

2023-24

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

TIME: 3 HOURS

CLASS: X

TOTAL MARKS: 80

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- The Question Paper contains THREE sections- READING COMPREHENSION, GRAMMAR & WRITING SKILL and LITERATURE
- ALL Questions are COMPULSORY
- This paper consists of 12 pages

SECTION A - READING COMPREHENSION (20)

I. Read the passage carefully and answer the given questions:

(10)

Have you ever been captivated by the allure of unsolved mysteries?

The world is filled with enigmatic cases that continue to baffle investigators and intrigue the public. From disappearances to unexplained phenomena, these mysteries have a way of captivating our imagination and leaving us with more questions than answers. In this passage, we will delve into the realm of unsolved mysteries, exploring some of the most perplexing cases that have puzzled investigators for decades.

One of the most famous unsolved mysteries is the Bermuda Triangle. Located in the western part of the North Atlantic Ocean, this area has been the site of numerous disappearances of ships and aircraft. Despite extensive research and investigations, no concrete explanation has been found for these disappearances. Some theories suggest magnetic anomalies, while others propose supernatural or extra-terrestrial involvement.

The Bermuda Triangle continues to be a source of fascination and speculation, captivating the minds of conspiracy theorists and adventure seekers alike.

Another perplexing mystery is the Voynich Manuscript. This medieval document, written in an unknown language and filled with bizarre illustrations, has stumped

cryptographers and linguists for centuries. Despite numerous attempts to decipher its meaning, the manuscript remains undeciphered, leaving its origins and purpose shrouded in mystery. The Voynich Manuscript serves as a reminder of the vastness of human knowledge yet to be uncovered, and the enduring allure of ancient enigmas. The disappearance of Amelia Earhart, the pioneering aviator, is a mystery that has fascinated the world for decades. In 1937, Earhart attempted to circumnavigate the globe, but her plane vanished over the Pacific Ocean. Despite extensive search efforts, no trace of Earhart or her aircraft has ever been found. Theories range from crash landings on remote islands to capture by enemy forces. The mystery of Amelia Earhart's disappearance not only highlights the dangers of early aviation but also serves as a testament to the resilience and determination of those who dare to push the boundaries of human exploration.

Unsolved mysteries have a way of capturing our imagination and reminding us of the vastness of the unknown. They challenge our understanding of the world and invite us to question the limits of human knowledge. Whether it's the Bermuda Triangle, the Voynich Manuscript, or the disappearance of Amelia Earhart, these mysteries continue to intrigue and inspire us. As we ponder these enigmas, we are reminded of the power of curiosity and the thrill of the unknown, urging us to explore and seek answers in the face of the inexplicable.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

(a) Which of the following best describes the author's attitude towards unsolved mysteries? 1

- (i) The author believes that unsolved mysteries are a waste of time and should not be explored further.
- (ii) The author is sceptical about the existence of unsolved mysteries and believes they can all be explained.
- (iii) The author is fascinated by unsolved mysteries and acknowledges their ability to captivate our imagination.
- (iv) The author believes that unsolved mysteries are dangerous and should be avoided at all costs.

(b) What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from the paragraph? Rationalize your response in about 40 words. **2**

The Bermuda Triangle continues to be a source of fascination and speculation, captivating the minds of conspiracy theorists and adventure seekers alike.

(c) Complete the sentence appropriately:

The author's main argument in the paragraph is that **1**

(d) The passage includes some words that are **synonyms** of each other. From the sets (i)-(iv) below, identify the set that is an **antonym pair** based on the paragraph: **1**

(i) Captivated – Intrigued

(ii) Fascination - Allure

(iii) Enigmatic - Straightforward

(iv) Reminding - Urging

(e) Complete the sentence appropriately.

It can be inferred that the author's perspective on unsolved mysteries **1**

(f) Based on the reading of the paragraph, compare the author's viewpoint on unsolved mysteries to the concept of scientific exploration. Explain in about 40 words. **2**

(g) What is the message conveyed through the disappearance of Amelia Earhart in the paragraph? **1**

(i) The dangers of early aviation and the risks involved in pushing the boundaries of human exploration.

(ii) The importance of following proper flight procedures and safety protocols.

(iii) The need for stricter regulations in the aviation industry to prevent such disappearances.

(iv) The unreliability of aircraft technology during the early 20th century.

