



Atul Tutorials Pvt. Ltd.

Kothrud | Aundh | Sangvi | Rt Bhusari | Pimle Saudagar

1 PRELIMS 24- 25

Class 10 - English Language and Literature

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

1. This question paper comprises 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper contains THREE sections -
 - Section - A : Reading Skills
 - Section - B : Grammar and Creative Writing Skills
 - Section - C : Literature Text Book
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section A - Reading Skills

1. Read the passage given below:

[10]

1. Hiking is a great source of pleasure to us besides being beneficial for health. Once we leave the crowded streets of a city and go out for a walking tour away from the mad world, we really feel free. The open air has a bracing effect on the mind. The congestion of the city, the uproar and tumult, the intolerable noise of traffic, the hectic daily routine, all these are forgotten and the mind is at ease. We then feel like running, leaping, singing and laughing. We travel merrily mile after mile in the company of friends and associates.
2. Hiking takes us in the midst of nature. The sight of waterfalls, flowers, streams, trees and bushes is pleasing. A connect is established between us and nature. Various sounds of nature, like the murmur of a brook or the song of a bird, acquire a new meaning and significance to us.
3. You enjoy the beauty of nature. Minute observations like a snake casting its slough, a mouse peeping out of its hole, a squirrel leaping about on the branches of a tree, a bird flying past us, all these are noticed and they arouse our interest. We have no business worries, no fear of the examination, no anxiety about the home. We have leisure to stand, to walk and talk. It is more thrilling and pleasurable to hike in a mountainous region than in the plains. The excitement of climbing up to the top of a hill, the adventure of coming

down a slope, the grandeur of sunset behind a mountain - All these sights lend a rare charm and interest to our journey.

4. We walk along a zigzag motor road or cut across a mountain path in search of adventure. We may have bright sunny weather or might get caught in a shower of rain. We may look below us into the yawning chasm or up at the mountain peak. The feeling of unlimited freedom makes our hearts leap with joy.
5. Hiking is one of the healthiest sports. It ensures a complete escape from the urgent and busy activities of life and therefore gives solace to our brain. It regains its lost energy and is able to do twice as much work as before.
6. The fresh air, beautiful mountains, majestic trees, chirping sound of birds make one's mind and soul at peace with nature.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions below: (10)

- i. (i) Based on the reading and understanding of the above passage, list 2 reasons why hiking is considered beneficial. (1)
 - (a) _____
 - (b) _____
- ii. Select the option that corresponds to the meaning of the following sentence from paragraph 1: (1)

"The open air has a bracing effect on the mind."

 - (a) Fresh air causes discomfort and unease.
 - (b) The fresh air refreshes and strengthens the mind.
 - (c) Open air leads to congestion in the mind.
 - (d) The open air reduces physical strength.
- iii. Based on your reading of the passage, examine in about 40 words how hiking connects us with nature. (2)
- iv. What is the tone of the writer in the given line from paragraph 3? Rationalize your response in about 40 words: (2)

"It is more thrilling and pleasurable to hike in a mountainous region than in the plains."
- v. The phrase 'yawning chasm' in paragraph 4 refers to: (1)
 - (a) a wide and deep gap
 - (b) a narrow and shallow gap
 - (c) a bridge connecting two areas
 - (d) a small and safe path

vi. In sets a-e below, identify two sets of synonyms: (1)

- a. hectic and calm
- b. solitude and peace
- c. bracing and refreshing
- d. adventure and monotony
- e. charm and allure

Options:

- a. c and e
- b. a and d
- c. b and c
- d. b and e

vii. Complete the sentence appropriately: (1)

Hiking is thrilling because it involves _____.

viii. Complete the following sentence: (1)

The fresh air and beautiful scenery during a hike _____.

