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Candidates must write the Set No. on the title page of the answer book.

SAHODAYA PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION(2023-24)

- ❖ Please check that this question paper contains **14** printed pages.
- ❖ Set number given on the right-hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer book by the candidate.
- ❖ Check that this question paper contains **11** questions.
- ❖ Write down the Serial Number of the question in the left side of the margin before attempting it.
- ❖ 15 minutes time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the examination. The students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer script during this period. Students should not write anything in the question paper.

CLASS-X

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (Code No. 184)

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. This question paper is divided into three sections: A, B & C.

Section A: Reading

20 marks

Section B: Grammar & Writing

20 marks

Section C: Literature

40 marks

Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.

2. All questions of a particular section must be attempted in the correct order.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)
Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages

1	Read the following text.	10m
(1)	To make our life a meaningful one, we need to mind our thoughts, for our thoughts are the foundation, the inspiration and the motivating power of our deeds. We create our entire world by the way we think. Our circumstances and conditions are not dictated by the world outside; it is the world inside us that creates the outside.	
(2)	Self-awareness comes from the mind, which means soul. Mind is the sum total of the states of consciousness grouped under thought, will and feeling. Besides self-consciousness we have the power to choose and think. Krishna says: "no man resteth a moment inactive." Even when inactive on the bodily plane, we are all the time acting on the thought plane. Therefore, if we observe ourselves, we can easily mould our thoughts. If our thoughts are pure and noble, naturally our actions will follow the same. If our thoughts are filled with jealousy, hatred and greed, our actions will be the same.	
(3)	Karmically, however, thought or intent is more responsible and dynamic than an act. One may perform a charitable act, but if he does not think charitably and is doing the act just for the sake of gain and glory, it is his thoughts that will determine the result. Theosophy teaches us that every thought, no matter how fleeting, leaves a seed in the mind of the thinker. These small seeds together go to make up a large thought seed and determine one's general character. Our thoughts affect the whole body. Each thought once generated and sent out becomes independent of the brain and mind and will live upon its own energy depending upon its intensity.	
(4)	Trying to keep a thought from our mind can produce the very state we are trying to avoid. We can alter our environment to create the mood. When, for instance, we are depressed, if we sit by ourselves trying to think cheerful thoughts, we often do not succeed. But if we mix with people who are cheerful, we can bring about a change in our mood and thoughts. Every thought we think, every act we perform, creates in us an impression, like everything else, is subject to cyclic law and becomes repetitive in our mind. So, we alone have the choice to create our thoughts and develop the kind of impressions that make our actions more positive.	
(5)	Everything in the universe is inter-related and inter-dependent, that we live in one another and by accepting the grand principle of universal brotherhood, we shall be in a position to appreciate what a heavy responsibility is ever ours to think right. Let us reflect and change our ways in bringing newness and nobility to the world around. <i>(Created for academic usage/446 words)</i>	

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i.	<p>Which of the following statements best describes the author's attitude towards studying thoughts?</p> <p>A. Finds the process of thinking a tedious job that is too tiresome. B. Believes that the emotional struggle involved in thinking is not worth the effort. C. Recognizes the challenge of putting up right thought, but also acknowledges the reward it offers. D. Feels that thinking as a process is abstract and tough to handle for a mediocre.</p>
ii.	<p>What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from paragraph (1)? Rationalize your response in about 40 words.</p> <p><i>Our circumstances and conditions are not dictated by the world outside; it is the world inside us that creates the outside.</i></p>
iii.	<p>Complete the sentence appropriately:</p> <p>The author's use of vivid imagery in paragraph (3) such as 'small seeds together go to' and 'make up thought seed' and 'determine one's general character' greatly affects the reader because _____.</p>
iv.	<p>The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the given sets (a) - (e) below, identify two sets of antonyms.</p> <p>(a) Repetitive and rotating (b) gain and glory (c) dynamic and inactive (d) interdependent and dependent (e) depressed and cheerful</p>
v.	<p>Complete the sentence appropriately.</p> <p>We can say that the author's tone becomes more neutral and objective when discussing the effect of thought on body because _____.</p>
vi.	<p>Based on the reading of the passage, examine in about 40 words how meaningful lives can be moulded by our minds.</p>
vii.	<p>What is the message conveyed by Lara's experience, in the following case?</p> <p>Lara spends hours trying to analyze her process of thinking and finally feels a great sense of relief, for once she understands it completely.</p> <p>A. Only those with a talent to analyze the thought process should engage with it. B. Keen interest to have a check on one's thoughts is itself a rewarding task C. Studying thoughts is very much a pleasure-seeking activity D. The efforts of examining the self are not worthy enough to work on</p>

viii.	<p>State whether the following lines display an example of a positive/negative/ complex/ neutral flow of thoughts.</p> <p>There is always a next day As things follow at bay The path is carved away With pebbles and petals on way</p>
2	<p>Read the following text.</p>
(1)	<p>The North East of India is a melting point of variegated cultural mosaic of people and races, an ethnic tapestry of many hues and shades. Yet these states are lesser explored as compared to the rest of the country. The new generations of travellers who are 'money rich and time poor' are increasingly looking for unique experiences- a phenomenon being called the emergence of the 'experience economy'. For this new and growing breed of tourists, the North -East with its variety and uniqueness, holds immense attraction.</p>
(2)	<p>A study conducted in 2020 by Dr Sherap Bhutia revealed that the foreign tourist arrival in the North-East increased from 37,380 persons in 2005 to 118,552 in 2014. The overall growth rate of tourists (both domestic and foreign) in the North-East was as high as 26.44% during 2005-06. A high and positive growth of 12.53% was registered in foreign tourist visits to North- East states of India during 2012 from 2011, which further rose to register a growth of 27.93% during 2013 from 2012. Foreign tourist arrivals in the North -East witnessed a growth of 39.77% during 2014 from 2013, according to data provided by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.</p>
(3)	<p>The study recommendations for tourist planners included the need to concentrate on some key areas like enhancement of tourist facilities, tourism financing, focus on community involvement and others, for the formulation of a sustainable tourism strategy in the North- East States of India.</p>
<p>Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.</p>	
i.	<p>Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from paragraph 1: Aroma : cooking :: _____ : painting. (clue just like aroma is integral to cooking, similarly _____ is/are integral to painting)</p>
ii.	<p>Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of paragraph 1. The North-East with its variety and uniqueness is highly attractive, is a _____ (fact/opinion) because it is _____ (an objective detail/a subjective detail).</p>

iii.	Justify the following in about 40 words: The rate of tourism in the North –East of India is puzzling.
iv.	Based on the survey results, what are the areas that tourism planners must address? Name any 2.
v.	State any one inference that can be drawn from the following: Researchers recommend the formulation of a sustainable tourism strategy in the North Indian States of India.
vi.	Select the chart that appropriately represents the trend of foreign tourist visits in the North – East, from 2011-2014, as per the passage
vii.	Which of the following are the 2 main take aways as per the survey mentioned in the passage? A. The North-East is the cradle of 'experience economy'. B. The potential of North-East as a major tourist hub can be satisfactorily exploited if necessary steps are taken. C. The study of Dr Sherap Bhutia undermines the tourist attraction potential of the North-East. D. Tourist planners have failed to project the North-East as per its ability as a tourist hub.
viii.	Select the option that titles paragraph 1-3 appropriately, with reference to information in the text. A.1. Full Speed Ahead! 2. Ups and Downs 3. Causes for Concern B. 1. Winds of Change 2. Numbers don't Lie 3. Time for Action C.1. Inspecting Trends 2. Statistically Speaking 3. Let's Investigate D. 1. Cause and Effect 2. Dynamic Data 3. Dependable Facts

