

CLASS-X

Time allowed: 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

- This paper is divided into three parts
Section A – Reading Skills (20)
Section B – Grammar and Creative Writing Skills (20)
**Section C : Literature Textbook and
Supplementary Reading Text (40 marks)** • Answer the questions in sequence
- Separate instructions are given with each question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions carefully and follow them faithfully

Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions • Total number of questions: 11

SECTION A: READING SKILLS 20 Marks

Q1. Read the passage given below. 10

1. One of the legends about India which our English rulers have persistently circulated all over the world is that India has several hundred languages – I forget the exact number. For proof there is the census. Of these several hundred, it is an extraordinary fact that very few Englishmen know even one moderately well, in spite of a life-long residence in the country. They class the lot of these together and call them the ‘Vernacular’, the slave language (from Latin verna, a home born slave), and many of our people have, unknowingly, accepted the nomenclature. It is astonishing how English people spend a lifetime in India without taking the trouble to learn the language well. They have evolved, with the help of their khansamahs and ayahs, an extraordinary jargon, a kind of pidgin-Hindustani, which they imagine is the real article. Just as they take their facts about Indian life from their subordinates and sycophants, they take their ideas about Hindustani from their domestic servants, who make a point of speaking their pidgin language to the sahib-log for fear that they would not understand anything else. They seem to be wholly ignorant of the fact that Hindustani, as well as the other Indian languages, have high literary merit and extensive literatures.

2. If the census tells us that India has two or three hundred languages, it also tells us, I believe, that Germany has about fifty or sixty languages. I do not remember anyone pointing out this fact in proof of the disunity or disparity of Germany. As a matter of fact, a census mentions all manner of petty languages, sometimes spoken by a few thousand persons only; and often dialects are classed, for scientific

purposes, as different languages. India seems to me to have surprisingly few languages, considering the area. Compared to the same area in Europe, it is far more closely allied in regard to language, but because of widespread illiteracy, common standards have not developed and dialects have formed. The principal languages of India (excluding Burma) are Hindustani (of the two varieties, Hindi and Urdu), Bengali, Gujrati, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Canarese. If Assamese, Oriya, Sindhi, Pushtu and Punjabi are added, the whole country is covered except for some hill and forest tribes. Of these, the Indo-Aryan languages, which cover the whole north, center and west India, are closely allied; and the southern Dravidian languages, though different, have been greatly influenced by Sanskrit and are full of Sanskrit words.

3. The eight principal languages mentioned above have all old and valuable literatures and each of them are spoken today over a vast area, which is definite and clearly marked. Thus from the point of numbers speaking a language, these languages are among the major languages of the world. Fifty million people speak Bengali. As for Hindustani, with its variations, is spoken, I imagine (I have no figures here), by about a hundred and forty million in India, and it is partly understood by a vast number of others all over the country. Such a language has obviously enormous possibilities.

4. It rests on the solid foundation of Sanskrit and it is closely allied to Persian. Thus it can draw from two rich sources, and of course, in recent years, it has drawn from English. The Dravidian country in the south is the only part where Hindustani comes as almost a foreign tongue, but the people there are making a great effort to learn it. Two years ago (in 1932) I saw some figures of a private voluntary society which had undertaken the teaching of Hindi in the south. During the previous fourteen years, since its formation, it was stated that 550,000 persons had learnt Hindi through its efforts in Madras Presidency alone. For a voluntary effort, which is supported in no way by the state, this is remarkable, and most of the persons who learn Hindi themselves become missionaries in the cause.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below. 10

i. Why does the writer say that Hindustani has enormous possibilities? 1

- A. It has its foundation in Sanskrit.
- B. It is spoken by a huge number of people and understood by even more.
- C. Foreigners show interest in Hindustani
- D. People of south India are learning Hindustani now

ii. Select the option that displays what the writer projects, with reference to the following: 1

‘.....they take their ideas about Hindustani from their domestic servants, who make a point of speaking their pidgin language to the sahib-log for fear that they would not understand anything else.’

