the accident, but regained his consciousness once his memory retrieved by Michael. The story contains several games in it which are funny, fantastic and even frightening. The story belongs to the science fiction genre.

### Multiple Choice Questions

1. What had happened to Sebastian Shultz?
  - a) He had died in an accident
  - b) He lost his legs in an accident
  - c) He was in a coma
  - d) None of the above
  
2. His recovery is said to be a miracle because \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) The doctors had feared he would remain in a coma forever
  - b) The doctors had expected he would come out of his coma after sometime
  - c) The doctors had expected he would soon come out of the coma
  - d) None of the above
  
3. How did Sebastian slip into a coma?
  - a) He was badly injured in a motorway accident
  - b) He fell from the roof of his school
  - c) He was knocked down by a speeding vehicle
  - d) He was injured in a football match
  
4. From where did the second sheriff appear?
  - a) He came from the bar
  - b) He came through the back door
  - c) He came from under the table
  - d) None of the above
  
5. Why didn't the second sheriff answer the narrator's question?
  - a) He didn't understand the question
  - b) He was not able to speak as he was wounded
  - c) He didn't speak his language
  - d) They were chased by a posse of men on horseback; hence had not time to answer
  
6. Why did the second sheriff ask Michael to keep his head down?

- a) Because they were to go through a tunnel
  - b) The men who followed them started firing from behind
  - c) Because they were to go through the thick forest
  - d) None of the above
7. Name the game in which this action takes place.
- a) JAILBREAK
  - b) DRAGONQUEST
  - c) WARZONE
  - d) All of the above
8. What does the speaker mean by “true....Virtually”
- a) It is true in stories
  - b) It is true in an artificially created environment
  - c) It is true in real life
  - d) It is never true in fiction

**Reference to the context questions:**

I found what I was looking for quickly enough. Apparently, at the time of the accident, Sebastian was using his laptop to play one of the same psycho drive games that I’ve got.

1. What did the narrator want to know?
2. What information did the narrator gather about Sebastian?
3. What had happened to Sebastian after the accident?

**Short answer questions (30 - 40 words)**

1. What kind of computers fascinated Michael and his Dad? Why?
2. When did the first video game Wild West become complicated? Who was the second sheriff? How does the narrator describe him?
3. How did the narrator come to know about Sebastian Shultz’s condition?

**Sample Question and Answer**

1. What was the aim of the second game DRAGONQUEST?  
The aim of the second game DRAGONQUEST was very simple. Michael had to rescue the fair princess Aurora from the wicked dragon, and collect the wicked creature’s treasure along the way.
2. How did the second game appear to be more real than virtual?
3. What was Michael’s theory as to how Sebastian had entered the games?
4. How did Sebastian’s memory get stored on Michael’s computer?
5. How did Michael save Sebastian Shultz?

**Long answer questions (100 words)**

1. The psycho drive games endanger Sebastian's life. Ironically, the psycho drive games bring him out of the comatose state. Give an account of the ordeal that Sebastian faces and how he is let out of the quandary of psycho drive games.
2. Technology has not made our lives easier but more complicated. We are becoming more and more dependent on technology and can't imagine our lives without it. With reference to the lesson "Virtually True", write in about 100 words how technology has made us its slaves.

## Play 1: Dear Departed

*-William Stanley Houghton*

“The Dear Departed” is a satire that exposes the insensitivity and dispassionate attitude of those mean and greedy individuals who neglect their near and dear ones during their old age and impatiently await their death to grab their assets.

### **Title:**

“The Dear Departed” is a very well-chosen title with irony and pun in the word “Departed”. It highlights the satirical element of the play as the “departed soul” is hardly “dear” to any adult character of the play. In the first half of the play the word “Departed” refers to the grandfather’s demise. In the latter half the “departed dear one” is shocked at the news of his own death and the avaricious attitude of his daughters and sons-in-law. He then announces his decision to “depart” from his daughters and start his life afresh. Hence, it perfectly befits the theme of the play.

### **Theme:**

This hilarious comedy is an account of the degradation of moral values among the people of British middle-class. Blinded by greed and avarice the materialistic protagonists of the play show a total disregard for modesty, grace, decency and filial obligation. The death of the father triggers a quarrel over the inheritance rather than evoking grief in the hearts of the daughters and sons-in-law. However, the old man’s revival from his death apart from lending a comic effect to the play brings out his maturity and discerning shrewdness that makes him disown his daughters. This gives the readers a sense of relief and satisfaction.

### **Message:**

The play conveys the message that old people deserve to be treated with great care and concern. They deserve all the love. Their days in the world are numbered – thus looking after them should be regarded as an opportunity rather than a tiresome burden. The old should make their wills discreetly without being swayed by emotions and sentiments.

### **Characteristic traits:**

**Mrs. Slater:** Money minded, greedy, domineering, shrewd, hypocrite, dictatorial, selfish and emotionless.

**Mrs. Jordan:** Observant, shrewd, money minded, greedy, hypocrite, likes to show off

**Grandfather:** Jolly, happy go lucky, careful about his money, decisive, determined

**Husbands:** Both follow their wives (hen pecked), don’t have a mind of their own. Ben is witty.

### Questions:

1. *'That was a near thing. Open the door, Victoria. Now, Henry, get your coat on.'*
  - a. What was a near thing?
  - b. Why has Victoria been asked to open the door?
  - c. What character trait of the speaker is highlighted through these lines?
2. *'Are we pinching it before Aunt Elizabeth comes?'*
  - a. Who is the speaker of these words?
  - b. In what light does she perceive her parents?
  - c. What does it tell you about the speaker's sense of judgement?
3. *'I'm not satisfied but it's the best we can do till our new black's ready, and Ben and Elizabeth will never have thought about mourning yet, so we'll outshine them there'*
  - a. Who is the speaker of the above lines?
  - b. What is the speaker not satisfied with?
  - c. What does the word "outshine" suggest about the speaker?
  - d. What kind of a relationship did the speaker have with Elizabeth?
4. *Well we'll think about it after tea, and then we'll look through his bits of things and make a list of them. There's all the furniture in his room.*
  - a. What does "it" mean in the above lines?
  - b. Why do they want to make a list of things?
  - c. What is the Grandfather's position in the family?
5. What do Amelia and Elizabeth have in common? Justify.
6. What are Mr. Abel Merryweather's plans for the future? What changes does he make in his new will? Why? What effect does it have on the daughters?
7. Compare and contrast the double standards of the adults in the play with the naïve and genuine nature of Victoria. Give suitable examples to support your answer.

### Long answer type question:

1. "Greed and materialism has become the order of the day". Comment on the statement in light of the two sisters.
2. Modernization is impacting the moral fabric of our society. It is sad to see that children are becoming busy in their own lives and the elders are left on their own. They have no one to talk to and face the brunt of loneliness. The fact remains that the old people need love, care and attention. On the basis of your reading of the play, 'Dear Departed' write in about 100 to 120 words *"Sure I'm for helping the elderly. I'm going to be old myself someday.*

## Play 2: Julius Caesar

- *William Shakespeare*

Caesar enters Rome accompanied by his supporters and a throng of citizens. It is the feast of Lupercalia, February 15, a day when two men run through the street and strike those they meet with goatskin thongs. Caesar orders Mark Antony to strike his wife Calpurnia in order to cure her barrenness.