SECTION – B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 marks)
GRAMMAR

		10 m				
3	Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed.	1x10				
I	Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence: A bank _____ various kinds of loans to its account holders so that they _____ set up a business, buy property or a vehicle. A. will offer, will B. offers, can C. should offer, must D. will be offering, should	1				
ii	Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction. <i>Neil Alden Armstrong was the American astronaut and aeronautical engineer, and the first person to walk on the Moon.</i> Use the given format for your response. <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50px; text-align: center;">Error</td> <td style="width: 50px; text-align: center;">Correction</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 20px;"></td> <td style="height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>	Error	Correction			1
Error	Correction					
iii	Aman shared some information with Amrta about his holiday in Goa. Report Amrta's question. <i>Did you enjoy your Goa trip?</i>	1				
iv	Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Geeta and her mother. Mother: Why do you ask so many questions, Geeta? Geeta: Mom, if I don't ask you, who will then clear my doubts? Mother asked Geeta the reason for asking so many questions. Geeta responded saying _____ then clear her doubts. A. if she doesn't ask her, who would B. if she didn't ask her, who will C. if she doesn't ask her, who will D. if she didn't ask her, who would	1				
v	I had to live in Florida and California for many years because of my studies but I don't like _____ of the states. A. each B. both C. either D. neither	1				

vi	<p>Read the given sentence from an article on the benefits of natural light. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.</p> <p><i>In recent trials in China, researchers conclude that being outdoors, in natural light, helps maintain good eyesight and perhaps even better learning.</i></p> <p>Use the given format for your response.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Error</td> <td>Correction</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </table>	Error	Correction			1											
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vii	<p>Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.</p> <p><i>Due to incessant rain the match referee cancelled the match between White Marbles and Black Marbles by the timethe Cricket officials suggested a rematch.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Option</th> <th>Error</th> <th>Correction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>cancelled</td> <td>had cancelled</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>suggested</td> <td>had suggested</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>a</td> <td>the</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td> <td>rain</td> <td>rained</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Option	Error	Correction	A	cancelled	had cancelled	B	suggested	had suggested	C	a	the	D	rain	rained	1
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viii	<p>Complete the given narrative, by filling the blank with the correct option :</p> <p>In many cultures, people..... to live in harmony with nature and that there is God in all aspects of nature.</p> <p>A. are taught; recognize B. teach; get recognized C. can teach; recognizing D. had been taught; had to recognize</p>	1															
ix	<p>Read the conversation between a teacher and his student. Complete the sentence by reporting the student's reply.</p> <p>Teacher: Why are you late today?</p> <p>Sumit: Sir, I missed my school bus, so I came on foot.</p> <p>The teacher asked Sumit why he was late that day. Sumit replied</p> <p>Politely that _____, so he had come on foot.</p>	1															
x	<p>Fill in the blanks with an appropriate answer:</p> <p>The company _____ significant profits before the economic downturn.</p> <p>A. has been making B. made C. is making D. had been making</p>	1															

xi	<p>Complete the line of a poem on Nature, by filling the blank with the correct option.</p> <p>You are in the lap of nature Amidst the comfort of bliss. And you _____ the tranquility That you never can find anywhere!</p> <p>A. feel B. felt C. feels D. have felt</p>	1								
xii	<p>Identify the error in an online advertisement.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Goyal Foods</td> <td>Shimla</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">We know a value of pure fruits & Veggies</td> </tr> </table> <p>Use the given format for your response.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Error</td> <td>Correction</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </table>	Goyal Foods	Shimla	We know a value of pure fruits & Veggies		Error	Correction			1
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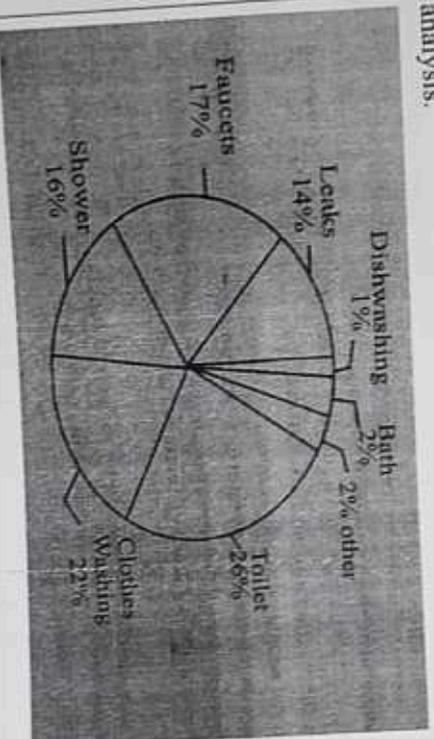
WRITING		10
	<p>Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.</p>	
4A	<p>Your grandfather is very upset about the rising prices and keeps thinking of his olden times when things were very cheap. You are convinced that inflation has made life difficult for common man. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the Editor of a national daily describing the difficulties faced by poor families. You are Prabhat/Prema of 679, Lajpat Nagar-1, New Delhi.</p>	5
OR		
4B	<p>You are the librarian of Delhi Jain Public School, Palam. You are instructed to buy some academic and reference books for the library. While browsing some good publishers over the internet, you came across the website of Oxford University Press, India and found this information there.</p>	

The ACADEMIC and REFERENCE programmes are published across a range of subjects. Books on economics and business, history, politics, law, and literature as well as philosophy and religion, sociology and anthropology, and gender studies reach out to students, teachers, researchers, professionals, and general readers. Online services and student-friendly textbooks are recent additions. Cutting across age and reading habit, key focus areas in GENERAL books include arts and architecture, wildlife and natural history, culture, media studies and cinema, Indian writing in translation, and ecology and environment.

Write a letter to Oxford University Press, Ghaziabad, placing an order for books. Mention at least 4 titles of the books to be supplied immediately. Address yourself as Kalpana.

5

5A The given pie-chart shows how water is consumed in households in a metropolitan city in India. Study the information carefully and write an analytical paragraph in about 100-120 words drawing a comparative analysis on water consumption. Emphasize on wasteful water consumption by selecting features that support your analysis.



OR

5 B Given below is a newspaper report on the state of cancer prevailing in India. You have been asked to write an analytical paragraph on 'Cancer – a Silent Killer'. Taking information from the report given below, write an analytical paragraph in about 100-120 words by selecting features that support your analysis.

In India, cities are more cancer-prone than rural areas. In the early 1990's, we expected one out of 10-15 urban Indians to get cancer in their lifetime, that is every second or third family would have to face this disease. This is partly due to high levels of benzene in the air and also that the metros are exposed to high levels of pesticides in their foods. In order to check the steady growth of cancer in the country, the Government shall have to give priority to preventive action. At the same time measures to undertake improvement in facilities for the treatment of cancer shall have to be adopted.