(h) State True or False

The author's view on unsolved mysteries is similar to scientific exploration. **1**

II. Read the passage carefully and answer the given questions: (10)

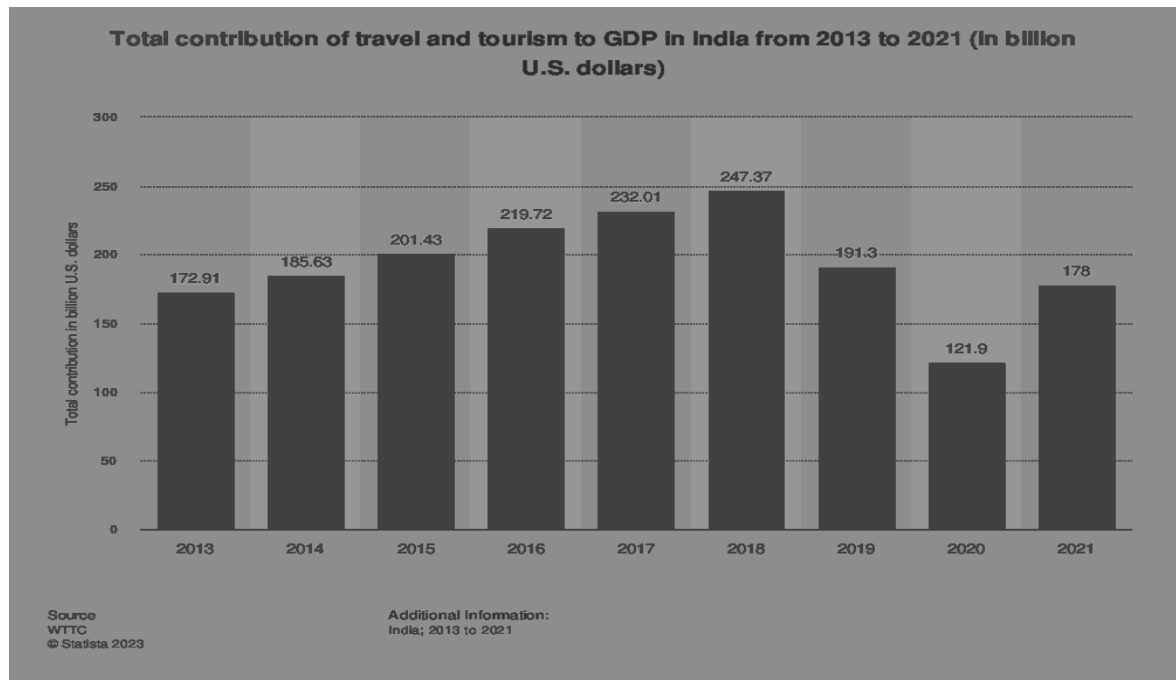
1. "India is a major tourist destination and is therefore a strategic ally to strengthen the recovery of Travel & Tourism activity in the region. In 2019, India's Travel & Tourism sector made up 6.8 per cent of the country's total GDP, and 8 per cent of total employment. The government of India's leadership is instrumental and essential for us to be able to work towards a single agenda and the reactivation of international travel to benefit the millions of people in India who depend on the sector for their livelihoods," said a spokesperson from WTTC.

2. In India, travel and hospitality contributes 9.3 per cent to the overall Indian GDP and accounts for over 8 per cent of India's total employment. It is therefore imperative to come together and focus on the revival of the sector across the globe with optimism, hope and unity in solidarity of the industry. The recovery plan presented to the tourism ministers from the world includes the focus on key measures to reactivate international tourism. The measures include globally recognised international testing programme; strengthening and standardising protocols between countries to reduce risk and regain confidence from the traveller; and international coordination for the reopening of the sector, with the highest priority to health, safety and certainty for the traveller.

According to data, the travel and tourism sector generated 7 14.1 trillion (USD 219.72 billion) in 2016, which is world's 7th largest in terms of absolute size; the sum is equivalent to 9.6% of India's GDP. Additionally, the sector created 40.3 million jobs in 2016, which ranks India 2nd in the world in terms of total employment generated. The sector accounts for 9.3% of the country's total jobs. India's Travel and Tourism sector was also the fastest growing amongst the G20 countries, growing by 8.5% in 2016. 6.7% growth is forecast for 2017 in this sector.