A soothsayer calls out to Caesar as he passes and warns him against the ides of March, March 15. Caesar ignores the man and dismisses him as a dreamer. Upon seeing Cassius, Caesar informs Antony that he would rather be surrounded by men who are fat and happy than thin men like Cassius. He is worried that Cassius is dangerous because he "thinks too much" (1.2.193-196). Antony tells him not to worry about Cassius.

Meanwhile, Brutus and Cassius meet and talk about how much power Caesar has gained. During their conversation they are interrupted three times by cheers from the crowd. Cassius informs Brutus that he is forming a plot against Caesar and wants Brutus to join it. Brutus tells him he cannot commit to anything immediately. Casca soon joins them, and informs them that the cheers they heard were Caesar turning down the crown. According to Casca, Antony offered Caesar a crown three times, and three times he refused it.

Casca meets with Cicero and tells the orator that there are many strange things happening in Rome that night, such as a lion in the streets and an owl screeching during the day. Cicero tells him that men construe omens the way they see fit. Cassius eventually arrives and learns from Casca that the senators are planning on making Caesar a king the next morning. He starts to tell Casca about the plot to kill Caesar, but Cinna shows up and interrupts him. He hands Cinna some letters to plant anonymously in Brutus' home and invites Casca to dinner that night in order to convince him to join the conspiracy.

Brutus discovers the letters from Cinna, not knowing who wrote them. He reads one of the letters and interprets it as a request to prevent Caesar from seizing power. Brutus attributes the letter to Rome as a whole, saying, "O Rome, I make thee promise" (2.1.56), implying that he will carry out what he perceives as the will of the Roman people.

Brutus meets with Cassius and the other conspirators and shakes all their hands, agreeing to join their plot. He convinces them to only kill Caesar, and not his most loyal friend Antony, because he does not want them to "seem too bloody" (2.1.162). After the other men leave, Brutus is unable to sleep. His wife Portia finds him awake and begs him to tell her what is troubling him. At first he refuses, but after she stabs herself in the thigh to prove her strength and ability to keep a secret he agrees to inform her.

Meanwhile, Caesar's wife Calpurnia dreamt of a statue of Caesar bleeding from a hundred wounds. Caesar, naturally superstitious, orders the priests to kill an animal and read the entrails to see if he should go to the Senate that day. The priests tell him that the animal did not have a heart, a very bad sign. However, Decius, one of the conspirators, arrives and

reinterprets Calpurnia's dream to mean that all of Rome sucked the reviving blood of Caesar for its benefit. Caesar finally agrees with him that it is laughable to stay home on account of a dream. The other conspirators, including Brutus and Cassius, arrive at his house to escort him to the Senate House.

On the way to the Senate House Caesar is approached by the same soothsayer that previously warned him about the ides of March. He again refuses to listen to the man and continues. A man named Artemidorus then comes up to him and tries to give him a letter revealing the entire conspiracy, but Decius cleverly tells Caesar the Trebonius has a suit he would like Caesar to read instead. Caesar refuses to look at what Artemidorus offers him on account of its being personal. He explains, "What touches us ourself shall be last served" (3.1.7).

The conspirators arrive at the Senate House and Caesar assumes his seat. A man named Metellus kneels before him and petitions to have his banished brother returned to Rome. Caesar refuses, but is surprised when Brutus and then Cassius come forward and plead for the brother as well. However, he continues to refuse to change the sentence even as all of the conspirators gather around him. On Casca's comment, "Speak hands for me" (3.1.76) the group attacks Caesar, stabbing him to death.

The conspirators, now led by Brutus and Cassius, dip their hands in Caesar's blood and prepare to run to the streets crying out "peace, freedom, and liberty" (3.1.111). Antony arrives and begs them to let him take the body and give Caesar a public eulogy. Brutus agrees, overriding Cassius' misgivings about allowing Antony to speak. They move out into the streets of Rome and Cassius and Brutus split up in order to speak to the plebeians.

Brutus defends his murder of Caesar on the grounds that he was removing a tyrant who was destroying the freedom of all Romans. He ends his speech by asking the crowd if they want him to commit suicide for what he has done, to which they reply, "Live, Brutus, live, live!" (3.2.44). Next, Brutus allows Antony to speak and returns home.

Antony takes full advantage of his speech and informs the crowd that Caesar was a selfless man who cared for Rome above everything. The highlight of his speech is when he pulls out Caesar's will and reads from it, telling the citizens that Caesar has given every Roman a part of his inheritance, in both land and dachmas. The plebeians now believe Caesar to have been great and good, seize his body and vow revenge upon Brutus and the rest of the conspirators. Their rioting develops into pure anarchy. Antony comments that he has done his part in creating social upheaval, and now must wait to see what happens.

### **Multiple Choice Questions**

1. Julius Caesar returned to
  1. Pompey
  2. Rome
  3. Philippi
  4. Sardis

2. Calpurnia does not want Caesar to go out of the house as
  1. she fears his enemies
  2. she wants to be with him
  3. she is scared of the bad omens
  4. she suspects Brutus
  
3. 'And we like friends will straightway go together'. Brutus feels sorry when he hears this from Caesar because Brutus
  1. will soon betray Caesar
  2. is a true friend
  3. could not hear clearly
  4. does not wish to go with Caesar
  
4. Casca says 'hands speak for me'. What do Casca's hands do?
  1. clap loudly
  2. slap Caesar
  3. stab Caesar
  4. push Brutus forward
  
5. Antony declares himself on the side of Brutus and Cassius as he
  1. wishes to save himself
  2. wants to know why they killed Caesar
  3. thinks they did the right thing
  4. is money minded
  
6. When Brutus gets up to talk we realise that the people of Rome
  1. have respect for him
  2. hate him
  3. do not care for him
  4. are ready to kill him
  
7. Caesar's better parts will be crowned in Brutus. This means that
  1. Brutus will be made the ruler
  2. like Caesar he will be killed
  3. Brutus is the king
  4. Brutus is better than Caesar
  
8. Antony says that 'Caesar's will' gives the Romans
  1. a silver coin each
  2. a drachma each
  3. seventy five drachmas each
  4. the kingdom
  
9. 'Mischief thou art afoot' says Antony, meaning that
  1. no one could now control the public
  2. he was mischievous
  3. art and skill causes mischief
  4. the public were art conscious

### Short Answer Questions (30 - 40 words)

1. "Over thy wounds now do I prophesy" ..... What prophesy does Antony make at this juncture?
2. How did the conspirators assassinate Julius Caesar?
3. What mistakes did Brutus make?
4. What reasons does Brutus give for murdering Caesar?
5. *Sample answer:* What prediction does Antony make regarding the future events in Rome?

Antony predicts that "domestic fury" and "fierce civil strife" shall spread in Italy. Blood and destruction shall rage the country. Mothers shall go mad and smile when they see their children slaughtered. The earth shall be covered with dead bodies lying for burial. Caesar's spirit shall roam about for revenge and his spirit will be accompanied by Ate, the goddess of strife, who would come in hot haste from hell.

6. What are the arguments put forward by Brutus to convince Caesar to go to the capitol?
7. 'I found it in his closet'. What was it? Why was it so important?
8. *Sample answer:* Why does Calpurnia tell Caesar not to stir out of the house?

Calpurnia has seen many unnatural things happen. Her own "inner self" has frightened her that something horrible was going to take place. She has a dream in which she sees Caesar's statue pouring forth blood and Romans dipping their hands into it, so she advises Caesar to remain indoors.