SECTION C

LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT

(40 Marks)

6	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given.	5
A	<p>But Horace found that the flowers were hindering him in his work. He buried his face in his handkerchief. Then he heard a voice say from the doorway, "What is it? A cold or hay fever?" Before he could think, Horace said, "Hay fever," and found himself sneezing again. The voice went on, "You can cure it with a special treatment, you know, if you find out just what plant gives you the disease. I think you'd better see a doctor, if you're serious about your work. I heard you from the top of the house just now."</p> <p><i>(A Question of Trust)</i></p>	
i	State any one inference about Danby from the given context: But Horace found that the flowers were hindering him in his work.	1
ii	<p>State TRUE or FALSE: None of the options from (a) to (d) can be applied to the given question or context. Who asked Horace, "What is it? A cold or hay fever?"</p> <p>(a) Probably, it was the mistress of the Grange. (b) Maybe, it was another thief. (c) It could have been the housekeeper of the Grange. (d) In all probability, it was a neighbour keeping an eye on the Grange.</p>	1

iii	What advice did the lady give Horace regarding his hay fever? Was she really interested in his health? Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract.	2
iv	Which phrase would correctly substitute 'buried' as given in the sentence? He buried his face in his handkerchief.	1

OR

B	<p>"Our elders are often heard reminiscing nostalgically about those good old Portuguese days, the Portuguese and their famous loaves of bread. Those eaters might have vanished but the makers are still there. We still have amongst us, the mixers, the moulders, and those who bake the loaves. Those age-old, time-tested furnaces still exist. The fire in these furnaces have not yet been extinguished. The thud and jingle of traditional baker's bamboo, heralding his arrival in the morning, can still be heard in some places.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Glimpses of India)</i></p>	
i	Which of the following is NOT a reason why the elders are often heard reminiscing nostalgically about those good old Portuguese days..... A. Portuguese as well as their famous loaves of bread have vanished. B. Those age-old, time-tested furnaces still exist. C. The eaters have left but the makers are still there. D. The thud and jingle of traditional baker's bamboo can still be heard in some places	1
ii	Why is it fair to say that the author's tone is confident, when he says "The fire in these furnaces have not yet been extinguished"? Answer in about 40 words.	2
iii	Read the following statements (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract. (a) Baking is not a profitable profession anymore. (b) The mixers and the moulders no more provide evidence of the baker still existing in Goan villages. (c) Baking as a profession perished with the Portuguese leaving the place	1
iv	If the loaves of bread had not been liked that much in the present time, what would have been the condition of the bakers?	1

7	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.	5
A	<p><i>I am an orphan, roaming the street.</i> <i>I pattern soft dust with my hushed, bare feet.</i> <i>The silence is golden, the freedom is sweet.</i></p>	
i	In what way does the language used in this poem convey the idea of internal dialogue?	1
ii	What is the significance of the use of the word 'freedom' to describe the desire of Amanda in the poem. How does this word choice contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem?	2
iii	<p>Complete the sentence with appropriate option.</p> <p>The lines from the poem tells us that Amanda is _____</p> <p>A. despondent B. stress -free C. ecstatic D. immature</p>	1
iv	Identify the poetic device used in the line, 'I am an orphan'.	1
OR		
B	<p><i>Belinda tickled him, she tickled him unmerciful.</i> <i>Ink, Blink and Mustard, they rudely called him Percival,</i> <i>They all sat laughing in the little red wagon</i> <i>At the realio, trulio, cowardly dragon.</i></p>	
i	In what way does the language used in the poem challenge traditional ideas of what poetry should be?	1
ii	What is the significance of the use of the words 'realio', 'trulio' to describe Custard the Dragon in the poem? How do these words contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem? Answer in about 40 words.	2
iii	<p>Complete the sentence with the appropriate option.</p> <p>The lines from the poem tell us that Custard was----- by his family.</p> <p>A. loved B. hated C. encouraged D. ridiculed</p>	1
iv	Identify the poetic devices used in the above lines of the poem.(Any two)	1

8	Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words.	4x3=12
i	Justify the opinion that an unquestionable faith in the Divine is a gift only the sincere and hardworking possess. <i>(A Letter to God)</i>	3
ii	How does W B Yeats's poem 'For Anne Gregory', challenge society's perception of a 'perfect woman'? <i>(For Anne Gregory)</i>	3
iii	Explain how the attitude of Nelson Mandela towards freedom gets reflected in the chapter <i>Nelson Mandela: Long walk to Freedom</i> . Refer to the given lines from the text: <i>But then I slowly saw that not only was I not free, but my brothers and sisters were not free. I saw that it was not just my freedom that was curtailed, but the freedom of everyone who looked like I did.</i>	3
iv	Personal losses are a part and parcel of life. Instead of wailing over them, we should move on in life. This message of Gautama Buddha has become more relevant in modern times. Do you agree? Why/why not? <i>(The sermon at Benares)</i>	3
v	Though very short, <i>Fire and Ice</i> is significantly relevant to everyone in the world. Elaborate.	3
9	Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.	2x3=6
i	How does Think Tank compare the Martians with the people on the Earth? What guesses are made by him about the books found on earth? <i>(The Book That Saved the Earth)</i>	3
ii	How does the character of Mr. Loisel teach lessons to people around in running a successful marital life? <i>(The Necklace)</i>	3
iii	"Persistence can be a key factor to gain success in any field." Justify this statement in the context of the example of Richard Ebright in 'The Making of a Scientist'. <i>(The Making of a Scientist)</i>	3

10	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.	1x6=6
A	After reading the story about Valli, you realize that she had such a small desire and demanded nothing from her mother. After reflecting on this, you decide to write a diary entry on how you felt you have been unreasonable about the demands you have posed to your parents. You also realize that life is not all about materialistic possessions. You may begin like this: <i>I feel I have learnt a lesson in life after reading about Valli. I feel ashamed for the way I have been so demanding about the materialistic possessionscontinue.</i> <i>(Madam Rides the bus)</i>	
OR		
B	"You Lomovs have had lunacy in your family, all of you". In the light of this statement by Chubukov, develop a conversation between Natalya and her father, when she reminds him of the proposal that Lomov brought for her. You may begin as: Natalya: Papa, please what are you doing? He is here to ask for my hand in marriage. Agree with him on all that he says. Chubukov: Dear Lord! How can I	
11	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.	1x6=6
A	You have been asked to prepare a speech on human behaviour, which comes with the complexity that sets humans apart from other species. More often than not, our perception of a person is proved wrong. Prepare a draft of the speech in 100-120 words by drawing similarities between Horace Danby in 'A Question of Trust' and Ausable in 'The Midnight Visitor'. You may begin as: Good morning. Sometimes appearances can be deceptive.....	
OR		
B	A character arc is the transformation or development of a character throughout a story and refers to the changes a character undergoes as a result of their experiences, challenges and interactions with other characters. In the light of the above information, trace the character arc of Bholi in K.A. Abbas' story titled "Bholi" in about 120 words. <i>(Bholi)</i>	

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CLASS-X

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (Code No. 184)

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20 marks

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40 marks

Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.

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SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)
Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages

1	Read the following text.	10m
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(2)	Self-awareness comes from the mind, which means soul. Mind is the sum total of the states of consciousness grouped under thought, will and feeling. Besides self-consciousness we have the power to choose and think. Krishna says: "no man resteth a moment inactive." Even when inactive on the bodily plane, we are all the time acting on the thought plane. Therefore, if we observe ourselves, we can easily mould our thoughts. If our thoughts are pure and noble, naturally our actions will follow the same. If our thoughts are filled with jealousy, hatred and greed, our actions will be the same.	
(3)	Karmically, however, thought or intent is more responsible and dynamic than an act. One may perform a charitable act, but if he does not think charitably and is doing the act just for the sake of gain and glory, it is his thoughts that will determine the result. Theosophy teaches us that every thought, no matter how fleeting, leaves a seed in the mind of the thinker. These small seeds together go to make up a large thought seed and determine one's general character. Our thoughts affect the whole body. Each thought once generated and sent out becomes independent of the brain and mind and will live upon its own energy depending upon its intensity.	
(4)	Trying to keep a thought from our mind can produce the very state we are trying to avoid. We can alter our environment to create the mood. When, for instance, we are depressed, if we sit by ourselves trying to think cheerful thoughts, we often do not succeed. But if we mix with people who are cheerful, we can bring about a change in our mood and thoughts. Every thought we think, every act we perform, creates in us an impression, like everything else, is subject to cyclic law and becomes repetitive in our mind. So, we alone have the choice to create our thoughts and develop the kind of impressions that make our actions more positive.	
(5)	Everything in the universe is inter-related and inter-dependent, that we live in one another and by accepting the grand principle of universal brotherhood, we shall be in a position to appreciate what a heavy responsibility is ever ours to think right. Let us reflect and change our ways in bringing newness and nobility to the world around. <i>(Created for academic usage/446 words)</i>	

