

BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA
Pre Board Examination (18 January 2025)

Subject – ENGLISH CORE

Class XII (Set – A)

Time: 3 hrs.

M.M.80

General Instructions:

1. The question paper contains Three sections – Reading, Writing and Literature.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section – A (Reading) (22 marks)

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

(12)

1. No one would have believed in the last years of the nineteenth century that this world was being watched keenly and closely by intelligences greater than man's and yet as mortal as his own. With infinite complacency men went to and fro over this globe about their little affairs, serene in their assurance of their empire over matter. It is possible that the infusoria under the microscope does the same. No one gave a thought to the older worlds of space as sources of human danger, or thought of them only to dismiss the idea of life upon them as impossible or improbable. Terrestrial men did fancy there might be other men on Mars, perhaps inferior to themselves and ready to welcome a missionary enterprise. Yet across the gulf of space, minds that are to our minds as ours are to those of the beasts that perish, intellects vast and cool and unsympathetic regarded this earth with envious eyes, and slowly and surely drew their plans against us. And early in the twentieth century came the great disillusionment.
2. Since Mars is older than our earth, it necessarily follows that it is not only more distant from time's beginning but nearer its end. The cooling that must someday overtake our planet has already gone far indeed with our neighbour. In its equatorial region, the midday temperature barely approaches that of our coldest winter. Its air is much more attenuated than ours; its oceans have shrunk until they cover but a third of its surface. That last stage of exhaustion, which to us is still incredibly remote, has become a present-day problem for the inhabitants of Mars. The immediate pressure of necessity has brightened their intellects, enlarged their powers, and hardened their hearts. And looking across space with instruments, and intelligences such as we have scarcely dreamed of, they see, at its nearest distance only 35,000,000 of miles sunward of them, a morning star of hope, our own warmer planet, green with vegetation and grey with water, with a cloudy atmosphere eloquent of fertility, with glimpses through its drifting cloud wisps of broad stretches of populous country and narrow, navy-crowded seas.
3. And we men must be to them at least as alien and lowly as are the monkeys and lemurs to us. Their world is far gone in its cooling and this world is still crowded with life, but crowded only with what they regard as inferior animals. To carry warfare sunward is, indeed, their only escape from the destruction that, generation after generation, creeps upon them.
4. And before we judge them too harshly we must remember what ruthless and utter destruction our own species has wrought, not only upon animals, such as the vanished bison and the dodo, but upon itself. The Tasmanians were entirely swept out of existence in a war of extermination waged by European immigrants in the space of fifty years. Are we such apostles of mercy as to complain if the Martians warred in the same spirit?

Adapted from *The War of the Worlds* by H. G. Wells (1898)

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- (a) According to paragraph 2, mention two factors that indicate Mars might be nearing its end. **(2)**
- (b) How does the author describe Mars? **(1)**
- (c) Read and complete the following sentence suitably.
"And we men must be to them at least as alien and lowly as are the monkeys and lemurs to us."
Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence. **(1)**
The comparison between humans, monkeys and lemurs is to _____.
(i) prove that humans are totally mistaken about creatures on Mars
(ii) emphasise that all of these are completely different living beings
- (d) Complete the sentence appropriately with a characteristic or its description with reference to Paragraph 1.
"With infinite complacency men went to and fro over this globe about their little affairs, serene in their assurance of their empire over matter." This indicates that men have become _____ **(1)**

A-1

- (e) How is the tone of the writer with reference to the given passage?
 (i) factual and opinionated (ii) humorous and factual (1)
 (iii) opinionated and fanciful (iv) satirical and fanciful
- (f) Identify one sentence from the passage which explains that external factors and environment have a bearing on the personality and development of living beings. (1)
- (g) "Yet across the gulf of space, minds that are to our minds as ours are to those of the beasts that perish...". How are these words cautionary in nature? (Paragraph 1) (2)
- (h) Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 3.
 come : go :: superior : _____
 (i) bear (ii) dear (1)
 (iii) clear (iv) inferior

- (j) How does the following line expose human hypocrisy? "Are we such apostles of mercy as to complain if the Martians warred in the same spirit?" (Paragraph 4) (2)

2. Read the following carefully.

10 Marks

As technology becomes an increasingly important part of our daily lives, it also plays a major role in education today. Here are seven top 'technology in education' statistics to help gain a clearer picture of the current state of education.