9. How does Caesar react to Calpurnia's "fears" in the beginning?
10. What are Caesar's views about men and death?
11. What did Calpurnia dream of Caesar which makes her fear for him?
12. Why does Calpurnia say Caesar's "wisdom" is consumed in confidence? What does she mean by it?
13. Why is Decius Brutus more successful than Calpurnia in persuading Caesar to go to the senate house?
14. *Sample Answer:* Why does Cimber crouch so low before Caesar and how does Caesar react to it?

As per the plans of the Conspirators, Metellus Cimber crouches very low before Caesar to repeal the order of banishing his brother from Rome. Cimber bends so low that Caesar looks at it as "fawning" (flattering) and that it reminds him of a low bred dog and if Cimber continues to do so, he will treat him like a low bred dog by kicking him out of his way. Caesar says that he is like the Northern star fixed and permanent and constant. Once he has

made a decision and moreover the right one, he was not going to change it or repeal the order.

15. Who says "let him be Caesar"? What light does this throw on the speaker?

### **Reference to the context questions**

Question 1: Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

1. Calpurnia

*Caesar, I never stood on ceremonies,  
Yet now they fright me. There is one within,  
Besides the things that we have heard and seen,  
Recounts most horrid sights seen by the watch.*

- a) When does Calpurnia speak these lines?
- b) Explain the line "most horrid sights seen by the watch".
- c) How does Caesar react to these premonitions?

2. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

Caesar

*Cowards die many times before their deaths;  
The valiant never taste of death but once.  
Of all the wonders that I yet have heard,  
It seems to me most strange that men should fear;  
Seeing that death, a necessary end,  
Will come when it will come.*

- a) When does Caesar speak these lines?
- b) What is most strange for Caesar?
- c) How does Calpurnia react to Caesar's attitude to her premonition?

3. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

*Your statue spouting blood in many pipes,  
In which so many smiling Romans bathed,  
Signifies that from you great Rome shall suck  
Reviving blood, and that great men shall press  
For tinctures, stain, relics and cognizance.*

- a) Who speaks these lines and to whom?

b) What is Brutus's interpretation of Calpurnia's dream?

c) Is the speaker giving the right meaning? Why?

4. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

*For your part,*

*To you our swords have leaden points, Mark Antony:*

*Our arms, in strength of malice, and our hearts*

*Of brothers' temper, do receive you in*

*With all kind love, good thoughts and reverence.*

a) Who is speaking these lines and to whom?

b) How do the murderers of Caesar receive Mark Antony?

c) How do the conspirators think Mark Antony will be helpful in friendship?

5. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

**Antony**

*That's all I seek:*

*And am moreover suitor that I may*

*Produce his body to the market-place;*

*And in the pulpit, as becomes a friend,*

*Speak in the order of his funeral.*

a) What does Antony seek?

b) Why does Antony want to produce Caesar's body at the market place?

c) How does Cassius react to Antony's request?

**Long answer question (100 words):**

1. Antony was a skilful orator and he reiterates the fact that our words have great power. So we should always think before we speak. A skilful orator can bring about a revolution. Comment in about 100 words.
2. Antony was a true friend of Caesar. It's hard to find such friends in today's times. Elaborate on the statement "*True friends are a blessing*".
3. Do you agree that Caesar's downfall was due to his arrogance and over confidence? Why or why not?
4. Brutus did not analyze the situation properly and conspires to kill his dear friend. Do you agree with the statement, "*Think before you act*"? Why or why not?

5. How effective is Antony's speech at Caesar's funeral?
6. Why does Antony say that he doesn't want to read Caesar's will before the mob?
7. *Sample question:* After reading Julius Caesar what conclusions do you draw about the Roman mob of the day?

*Answer: Fickle minded:* The most outstanding trait of the mob is its fickleness. A clever person can lead it as he likes. So when Brutus speaks the mob adores him. They want him to be Caesar. They want to crown and honour him in every possible way, but as Antony has spoken, the same mob cries for revenge and wants to kill Brutus and his companions.

*Foolish and emotional:* Roman mob is made of foolish people who are sentimental and incapable of judging a situation or a person properly. The description of the way Caesar was killed brings tears to their eyes.

*Greedy:* Antony knows that the common Romans are greedy. Caesar has left seventy five silver coins for each Roman and the mob immediately cries "Noble Caesar".

*Violent:* The mob is violent. They always seem ready to attack those they don't like. They call for burning of Brutus's house and killing all the conspirators.

8. Marcus Brutus betrayed his friend. He joined the conspirators and hatched a conspiracy to kill Caesar on the day of his crowning. Julius Caesar before dying says "Ët tu Brute" displaying his shock and grief at the fact that his most trusted friend had stabbed him. Elaborate on the statement "A stranger stabs you in the front; a friend stabs you in the back", in about 80- 100 words.

## **Poem 1: The Frog and The Nightingale**

*-Vikram Seth*

The poet, Vikram Seth, very cleverly gives us a message of the importance of self-confidence and moral courage in his poem - 'The Frog and the Nightingale'. Once in a bog, a frog sat under a Sumac tree and croaked all night in a loud and unpleasant voice. The other creatures loathed his voice but their complaints, insults and brickbats couldn't stop him from croaking stubbornly and pompously, insensitive to the disturbance he was causing.

Then, one night a nightingale appears at the bog. Her melodious voice captures the admiring attention of the creatures of the Bingle Bog. Ducks and herons swim towards the Sumac tree to hear the nightingale serenade. Some lonely creature even weeps hearing her song. When she stops, there is thunderous applause with the creatures demanding a repeat performance (encore). The jealous frog disturbed by the intrusion of a challenging rival listens to the nightingale dumbstruck.

Next night, when the modest bird prepares to sing, the plotting frog interrupts and posing as a music critic, says that the technique was fine, of course, but it lacks a certain force. Unassuming and not used to any kind of criticism, she defends herself by saying, "At least its mine".

The heartless frog convinces the nightingale that she was in need of training that only he could provide. The nightingale, lacking in confidence and extremely gullible agrees and flatters him, saying that he was Mozart in disguise. The frog capitalized on the nightingale's servile attitude and said that he would charge a modest fee, which would not harm her.

The nightingale soon became famous and the frog grew richer, earning money from her concerts. Eminent personalities like the Owl (Earl) of Sandwich and Duck (Duke) of Kent attend the concerts. The frog sat and watched with mixed feelings of happiness and bitterness. Happy because he was earning money and jealous because the bird was receiving so much attention.

Meanwhile, the frog makes the nightingale rehearse hard even when it rained and constantly criticized and abused her, ensuring that she became broken in spirit. Fired and spent, her voice lost its beauty and the creatures stopped coming to hear her sing. Morose and depressed, she refused to sing, but the frog goaded her to practice. Scared and unhappy, the nightingale tried, burst a vein, and died. The frog, unsympathetic, dismissed her off - calling her 'stupid'. A shrewd judge of character, he summed her up saying that the nightingale was too nervous and prone to influence, hence bringing her own downfall. Now, the frog once more sings at night in his bog - unrivalled.