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i.	<p>Which of the following statements best describes the author's attitude towards studying thoughts?</p> <p>A. Finds the process of thinking a tedious job that is too tiresome. B. Believes that the emotional struggle involved in thinking is not worth the effort. C. Recognizes the challenge of putting up right thought, but also acknowledges the reward it offers. D. Feels that thinking as a process is abstract and tough to handle for a mediocre.</p>
ii.	<p>What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from paragraph (1)? Rationalize your response in about 40 words.</p> <p><i>Our circumstances and conditions are not dictated by the world outside; it is the world inside us that creates the outside.</i></p>
iii.	<p>Complete the sentence appropriately:</p> <p>The author's use of vivid imagery in paragraph (3) such as 'small seeds together go to' and 'make up thought seed' and 'determine one's general character' greatly affects the reader because _____.</p>
iv.	<p>The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the given sets (a) - (e) below, identify two sets of antonyms.</p> <p>(a) Repetitive and rotating (b) gain and glory (c) dynamic and inactive (d) interdependent and dependent (e) depressed and cheerful</p>
v.	<p>Complete the sentence appropriately.</p> <p>We can say that the author's tone becomes more neutral and objective when discussing the effect of thought on body because _____.</p>
vi.	<p>Based on the reading of the passage, examine in about 40 words how meaningful lives can be moulded by our minds.</p>
vii.	<p>What is the message conveyed by Lara's experience, in the following case?</p> <p>Lara spends hours trying to analyze her process of thinking and finally feels a great sense of relief, for once she understands it completely.</p> <p>A. Only those with a talent to analyze the thought process should engage with it. B. Keen interest to have a check on one's thoughts is itself a rewarding task C. Studying thoughts is very much a pleasure-seeking activity D. The efforts of examining the self are not worthy enough to work on</p>

viii.	<p>State whether the following lines display an example of a positive/negative/ complex/ neutral flow of thoughts.</p> <p>There is always a next day As things follow at bay The path is carved away With pebbles and petals on way</p>
2	<p>Read the following text.</p>
(1)	<p>The North East of India is a melting point of variegated cultural mosaic of people and races, an ethnic tapestry of many hues and shades. Yet these states are lesser explored as compared to the rest of the country. The new generations of travellers who are 'money rich and time poor' are increasingly looking for unique experiences- a phenomenon being called the emergence of the 'experience economy'. For this new and growing breed of tourists, the North -East with its variety and uniqueness, holds immense attraction.</p>
(2)	<p>A study conducted in 2020 by Dr Sherap Bhutia revealed that the foreign tourist arrival in the North-East increased from 37,380 persons in 2005 to 118,552 in 2014. The overall growth rate of tourists (both domestic and foreign) in the North-East was as high as 26.44% during 2005-06. A high and positive growth of 12.53% was registered in foreign tourist visits to North- East states of India during 2012 from 2011, which further rose to register a growth of 27.93% during 2013 from 2012. Foreign tourist arrivals in the North -East witnessed a growth of 39.77% during 2014 from 2013, according to data provided by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.</p>
(3)	<p>The study recommendations for tourist planners included the need to concentrate on some key areas like enhancement of tourist facilities, tourism financing, focus on community involvement and others, for the formulation of a sustainable tourism strategy in the North- East States of India.</p>
<p>Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.</p>	
i.	<p>Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from paragraph 1: Aroma : cooking :: _____ : painting. (clue just like aroma is integral to cooking, similarly _____ is/are integral to painting)</p>
ii.	<p>Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of paragraph 1. The North-East with its variety and uniqueness is highly attractive, is a _____ (fact/opinion) because it is _____ (an objective detail/a subjective detail).</p>

iii.	Justify the following in about 40 words: The rate of tourism in the North –East of India is puzzling.
iv.	Based on the survey results, what are the areas that tourism planners must address? Name any 2.
v.	State any one inference that can be drawn from the following: Researchers recommend the formulation of a sustainable tourism strategy in the North Indian States of India.
vi.	Select the chart that appropriately represents the trend of foreign tourist visits in the North – East, from 2011-2014, as per the passage
vii.	Which of the following are the 2 main take aways as per the survey mentioned in the passage? A. The North-East is the cradle of 'experience economy'. B. The potential of North-East as a major tourist hub can be satisfactorily exploited if necessary steps are taken. C. The study of Dr Sherap Bhutia undermines the tourist attraction potential of the North-East. D. Tourist planners have failed to project the North-East as per its ability as a tourist hub.
viii.	Select the option that titles paragraph 1-3 appropriately, with reference to information in the text. A.1. Full Speed Ahead! 2. Ups and Downs 3. Causes for Concern B. 1. Winds of Change 2. Numbers don't Lie 3. Time for Action C.1. Inspecting Trends 2. Statistically Speaking 3. Let's Investigate D. 1. Cause and Effect 2. Dynamic Data 3. Dependable Facts

SECTION – B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 marks)
GRAMMAR

		10 m				
3	Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed.	1x10				
I	Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence: A bank _____ various kinds of loans to its account holders so that they _____ set up a business, buy property or a vehicle. A. will offer, will B. offers, can C. should offer, must D. will be offering, should	1				
ii	Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction. <i>Neil Alden Armstrong was the American astronaut and aeronautical engineer, and the first person to walk on the Moon.</i> Use the given format for your response. <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50px; text-align: center;">Error</td> <td style="width: 50px; text-align: center;">Correction</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 20px;"></td> <td style="height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>	Error	Correction			1
Error	Correction					
iii	Aman shared some information with Amrta about his holiday in Goa. Report Amrta's question. <i>Did you enjoy your Goa trip?</i>	1				
iv	Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Geeta and her mother. Mother: Why do you ask so many questions, Geeta? Geeta: Mom, if I don't ask you, who will then clear my doubts? Mother asked Geeta the reason for asking so many questions. Geeta responded saying _____ then clear her doubts. A. if she doesn't ask her, who would B. if she didn't ask her, who will C. if she doesn't ask her, who will D. if she didn't ask her, who would	1				
v	I had to live in Florida and California for many years because of my studies but I don't like of the states. A. each B. both C. either D. neither	1				

vi	<p>Read the given sentence from an article on the benefits of natural light. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.</p> <p><i>In recent trials in China, researchers conclude that being outdoors, in natural light, helps maintain good eyesight and perhaps even better learning.</i></p> <p>Use the given format for your response.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Error</td> <td>Correction</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </table>	Error	Correction			1											
Error	Correction																
vii	<p>Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.</p> <p><i>Due to incessant rain the match referee cancelled the match between White Marbles and Black Marbles by the timethe Cricket officials suggested a rematch.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Option</th> <th>Error</th> <th>Correction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>cancelled</td> <td>had cancelled</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>suggested</td> <td>had suggested</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>a</td> <td>the</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td> <td>rain</td> <td>rained</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Option	Error	Correction	A	cancelled	had cancelled	B	suggested	had suggested	C	a	the	D	rain	rained	1
Option	Error	Correction															
A	cancelled	had cancelled															
B	suggested	had suggested															
C	a	the															
D	rain	rained															
viii	<p>Complete the given narrative, by filling the blank with the correct option :</p> <p>In many cultures, people..... to live in harmony with nature and that there is God in all aspects of nature.</p> <p>A. are taught; recognize B. teach; get recognized C. can teach; recognizing D. had been taught; had to recognize</p>	1															
ix	<p>Read the conversation between a teacher and his student. Complete the sentence by reporting the student's reply.</p> <p>Teacher: Why are you late today? Sumit: Sir, I missed my school bus, so I came on foot. The teacher asked Sumit why he was late that day. Sumit replied Politely that _____, so he had come on foot.</p>	1															
x	<p>Fill in the blanks with an appropriate answer:</p> <p>The company _____ significant profits before the economic downturn.</p> <p>A. has been making B. made C. is making D. had been making</p>	1															