3. The President and CEO, WTTC, David Scowsill says, "We encourage the Indian government to continue to adopt policies that encourage travellers, such as the new visa regime, enable investment in vital infrastructure, and allow companies to do business. India is a beautiful and diverse tourism destination, with the right policies in

place it will no doubt continue to grow towards ranking even higher in terms of its tourism economy.



Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

(a) Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of paragraphs 1 and 2. 1

We can say that good rainfall boosts crop production, and a *boost in travel and tourism*, *augments*

(b) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of paragraph 2. 1

According to the author, the revival of travel and hospitality has to be executed with optimism, hope and unity among the countries of the world with a special focus on India because this sector contributes 9.3 percent to the overall Indian GDP and accounts for over 8 percent of India's total employment is [a fact/ an opinion] and [a/an subjective judgement/ objective detail].

(c) The plan proposed by the Indian government will help revive tourism on an international scale and reactivate it with a key focus on the travellers. Justify the following, in about 30-40 words. 2

(d) Based on the survey results, which two policies will greatly enhance travel and encourage travellers according to David Scowsill? 1

(e) Infer one reason for the following, based on information in paragraph 1.
The WTTC acknowledges the importance of the Indian tourism industry in reviving international travel. 1

(f) Select the option that correctly displays what 'tourism infrastructure' signifies. (Ref-Paragraph 2) 1



Image (i)

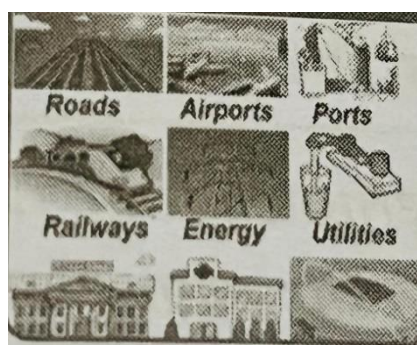


Image (ii)

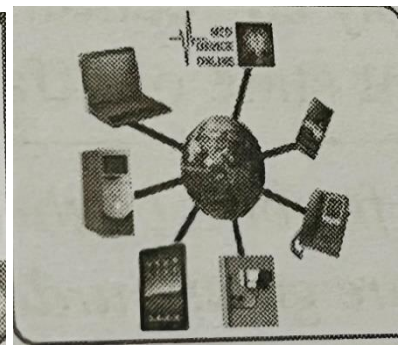


Image (iii)



Image (v)



Image (v)

(g) Infer one benefit and one drawback of the Indian Travel and Hospitality sector's remarkable growth in 2016 as compared to 2019. Answer in about 30-40 words. 2

(h) Which of the following is the main takeaway from the study mentioned in the passage? 1

- (i) The travel and tourism sector generated jobs worth Rs. 14.1 trillion in 2016.
- (ii) The reactivation of international travel needs a single coordinated agenda.
- (iii) Travel-friendly policies will help India create more employment in this sector.
- (iv) It is the fastest-growing sector among G20 countries.

SECTION B - GRAMMAR & WRITING SKILL (20)

III. Complete the following tasks as directed:

(1X10)

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

Dear Sir

Subject: Low voltage and frequent breakdown of electricity

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

(b) Read the given sentence from a recipe review article. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.

In 2017, another study for Lahore looked at the habit of adding salt to meals as a risk factor for the incidence of new-onset debates.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

(c) Akansha and Raman were having a conversation about a project. Report Akansha's question.

Did you manage to get the necessary financial backing for your new start up from the Dean, yesterday?

(d) Read the dialogue between Kanchan and Maitreyi and report it in indirect speech.

Kanchan: My new dress is very pretty.

Maitrevi: Will you show it to me?

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

.....

(i) She will show the dress to her. (iii) She will show her dress to her?

(ii) She would show the dress to her. (iv) Would she show the dress to her?

(e) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the tagline of American Express '..... live life without it.'

(i) Will (ii) Won't (iii) Doesn't (iv) Don't

(f) Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from the opposition parties' current political strategy.

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

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

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

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

Option no.	Error	Correction
1.	has delayed	have been delayed
2.	the war	war
3.	Supply	supplies
4.	was running	were running

h) Report the dialogue between Ranbir and a policeman by completing the sentence into reported speech.

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

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

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

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

Yes, and how many ears must one man have

Before he can hear people cry?

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

That too many people? (die)

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

(j) Identity the error und supply correction, for the following note in a private bank's instruction manual to its customers.