2. **Read the passage given below:**

[10]

1. Starting Monday, the country's low-cost Mars mission with the red planet for an extended period will enter the "blackout" phase snapping communication with the satellite. From June 8 to 22 the Sun will block Mars from the Earth snapping communication with the satellite.
2. A senior Indian Space Research Organisation official said. "This will be for the first time that there will be a communication break for such a long period of about 15 days. During this period, there will be no communication with the satellite", he added.
3. Expressing confidence about regaining control over the satellite once the blackout phase is over, he said, "the scenario has been tested and the line of communication will be established." The spacecraft's life has been extended for another six months in March due to surplus fuel.
4. Stating that the spacecraft has been "configured" for the blackout, the ISRO official said, "we are not sending any commands to the spacecraft now, till 8th June few hours of signals will be sent by the spacecraft that will be for about two to three hours per day". In May next year, the mission will have to go through a similar phase once again, if there is another extension of mission life when the Earth will come between the Sun and Mars.

5. Scripting space history, India on September 24 last successfully placed its low-cost Mars spacecraft in orbit around the red planet in its very first attempt, breaking into an elite club of three countries.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below: (10)

i. What is the "blackout" phase in the context of the Mars mission, and how long will it last? **(2)**

ii. Choose the appropriate option to fill in the blank. **(1)**

From paragraph 1 & 2, we can infer that there will be _____.

1. no communication with the people.
2. blackout phase.
3. satellite will get no communication.
4. moon will block the earth.
5. the communication break will be for 15 days.

a. 1, 2 & 3

b. 1, 3 & 4

c. 2, 3 & 5

d. 3, 4 & 5

iii. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phase from paragraph 2: **(1)**

aroma: cooking:: _____: space research

(Clue - just like aroma is integral to cooking, similarly _____ is/are integral to Space Research.)

iv. According to ISRO official till 8th July, when Sun will block Mars, _____ signal/signals per day will be sent to the spacecraft. **(1)**

a. no

b. considerable

c. indefinite

d. only for few

v. Select the correct option to complete the following sentence: **(1)**

The ISRO officials are _____ about their control over the spacecraft after the blackout phase.

a. doubtful

b. apprehensive

c. confident

d. jittery

vi. How has the spacecraft's mission been managed to handle the blackout phase and what is planned for communication during this period? **(2)**

vii. Read the following sentences: **(1)**

A. The blackout was a sudden development.

B. Because of this, the officials are very nervous about the success of the spacecraft.

a. Both (A) & (B) are true.

b. Both (A) & (B) are false.

c. (A) is true and (B) is false.

d. (A) is false and (B) is true.

viii. Substitute the word 'nonpareil' with one word similar in meaning in the following sentence from paragraph 5. **(1)**

India managed to get into the nonpareil club of Mars spacecraft in orbit.

SECTION B GRAMMAR

3. **Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed** **[10]**

(i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter: **[1]**

Therefore, I request you to please consider this request of _____

(construct) a park in our society so that each and every person can benefit and we can enjoy a healthy environment amidst the concrete jungle.

(ii) Identify the error and supply correction for the given part of the note appearing on an educational website. **[1]**

Please Note: An early and active communication is required as late notification may result in a delay redressal of your request.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

(iii) **Read the conversation and complete the sentence by reporting the reply correctly.** **[1]**

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

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

Looking for his car, Ranbir asked the policeman standing there where his was and that he remembered parking it there.

To this, the policeman replied that _____.

- (iv) "I lost my book yesterday", she said to her teacher. [1]

Reported speech: _____

- a) She said to her teacher that I have lost my book the previous day. b) She admitted to her teacher that she had lost her book the previous day.
- c) To her teacher, she was admitted that she has lost her book the previous day. d) She admitted losing her book to her teacher yesterday.

- (v) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. [1]

He is an expert on languages, but he knows _____ (a lot of / little / a few) about mathematics.

- (vi) Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction: [1]

Latex was a natural polymer found beneath the bark of a mature rubber tree. Use the given format for your response:

Error	Correction

- (vii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report: [1]

Education play an important role in building an individual's identity and personality.