xi	<p>Complete the line of a poem on Nature, by filling the blank with the correct option.</p> <p>You are in the lap of nature Amidst the comfort of bliss. And you _____ the tranquility That you never can find anywhere!</p> <p>A. feel B. felt C. feels D. have felt</p>	1					
xii	<p>Identify the error in an online advertisement.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Goyal Foods</td> <td>We know a value of pure fruits & Veggies</td> <td>Shimla</td> </tr> </table> <p>Use the given format for your response.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Error</td> <td>Correction</td> </tr> </table>	Goyal Foods	We know a value of pure fruits & Veggies	Shimla	Error	Correction	1
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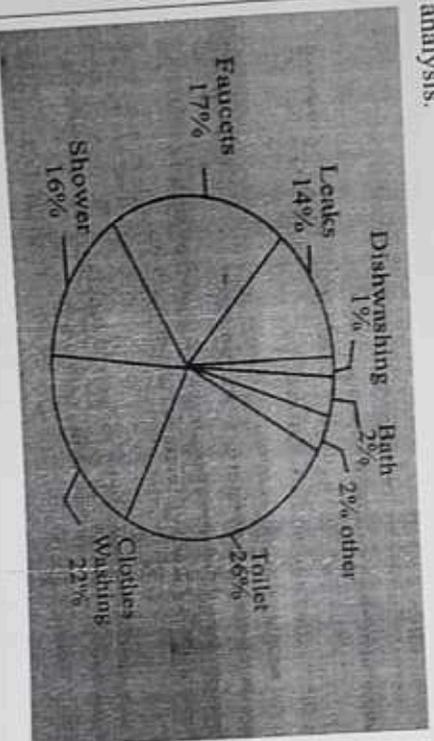
WRITING		10
	<p>Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.</p>	
4A	<p>Your grandfather is very upset about the rising prices and keeps thinking of his olden times when things were very cheap. You are convinced that inflation has made life difficult for common man. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the Editor of a national daily describing the difficulties faced by poor families. You are Prabhat/Prema of 679, Lajpat Nagar-1, New Delhi.</p>	5
OR		
4B	<p>You are the librarian of Delhi Jain Public School, Palam. You are instructed to buy some academic and reference books for the library. While browsing some good publishers over the internet, you came across the website of Oxford University Press, India and found this information there.</p>	

The ACADEMIC and REFERENCE programmes are published across a range of subjects. Books on economics and business, history, politics, law, and literature as well as philosophy and religion, sociology and anthropology, and gender studies reach out to students, teachers, researchers, professionals, and general readers. Online services and student-friendly textbooks are recent additions. Cutting across age and reading habit, key focus areas in GENERAL books include arts and architecture, wildlife and natural history, culture, media studies and cinema, Indian writing in translation, and ecology and environment.

Write a letter to Oxford University Press, Ghaziabad, placing an order for books. Mention at least 4 titles of the books to be supplied immediately. Address yourself as Kalpana.

5

5A The given pie-chart shows how water is consumed in households in a metropolitan city in India. Study the information carefully and write an analytical paragraph in about 100-120 words drawing a comparative analysis on water consumption. Emphasize on wasteful water consumption by selecting features that support your analysis.



OR

5 B Given below is a newspaper report on the state of cancer prevailing in India. You have been asked to write an analytical paragraph on 'Cancer – a Silent Killer'. Taking information from the report given below, write an analytical paragraph in about 100-120 words by selecting features that support your analysis.

In India, cities are more cancer-prone than rural areas. In the early 1990's, we expected one out of 10-15 urban Indians to get cancer in their lifetime, that is every second or third family would have to face this disease. This is partly due to high levels of benzene in the air and also that the metros are exposed to high levels of pesticides in their foods. In order to check the steady growth of cancer in the country, the Government shall have to give priority to preventive action. At the same time measures to undertake improvement in facilities for the treatment of cancer shall have to be adopted.

SECTION C

LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT

(40 Marks)

6	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given.	5
A	<p>But Horace found that the flowers were hindering him in his work. He buried his face in his handkerchief. Then he heard a voice say from the doorway, "What is it? A cold or hay fever?" Before he could think, Horace said, "Hay fever," and found himself sneezing again. The voice went on, "You can cure it with a special treatment, you know, if you find out just what plant gives you the disease. I think you'd better see a doctor, if you're serious about your work. I heard you from the top of the house just now."</p> <p><i>(A Question of Trust)</i></p>	
i	State any one inference about Danby from the given context: But Horace found that the flowers were hindering him in his work.	1
ii	<p>State TRUE or FALSE: None of the options from (a) to (d) can be applied to the given question or context. Who asked Horace, "What is it? A cold or hay fever?"</p> <p>(a) Probably, it was the mistress of the Grange. (b) Maybe, it was another thief. (c) It could have been the housekeeper of the Grange. (d) In all probability, it was a neighbour keeping an eye on the Grange.</p>	1

iii	What advice did the lady give Horace regarding his hay fever? Was she really interested in his health? Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract.	2
iv	Which phrase would correctly substitute 'buried' as given in the sentence? He buried his face in his handkerchief.	1

OR

B	<p>"Our elders are often heard reminiscing nostalgically about those good old Portuguese days, the Portuguese and their famous loaves of bread. Those eaters might have vanished but the makers are still there. We still have amongst us, the mixers, the moulders, and those who bake the loaves. Those age-old, time-tested furnaces still exist. The fire in these furnaces have not yet been extinguished. The thud and jingle of traditional baker's bamboo, heralding his arrival in the morning, can still be heard in some places.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Glimpses of India)</i></p>	
i	Which of the following is NOT a reason why the elders are often heard reminiscing nostalgically about those good old Portuguese days..... A. Portuguese as well as their famous loaves of bread have vanished. B. Those age-old, time-tested furnaces still exist. C. The eaters have left but the makers are still there. D. The thud and jingle of traditional baker's bamboo can still be heard in some places	1
ii	Why is it fair to say that the author's tone is confident, when he says "The fire in these furnaces have not yet been extinguished"? Answer in about 40 words.	2
iii	Read the following statements (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract. (a) Baking is not a profitable profession anymore. (b) The mixers and the moulders no more provide evidence of the baker still existing in Goan villages. (c) Baking as a profession perished with the Portuguese leaving the place	1
iv	If the loaves of bread had not been liked that much in the present time, what would have been the condition of the bakers?	1