1. In April 2020, 73% of households in the United States had permanent access to the internet for online learning. This statistic is only increasing over time. (USAFacts).
2. 81% of teachers in the United States said that their ability to use EdTech improved during the Covid-19 school closures in 2020 (EdWeek). Since then, EdTech has become an increasingly prominent and important part of learning. After Covid-19, 58% of education professionals have developed a more positive opinion of EdTech (EdWeek).
3. The United States students who have over 60 minutes of device use per week have been reported to achieve higher academic results.
4. The global education technology market could be worth \$404 billion by the end of 2025 (Holon IQ). This is a steep increase from the global education technology market's estimated valuation of \$76.4 billion in 2019 (Grandview).
5. 58% of educators confirmed that they want to teach lessons in person wherever possible, with a blend of digital and analog resources (Promethean).
6. As of April 2020, over 9 million children still did not have access to the internet from home (USAFacts).

A general global trend is that educational technology produces better results when it's only in the hands of the teacher. There are certain areas, such as in science, when students and teachers using technology together produces better results. If the students exclusively use technology devices, the outcomes are generally worse.

School systems in Japan, the United States, and Australia are achieving the best results through the use of technology, while school systems in Asia and Latin America tend to perform lower through increased technology use.

Beyond education, technology can be used to improve the way students and campuses are managed. This includes things like student information systems, student management software, and campus management software.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- (a) Complete the following suitably.
 "A general global trend is that educational technology produces better results when it's only in the hands of the teacher." The writer must have said this to emphasise that students _____ (1)
- (b) Steep increase in global education technology market from estimated valuation of ₹ 76.4 billion in 2019 to ₹ 404 billion by the end of 2025 can be seen as a:
 (i) threatening and alarming situation (1)
 (ii) inadvertently negative
 (iii) way to evolve with time while using advanced resources
 (iv) blessing in disguise
- (c) How is the above survey beneficial to the educators? Mention two ways. (2)
- (d) The writer is critical of the schools in Asia and Latin America using technology. Choose the correct option.
 (i) This is a correct statement. (1)
 (ii) This is a wrong statement.

(e) Read the following.

"After Covid-19, 58% of education professionals have developed a more positive opinion of EdTech."

Four people interpreted the given statement in four different ways. Select the option that identifies the correct interpretation.

- (i) Reshma—Extreme circumstances such as pandemics propel us to change our ways.
(ii) Nayan—There is still some time for a revolutionary mindset shift for education system to use more and more technological tools.
(iii) Amar—Focus needs to be placed on the remaining 42 per cent to be brought on the other side in whichever ways possible.
(iv) Nitin—No action needs to be taken.
- (f) How can we say that technology is reaching areas beyond education? (1)
(g) The statistics exhibits the inevitability of technology in education which is still a point of concern. Comment as per the data available in the passage. (Paragraph 6) (2)
(h) Which of the following will be the most appropriate title for the passage?
(i) A Comprehensive Look at Technology Use in Education
(ii) Technology and Students - from Past to Present (1)
(iii) Role of Administration in Technology and Education
(iv) Trends in Education

SECTION – B : CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

(18 Marks)

3. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. (4)

A. Takshila Sr. Secondary School, Mumbai is organising a visit to the Historical Museum for the students of Class XII. This activity is undertaken as a part of the co-curricular assessment of students in History. As the Head of Takshila Historical Society, draft a notice for the concerned students giving all the necessary details. Also, mention the refreshments that will be provided.

Or

B. You are Pramila/Pramesh Thapar, Treasurer of GK Housing Society in Alirajpur, Madhya Pradesh. Draft a notice inviting all the society members for a meeting to be held to discuss the distressing financial state of society funds which may affect several future occasions as well as available facilities. Give all the necessary details.

4. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. (4)

A. You are Teacher In-charge of Public Speaking Society, National Public School, New Delhi. Under this society, you are organising an Oratory Competition for senior secondary students. Write an invitation to Ms Ipshita Dutt, to preside over and judge the competition. Share all the necessary details.

Or

B. Your friend's parents have recently launched their small business of kids' garments. To celebrate its opening, your friend has arranged a get-together of close family and friends. You have also been invited for the same. Write a reply accepting this invitation.

5. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. (5)

A. Stress, anxiety and depression are on rise amongst students. Academic pressures and even parental pressures have made student life difficult. Many steps have been taken to deal with this such as art integrated learning approach, increase in co-curricular activities, etc. but no substantial result is seen. As a Student Counsellor, write a letter to the Editor of *Hindustan Times* on the need to introduce 'Art of Living Happiness Programme' in the senior secondary curriculum. You are Sonalika Mahajan, Student Counsellor. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to write the letter.

- Introduction of spiritual practices
- Overall well-being
- Includes yoga, breathing exercises and meditation
- Compassionate experts

Or

- B. You are Kirti Bajwa from Noida, Uttar Pradesh. You saw the given advertisement in the newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Write a letter to the Managing Director, along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

<p align="center">JK Cement, Bengaluru Wanted ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER Qualification: Graduation Experience: Minimum 4 years Job Requirement: Manage administrative work, coordination with all depts. Salary: Best in the industry</p>
<p align="center">Apply to: Managing Director, JK Cement, B-122, RK Road, Bengaluru</p>

6. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words. (5)

- A. Recent floods and landslides have created havoc in Himachal Pradesh. Social media was full of viral videos where houses were seen collapsing, cars were drowning and people were crying at all the devastation. Write an article for a newspaper column on the misery that the common people have to face during such despairing times. Also talk about the need for others to be charitable and helpful towards their fellows. Use the given cues to write this article.

- Debris everywhere near the hills and mountains
- Unexpected rains - not common man's fault
- Affected their harvest and monetary situation
- Affluent people need to come forward with financial help

Or

- B. The Chennai Government had organised a dental check-up programme for all the school children in the city. As a student member of the Healthcare Society of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Block 10, Chennai, you were at the forefront of the event in your school. Write a report on the same to be printed in your school magazine.

- Purpose of the programme
- When did it happen and who all attended it?
- Proceedings - address by the Chief Guest
- Number of outsiders involved
- Its impact and the promise of follow-up activities

SECTION - C : LITERATURE

(40 Marks)

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two-A or B. (6)

- A. I saw my mother,

beside me,

doze, open mouthed, her face

ashen like that

of a corpse and realised with
pain

that she was as old as she
looked but soon

put that thought away, and
looked out at Young

Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes

(My Mother at Sixty-six)

- (a) Why have the words 'merry children spilling' been used?
(b) What is the speaker's emotional state when looking at her mother?
- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| (i) Perplexed | (ii) Full of yearning |
| (iii) Alarmed | (iv) Compassionate |

A-4

- (c) Complete the following suitably.
The 'corpse' is an apt analogy for the description of the mother because _____.
- (d) Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The image of the merry children 'spilling out of their homes' suggests the idea of _____ (youthfulness/cruelty).
- (e) Read the assertion and the reason below with reference to the given extract.
Assertion: The poet looked at the outside world to distract herself from her emotions.
Reason: The poet was totally concerned about her mother's health.
Choose the correct option regarding the statements.
- Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
 - Both the assertion and the reason are true but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
 - The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
 - The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- (f) How was the poet's mother's condition during the car ride?

Or

B. What I want should not be confused

with total inactivity.

Life is what it is about;

I want no truck with death.

If we were not so single-minded

about keeping our lives moving,

and for once could do nothing,

perhaps a huge silence

might interrupt this sadness

of never understanding ourselves

and of threatening ourselves with death.

(Keeping Quiet)

- What can bring about positive change in the world?
- Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?
 - Introspection is the way to live life.
 - Introspection can prevent wars.
 - Stop doing all the work.
 - Death is the ultimate reality.
- Complete the following suitably.
'Total inactivity' suggests _____.
- Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.
The word 'perhaps' has been used in the extract to devote the possibility of _____ (introspection/extrospection) to cope up with the modern day sadness.
- Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion: The poet wants to interrupt total inactivity.
Reason: The poet believes that inactivity is the essence of life.
Choose the correct option regarding the statements.
 - Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
 - Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
 - The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
 - The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- What is the poet's perspective on inactivity and its relationship to life?

8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (A) or (B). (4)

A. From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers inhabiting Pratibandapuram.

The State banned tiger hunting by anyone except the Maharaja. A proclamation was issued to the effect that if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated.

The Maharaja vowed he would attend to all other matters only after killing the hundred tigers. Initially the king seemed well set to realise his ambition.