Option no.	Error	Correction
A	play	plays
B	an	the
C	in	for
D	an	a

- (viii) How bad that game is! I'm sure our team _____ in this match. [1]

a) is being beaten

b) will have been beaten

c) is beaten

d) is going to be beaten

- (ix) Report the dialogue between Tony and Sarita, by completing the sentence. [1]

Tony: Why did you call me?

Sarita: Will you go to the museum with me?

Tony asked Sarita why she had called him. Sarita wanted to know whether Tony _____.

- (x) "See my corpse, if you don't eat these cookies," my aunt said although I stated that I do not like them at all. [1]

She _____ that I should eat some cookies with tea.

a) insisted

b) admitted

c) promised

d) denied

- (xi) Complete the line from a self-awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option. [1]

"But cheerly still: and said, "I pray thee, then,

Write me as one that _____ his fellow men."

A. loved

B. love

C. will love

D. loves

- (xii) Identify the error and supply the correction, for the following: [1]

FOCUS TB Towards a TB free world Our focus is to provide a comprehensive diagnostic support for affordable rates to battle TB. Thyrocare

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

4. Now-a-days, we see the rise in prices of edible things like pulses, onions, oils and some other products. The layman is facing hardship on account of it. Write a letter to the editor of a reputed daily requesting him to highlight the difficulties faced by the common man due to the rise in prices. Sign yourself as Pranjal/Praneeta living at 124, Vivek Vihar, Delhi. [5]

OR

You are Ankit/Ankita of Mahavir Public School, Delhi. You have seen an advertisement in **The Times of India** regarding the starting of new batches of **Astronomy Club** by the National Science Centre. You wish to join the club. Write a letter to the Director, enquiring about the venue, duration, fee-structure, activities, etc. (Word limit 100-125 words)

5. The given information shows how some housewives spend their spare time. Read the given information and write an analytical paragraph describing about the given information: [5]

10% in knitting

15% in reading

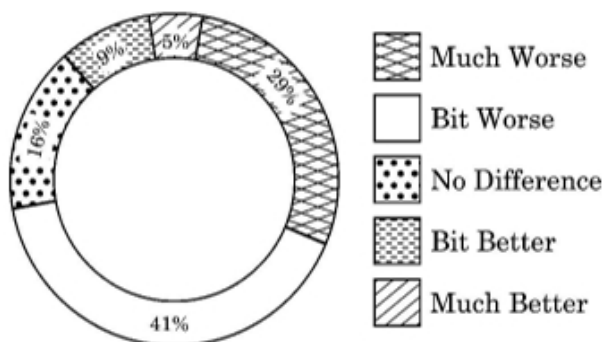
50% in watching television

20% in exercising

5% in meditating

OR

Stress and pressure sometimes has an adverse effect on young adults. **Budding Minds** conducted a survey to show how the mental health of young people has been affected. 4,324 young people took part in the survey which shows stress and competition has impacted performance and mental health. Write an analytical paragraph in about 100 words on how the mental health of young people has been impacted in the modern world.



SECTION C - LITERATURE

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [5]

- (i) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

And as the light came on,
Fowler had his first authentic thrill of the day.
For halfway across the room,
a small automatic pistol in his hand stood a man.
Ausable blinked a few times.

- i. Who was standing in the room with a pistol in his hand? (1)
- ii. Ausable blinked because he: (1)
 - a. was getting adjusted to the light.
 - b. got afraid of the man with a pistol.
 - c. was thrilled to have reached his room.
 - d. started thinking of how to get rid of the man.
- iii. Fowler was thrilled because what he saw looked like a _____. (2)
- iv. Which word in the extract means the same as 'genuine/real'? (1)

- (ii) Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

The following Sunday Lencho came a bit earlier than usual to ask if there was a letter for him. It was the postman himself who handed the letter to him while the postmaster, experiencing the contentment of a man who has performed a good deed, looked on from his office. Lencho showed not the slightest surprise on seeing the money; such was his confidence - but he became angry when he counted the money. God could not have made a mistake, nor could he have denied Lencho what he had requested.