### **Multiple Choice Questions**

1. Where does the frog croak?
  - a. In Bingle bog
  - b. From dusk to dawn

- c. On the Sumac tree
  - d. On a toadstool
2. What kind of reaction did the animals display to the frog's songs?
    - a) They hated it
    - b) They adored it
    - c) They ignored it
    - d) They tried to improve it
  3. Why were the animals of the Bog dumbstruck?
    - a. The frog sang very well
    - b. The nightingale sang melodiously
    - c. The moon shone brightly
    - d. All the animals came to the same place
  4. One night when the nightingale was about to sing she was startled. What startled her?
    - a. The frog's advice
    - b. The frog's croak
    - c. The frog's movement
    - d. The frog's scolding
  5. What did the frog claim to be?
    - a. A great teacher
    - b. The owner of the sumac tree
    - c. A publisher
    - d. The king of the Bog
  6. *'I don't think the song's divine  
But - oh - well - at least it's mine.'*

What does the nightingale imply by the last line?

- a. She does not like the frog's songs
  - b. She sings from her heart
  - c. She wants him to train her
  - d. She is haughty
7. *Animals for miles around  
Flocked towards the magic sound*
- What had made the sound magical?
- a. skill and praise
  - b. art and fire
  - c. inspiration and skill
  - d. flattery and money
8. In which weather does the nightingale not prefer to sing?
    - a. sunny weather
    - b. rainy weather
    - c. winter

d. autumn

9. 'So the frog and nightingale journeyed up and down the scale'. This line refers to their
- travel in Bingle Bog
  - singing
  - movement on the tree
  - popularity rating
10. Which of the following do not indicate the nightingale's growing popularity?
- Attendance by the aristocrats
  - The joy of the frog
  - The sale of tickets
  - The frog's reprimand
11. The birds and beasts stopped coming to the concert because the nightingale's song
- was always the same
  - was uninspired
  - was too loud
  - had no trills
12. The frog says that the nightingale was '*far too prone to influence.*' What was ironical about this statement?
- The nightingale was not like that
  - The frog was too proud
  - It was this quality that fetched him money
  - It was the frog who was prone to influence

### **Reference to the context Questions**

Read the following stanzas and answer the questions that follow:

- (1) *Other creatures loathed his voice,  
But, alas, they had no choice.  
And the crass cacophony  
Blared out from the sumac tree  
At whose foot the frog each night  
Minstrelled on till morning light.*

Questions

- Whose voice is referred to here?
- Why did the other creatures loathe that voice?
- Where did the frog live?
- What does 'minstrelled on till morning light' mean?

## Sample Answers

- a. The Frog's voice is referred to here.
- b. They loathed it because it was loud, unpleasant, crass, meaningless and jarring to the ear.
- c. It lived under the foot of a sumac tree in the Bingle Bog.
- d. It means that the frog continued to croak loudly, irritating others all through the night.

(2) *Dumbstruck sat the gaping frog,  
And the whole admiring bog  
Stared towards the sumac, rapt,  
And, when she had ended, clapped.*

### Questions

- (a) Who is 'she' in these lines?
- (b) Why was the frog dumbstruck?
- (c) Why was everyone staring 'towards the sumac, rapt'?
- (d) Explain the phrase: 'whole admiring bog'.
- (e) What had been the frog's experience at the sumac tree ?

(3) *"The technique was fine, of course,  
But it lacked a certain force."  
"Oh! the nightingale confessed.  
Greatly flattered and impressed....."*

- (a) Name the poem and the poet.
- (b) Which 'technique' is referred to here?
- (c) How did the listener react to these words?

(4) *"Oh!" the nightingale confessed,  
Greatly flattered and impressed  
That a critic of such note  
Had discussed her art and throat:  
"I don't think the song's divine.  
But-oh, well-at least it's mine".*

- (a) Who was the critic? Was the critic actually a renowned figure?
- (b) Why was the nightingale so impressed by this critic? What does it tell us about her nature?

(c) What does the nightingale mean by “at least it’s mine”?

**Short Answer Type Questions (30 - 40 words)**

Q. 1. Describe the first meeting between the nightingale and the frog.

Q. 2. Why did the frog appear to the nightingale like a Mozart in disguise?

Ans. The frog told the nightingale that he was a great critic of music and tactically said that her song was good but at the same time there was a great room for improvement. The nightingale admitted that there was nothing divine in her song, but she felt proud of her song. In fact the frog was a crafty fellow and planned to eliminate his rival in the bog. So he pointed out that she was a beginner in the art of singing and needed proper training. He would impart training to her and make her a winner. The nightingale felt encouraged and so the frog appeared to her like a Mozart in disguise.

Q. 3. *Now the frog puffed up with rage.*

*“Brainless bird – you’re on the stage*

*Use your wits – follow fashion.*

*Puff your lungs out with your passion.”*

(a) Why was the frog so angry?

(b) Do you think that the nightingale was truly “brainless”? (Give two reasons to support your answer).

(c) In what way did the frog become the unrivalled king of the bog once again?

4. How do you know that the nightingale was getting ready to sing?

5. How did the frog introduce himself?

6. Why is the frog called heartless?

7. How did the frog make money? What was the effect of training on the nightingale's voice?

8. Whose influence did the nightingale come under? What was the effect of the influence?

9. What do you learn from the poem?

**Long Answer Questions 100 words**

1. Bring out the character of the frog and the nightingale. Can you draw parallel to the present times?

2. To some extent, the nightingale herself was responsible for her downfall and death. Comment

3. Nightingale was too simple, naive and gullible. Do you think these behavioural traits led to her downfall? Do all such people face a similar end?

4. Society these days is full of cunning and opportunist people. Keeping in mind the frog from the poem, write in about 100 words what you think about this situation.

## **Poem 2: The Mirror**

**-Sylvia Plath**

This poem is not a riddle, speaking with the voice of some mysterious "I" until the end, where the reader is shocked to find out that it's a mirror, and not a person speaking. Instead, the poem lets us know from the start that we're hearing from a mirror, with its title, "Mirror," and its first line, "I am silver and exact."

The first stanza describes the mirror, which seems to be like one of those people who doesn't tell white lies – it's truthful and exact, but not cruel. As the first stanza personifies the mirror, showing us some of its human characteristics, we also find out a little about the mirror's life. Most of the time, it reflects a pink speckled wall, which could be found in any bathroom, but it also sees a lot of faces, and a lot of darkness.

Jump into the second stanza, and the stakes have changed. The mirror is no longer a mirror, but a lake, which also shows reflections. And we get to see a whole new character: a woman. We saw faces in the first stanza, but now we focus on one face in particular.

This woman, we find out, isn't very happy with her reflection in the lake, so she tries to find a kinder reflection under the light of a candle or the moon. When the lake reflects her faithfully anyway, she cries and gets upset.

In the last two lines of this poem, we see why this woman is so upset: in her watery reflection, her past is drowning, and a horrible future is rising to meet her.

### **Reference to the Context Questions**

*I am silver and exact. I have no preconception... just as it is, unmisted by love or dislike.*

- i) Who is "I" in the above passage?
- ii) Why does it claim to have no preconception?
- iii) Why has it been described as "*unmisted*"? What is the image it is trying to convey about its nature?

### **Sample Answers:**

- i) In the above passage, "I" is the mirror
- ii) The mirror can rightly claim to have no preconception because it gives the exact reflection of the object before it.
- iii) A misted mirror cannot give the exact image of the object before it and the mirror is not affected by love or dislike or any other human emotions. It gives a proper and exact image, and it is trying to convey that its nature is not biased or prejudiced.