Not that he faced no dangers. There were times when the bullet missed its mark, the tiger leapt upon him and he fought the beast with his bare hands. Each time it was the Maharaja who won. (The Tiger King)

(a) Complete the following suitably.

To prove that he was well set to realise his ambition, the Tiger King _____.

(b) Give one reason how the writing style of this extract uses exaggeration.

(c) The Maharaja vowed he would attend to all other matter only after killing the hundred tigers. It shows that the king was

(i) intelligent

(ii) arrogant

(iii) vigilant

(iv) timid

(d) The first sentence is an example of irony. Comment.

Or

B. I cried aloud, shaking my head all the while until I felt the cold blades of the scissors against my neck, and heard them gnaw off one of my thick braids. Then I lost my spirit. Since the day I was taken from my mother I had suffered extreme indignities. People had stared at me. I had been tossed about in the air like a wooden puppet. And now my long hair was shingled like a coward's! In my anguish I moaned for my mother, but no one came to comfort me. Not a soul reasoned quietly with me, as my own mother used to do; for now I was only one of many little animals driven by a herder. (Memories of Childhood)

(a) Complete the following suitably.

The analogy of the writer feeling like 'one of many little animals driven by a herder' is appropriate because _____.

(b) What kind of a figure does the herder seem to be?

(c) Select the suitable option to complete the following:

The girl's feelings at best can be described as _____.

A. memorable

B. excruciating

C. gleeful

D. astounded

(d) How is the line - 'I had been tossed about in the air like a wooden puppet' an example of simile?

9. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, A or B. (6)

A. "Yes, that was a fine fellow you let into the house," said her father. "I only wonder how many silver spoons are left in the cupboard by this time."

The wagon had hardly stopped at the front steps when the ironmaster asked the valet whether the stranger was still there. He added that he had heard at church that the man was a thief. The valet answered that the fellow had gone and that he had not taken anything with him at all. On the contrary, he had left behind a little package which Miss Willmansson was to be kind enough to accept as a Christmas present.

The young girl opened the package, which was so badly done up that the contents came into view at once. She gave a little cry of joy. She found a small rattrap, and in it lay three wrinkled ten kronor notes. But that was not all. In the rattrap lay also a letter written in large, jagged characters. (The Rattrap)

(a) Comment on the stranger's character on the basis of his decision to leave a package for Edla.

(b) Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank.

The first statement in the given extract is an example of _____ (sarcasm/hyperbole).

(c) Complete the following suitably.

'A little cry of joy' by Edla is an intense emotion that shows her _____.

(d) What does 'so badly done up' mean?

- (e) "Yes, that was a fine fellow you let into the house, said her father." What light does the given line throw on the ironmaster as a father?
- The ironmaster was disapproving of Edla's decision to let a stranger away.
 - The ironmaster blamed his daughter for being so kind to a thief.
 - The ironmaster was being playful with Edla, and supported her decisions.
 - The ironmaster loved Edla but thought her to be too naive and idealistic.
- (f) What does the following line from the extract, showcase?
- She found a little small rattrap and in it lay three wrinkled ten kronor notes.*
- expectation
 - happiness
 - realisation
 - sorrow

Or

B. *I struck at the water as I went down, expending my strength as one in a nightmare fights an irresistible force. I had lost all my breath. My lungs ached, my head throbbed. I was getting dizzy. But I remembered the strategy — I would spring from the bottom of the pool and come like a cork to the surface. I would lie flat on the water, strike out with my arms, and thrash with my legs. Then I would get to the edge of the pool and be safe. I went down, down, endlessly. I opened my eyes. Nothing but water with a yellow glow — dark water that one could not see through.* (Deep Water)

- What difference does it make when such a personal experience is shared in the first person narrative? Comment in brief.
- Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank.
Fighting an 'irresistible force' suggests that the author was feeling _____.
(helpless/independent).
- Complete the following with a suitable reason.
The author remembered the strategy to coming to the surface because _____.
- Who does 'I' refer to in the given extract and what experiences he is sharing?
- 'Nothing but water with a yellow glow — dark water that one could not see through' can best be classified as:
 - An opinion
 - A twist in the story
 - A sentence that has a literary device
 - A fact
- What did the author do?
 - He evolved a strategy to come out of water.
 - He fell into the pool.
 - He came out of the pool suddenly.
 - None of these