- A. Reason for the Sahib’s disregard and contempt for Hindustani
- B. Reason for the Sahib’s pride in learning Hindustani

C. Reason for the Sahib's distaste for Hindustani

D. Reason for the Sahib's pleasure in learning Hindustani

iii. Complete the following with a phrase from paragraph 1.

What many people did not realise that in spite of being a relatively inexperienced writer, his work had

iv. The writer compares India and Germany. State one point of comparison and one of contrast. 1

v. Based on your reading of the text, list 2 reasons why the writer says that "They seem to be wholly ignorant of the fact that Hindustani, as well as the other Indian languages, have high literary merit and extensive literatures." 2

1) _____

2) _____

vi What might be the reason that the author mentions that Hindustani draws generously from Sanskrit and Persian? 1

vii Supply 1 point to justify the following: 2

The English referred to all native languages as 'vernacular'

viii Evaluate the INAPPROPRIATE reason for Hindustani being almost a foreign tongue in the Dravidian country 1

A. They have lived in close contact with the people of the North

B. Theirs is a completely different culture

C. The two have been very different races of people

D. Geographical isolation and concentration in one region

Q2. Read the passage given below. 10

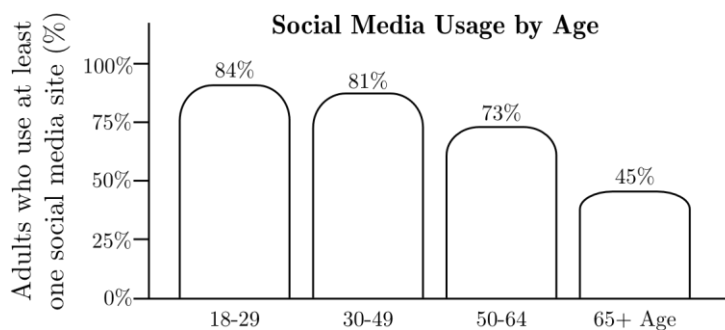
1. News-If you can't remember the last time, you saw a teenager reading a book, newspaper or magazine, you're not alone. In recent years, less than 20 per cent of teen report reading a book, magazine or newspaper daily for pleasure. More than 80 per cent say they use social media every day, according to a research published by the World Psychological Association.

2. 'Compared with previous generations, teens in the 2010s spent more time online and less time with traditional media, such as books, magazines and television,' said lead author of the book yGen and professor of Psychology at ABC University. 'Time on digital media has displaced the time that was once spent enjoying a book or watching TV'.

3. Swaner and her colleagues analyse data concluded from an ongoing study of a nationally representative sample of approximately 50,000 eighth, tenth and twelfth grade students annually. They looked at survey results from 1976 to 2016, representing more than 1 million teenagers.

While the study started with only twelfth-graders in the 1970s, eighth and tenth-graders were added in 1991.

4. Use of digital media increased substantially from 2006 to 2016. Among twelfth-graders, internet use during leisure time doubled from one to two hours per day during that period. It also increased 75 per cent for tenth-graders and 68 per cent for eighth-graders.
5. “In the mid-2010s, the average twelfth grader reported spending approximately two hours a day texting, just over two hours a day on the internet which included gaming and just under two hours a day on social media,” said Swaner. That’s a total of about six hours per day on just three digital media activities during their leisure time.
6. In comparison, tenth-graders reported a total of five hours per day and eighth-graders reported four hours per day on those three digital activities. Consequently, the spent time in the digital world is seriously degrading the time they spend on more traditional media such as print book and newspapers.
7. The decline in reading print media was especially steep. In the early 1990s, 33 percent of tenth-graders said they read a newspaper almost every day. By 2016, that number was only 2 per cent. In the late 1970s, 60 per cent of twelfth-graders said they read a book or a magazine almost very day; by 2016, only 16 per cent did. Twelfth-graders also reported reading fewer books each year in 2016 compared to how much they read in 1976 and approximately one-third did not read a book (including e-books) for pleasure in the year prior to the 2016 survey.
8. There’s no lack of intelligence among young people. However, due to over dependence on digital media they find it difficult to focus for long periods of time and to read long-form text. Subsequently, they find it challenging to understand complex issues and develop critical thinking skills.



Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Infer two possible ways that the survey, mentioned in the given extract, could be beneficial.
Answer in about 40 words. 2
- ii. Select the option that displays the most likely reason for the study of this research. 1
 - (a) To know about reading choices of teenagers
 - (b) To know about digital competency of teenagers
 - (c) To know about the decline of time spent on traditional media

(d) Both b and c

iii. Do you think that the researchers of this study added eighth and tenth graders to the survey, deliberately? Support your answer with reference to the text. 1

iv. Identify the person who uses social media from the three following people. 1

(a) Anchal – I have been using WhatsApp since morning.

(b) Babita – I have been reading books since night.

(c) Daisy – I'm watching NETFLIX for two hours.

v. What does the author mean by “degrading the time”? 1

vi. The Mid 2010s saw a rise in the various digital activities of the twelfth graders. Do you agree? Answer in about 40 words. 2

vii. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1

Traditional media has been replaced by digital. We can say this because _____.

viii. State TRUE or FALSE. 1

The title, ‘Social Media Usage by Different Age Groups’ is appropriate for this passage.

SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)

Q3. Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions. 10

i. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete an online update.

Our performer for the evening has not turned up yet and we _____ to reach him, over phone, for the last fifteen minutes. 1

A. Have tried

B. Are trying

C. Were trying

D. Have been trying

ii Read the conversation between a doctor and his patient. Complete the sentence by reporting it. 1

Doctor: I am afraid you will have to undergo a surgery very soon, Mr Mehta.

Patient: Oh my! Is there any reason for me to be worried, Doctor?

The doctor, apprehensive, declared _____. Afraid, Mr Mehta asked if there was any reason for him to be worried.

iii Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line. 1

The builder _____ take responsibility in case of any structural defect in a building.

- A. Needs to
- B. should
- C. will
- D. might

iv Identify the error and supply the correction for the following line, from a news report: 1

The celebrations, however, have evolved from the time of hardbound albums and sepia pictures.

ERROR	CORRECTION

v Complete the given narrative, by filling in the blank with the correct option: 1

Before we received the much-awaited phone call, we _____ already _____ our security check in. There was no going back anymore.

- A. have finished
- B. had finished
- C. had been finishing
- D. were finishing

vi Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter: 1

Subject: Request for Approval

Dear Sir

We would like to humbly inform you that we wish to organise a cleanliness drive in school and we would be grateful if permission _____ (grant) for the same.

vii Report the dialogue between a son and his father, by completing the sentence: 1

Son: May I go on an excursion with my friends to Shimla?

Father: Are you sure that it won't affect your studies, now that your examination is not that far away?

The son wanted the father's permission to go on an excursion with his friends to Shimla but the father, concerned, _____ as then his examination was not that far away.

viii Identify the error in the given sentence 1

Monsoon always bring back childhood nostalgia.

ERROR	CORRECTION

ix. Sunil shared some information, with Tariq, about a holiday at sea. Report Tariq's question. 1

Was the weather pleasant or was it extremely hot, as one would expect a coastal town to be?

x. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the slogan. 1

THERE ARE SOMETHINGS MONEY _____ BUY.

A. WOULD NOT

B. WON'T

C. SHALL NOT

D. CAN'T

xi. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Lata and her father. 1

Father: Why don't you take your brother to the park, Lata?

Lata: I think the park will be too crowded now, on a Sunday afternoon.

Father asked Lata to take her brother to the park but Lata was hesitant as she believed _____.