7	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.	5
A	<p><i>I am an orphan, roaming the street.</i> <i>I pattern soft dust with my hushed, bare feet.</i> <i>The silence is golden, the freedom is sweet.</i></p>	
i	In what way does the language used in this poem convey the idea of internal dialogue?	1
ii	What is the significance of the use of the word 'freedom' to describe the desire of Amanda in the poem. How does this word choice contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem?	2
iii	<p>Complete the sentence with appropriate option.</p> <p>The lines from the poem tells us that Amanda is _____</p> <p>A. despondent B. stress -free C. ecstatic D. immature</p>	1
iv	Identify the poetic device used in the line, 'I am an orphan'.	1
OR		
B	<p><i>Belinda tickled him, she tickled him unmerciful.</i> <i>Ink, Blink and Mustard, they rudely called him Percival.</i> <i>They all sat laughing in the little red wagon</i> <i>At the realio, trulio, cowardly dragon.</i></p>	
i	In what way does the language used in the poem challenge traditional ideas of what poetry should be?	1
ii	What is the significance of the use of the words 'realio', 'trulio' to describe Custard the Dragon in the poem? How do these words contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem? Answer in about 40 words.	2
iii	<p>Complete the sentence with the appropriate option.</p> <p>The lines from the poem tell us that Custard was----- by his family.</p> <p>A. loved B. hated C. encouraged D. ridiculed</p>	1
iv	Identify the poetic devices used in the above lines of the poem.(Any two)	1

8	Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words.	4x3=12
i	Justify the opinion that an unquestionable faith in the Divine is a gift only the sincere and hardworking possess. <i>(A Letter to God)</i>	3
ii	How does W B Yeats's poem 'For Anne Gregory', challenge society's perception of a 'perfect woman'? <i>(For Anne Gregory)</i>	3
iii	Explain how the attitude of Nelson Mandela towards freedom gets reflected in the chapter <i>Nelson Mandela: Long walk to Freedom</i> . Refer to the given lines from the text: <i>But then I slowly saw that not only was I not free, but my brothers and sisters were not free. I saw that it was not just my freedom that was curtailed, but the freedom of everyone who looked like I did.</i>	3
iv	Personal losses are a part and parcel of life. Instead of wailing over them, we should move on in life. This message of Gautama Buddha has become more relevant in modern times. Do you agree? Why/why not? <i>(The sermon at Benares)</i>	3
v	Though very short, <i>Fire and Ice</i> is significantly relevant to everyone in the world. Elaborate.	3
9	Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.	2x3=6
i	How does Think Tank compare the Martians with the people on the Earth? What guesses are made by him about the books found on earth? <i>(The Book That Saved the Earth)</i>	3
ii	How does the character of Mr. Loisel teach lessons to people around in running a successful marital life? <i>(The Necklace)</i>	3
iii	"Persistence can be a key factor to gain success in any field." Justify this statement in the context of the example of Richard Ebright in 'The Making of a Scientist'. <i>(The Making of a Scientist)</i>	3

10	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.	1x6=6
A	After reading the story about Valli, you realize that she had such a small desire and demanded nothing from her mother. After reflecting on this, you decide to write a diary entry on how you felt you have been unreasonable about the demands you have posed to your parents. You also realize that life is not all about materialistic possessions. You may begin like this: <i>I feel I have learnt a lesson in life after reading about Valli. I feel ashamed for the way I have been so demanding about the materialistic possessionscontinue.</i> <i>(Madam Rides the bus)</i>	
OR		
B	"You Lomovs have had lunacy in your family, all of you". In the light of this statement by Chubukov, develop a conversation between Natalya and her father, when she reminds him of the proposal that Lomov brought for her. You may begin as: Natalya: Papa, please what are you doing? He is here to ask for my hand in marriage. Agree with him on all that he says. Chubukov: Dear Lord! How can I	
11	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.	1x6=6
A	You have been asked to prepare a speech on human behaviour, which comes with the complexity that sets humans apart from other species. More often than not, our perception of a person is proved wrong. Prepare a draft of the speech in 100-120 words by drawing similarities between Horace Danby in 'A Question of Trust' and Ausable in 'The Midnight Visitor'. You may begin as: Good morning. Sometimes appearances can be deceptive.....	
OR		
B	A character arc is the transformation or development of a character throughout a story and refers to the changes a character undergoes as a result of their experiences, challenges and interactions with other characters. In the light of the above information, trace the character arc of Bholi in K.A. Abbas' story titled "Bholi" in about 120 words. <i>(Bholi)</i>	

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE - Code No. 184
SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER
CLASS-X- (2025-26)

Time allowed: 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the instructions carefully and 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 Textbook
3. *Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each Part.*

SECTION A
READING SKILLS

(20 marks)

1. Read the following passage.

10

- 1 The growing preference for indigenous craft items is a welcome trend in today's globalised world, where mass-produced goods often dominate markets. These handcrafted products, rooted in the cultural and artistic traditions of their regions, offer more than just aesthetic appeal. They symbolise sustainability, support local economies, and preserve the heritage of diverse communities.
- 2 One of the primary reasons for choosing indigenous crafts is their eco-friendliness. Unlike factory-made products, most traditional crafts are created using natural, locally sourced materials. Artisans often employ time-tested methods that minimise waste and avoid harmful industrial processes. For example, pottery made from local clay, handwoven textiles using organic dyes, and bamboo-based crafts all have a much lower environmental footprint compared to their machine-made counterparts. By opting for these items, consumers indirectly contribute to reducing pollution and promoting sustainable practices.
- 3 Supporting indigenous crafts also strengthens local economies. Many artisans depend solely on their craft for livelihood, often working in small communities where opportunities for other forms of employment are limited. When people purchase their products, it provides a direct income to these artisans, empowering them and encouraging their craftsmanship. Initiatives like fair trade further ensure that artisans receive fair wages, fostering economic stability within their communities.
- 4 Moreover, indigenous craft items help preserve cultural heritage. Every handcrafted product carries a story—a glimpse into the traditions, beliefs, and skills passed down through generations. In India, whether it's paintings, terracotta jewellery, sculptures, athangudi tiles, mud work frames or many others, each item reflects the unique identity of

its region. By choosing these crafts, people not only appreciate the artistry but also help keep these traditions alive in an era where cultural homogenisation threatens diversity.

- 5 In addition to their economic and cultural value, indigenous crafts add a personal touch to homes and wardrobes. Unlike mass-produced items, which often lack individuality, handcrafted products are unique. Each piece bears the imprint of the artisan's effort, creativity, and dedication, making it special for the buyer.
- 6 However, the preference for indigenous crafts requires sustained efforts to thrive. Governments, organisations, and consumers all have roles to play. Policies that promote local craftsmanship, provide training to artisans, and create global platforms for showcasing their work can boost the visibility and demand for these products. Consumers, too, must actively seek out and invest in handmade crafts rather than opting for cheaper, factory-made alternatives. Choosing indigenous craft items is a meaningful step toward a more sustainable and culturally enriched world.

Created for academic usage / 403 words

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- I Why is the growing preference for indigenous craft items described as a 'welcome trend' in paragraph 1? 1
- II According to paragraph 1, the indigenous craft items have all of the following qualities EXCEPT being: 1
- A. handcrafted products
B. rooted in artistic traditions
C. aesthetic in appeal
D. easily accessible
- III Complete the following by selecting the correct option from those given in the brackets. 1
The usage of locally sourced materials makes the indigenous crafts _____
(traditional / eco-friendly). (Paragraph 2)
- IV Select the option that is True from (a)-(c) given for what the phrase, 'time-tested methods' suggests in paragraph 2. 1
- A. Artisans use traditional techniques that have been refined and proven effective over generations
B. Artisans use outdated practices that are no longer relevant in today's commercial markets.
C. Artisans follow techniques that prioritise speed and mass production over craftsmanship.
- V Complete the analogy by selecting one of the two correct options (a), (b) 1
fair trade: fair wages:: _____ : _____ (Paragraph 3)
- (a) employment: job security (b) mass production : reduced prices

- VI Why is supporting indigenous crafts considered an effective way to improve the economic conditions of small communities? (Paragraph 3) 2
- VII What are the main ideas of paragraph 4 and paragraph 5? 1
- i) Choosing indigenous crafts helps preserve cultural heritage
 - ii) Handcrafted products lack individuality.
 - iii) Indigenous crafts reflect the artisan’s creativity.
 - iv) Indigenous crafts promote uniformity by erasing regional differences in artistic traditions.
 - v) Cultural homogenisation encourages people to choose indigenous crafts over mass-produced goods.