10. Answer any five of the following six questions in 40-50 words each.

5×2=10

- In the light of the last two sentences of the poem, is 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' pessimistic?
- What do the following words/phrases suggest about the family's economic situation? - 'if you ever come into money you'll buy us a blessed decent house to live in', 'small room was steamy from the stove and cluttered'.
(Going Places)
- How does the classroom setting affect our overall understanding of the Prussian invasion of French districts?
(The Last Lesson)
- How is the concept of 'interstices' a comment on effective time management?
(The Interview)
- How does 'Poets and Pancakes' present an umbrella view of human characteristics through the world of cinema?
- 'A Roadside Stand' paints a picture of helplessness and despair. Discuss.

11. Answer any two of the following three questions in 40-50 words each.

2×2=4

- In what ways does the chapter 'Journey to the End of the Earth' intermingle Earth's past and future?
(The Enemy)
- Tom is an amiable, young boy. Elucidate.
(The Third Level)
- 'and he said it was a waking-dream wish fulfilment'. How far do you agree with Sam's analysis of the situation? Give reasons for your answer.

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Class XII (Set – B)

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M.M.80

General Instructions:

- 1. The question paper contains Three sections – Reading, Writing and Literature.**
- 2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.**

Section – A (Reading) (22 marks)

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (12)

1. However bleak and windswept, just about every place on earth manages to catch a bit of sun, and it has long been known that solar power can be converted directly into electricity using what are called photovoltaic cells.
2. Photovoltaic cells were invented in the 1950s. Made from two sheets of silicon they produce electricity whenever sunlight falls on them. Early models were hopelessly inefficient but today's solar cells convert about 15% of the sun's power to electricity and it may not be long before solar panels covering your roof will power the refrigerator and TV as well as heat your home and water.
3. Scientists have calculated that the sun could produce around 10,000 times more energy than the earth presently consumes. By laying photovoltaic cells across just one small part of the sun-drenched Sahara desert, we could make enough electricity to satisfy the entire world. So why don't we?
4. In the 1970s photovoltaic cells were confined to spacecraft and other fabulously expensive technology. But the cost of their manufacture has plummeted by more than 90% since then and now the technology is on the cutting edge of viability. Within another 10 years it could be genuinely competitive.
5. Coating your roof with solar cells might once have cost a small fortune and made your house look like a space station. Not any more.
6. The latest solar-panelled roofs are easier on both eye and pocket. Presently they will set you back about seven times the annual cost of your mains electricity. In that time your investment will have paid for itself anyway, but since photovoltaic cells actually produce more power than you are likely to consume, you might even sell the excess to a local business and show an annual profit as the owner of a miniature power station. The photovoltaic roof could give you strategic and economic independence.
7. It's an agreeable prospect, so why aren't we already making it a reality? Because photovoltaic cells can't produce power at night they're not going to cause the closure of conventional power stations although they could reduce the fuel needed for consumption during daylight hours and thus the amount of air pollution emitted. And why invest huge sums of money buying photovoltaic cells now when perhaps 10 years on we shall be able to buy them much more cheaply?
8. What science needs to give us is a photovoltaic cell virtually indistinguishable from a conventional roof tile. Having the same rainproof and heat-insulating properties and capable of producing sufficient power for more than one home.
9. When that is achieved surely no one will want any other form of roofing material, especially if enlightened governments offer the incentive of lower tax on homes equipped with it.
10. The ultimate progression will be the appearance of batteries charged by sun-light during the day to power household equipment through the night. And scientists are already working on that.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions:

1. The word 'bleak' in the expression 'however bleak and windswept' (paragraph 1) has several dictionary meanings. Choose the Most Appropriate meaning in which the author has used the word. (1)
 - a) Characteristic of an empty place that is not welcoming or attractive
 - b) Characteristic of a situation in which there is little or no hope for the future
 - c) Characteristic of a place or the weather that is cold and unwelcoming
 - d) Characteristic of an area of land that lacks vegetation and is exposed to the elements
2. "Sahara Desert is the Earth's environment friendly power station of the future." Comment on this statement with reference to paragraph 3 of the text. (1)
3. Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'increased' from words/phrases used in paragraph 4. (1)
 - a) plummeted
 - b) fabulously
 - c) cutting edge
 - d) viability
4. Why is it fair to say that the latest solar-panelled roofs are easier on both eye and pocket? (1)
5. How does the following impact the readers, who are considering switching to photovoltaic cells based rooftop power stations? (2)