ICICI Bank

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

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

IV. You are Sonia Sampat, the Vice Captain of Azad School, Delhi. You have recently noticed several posters around your school premises conveying the following message.

Hey you!

Be attractive and slim in just 15 days!

"Lose belly fat with our organic diet plan."

Write a letter to the Editor of DWA in 120 words, drawing attention towards harm caused by such advertisings. Propose the implementation of "Wholesome Lunch Month" in schools as an idea to address such practices, mention the advantages and share suggestions to foster healthy eating habits. **5**

V. Below is given an excerpt from the book of a well-known author.



Students should know about the importance of farming over other activities. Those who appreciate the efforts, time and care required for growing food will definitely understand the importance of farmers, and thus, the importance of taking care of our mother Earth. Today, farming needs to be given importance because it creates environmental stewards and outdoor learning laboratories that help the kids and community for years to come

Analyse the given argument in the form of paragraph writing in about 100-120 words. Give your views on what alternative explanations might weaken or strengthen the given argument. **5**

SECTION C – LITERATURE (40)

VI. Read the given extract and answer the questions given.

I finished my poem, and it was beautiful! It was about a mother duck and a father swan with three baby ducklings who were bitten to death by the father because they quacked too much. Luckily, Mr. Keesing took the joke the right way. He read the poem to the class, adding his own comments, and to several other classes as well.

(From the Diary of Anne Frank)

(a) State any one inference about Mr. Keesing from the given context: **1**

Mr. Keesing took the joke the right way.

(b) What had transpired between Mr. Keesing and Anne Frank for her to feel relieved on seeing his response to her poem? Answer in about 30-40 words. **2**

(c) Why do you think Mr Keesing chose the title- 'An Incurable Chatterbox' - for Anne, to write on? 1

(d) Which word would correctly substitute 'luckily', in the given sentence from the extract? 1

Luckily, Mr. Keesing took the joke the right way

VII. Read the given extract and answer the questions given.

What is the boy now, who has lost his ball,

What, What is he to do? I saw it go

Merrily bouncing, down the street, and then

Merrily over - there it is in the water!

(*The Ball Poem*)

(a) In what way does the language used in this poem challenge traditional ideas of what poetry should be? 1

(b) What is the significance of the use of the punctuation comma, mid-sentence '*What is the boy now, who has lost his ball,*' and the use of a dash in '*Merrily over-there it is in the water!*' in the poem and how does this contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem? Answer in about 30-40 words. 2

(c) Complete the sentence with the appropriate option. 1

The poet seems to have indicated the merry bouncing of the ball to

(i) create a sense of rhythm in these lines.

(ii) support the happiness of the experience of playing.

(iii) contrast with the dejected feeling of the boy.

(iv) indicate the cheerful mood of the boy.

(d) Identify the dominating figure of speech used in the given lines of the poem. 1

VIII. Answer the following questions, in about 40-50 words. (4X3=12)

(a) What role does Mijbil play in the narrator's life, and how does it signify the importance of companionship?

(b) In what way does the character of Chubukov in "The Proposal" reflect societal norms and expectations of the affluent 19th Century Russian society?

(c) How does "Tiger in the Zoo" draw attention to the contrast between freedom and confinement?

(d) Valli, an eight year old girl, demonstrates an amazing use of life skills. Comment.

IX. Answer the following questions, in about 40-50 words. **(2X3=6)**

(a) The story "Footprints without Feet" is a powerful example of how technology and scientific advancement can have ethical and moral implications. Discuss how the invention of invisibility in the story serves both as a boon and a curse.

(b) Discuss how "The Book That Saved the Earth" showcases the value of human creativity and ingenuity through its characters.

X. Answer the following question, in about 100-120 words. **(6x1=6)**

You have been chosen to give a presentation discussing the themes of faith and providence as presented in "A Letter to God" and "The Black Aeroplane." Prepare your presentation draft in not more than 120 words.

You may begin this way: *Good afternoon, I am honored to discuss two stories today that delve into the themes of faith and providence, namely 'A Letter to God' and 'The Black Aeroplane'.*

XI. Answer the following question, in about 100-120 words. **(6x1=6)**

Imagine that Bholi's father writes a diary entry, reflecting on the traditional societal norms regarding women and education, and how his perceptions changed after witnessing Bholi's transformation through education. Write this diary entry in about 120 words