A. that the park would be too crowded then, on a Sunday afternoon.

B. that the park must have been too crowded then, on a Sunday afternoon.

C. that the park would have been too crowded on a Sunday afternoon

D. that the park must be too crowded as it was Sunday afternoon

xii. Identify the error on an advertising banner and supply the correction, for the following sales offer: 1

Parle India: Mango Candies

All new Mango Bite: Tastes that you don't want to share

ERROR	CORRECTION

Q4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below. 5

A. You are Sunidhi Prakash, the Vice Captain of Brilliant Vidyalaya, Kanpur. You had placed an order for some Sports goods, like cricket kits, stumps and bails, footballs, table tennis board and nets and so on, from JK Sports, Kanpur. However, after the items were delivered, you discovered some defects in one or two items. Write a letter of complaint to the Manager, JK Sports, seeking remedial actions at the earliest.

OR

B. You are Sohail, the Proprietor of a Bakery. For the festive season, having received more orders for the coming weeks, you have to scale up production. Write a letter to the Manager, Ganpati Enterprise, wholesaler of grocery items placing an order for ingredients/items you need for the bakery.

Q5. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below. 5

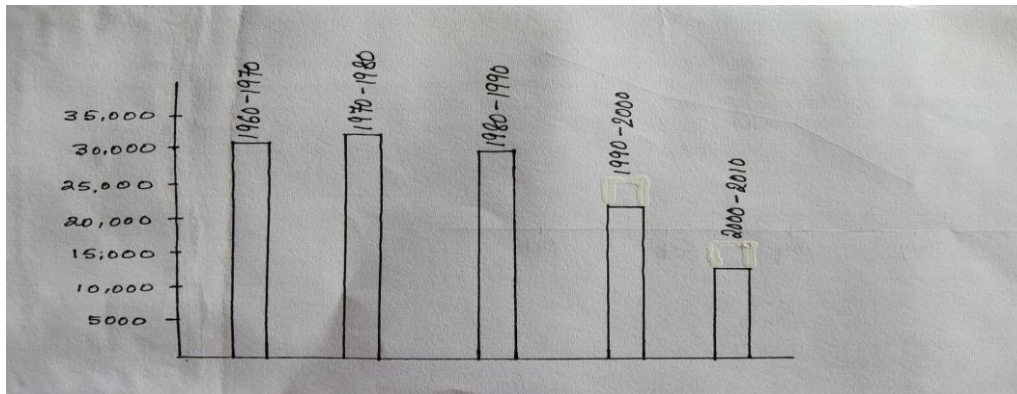
It has been seen that most of the successful people are avid readers. So, the world today needs more libraries than shops selling electronic gadgets because we need to bring people back to books.

Write a paragraph in about 100-120 words analysing the given argument.

You could think about what alternative explanations might weaken the given conclusion and include rationale/evidence that would strengthen/ counter the given argument.

OR

B. The following bar graph shows the number of migratory birds visiting Kolkata in winter, between the years 1960 and 2010. Write an analytical paragraph on the same.



In about 100-120 words report and write an analytical paragraph based on the given data.

SECTION C : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY
READING TEXT (40 MARKS)

Reference to the Context 10

Q6. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given. 5

A. Her first journey – what careful, painstaking, elaborate plans she had had to make for it! She had thriftily saved whatever coins came her way, resisting every temptation to buy peppermints, toys, balloons and the like and finally she had saved a total of sixty paise. How difficult it had been, particularly that day at the village fair, but she had resolutely stifled a strong desire to ride the merry-go-round, even though she had the money.

After she had enough money saved, her next problem was how to slip out of the house without her mother's knowledge. But she managed this without too much difficulty. Every day after lunch her mother would nap from about one to four or so. Valli always used this hours for her 'excursions' as she stood looking from the doorway of her house or sometimes even ventured out into the village; today, these same hours could be used for her first excursion outside the village'

i. From the passage it is NOT evident that 1

- A. Valli was a wastrel
- B. Valli was frugal.
- C. Valli was confident.
- D. Valli was curious.

ii. What did Valli find easy to manage? 2

iii. Fill in the blank with ONE WORD ONLY 1

Valli found it quite difficult to _____ from taking a ride on the merry-go-round.

iv. From this extract, what can we conclude about Valli's character? 1

OR

B. One evening, he came home with a small bundle of notes, saying he had just sold a book to a publisher. At night, I saw him tuck the money under the mattress.