"The photovoltaic roof could give you strategic and economic independence".
6. The phrase 'not any more' (paragraph 5) refers to (1)
 - a) extremely high cost of coating
 - b) high cost of manufacturing solar cells
 - c) dependence on conventional fuels for electricity production
 - d) poor efficiency of photovoltaic cells on rooftops
7. List 2 reasons the author gives for not making solar powered electricity a 'reality' at present? (2)
8. Photovoltaic cells can help the environment by (1)
 - a) checking the spread for the Sahara desert
 - b) reducing our dependence on pollution causing sources of energy
 - c) causing the closure of the conventional power stations
 - d) saving us lots of money in our electricity bills at present
9. The world needs rainproof, heat insulating photovoltaic cells that (1)
 - a) are distinguishable from the conventional roof tiles and produce electricity for more than one home
 - b) are indistinguishable from the conventional roof tiles and consume less electricity
 - c) look like conventional roof tiles and reduce the cost of producing electricity by 95%
 - d) look like conventional roof tiles and produce electricity for more than one home
10. How can governments promote the use of photovoltaic cells? (1)

Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (10)

ECONOMIC SURVEY ON ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Access to fast charging facilities must be fostered to increase the 0.06% market share of electric vehicles in India, compared to 2% in China and 39% in Norway, according to the Economic Survey, 2019.

1. FAME (Faster Adoption and Manufacture of Electric Vehicles, including hybrid vehicles) India Phase II has been launched, with effect from April 1, 2019, with a total outlay of 10,000 crore over the period of three years. Emphasis in this phase is on electrification of public transportation.
2. The Economic Survey shows how different states are working towards EVs development - Andhra Pradesh has set a target of 10 lakh EVs by 2024 while Kerala has set a target of 10 lakh EVs by 2022. Maharashtra has announced its draft EV Policy, 2018 to increase the number of registered EVs in the state to 5 lakh. Telangana has targeted 100% electric buses for intra- city, intercity and interstate transport for its state transport corporation.

6. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate (1)
In paragraph 6, the author makes a clear case for to enable an overall increase in investment in creating infrastructure for the promotion of EVs.
a) batteries that charge faster b) universal standardization of chargers
c) increased driving range of batteries d) adequate availability of charging stations
7. Choose the option that you think is the most appropriate general advice that can be given to the following states – Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Assam, Karnataka and West Bengal – on the basis of SMEV data in the pie-chart? (1)
a) Frame EV policies at the earliest
b) Register all EV sales
c) Augment registered EV sales
d) Focus on manufacturing EVs
8. Based on the graphical representation of the data in the passage, choose the option that lists the statements that are TRUE in the context of EVs. (1)
1. Between 2017 and 2020, annual sales of registered EVs in India rose up for the first three years and then fell.
2. As many as 14% of all EV sales have remained unaccounted for.
3. In the doughnut chart, there are two pairs of states that have registered identical percentage of EV sales.
4. Maharashtra showed the lowest percentage of EV sales, according to the data in the doughnut chart.
5. The sale of EVs in Uttar Pradesh is equal to the combined sales of EVs in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Assam and Karnataka.
6. Total number of registered EV sales between January and December 2020 were close to 1,20,000 units.
a) Options 1, 4, 5 and 6 b) Options 3, 4, 5 and 6
c) Options 1, 2, 3 and 5 d) Options 1, 3, 5 and 6

SECTION- B (Writing Skills) (18 marks)

Q3. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words. (4)

- A) You are Aaron Mascarenhas, a grade XII student of Achiever's High School, Kerala. Your school is organizing a flea market where students can barter second-hand items as part of Environment Sustainability Week. Draft a notice in about 50 words informing students about the event and urging them to bring items for exchange that they are not using anymore or were planning to dispose of.

OR

- B) You are Susheel/Shsheela, Secretary of Madakini Apartments Residents Committee. The elevator in your building is out of order. Write a notice, in not more than 50 words, informing the residents of building about it and urging them to use the staircase till the elevator is functional again. Mention all the necessary details.