- i. Why was Lencho not surprised on seeing the money? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- ii. Complete the sentence with the appropriate option. Lencho became angry when he got the money because _____. (1)
 - A. He was only given 70 pesos when he had asked for 100 pesos.
 - B. He wanted more money.
 - C. He wanted money directly from God.
 - D. He understood that The postmaster collected money for him.
- iii. Identify the irony used in the above stanza. (1)
- iv. State any one inference about the postmaster from the given context: It was the postman himself who handed the letter to him while the postmaster,

experiencing the contentment of a man who has performed a good deed,
looked on from his office. (1)

7. **Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [5]**

(i) Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow: **[5]**

My head is full of whispers
which tomorrow will be silent.
Listen. The glass is breaking.
The trees are stumbling forward
into the night. Winds rush to meet them.
The moon is broken like a mirror,
its pieces flash now in the crown
of the tallest oak.

- i. Why would the whispers be silent tomorrow? (1)
- ii. The forest undergoes tremendous transformation overnight. Discuss with reference to the poem "The Trees" (2)
- iii. Which word in the stanza means the same as 'quiet'? (1)
- iv. Which poetic device has been used in the last line 'its pieces flash now in the crown of the tallest oak.' (1)
 - a. Simile
 - b. Alliteration
 - c. imagery
 - d. Personification

(ii) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: **[5]**

Belinda still lives in her little white house,
With her little black kitten and her little gray mouse,
And her little yellow dog and her little red wagon,
And her realio, trulio, little pet dragon.

- i. With whom does Belinda live and where? (1)
- ii. How many characters and animals are introduced in this extract? (1)
 - a. 1, 4
 - b. 2, 5
 - c. 4, 1
 - d. 1, 5

iii. Fill in the blank with one word. Bravest of all pets was _____. (1)

iv. What effect do the words 'realio and trulio' have on the poem? (2)

8. **Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words** [12]
- (i) In Coorg, which is the season of joy? Why? [3]
 - (ii) The poet celebrates the strength of the tiger in this poem. Counter the statement. [3]
 - (iii) What about Lomov's appearance made Chubukov curious? [3]
 - (iv) Do you agree with Anne when she says that teachers are the most unpredictable creatures on earth. Rationalise. [3]
 - (v) What do you think would be enough to destroy the world? Can Fire and Ice contribute to it? [3]
9. **Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.** [6]
- (i) Why did Mr. Herriot take a decision to admit Tricky to the hospital? [3]
 - (ii) Why was Sulekha called Bholi? Why was she sent to school? [3]
 - (iii) What did Griffin do in the shop of a theatrical company? [3]
10. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words** [6]
- (i) A few days after the experience, the narrator sat with his wife and recalled a long conversation he'd had with his young son the day before. The narrator's son had spoken to him about his close friend, Freddie, and the many ways Freddie helped him. When the narrator suggested inviting Freddie home for lunch, his wife casually said, "Freddie is like your friend in the black aeroplane!"
That night the narrator decided to record his thoughts in his diary to clear his head. As the narrator, write the diary entry. [6]
 - (ii) In the chapter, **Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom**, the swearing-in ceremony represented a shared victory for justice, peace, and human dignity over the most despised apartheid regime based on racial discrimination. Similarly, in the poem **The Tress**, the hard-fought victory for the trees has been achieved. They have been freed from the artificial glasshouse that held them captive. Imagine Nelson Mandela is congratulating trees on their victory in a [6]

letter in which he describes what freedom meant to him.

You may begin like this.

Dear Trees,

It is with great joy that I write to you today on the occasion of your freedom ...

11. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.** [6]

(i) Imagine you're one of the columnists in a magazine. People write to you about their issues, seeking your advice. [6]

Matilda writes to you about the guilt she feels for having lost a necklace and how it changed the course of her life and her husband's. What would be your advice to her?

(ii) Based on the given context, write a diary entry, as the narrator, on what you experienced and the possible reason for it. [6]

I should have been able to jump into one of the carriages, but I hesitated - for some reason I can't explain - and I lost the chance to get away. Answer in the context of the lesson **The Thief's Story**.