I had been working for Anil for almost a month and, apart from cheating on the shopping, had not done anything in my line of work. I had every opportunity for doing so. Anil had given me a key to the door, and I could come and go as I pleased. He was the most trusting person I had ever met.

And that is why it was so difficult to rob him. It's easy to rob a greedy man, because he can afford to be robbed; but it's difficult to rob a careless man – sometimes he doesn't even notice he's been robbed and that takes all the pleasure out of the work.

Well, its time I did some real work, I told myself; I'm out of practice. And if I don't take the money, he'll only waste it on his friends. After all, doesn't even pay me.

i. Select the option that correctly captures the usage of the word ‘tuck’ in the extract. 1

- A. I told him to tuck that thing away from my sight.
- B. We saw him tuck the money into his shirt pocket.
- C. We found the boy’s socks tuck out of his shoes.
- D. I did not know how to tuck the book out of the bag.

ii. Complete the analogy by selecting the suitable word from the text 1

laughing: weeping:: meticulous: _____

iii. From the reading of the extract what could be the apt description of the thief? 1

iv. How fair is the thief’s claim that he could steal because Anil did not pay him?2

Q7. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given. 5

A “But I can get a hair-dye
And set such colour there,
Brown, or black, or carrot,
That young men in despair
May love me for myself alone
And not my yellow hair.”

“I heard an old religious man
But yesternight declare
That he had found the text to prove
That only God, my dear,
Could love you for yourself alone
And not your yellow hair

i. Complete the sentence appropriately. 2

The poet has brought in the reference of an ‘old religious man’ and the ‘text’ to provide
.....

ii. Anne Gregory wants to change the colour of her hair, for, 1

- A. She could become ugly, for no apparent reason
- B. She was tired of people being distracted by her appearance
- C. She could then realise who loved her only for her prettiness
- D. It would help men to choose her prudently

iii. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE:

The poet's argument in the second stanza of the extract can be interpreted as a statement on man's preoccupation with appearance. 1

iv. The poetic device used in the expression 'black, or brown, or carrot,...' is _____. 1

OR

B 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!

(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 words '*What is the boy now, who has lost his ball,*' 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

Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following in about 40-50 words each. 4*3=12

- i. Why do you think KisaGotami calls herself 'selfish in her grief'? 3
- ii. How has the poet made Blink's 'giggle' potent with meaning? 3
- iii. Chubukov's wisdom is overshadowed by his need to adhere to social convention. Justify with reference to his final decision, in the play. 3
- iv. What extreme measure is Amanda ready to embrace, if only it helps her to escape from the constant admonitions of her parents? 3
- v. One powerful image in the poem 'Trees' is that of the moon 'broken like a mirror'. What does the image convey? 3

Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each. 2*3=6

- i. What is the most ironical, when it comes to Max's appearance? 3
- ii. With what arguments did the Thief convince himself that he should steal Anil's money? 3
- iii. In what way was Bholi trying to uphold her family's 'izzat' as she consented to marry Bishamber Nath? 3

Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100-120 words. 1*6=6

- i. In the poem "Fog" the poet has intermingled Nature with mundane matters of man and his world. Do you agree? Give reasons to justify your answer.

OR

- ii. Imagine that the boy, of 'The Ball Poem' was closely observed by Kisa Gotami. Unlike the poet, she came forward to talk to the boy. Write the dialogue that might take place between the two. You may begin like this

Kisa: Hello! It seems you are upset about something, are you?

The Boy: Yes, I am. I just lost the ball I had been playing with?

Kisa: I see. So are you upset just for the loss of a ball?

6

Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100-120 words. 1*6=6

- i. If people at the helm are incompetent and inefficient, any organization or nation will cease to thrive. Elucidate with reference to Think-Tank.

OR

- ii. Though a very loving husband, M. Loisel can also be held responsible for Matilda's doom. Justify your answer with reference to the prose, "The Necklace".

सताब्दी ठाकुर
अध्यापक, श्री शिक्षायतन स्कूल