2. *I am not cruel, only truthful-*

*The eye of a little god, four-cornered.*

- i) What cruel action does the mirror commit?
- ii) What is the figure of speech used in the second line?
- iii) What does the mirror mean by saying "it is four- cornered"?

3. *Now I am a lake. A woman bends over me.... Then she turns to those liars, the candles or the moon.*

- i) How is the mirror "a lake"?
- ii) What is the woman searching for in the depth of the lake?
- iii) Why have the candles and the moon been called liars?

4. *I see her back, and reflect it faithfully.... I am important to her. She comes and goes.*

- i) Who is "she" and what does the mirror do to her?
- ii) How does "she" react to her face when she sees it in the mirror?
- iii) Explain "I am important to her. She comes and goes".

5. *In me she has drowned a young girl, and .... Like a terrible fish.*

- i) How has "she" drowned a young girl in the mirror?
- ii) How does "she" react when "she" looks at her face reflected in the mirror?
- iii) Why does "she" behave like a terrible fish?

**Sample Answers:**

- i) She-meaning the woman was once a young girl. But now she has grown old. The physical changes brought about due to age and time seems to have "drowned" the young girl in the mirror and the older varnish of the woman now is reflected every time the woman looks at herself in the mirror.
- ii) "She" (the woman) feels very sad at the physical change. She looks into the depths of the mirror to see her young face again, but she cannot find it. She feels very upset over this fact.
- iii) She (the woman) behaves like a terrible fish which is out of water because she still imagines herself to be young and beautiful and cannot accept the fact that one grows old with the passage of time. She still has romantic ideas about her youth and beauty.

### **Long answer type questions:**

1. The mirror is the only thing here which is unbiased and not prejudiced and reveals only the truth and gives the exact reflection. Comment.
2. The mirror's view of life is difficult to accept. Do you agree with the statement? Substantiate your answer with examples from the poem.
3. Ageing is inevitable. Every living being has to face the ravages of time. The woman in the poem is unable to accept the process of ageing and hates her truthful image. Write in about 100 words what you feel about this process.
4. What is the central theme of the poem "mirror"?

### **Sample Answer**

The poem "Mirror" by Sylvia Plath, is a comment on a woman's desire to look beautiful and always look young. For some woman, their day begins by looking into the mirror. She is glad when she finds herself looking young, charming and beautiful, but is inconsolable when the reality is otherwise.

For an old woman, the mirror is like a lake. She looks carefully deep into the mirror to see the youth that has drowned in it. She then looks to candles and the moon to reveal her appearance, but the mirror calls them liars, because they hide many of her shortcomings like her age, and the wrinkles.

### Poem 3: Not Marble, Nor the Gilded Monuments ( Sonnet 55 )

*-William Shakespeare*

Sonnet 55 is one of a collection of 154 sonnets written by William Shakespeare and expresses one of the major themes of these sonnets: Poetry is eternal. The tone of the first four lines, reflects the immense confidence of the poet. His “powerful rhyme” is compared to durable marble and solid, gilded memorials that mark the graves of princes. The sonnet is compared not only to the lastingness of stone but also to an enduring image of the deceased. The poet asserts that his portrait of the young man, written in verse on fragile paper, will outlive even the marble memorials of princes, which will become neglected, “unswept stone” with passage of time. In this sonnet, Shakespeare gives time a character. In this case, time is “sluttish”, suggesting that it is immoral and careless. It cares for no individual and finally passes. The grand memorials will be eroded, and the people memorialized will eventually be forgotten. However, the subject of the poem will “shine more bright” than the time-smearred monuments and live not in effigy but in the essence in Shakespeare’s verse.

The next four lines intensify the poet’s declaration. The imagery of long- forgotten, cold stone monuments gives way to active, deliberate devastation. The young man will be remembered despite the wrack and ruin of “wasteful war”. When marble statues topple and stone buildings and other “works of masonry” are destroyed, the poetry will live on. Not even the flaming sword of mighty Mars (Clarent), the God of war himself, is able to “burn the living record” of the young man’s memory. The final quatrain (four lines) contains the powerful image of the young man striding like a Titan through time “Gainst death and all oblivious enmity”. He will “pace forth” and be not only remembered but praised in the eyes of “all posterity” even to posterity’s end. His memory will outwear the world and survive “the ending doom,” the Apocalypse itself.

The couplet—the final two lines of the poem—draws a conclusion and sums up the ideas that have accumulated with each successive quatrain. The young man will live in “this”, the poet’s verse, until Judgement Day. On that day, the bodies of all humanity are to be resurrected and reunited with the soul, and judgement will be passed as to which souls will suffer in hell and which will rise to heaven. He, too, will face his individual judgement and will “arise” to heaven rather than go to hell.

#### **Questions:**

1. *“But you shall shine more bright in these contents  
Than unswept stone, besmear’d with sluttish time.  
When wasteful war shall statues overturn  
And broils root out the work of masonry*

- a. Who does “you” refer to in the first line?
- b. How do the royal princes try to immortalize themselves?

- c. Explain the term “these contents”. How has the poet brought out the importance of “these contents” in this sonnet?

2. *'Gainst death and all oblivious enmity*

*Shall you pace forth; your praise shall still find room,*

*Even in the eyes of all posterity*

*That wear this world out to the ending doom.*

- a. Whom is the stanza addressed to?
- b. Why has “enmity” been referred to as “oblivious”?
- c. For how long will “you” be remembered?

3. *Nor Mars, his sword, nor war's quick fire shall burn*

*The living record of your memory*

- a. Who is “Mars”?
- b. What is meant by the living record of memory?

4. What is the tone of the poet in the poem?

5. Where is the poem set and how does it impact the general theme of the sonnet?

6. Who has the poem been dedicated to? How is his fate different from that of statues and monuments?

7. How does the couplet in the Sonnet highlight the message in the poem?

8. Explain the phrase, “than unswept swept besmear'd with sluttish time”.

**Long answer type questions (100 words):**

1. Do you think that building ornate monuments in your name is an obscene display of power and wealth? Discuss.

2. The poet emphasises on the immortality of his friend, which he has achieved through verse. He says that the royal princes could not manage to immortalize themselves through the marble monuments and he could do it through a fragile piece of paper. Discuss how these monuments are a waste and have to face the ravages of time; its only legends and literature that live forever.

## Poem 4: OZYMANDIAS

- Percy Bysshe Shelley

This poem is a sonnet composed by the Romantic poet Shelley and named after its subject: the Greek name of the Egyptian king Ramses II. This sonnet reminds one of the Shakespearean sonnets "Not Marble, nor the Gilded monuments" where the poet highlights the futility and the inability to immortalise the rich and the powerful. Shelley describes the dilapidated state of one such statue that proves the veracity of Shakespeare's views.

The rich and the mighty try to immortalise themselves through statues. The poem brings out the transience of man and his foolish urge to immortalise his name. Man too is feeble to withstand the ravages of time. Hence, wisdom lies in leading a modest and unpretentious life and later on accepting the philosophy that time and tide wait for none. Man should leave behind his imprints in the sands of time through his actions and good deeds. He thus carves a niche for himself and stays on in the memories of his close ones.

### Questions:

1. *I met a traveller from an antique land  
Who said: two vast and trunkless legs of stone  
Stand in the desert. Near them, on the sand,  
Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown*
  - a. Who is the speaker of the above lines.
  - b. Who is being spoken about?
  - c. What are the expressions seen on the visage?
  - d. What do the above lines suggest to you about time?
  