Select the correct option.

Options	Main idea of paragraph 4	Main idea of paragraph 5
A.	ii	iv
B.	v	ii
C.	i	iii
D.	iv	ii

- VIII Why is it important for consumers to take an active role alongside government and organisations in sustaining indigenous crafts? (Paragraph 6) 2

2. Read the following passage. 10

- 1 A recent study conducted across two age groups—students aged 10–12 and 13–16—explored their preferences for ballpoint and micro-tip pens for various writing activities such as note-taking, examinations, and personal writing. The study aimed to understand trends in writing habits and the factors influencing pen selection among students.
- 2 The results revealed distinct patterns based on age groups and writing purposes. Among students aged 10–12, 65% preferred ballpoint pens for note-taking, citing ease of use and affordability as key factors. However, 35% opted for micro-tip pens, valuing their precision and smooth writing. For examinations, ballpoint pens were the overwhelming choice, with 78% favouring them for their speed and reliability, while 22% stuck with micro-tip pens, appreciating their fine control.
- 3 In the 13–16 age group, preferences shifted slightly. For note-taking, 60% favoured micro-tip pens, highlighting their ability to produce neat, legible notes, while 40% continued to use ballpoint pens. During examinations, however, 70% still relied on ballpoint pens, indicating their consistency under time constraints. When it came to personal writing, such as journalling or creative tasks, 58% in this group chose micro-tip pens, appreciating the aesthetic appeal of finer lines, while 42% stuck with ballpoint pens for their convenience.
- 4 These findings point to the importance of understanding age-specific preferences and task requirements, enabling manufacturers to innovate products. Manufacturers could further explore incorporating hybrid features, such as pens offering the speed of ballpoint pens with the precision of micro-tip pens, to cater to a wider range of student preferences.

Created for academic usage / 250 words

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above

- I Why did the study most likely focus on the two specific age groups of 10–12 and 13–16? (Paragraph 1) 1
- This is so because these age groups ____.
- A. represent the largest population of growing students.
B. are when students develop and refine their writing habits.
C. were the easiest to survey across various schools.
D. have a natural preference for ballpoint pens.
- II Identify the phrase in paragraph 1 that conveys the writer's reference to the patterns or preferences observed in how students use pens for various writing tasks. 1
- III Complete the following by selecting the correct option from those given in the brackets. (Paragraph 2) 1
- Geetha, aged 11, wishes to complete her practical file neatly, ensuring her work is legible and appealing. She is most likely to choose a micro-tip pen for this task because the _____ (speed / precision) offered by this type of pen helps produce tidy work.
- IV What does the writer mean by 'affordability' while citing the high percentage of ball point pen usage? (Paragraph 2) 1
- V Complete the following with the correct option. 1
- When the writer says 'distinct patterns' in the line 'The results revealed distinct patterns based on age groups and writing purposes,' of paragraph 3, s/he means that _____.
- A. students in both age groups use pens in the same way for all the listed purposes.
B. the preferences for pens varied according to the students' age and the type of writing task.
C. only micro-tip pens were popular across all writing tasks in the 13-16 age group.
D. students of all age groups preferred ballpoint pens for completing creative writing tasks.
- VI Complete the following appropriately. 1
- The one likely reason why more than 40% of students still chose ballpoint pens for creative tasks, even though micro-tip pens are better suited for such activities is _____.
(Paragraph 3)
- VII How are 'aesthetic appeal' and 'finer lines' connected? (Paragraph 3) 1
- VIII Elaborate how hybrid features in pens would lead to a commercially viable product. (Paragraph 4) 2

- IX Fill in the blank with ONE suitable word. (Paragraph 4) 1
- Understanding age-specific preferences helps manufacturers design products that cater to the unique needs of different age groups, ensuring their products are both _____ as well as appealing.

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 marks)

GRAMMAR 10

3. Complete **any ten** of twelve of the following tasks, as directed.

- I Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket for the given portion of a market research: 1

The special subscriptions of newspapers are well _____(illustrate), to make reading interesting for school students.

- II Identify the error and write the correction in the given sentence from a life skills' book. 1

The road to success is not the bed of roses.

Use the given format.

Error	Correction

- III Fill in the blank with the correct form of verb given in the brackets. 1

I'm so happy to see my plants again! They _____ (grow) so much since I last saw them.

- IV Read the given statement. 1

They said to the guide, "We'd love to come here again next year."

Report it correctly by completing the following.

They told the guide that _____.

- V Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the conclusion of a letter of placing order. 1

There would be no compromise _____the quality of items supplied.

- A. regards
- B. regard
- C. regardless
- D. regarding

- VI Report the following by completing the sentence correctly. 1

"Don't try mending the trousers yourself," she warned him.

She warned him _____.

VII Complete the given opinion by filling the blank with correct option. 1

The experience of watching the movie left me _____ grateful for knowing the importance of being empathetic to others.

- A. having felt
- B. feeling
- C. felt
- D. feels

VIII The given question has an error. Select the option that correctly identifies the error and the correction. 1

Which kind of person does something like that?

No.	Error	Correction
A.	Which	What
B.	kind	kinds
C.	something	some things
D.	that	this

1

IX Report the following question.

She said to her sister, "Are you joining us for lunch today?"

X Fill in the blank with the correct option from those given in the brackets. 1

Everyone is saying that Farhana's chances are bright in the upcoming tournament and she _____ (must / may) become the youngest football player ever.

XI Fill in the blank to complete the sentence in a teacher's diary by choosing the correct option. 1

_____ student in the class submitted their assignment on time.

- A. All
- B. One
- C. Every
- D. A

XII Choose the correct option to fill the blank. 1

I looked inside the bucket and saw there was _____ water in it, so they had to add more to use.

- A. little
- B. any
- C. few
- D. least

WRITING

NOTE: All details presented in the questions in writing section are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

- 4A** As Vaibhav, the Club in-charge of your school's Ecology Club, you strongly believe in the importance of starting Eco-Clubs in schools in the rural areas surrounding your city to promote the preservation and conservation of nature. Write a letter to the Education Secretary of your city, in about 120 words, highlighting the significance of ecological awareness and suggesting the need to establish Eco-Clubs in these schools. **5**

OR

- 4B** As Amitha, the Vice Head Girl of Vidya Mandir, you are aware of the increasing prevalence of cyber-attacks and unauthorised exploitation of systems, networks, and technologies affecting individuals across all demographics. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily in about 120 words, stressing the urgent need to promote digital security among all age groups. Highlight the challenges posed by cyber threats and propose practical solutions to address this growing issue. **5**
- 5A** You are the President of the Debate Society in your school. Two guest speakers --Mr. Rajan Sharma and Ms. Meera Kapoor, have written to express their interest in participating in your upcoming debate competition. Below are excerpts from their letters. **5**

Excerpt 1

...I am thrilled to express my interest in participating as a guest speaker at your school's debate competition. With over 10 years of experience as a public speaker and debate coach, I have guided numerous students to success in national-level competitions. My approach focuses on encouraging critical thinking and fostering a passion for debating. I have previously spoken at various schools and universities, often receiving positive feedback for my engaging sessions and practical insights. I believe my experience and knowledge can inspire and empower your students to excel in debating.

Best regards

Mr. Rajan Sharma

Excerpt 2:

...It would be a privilege to participate as a guest speaker at your school's upcoming debate competition. I have participated in international debate forums and have won accolades for my arguments on global and social issues. My strength lies in connecting with young audiences and making debates relevant to real-world scenarios. I also emphasise how debating can improve public speaking, confidence, and interpersonal skills. I look forward to sharing my journey and experiences with your students to inspire them to use debating as a tool for personal growth.