Q4. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words. (4)

- A) St. Joseph School, Dehradun is celebrating 'World Disability Day' on 3rd December, 2022. The Minister of Social Welfare, Dr. Sudha Menon has consented to be the Chief Guest. Draft an invitation for the event to be sent to parents and other guests in about 50 words.

OR

- B) You are a social activist. You have been invited to take part in the discussion concerning the tobacco habits initiated by your friend who is the Manager of Tobacco Association. Write an acceptance reply in not more than 50 words.

Q5. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words.

(5)

You are Krishna from F-9, Mayur Vihar, Delhi. You have come across an advertisement in 'The Hindustan Times' for recruitment of Radio Jockey by Radio One, Noida. Apply in response to this advertisement giving your detailed bio-data with the help of the following verbal clues.

- Hosted many shows
- Qualifications and experience
- Taken interviews
- Enclosed resume

OR

You are Rita/Rohan. Write a letter to the Editor, The Times of India, Lucknow, about your village which does not have a Primary Health Centre. The sick villagers have to travel a long distance for medical help. Many villagers have died due to lack of timely medical care. You can use the following clues.

- Non in close proximity
- Time-consuming journey
- Many have lost lives
- Need to open primary health clinics

Q6. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words.

(5)

A) Media has a major impact on today's youth and you observe that, in today's environment, it is misleading the youth. Write an article for your school magazine expressing your views about it. You are Binod Trivedi of Class XII – A. You can use the following clues.

- Attraction towards Western Culture
- Anti-social activities
- Fake news/ Misinformation
- Check on the shows

OR

B) Aggressive driving has been a problem on our roads for a while and it seems to be only getting worse. Incidents of screaming, rude gestures and sometimes even violence are reported frequently on your roads resulting into road rage. As Lalit/Lalita, a Staff Correspondent for 'The Times of India', write a report on one such incident of road rage witnessed by you with the help of the following clues.

- A man fired a truck driver
- Shot missed saving the person
- The criminal was arrested
- Case of attempted murder

SECTION – C (Literature) (40 Marks)

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the given two (A) or (B).

(6)

A.

*I saw my mother, beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face ashen like that of a corpse
And realised with pain
that she was as old as she looked but soon
put that thought away*

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

- What do you infer about the phrase 'like that of a corpse' from the extract?
- Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the fourth line of the extract.
 - As quick as a fox
 - Nature is God's gift to us
 - The dazzling dames comes one by one
 - Life is full of ups and downs
- Complete the following suitably.
..... is the cause of pain and ache that the poet feels.
- Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank.
"Her face ashen like that of a corpse" means that the poet's mother's face was
(pale/restless)

- (v) Read the Assertion and the Reason below, with reference to the given extract. (1)
- Assertion** The poet put the thought away because it was painful.
- Reason** The poet wants her mother to wake up.
- Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
- (a) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
- (b) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, but the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.
- (c) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.
- (d) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.

(vi) State whether True or False.

The poet put the thought away because it was unbearable for her. (1)

OR

B.

*"The hurt to the scenery wouldn't be my complaint
So much as the trusting sorrow of what is unsaid:
Here far from the city we make our roadside stand
And ask for some city money to feel in hand
To try if it will not make our being expand,
And give us the life of the moving-pictures' promise
That the party in power is said to be keeping from us."*

(The Roadside Stand)

- (i) In the extract, what does 'hurt to the scenery' imply? (1)
- (ii) Which of the following is an apt title for the extract? (1)
- (a) Manipulation (b) The Broken Promise
- (c) Sympathy (d) The Agony of the Rural

(iii) Fill in one word. (1)

The poet seems to be towards the rural people.

(iv) Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank.

Based on the rhyme scheme in the extract, rhymes with line 4 (grand/fend) (1)

(v) Read the Assertion and the Reason below, with reference to the given extract.

Assertion The 'moving picture promise' refers to movies.

Reason The poet realises that those in power make false promises.

Choose the correct option regarding their relationship. (1)

- (a) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
- (b) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, but the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.
- (c) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.
- (d) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.

(vi) What was the promise made by the government? (1)

8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the given two (A) or (B). (4)

A. "Not by you, but by someone who does not know him. I have my own private assassins. Suppose I send two of them to your house tonight or better, any night. You need know nothing about it. It is now warm – what would be more natural than that you should leave the outer partition of the white man's room open to the garden while he sleeps?"