2. *And on the pedestal these words appear:  
"My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings:  
Look upon my works, ye mighty and despair!"  
Nothing beside remains*
  - a. What is the rhyme scheme of the lines above?
  - b. What do you gather about the tone of the poem from the above lines?
  - c. Who are the "mighty" in the above lines?
  - d. Explain the phrase "Nothing beside remains". Bring out the irony too.
  
3. From your reading of the poem, what should be the ideal traits of a good ruler?
  
4. What reflects the great skill of the Sculptor?  
*Value Points:* The sculptor had captured the conceited king's scornful, inhospitable and cold expression with great precision. The expressions highlighted the sculptor's skill and mocked at the king's lack of foresight.
  
5. What is the underlying message in the poem?

*Value Points:* King Ozymandias who claimed to be “King of Kings” is dead, trace of his works remain either. Only his “frown” and “sneer of cold command” continue to survive as stamped on the image of the statue.

**Long answer type questions (100 words)**

1. Bring out parallelism between this poem and Shakespeare’s Sonnet, “Not Marble, Nor The Gilded Monuments”.
2. *My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings:  
Look upon my works, ye mighty and despair!”*

The above lines exude negativity and arrogance. Elaborate on the following: *There can be no positive result through negative attitude. Think positive. Live positive.*

## Poem 5 (part 1& 2): The Rime of the Ancient Mariner

*-Samuel Taylor Coleridge*

An Ancient Mariner, unnaturally old and skinny, with deeply-tanned skin and a "glittering eye", stops a Wedding Guest who is on his way to a wedding reception with two companions. He tries to resist the Ancient Mariner, who compels him to sit and listen to his woeful tale. The Ancient Mariner tells his tale, largely interrupted save for the sounds from the wedding reception and the Wedding Guest's fearsome interjections. One day when he was younger, the Ancient Mariner set sail with two hundred other sailors from his native land. The day was sunny and clear, and all were in good cheer until the ship reached the equator. Suddenly, a terrible storm hit and drove the ship southwards into a "rime" - a strange, icy patch of ocean. The towering, echoing "rime" was bewildering and impenetrable, and also desolate until an Albatross appeared out of the mist. No sooner than the sailors fed it did the ice break and they were able to steer through. As long as the Albatross flew alongside the ship and the sailors treated it kindly, a good wind carried them and a mist followed. One day, however, the Ancient Mariner shot and killed the Albatross on impulse.

Suddenly the wind and mist ceased, and the ship was stagnant on the ocean. The other sailors alternately blamed the Ancient Mariner for making the wind die and praised him for making the strange mist disappear. Then things began to go awry. The sun became blindingly hot, and there was no drinkable water amidst the salty ocean, which tossed with terrifying creatures. The sailors went dumb from their thirst and sunburned lips. They hung the Albatross around the Ancient Mariner's neck as a symbol of his sin. After a painful while, a ship appeared on the horizon, and the Ancient Mariner bit his arm and sucked the blood so he could cry out to the other sailors. The ship was strange: it sailed without wind, and when it crossed in front of the sun, its stark masts seemed to imprison the sun. When the ship neared, the Ancient Mariner could see that it was a ghost ship manned by Death, in the form of a man, and Life-in-Death, in the form of a beautiful, naked woman. They were gambling for the Ancient Mariner's soul. Life-in-Death won the Ancient Mariner's soul, and the other sailors were left to Death. The sky went black immediately as the ghost ship sped away. Suddenly all of the sailors cursed the Ancient Mariner with their eyes and dropped dead on the deck. Their souls zoomed out of their bodies, each taunting the Ancient Mariner with a sound like that of his crossbow. Their corpses miraculously refused to rot; they stared at him unrelentingly, cursing him with their eyes.

The Ancient Mariner drifted on the ocean in this company, unable to pray. One night he noticed some beautiful water-snakes frolicking at the ship's prow in the icy moonlight. Watching the creatures brought him unprecedented joy, and he blessed them without meaning to. When he was finally able to pray, the Albatross fell from his neck and sank into the sea. He could finally sleep, and dreamed of water. When he awoke, it was raining, and an awesome thunderstorm began. He drank his fill, and the ship began to sail in lieu of wind. Then the dead sailors suddenly arose and sailed the ship without speaking. They sang heavenly music, which the ship's sails continued when they had stopped. Once the ship

reached the equator again, the ship jolted, causing the Ancient Mariner to fall unconscious. In his swoon, he heard two voices discussing his fate. They said he would continue to be punished for killing the Albatross, who was loved by a spirit. Then they disappeared. When the Ancient Mariner awoke, the dead sailors were grouped together, all cursing him with their eyes once again. Suddenly, however, they disappeared as well. The Ancient Mariner was not relieved, because he realized that he was doomed to be haunted by them forever.

The wind picked up, and the Ancient Mariner spotted his native country's shore. Then bright angels appeared standing over every corpse and waved silently to the shore, serving as beacons to guide the ship home. The Ancient Mariner was overjoyed to see a Pilot, his boy, and a Hermit rowing a small boat out to the ship. He planned to ask the Hermit to absolve him of his sin. Just as the rescuers reached the ship, it sank suddenly and created a vortex in the water. The rescuers were able to pull the Ancient Mariner from the water, but thought he was dead. When he abruptly came to and began to row the boat, the Pilot and Pilot's Boy lost their minds. The spooked Hermit asked the Ancient Mariner what kind of man he was. It was then that the Ancient Mariner learned of his curse; he would be destined to tell his tale to others from beginning to end when an agonizing, physical urge struck him. After he related his tale to the Hermit, he felt normal again.

The Ancient Mariner tells the Wedding Guest that he wanders from country to country, and has a special instinct that tells him to whom he must tell his story. After he tells it, he is temporarily relieved of his agony. The Ancient Mariner tells the Wedding Guest that better than any merriment is the company of others in prayer. He says that the best way to become close with God is to respect all of His creatures, because He loves them all. Then he vanishes. Instead of joining the wedding reception, the Wedding Guest walks home, stunned. We are told that he awakes the next day "sadder and...Wiser" for having heard the Ancient Mariner's tale.

### **Questions:**

1. *And now the Storm-Blast came, and he was tyrannous and strong:  
He struck with his O'ertaking wings,  
And chased us south along.*

- Identify the figure of speech in the first two lines.
- What does the term "chased us" refer to?
- Explain the consequences faced by "us" on reaching a destination in the south.

2. *The wedding-guest he beat his breast,  
Yet he cannot choose but hear;  
And thus spake on that ancient man,  
The bright eyed mariner.*

- What does the action of the guest "beating his breast" signify?
- What is the Wedding-Guest supposed to hear and why?

c. Comment on the use of the words “spake” and “ancient” in these lines.

3. *At length did cross an Albatross,  
Through the fog it came;  
As if it had been a Christian soul,  
We hailed it in God's name.*

- a. What does the expression “at length” mean?
- b. Why was the Albatross hailed as a Christian Soul?
- c. What effect did the coming of the Albatross have on the sequence of events?

4. *The ice was here, the ice was there,  
The ice was all around:  
It cracked and growled, and roared and howled,  
Like noises in a swound!*

- a. Identify the poetic device used in line 3.
- b. Where was the ship stuck? Why?
- c. What happened soon after, that proved to be a good omen?