Yours sincerely

Ms. Meera Kapoor

Analyse the information in a paragraph, justifying which guest speaker would be a better choice. Consider factors such as experience, relevance to the topic, and audience engagement.

OR

- 5B** Jaspreet, class X, is known for her creativity, excellent communication skills, and ability to think outside the box. However, she sometimes struggles with time management and prefers collaborative efforts over working solo. She has been assigned an art-integrated project presentation and must choose a partner from Sunaina, Tabassum, and Alice. Below are the profiles of the three candidates. **5**

Sunaina: Sunaina is highly disciplined and excels in meeting deadlines. She is known for her strong organisational skills and ability to handle multiple tasks efficiently. However, she is slightly reserved and prefers working in structured, predictable environments.

Tabassum: Tabassum is enthusiastic and spontaneous, with a talent for generating unique ideas. She is an excellent artist and thrives in creative settings. However, she occasionally struggles to stay focused on tasks and complete them on time.

Alice: Alice is confident and articulate, with a flair for delivering polished presentations. She is detail-oriented and ensures that the final product is of high quality. However, she sometimes prefers to take control and may overlook collaborative efforts.

Based on the features of each candidate, analyse and decide who would be the best partner for Jaspreet. Consider aspects such as complementary strengths, teamwork, and the project's requirements.

SECTION D
LITERATURE TEXTBOOK

(40 marks)

- 6** Read the given extracts A and B and answer ANY ONE of the two. **5**
- A.** He just felt a bit dizzy Then he flapped his wings once and he soared upwards. "Ga, ga, ga, Ga, ga, ga, Gaw-col-ah," his mother swooped past him, her wings making a loud noise. He answered her with another scream. Then his father flew over him screaming. He saw his two brothers and his sister flying around him curvetting and banking and soaring and diving. Then he completely forgot that he had not always been able to fly, and commended himself to dive and soar and curve, shrieking shrilly.
(Two Stories About Flying - First Flight)
- I** Contradict the view that the young seagull celebrated his maiden flight alone. **2**

- II Which of the following statements best explains the young seagull's experience as he starts flying? 1
- a) The young seagull immediately mastered flying and was no longer afraid.
b) The young seagull gradually gained confidence and joined his family in the air.
- III What can be inferred about the young seagull's emotional state after flying with his family? 1
- IV Read the following sound and movement words. 1
- i) flapped
ii) shrieking
iii) swooped
iv) soared
v) screaming

Select the option that correctly categorises (i) –(v) into sound and movement words.

No.	Sound	Movement
A	i, ii, v	iii, iv
B	iv, v	i, ii, iii
C	ii, v	i, iii, iv
D	v	i, ii, iii, iv

OR

- B. Historian: ...You haven't heard about the Martian invasion of 2040? Tsk, tsk. What do they teach children nowadays? Well, you know, the invasion never really happened, because a single book stopped it. What was the book, you ask? A noble encyclopaedia? A tome about rockets and missiles? A secret file from outer space? No, it was none of those. It was — but here, let me turn on the historiscope and show you what happened many centuries ago, in 2040. *(She turns on projector, and points it left. Spotlight on Historian goes out...)*

(The Book That saved the Earth)

- I What does the pause indicated by the dash in the line 'It was — but here, let me turn on the historiscope and show you' convey? 1
- i) a sense of impatience and frustration
ii) a point of suspense and anticipation
iii) a moment of confusion and hesitation
iv) a sudden shift to lightheartedness
v) a reflective moment of deep thought
- A. i, ii, v
B. Only ii
C. iii and iv
D. Only v

II How do the stage directions, such as 'Historian turns on projector' and 'Spotlight on Historian goes out,' contribute to the atmosphere and understanding of the scene in this part of the play? 2

III Select the option that correctly completes the following. 1

The Historian dismisses the noble encyclopaedia and rockets because she wants to _____

- a) convey the importance of scientific knowledge and military power in stopping the invasion.
- b) stress the surprising and unexpected nature of the book that stopped the invasion.

IV What emotion is the Historian most likely conveying with the phrase 'Tsk, tsk'? 1

7 Read the given extracts A and B and answer ANY ONE of the two. 5

A. He is learning, well behind his desperate eyes,
The epistemology of loss, how to stand up
Knowing what every man must one day know
And most know many days, how to stand up.

(The Ball Poem)

I What emotions are most appropriately conveyed by the phrase 'desperate eyes' and 'epistemology of loss'? 1

- i) despair
- ii) anger
- iii) frustration
- iv) confusion
- v) helplessness

Select the correct option.

- A. i, iii
- B. i, iv, v
- C. ii, iii, iv
- D. iv, v

II What does the phrase 'how to stand up' suggest about the boy's emotional growth? 2

III Which phrase from the extract conveys the poet's idea that loss is universal? 1

IV Fill in the blank with a phrase to suitably complete the sentence. 1

The loss of his ball symbolises _____ in life.

OR

B. Or if some time when roaming round,
A noble wild beast greets you,
With black stripes on a yellow ground,
Just notice if he eats you.

This simple rule may help you learn
The Bengal Tiger to discern.

(How to tell Wild Animals)

- I What does the poet imply by referring to the Bengal Tiger as a 'noble wild beast'? 1
- A. The tiger is majestic and dignified despite its ferocity.
B. The tiger is kind and considerate toward humans.
C. The tiger has a royal lineage and should be revered.
D. The tiger is a symbol of fear and destruction.
- II Complete the following suitably. 1
- The word 'ground' in the line 'With black stripes on a yellow ground' refers to _____.
- III How does the poet use humour in the description of the Bengal Tiger? 2
- IV Identify the phrase in the poem that is advisory in nature. 1
- 8 Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 50 words each. 4x3=12**
- I Otters are known for their peculiar behavioural traits. Support this statement with reference to any two traits mentioned in 'Mijbil the Otter.' 3
- II How does the use of repetition in the poem 'Amanda!' highlight the speaker's expectations and Amanda's responses? 3
- III How can Nelson Mandela's vision of 'liberating both the oppressed and the oppressor' be applied in modern-day societies to address issues of inequality and discrimination? (Nelson Mandela – Long Walk to Freedom) 3
- IV How does the line 'and then moves on' reflect the transient nature of the fog thereby contributing to the poem's deeper message about life's impermanence? (Fog) 3
- V How does Chubukov's reaction to Lomov's marriage proposal reflect his priorities and values? (The Proposal) 3
- 9 Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. 2x3=6**
- I How does 'The Necklace' illustrate the significance of honesty as the key element for leading a happy and stress-free life? 3
- II Briefly evaluate the validity of the adage 'Values are caught, not taught', in the context of the relationship between Anil and Hari Singh in 'The Thief's Story'. 3
- III Griffin's experiences moments of comfort and normalcy while being invisible. How do these fleeting moments impact his sense of identity and his actions 3

throughout 'Footprints Without Feet'?

10 Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words 1 x 6

A. How does literature like 'The Baker from Goa,' 'Coorg,' and 'Tea from Assam' contribute to promoting tourism and raising awareness about regional cultures and traditions? 6

OR

B. The poems, 'The Trees' and 'A Tiger in the Zoo' resonate the theme of importance of freedom and the desire to break free from any kind of dominance. Examine. 6

11 Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. 1 x 6

A. How does the author use the narrative technique of misdirection in 'The Midnight Visitor', to enhance the suspense and the story's unexpected ending? 6

OR

B. Comment critically on the role of the Surgery in the 'The Triumph of Surgery'. 6