(The Enemy)

(i) Complete the following sentence. (1)

The white man was hated because

(ii) The reference to the white man in the extract indicates a cultural disparity. Do you agree? What is this cultural disparity? (1)

(iii) Select the appropriate option. (1)

"I have my own private assassins. Suppose I send two of them to your house tonight or better, any night."

- (a) Describes the General's care and kindness
- (b) Indicates the ignorance and self-centred nature of the General
- (c) Shows the General's humanist and patriotic side
- (d) Creates a suspense air around the General

(iv) What do you infer from the last line of the extract? (1)

B-6

- (i) What inference can be drawn from the line 'dozens of very deftly etched characters'? (1)
- (ii) Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank.
The phrase 'near and far' suggests (everywhere/nearby) (1)
- (iii) Complete the following sentence.
According to the extract, Subbu was benevolent, (1)
- (iv) Why does the narrator say that Subbu never aspire to be a lead actor even though he was an amazing actor? (1)
- (v) Which of these statements is not True about Subbu?
(a) His literary achievements stole the limelight from his films.
(b) He was a gifted poet and writer and his literary works were noteworthy.
(c) He was selfless in nature and was empathetic towards others.
(d) He never hankered after lead roles and performed minor roles in films. (1)
- (vi) The writer talks about Subbu's literary genius in a tone. (1)
(a) proud (b) sarcastic (c) gleeful (d) critical

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 40-50 words each. (5 × 2 = 10)

- (i) What was the reason that made Douglas unable to emerge to the surface of the pool as he hoped? (*Deep Water*)
- (ii) "Sophie felt a tightening in her throat. She went to look for her brother Geoff." In the light of this quote, discuss the relationship Sophie shared with Geoff. (*Going Places*)
- (iii) Why does one feel 'a sudden strangeness' on counting to twelve and keeping quiet? (*Keeping Quiet*)
- (iv) What do you think is the significance of the parting words of the poet and her smile? (*My Mother at Sixty-Six*)
- (v) Why was the peddler amused at the idea of the world being a rattrap? (*The Rattrap*)
- (vi) Read the given quote. In your opinion, what silence does the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' break?
Every poem breaks a silence that had to be overcome. — Adrienne Rich

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in about 40-50 words each. (2 × 2 = 4)

- (i) How is Derry we meet at the beginning different from the Derry at the end? (*On the Face of it*)
- (ii) Throw light on the attitude of the General in the matter of the enemy soldier. (*The Enemy*)
- (iii) Answer the question in the context of the following lines from *The Tiger King*.
At midnight when the town slept in peace, the dewan and his aged wife dragged the tiger to the car and shoved it into the forest where the Maharaja was hunting. When they reached the forest the tiger launched its Satyagraha and refused to get out of the car.
Why did the dewan decide to give up on his own tiger to be killed by the Maharaja?

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (5M)

- A) Imagine that Mahatma Gandhi from the text 'Indigo' visits Mukesh's town Firozabad as described in 'Lost Spring'. Gandhi sees how the poor bangle-makers are caught up in 'a vicious circle of the sahuks, the middlemen, the policemen, the keepers of law, the bureaucrats and the politicians'. True to his nature of being an activist and a social reformist, he decides to do something about it over a month.
As Mukesh, write a diary entry on the last day of Gandhi's one-month stay, elaborating on any two things that he did that transformed the people's lives in Firozabad.

You may begin this way

Dear Diary

Today marks a month of Mahatma Gandhi being in our town.....

OR

- B) Well I'll be a manager then-yes of course - to begin with.

Sophie (*Going Places*) lives in a world of fantasy. Douglas (*Deep Water*) faces reality and realises the importance of learning how to swim. Analyse based on the two texts the importance of doing things rather than mere dreaming.

Write an article on how the youth of today must inculcate an attitude of doing rather than dreaming.

You may begin -

The youth today must.....

B-8

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words.

(5)

- A. "The feeling of loneliness is much more painful than physical impairment." The text 'On the Face of it' depicts the story of how society treats people with infirmities differently. Write a speech with reference to the text.

You may begin like this

Good morning to one and all present here. Today,

OR

- B. 'Memories of Childhood' shows how even children belonging to certain ethnicity and caste are subjected to social discrimination. As a member of your school literary committee, write an article for your school magazine on how Indigenous people are oppressed and exploited.

You may begin like this

Oppression and exploitation of the indigenous people