5. *Christ! That ever this should be?*

Why does the mariner invoke Christ here?

6. Describe the ancient mariner.

7. Why did the ancient mariner shoot the Albatross down and with what? Why was this action of his considered to be a crime?

8. What were the consequences of this crime?

**Long answer question (100 words):**

1. The poem “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner” is based on the theme of sin and regeneration. Explain.
2. The Ancient mariner indulges in wanton killing. Do you consider it to be a sin? Does he get an apt punishment for the same? Why or why not?
3. The Ancient mariner commits a crime and then repents. He feels guilty after the act. How important is it to think before we act?
4. Explain how the ancient mariner’s tale of woe serves as a cautionary tale, warning us about the repercussions of any wayward act against nature.
5. Respect for all forms of life is an essential value. Unmindful destruction of nature and its creatures deserves just punishment. Write in about 80- 100 words this essential value as brought out in the poem, ‘Rime of the Ancient Mariner’.



## Poem 6: Snake

–D H Lawrence

“Snake” is a seventy-four-line free-verse poem divided into nineteen verse paragraphs (stanzas of unequal length). Like many modern lyrics, it incorporates a narrative element, recording the poet’s encounter with a snake at his water-trough. Through this structure and carefully mobilized imagery, the poet reveals his conflicted, deepening consciousness, which moves from casual description to epiphanic confession. Written when D. H. Lawrence and his wife Frieda were living in Taormina, Sicily, in 1920-1921, the poem is derived from Lawrence’s actual experience...

This poem has a great vision human vs. nature... it’s about human being scared by the innocent creatures but also distracted by its beauty. The phrase "My Snake" shows how human could change his feeling in period of time. It is one of those things when a person doesn’t know what he wants and they later on realize that they have made a mistake by not caring or making the right decision at the right time.

The narrator has been taught to kill poisonous snakes-- not all snakes. He mentions that the black snakes are "innocent", not poisonous while the "golden" snake he describes are dangerous, and his first instinct is to kill it because that is what he is taught. Kill the snake before it kills you. However, the snake is only drinking peacefully and so the narrator is then conflicted. On one hand he's fascinated by the creature and doesn't want to harm it if it isn't aggressive, yet the voices continue to tell him to kill it. He thinks himself a coward for not doing so. In the end he attempts to kill the snake only to deeply regret it, because he struck first without being provoked. In an abstract way, we can even say that is a description of war; soldier VS soldier, they don't have a personal reason to hate each other, but they're obligated to attack.

This poem distinguished the fact that snakes are not devilish, harmful creatures and are not bad creatures, that we are scared of them only because of small instincts of the natural world.

Lawrence is exploring how we are like the mariner, through using the archetypal figure of the snake as a reflection of nature. Lawrence highlights how we have an underlying voice in our head which makes us act on impulse without taking into account the real beauty of nature. He highlights how if we do not appreciate the beauty of nature and therefore destroy it, then we will live our lives with emptiness and regret just as the mariner had to live his 'life in death'.

Also the poem talks about man vs. society; he sees the beauty of the snake and knows that it is harmless but because he has always been taught snakes to be evil and coming from hell he feels entitled to kill it with no justification except prior knowledge. This poem shows why it is better to think of one's sound man rather than do as taught. His instant regret at killing something he thought so highly of, shows his unwillingness to commit the act.

Questions:

A. *And yet those voices:*

*If you were not afraid, you would kill him!*

*And truly I was afraid, I was most afraid, But even*

*So, honoured still more*

1. What does the phrase “those voices” refer to?
2. Why was the poet afraid?
3. What made the poet feel honoured, despite being afraid of the snake?

B. *And so, I missed my chance with one of the Lords of life.*

*And I have something to expiate*

*A pettiness*

1. What chance has the speaker missed?
2. What has the speaker to expiate?
3. What are the speaker’s feelings in the above extract and why?

C. *And must wait, must stand and wait, for there he was at the trough before me.*

1. Identify the “he” and “me” in the above lines.
2. Why have “he” and “me” come to the trough?
3. “Me” must wait, must stand and wait. Why?
4. What is the significance of the repetition of the word “must” here?

D. *But suddenly that part of him, that was left behind convulsed in undignified haste*

*Writhed like lightning and was gone*

*Into the black hole the earth-lipped fissure in the wall-front,*

*At which, in the intense still noon, I started with fascination*

*And immediately I regretted it.*

1. Why did the snake convulse in undignified haste?
2. Identify the poetic device used in “Writhed like lightning”.
3. What did the poet regret?
4. What does the action regretted by the poet suggest about his character?

E. *But must I confess how I liked him,*

*How glad I was he had come like a guest in quiet,*

*to drink at my water trough*

*And depart peaceful, pacified, and thankless,*

*Into the burning bowels of the earth?*

1. The poet here was in a dilemma, what was it?

2. What is the poetic device in the line, “and depart peaceful, pacified and thankless”?
3. Why was the poet glad?

**Long answer type questions:**

1. With reference to the poem comment on man being a slave to thought processes ingrained in him through education contradictory to his love for nature.
2. The snake was perceived by the poet as a majestic creature that was living in exile. Does it continue to look like one? Explain the treatment meted out to the snake.
3. The poet follows the voice of education and tries to harm the snake. Do you feel that we are trying to harm the animals to live a comfortable life on earth? Write in about 100 words: *Killing in self-defence is justified.*
4. The poem, ‘Snake’ reminds us of the fact that animals too have the right to life which we have no right to deny them. Describe how man should co-exist with nature and its creatures for ecological balance.

## **NOVEL: Diary of a Young Girl**

*-by Anne Frank*

Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank is a personal account of a young girl who, along with her family and few other family friends went into hiding after the Germans invaded the Netherlands in 1940. The diary begins on her thirteenth birthday, June 12, 1942, and ends shortly after her fifteenth. At the start of her diary, Anne describes her experiences, writing about her friendships with other girls, her infatuations, and her academic performance at school.

Following the German invasion, the Franks move into a small secret annex above Otto Frank's (Anne's father) office where they stock food and other supplies. The employees from Otto's firm help hide the Franks and keep them supplied with food, medicine, and information about the outside world.

Safely ensconced in the secret hiding, Anne feels sorry for the other unfortunate Jews who are dragged to the camps and who are always under the threat of being sent to the gas chambers.

Anne often writes about her feelings of isolation and loneliness in her diary named Kitty. She has a tumultuous relationship with the adults in the annex, particularly her mother, whom she considers lacking in love and affection. She adores her father, but is frequently scolded and criticized by Mr. and Mrs. van Daan. Anne is also at loggerheads with a certain Mr. Dussel who joins the inmates later.

Anne eventually becomes intimate with Peter van Daan, son of the Van Daans. Mr. Frank does not approve, however, and the intensity of Anne's infatuation begins to lessen.

Anne matures over a period of time and her diary entries change from detailed accounts of basic activities to deeper, more profound thoughts about humanity and her own personal nature. She strongly speaks against the anti-Semitic laws that treat the Jews as an inferior race of human beings.

Anne's diary ends without any proper closure on August 1, 1944. The Frank family is betrayed to the Nazis and arrested on August 4, 1944. Otto Frank is the family's sole survivor, and he recovers Anne's diary from Miep. He decides to fulfill Anne's wishes by publishing the diary. Anne's diary becomes a condemnation of the unimaginable horror of the Holocaust.

### **Questions:**

1. Write a short note on the Nazi Regime.
2. What was the impact of the Nazi propaganda on Anne's life?

### ***Sample Answer:***

*The Nazi rule and its policies had an adverse effect on Anne's childhood. Her childhood was ruined due its cruelties. The Nazi Regime aimed to segregate the Jews from the German community and*

*completely eradicate their race. To escape this, Anne and her family were forced to live in seclusion. For many weeks, Anne and her family had to reside in MiepGies' house. Due to this, a secretive facet evolved in Anne's personality. Due to their living conditions, Anne could not enter the outside world in fear of the Gestapo. This hindered her opportunities to acquire education. Due to her confinement to the house, it wasn't possible for Anne to meet other people and pursue a social life. Hence, her relationships were limited to those which existed in the domestic environment. Confinement to her house also affected Anne's physical health as she never got any fresh air or physical exercise. There were two families living in the same house. The presence of many people in a limited place also compromised on their hygiene and sanitation.*

3. How was Anne's childhood?
4. Write about Anne's relationships with her male friends?
5. Write a character sketch of Edith Frank/Mr Van Daan and Mrs Van Daan
6. What were the reasons for disagreements between Anne and her mother?
7. Describe the conditions that existed in the Annexe and how did they impact Anne's life.
8. How did Franks try to make their hiding place secure?
9. How does Anne mature and develop through the course of her diary?
10. How is Anne affected by the various break-ins? How is her response connected to her general mood while in hiding?
11. How has Peter's experience made him feel about being Jewish?
12. Comment on the importance and relevance of Anne's dreams.
13. Draw the character sketch of Koophius.
14. What problems were faced by Anne and her family in the annexe?
15. *Anne calls herself a bundle of contradictions.* Elaborate on the statement.
16. How does Anne Frank mature and develop through the course of her diary?
17. How did the residents of the annexe react to the good news of the invasion by the allies?
18. Describe Albert Dussel as he appears in Anne Frank's diary.

### 100& More Books To Be Read Before You Leave School

1. Pride and Prejudice – Jane Austen
2. Sense and Sensibility- Jane Austen
3. Emma- Jane Austen
4. Jane Eyre- Charlotte Bronte
5. Mill on the Floss- George Eliot
6. Gone With The Wind – Margaret Mitchell.
8. The Count of Monte Cristo – Alexandre Dumas
9. Treasure Island – Robert Louis Stevenson
10. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn – Mark Twain
11. The Complete Sherlock Holmes – Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
15. Murder on the Orient Express – Agatha Christie
16. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd- Agatha Christie
17. Atlas Shrugged – Ayn Rand
18. Les Miserables – Victor Hugo
19. The Mysteries of Udolpho – Ann Radcliffe
20. Little Women – Louisa May Alcott
22. Wuthering Heights – Emily Bronte`
23. Grapes of Wrath – John Steinbeck
24. The Chronicles of Narnia – The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe – C. S. Lewis
25. The Harry Potter Series – J. K. Rowling
26. The DaVinci Code – Dan Brown
27. The Lost Symbol- Dan Brown
28. Inferno- Dan Brown
29. Gulliver’s Travels – Jonathan Swift
30. The Kite Runner – Khaled Hosseini
31. Robinson Crusoe – Daniel Defoe

32. Don Quixote - Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra
33. Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea - Jules Verne
34. The Godfather - Mario Puzo
35. Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl - Anne Frank
36. Aesop's Fables
37. The Three Musketeers - Alexandre Dumas
38. War and Peace - Leo Tolstoy
39. Rebecca - Daphne Du Maurier
40. The Evening News - Arthur Hailey
44. Three Men in A Boat - Jerome K Jerome
47. The Hobbit - J. R. Tolkien
48. The Great Gatsby - F. Scott Fitzgerald
49. The House of The Seven Gables - Nathaniel Hawthorne
50. The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo ( Millennium Trilogy) - Stieg Larsson
51. The Invisible Man - H. G. Wells.
52. Great Expectations - Charles Dickens.
53. Middlemarch - George Eliot
54. Sea of Poppies - Amitav Ghosh
55. Anna Karenina - Leo Tolstoy
56. The Old Man and the Sea - Ernest Hemingway
58. The Alchemist - Paulo Coelho
59. Jungle Book - Rudyard Kipling
60. The Shining - Stephen King
61. Around the World in Eighty Days - Jules Verne
66. Disclosure - Michael Crichton
67. The Exorcist - William Peter Blatty
68. Confessions of a Shopaholic - Sophie Kinsella
69. The Eagle Has Landed - Jack Higgins
70. The Wonderful Wizard of Oz - L. Frank Baum

- 71.. Doctor Zhivago - Boris Pasternak.
73. The Day of the Jackal - Frederick Forsyth
74. Crime and Punishment - Fyodor Dostoyevsky
75. The Bourne Identity - Robert Ludlum
76. The Murders in the Rue Morgue - Edgar Allan Poe
82. The India Fan - Victoria Holt
83. Gone Girl - Gillian Flynn
84. Love Story - Erich Segal
85. The Hotel New Hampshire - John Irving.
86. Joy in the Morning - P G Wodehouse
87. A Woman of Substance - Barbara Taylor Bradford
88. The Adventures of Robin Hood - Howard Pyle
89. Dracula - Bram Stoker
90. A Passage to India - E M Forster
91. A House for Mr. Biswas - V. S. Naipaul.
92. Brideshead Revisited - Evelyn Waugh.
93. The Turn of the Screw - Henry James
94. To Kill A Mocking Bird - Harper Lee
95. The Catcher in the Rye - J D Salinger
96. 1984 - George Orwell
97. The Age of Innocence - Edith Wharton
98. The Wind in the Willows - Kenneth Grahame
99. The Book Thief - Markus Zusak
100. The Handmaid's Tale - Margaret Atwood
101. Catch-22 - Joseph Heller
103. Diary of a Wimpy Kid - Jeff Kinney
104. Tess of the D'Urbervilles - Thomas Hardy
107. The Help-Kathryn Stockett
108. Non Stop India- Mark Tully

112. City of Djinns- William Darlymple
113. The Shadow of the Wind-Carlos Ruiz Zafon
114. And the Mountains Echoed- KhaledHosseini
115. Mahabharat-DevduttPattanaik
116. Ramayana -DevduttPattanaik
117. The Krishna Key- AshwinSanghi
119. Chanakaya's Chant- AshwinSanghi
120. Helen of Troy- Margaret George
121. The Song of Achilles- Madeline Miller
122. Henry VIII- Margaret George
123. The Tenant of Wildfell Hall-Anne Bronte
124. TristramShandy-Laurence Sterne
126. Midnight's Children-Salman Rushdie
127. The Moonstone- Wilkie Collins
128. Palace of Illusions- Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
129. The Twentieth Wife (A trilogy)-InduSundaresan
130. Mountain Of Light- InduSundaresan
131. .Empire of the Moghul series- Alex Rutherford
133. A Fine Balance- RohintonMistry
142. A Case of Exploding Mangoes- Mohammed Hanif
144. Not Without My Daughter- Betty Mahmoody
145. One Hundred Years of Solitude- Gabriel Garcia Marquez
146. The Colour of Water- James McBride
147. Blood Brothers- M.J.Akbar
148. Luka and the Fire of Life- Salman Rushdie
149. Haroun and the Sea of Stories- Salman Rushdie