

BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA
PRE BOARD EXAMINATION (12 December 2025)
English Communicative
Class – X (Set – B)

Time Allowed: 3 hours
General Instructions:

Maximum Marks: 80

1. This question paper comprises 10 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper contains four sections:

Section – A	Reading Skills	22 marks
Section – B	Writing Skills	22 marks
Section – C	Grammar	10 marks
Section – D	Literature Textbook	26 marks
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section – A (Reading Skills)

Q1. Read the passage carefully. (12 marks)

1. Libraries are buildings filled with stacks of books and resources. Modern day libraries also consist of electronic resources. Libraries offer wealth of knowledge, resources, space and environment to discover the world of books and enjoy studying or just reading for pleasure. The benefits of libraries are countless as they play a vital role by providing access to information, knowledge and entertainment resources.
2. Virtual libraries provide immediate access to a wide range of books and resources. Libraries provides materials in all formats such as books, periodicals, magazines, videos, audios and digital resources are tailored to meet the needs of the learner community. The wide range of resources meets the needs of diverse users. Whether in an educational or public library, people benefit from the assistance of librarians and staff members.
3. There is a head librarian in every library and a team of professional staff who help people with queries and recommend books as per their interest. Libraries are always catalogued by trained staff. They are catalogued to meet the needs of the community. The catalogue is also entered and stored in computers that it becomes easy for the users to search. Libraries have a positive impact on the development of our society. They open a world of books and sources of information and knowledge to people for free.
4. Libraries require a lot of staff and real estate to house various books and resources. It becomes really expensive to maintain libraries and the library staff. Since they are not seen as crucial, they are likely to bear budget cuts. Since a wide range of books and resources are to be maintained and updated in old libraries, the useful resources may be limited due to the time it takes to update. So, the libraries may not sometimes have access to the current information. Some limited edition books and journals from centuries ago may not be available in every library. People looking for such resources must visit traditional libraries for the same.
5. Some argue that there is technology to read online and do research so what is the need to visit a library Yet libraries have served the communities for centuries by providing original and quality resources. People who have the habit of visiting and using libraries understand the value and importance of libraries. In addition to it, there are people who love reading but cannot afford to buy many books. They can get easy access to valuable resources in libraries.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above

- a) What is the role played by the professional staff members in a library? (1)
- 1) They help people with queries
 - 2) They recommend books as per people's interest
 - 3) They enter and store the catalogue in the computer
 - 4) They create content as per people's interest

Choose the correct option:

- i) (1) and (2) ii) (2) and (3) iii) (1), (2) and (3) iv) (1), (3) and (4)

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BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA
PRE BOARD EXAMINATION (6 December 2025)
Class - X
Mathematics Basic

- b) List and elaborate two ways by which modern libraries offer help. (2)
- c) Which of the following can be seen as a potential threat to the existence of libraries? (1)
- Non-availability of limited edition books in libraries
 - Existence of traditional libraries
 - Availability of online reading material
 - Lack of research and development by library staff
- d) Before which paragraph/paragraphs of the text, would the following heading most likely be placed?
 'Challenges Faced by Libraries' (1)
- e) Why do libraries sometimes not have access to current information? (2)
- f) Substitute the underlined word in the following sentence with a word/phrase from paragraph 2, that means the same. (1)
- The software has been adapted to meet the demands of the customers.
- g) A library holds a paramount importance for the people who: (1)
- take part in the development of the society
 - have served the communities for ages
 - use technology to study online
 - have a habit of visiting and using a library
- h) Complete the following sentence appropriately. (1)
- It has become expensive to maintain libraries because _____
- i) Differentiate between traditional and virtual libraries. (2)

Q2. Read the following table displaying some student's performance and interests. (10)

Name	Mathematics	Science	English	Overall Average (100)	Participation in Co-curricular Activities	Performance in the Inter-School Competition
Adivi	85	90	80	85	Science Club, Debate Club	Won 2nd place in Inter-School Science Fair
Raj	70	75	85	76	Drama Club, Music Club	Awarded Best Actor in Inter-School Drama Competition
Priya	95	92	88	92	Art Club, Chess Club	Secured 1st place in Inter-School Art Competition
Vikram	60	65	70	65	Sports (Basketball, Swimming), Photography	Won 1st place in Inter-School Basketball Tournament

Based on your understanding of the table, answer the following questions:

- a) Identify the student from the above table who is likely to have strong persuasive skills. (1)
- b) Priya has interest in Art and Chess. Choose the best career option for her from the given options: (1)
- Graphic Designer
 - Software Engineer
 - Marketing Manager
- c) Which interest(s) of Vikram can help him develop teamwork skills? (1)
- d) Give one justification each to prove that : (2)
- Aditi's actions are based on critical thinking, and
 - Raj is capable of handling public speaking
- e) Select the correct option to fill in the blank and complete the analogy: (1)
- brush : painting :: _____ : debate
- script
 - argument
 - stage
- f) State whether the given assertion is TRUE or FALSE. (1)
- From the table given above, we can infer that Vikram has a lower academic than Priya.
- g) Explain why situation (ii), from the three situations given below, showcases Raj's motto, "Express and Impress."

B-2



Situations:

- i) During a school play, Raj improvises his lines to engage the audience and adds a touch of humour. (2)
- ii) In a debate competition, Raj uses compelling arguments and expressive gestures to persuade the judges.
- iii) At a music concert, Raj plays an original piece on the piano, captivating the audience with his performance.
- h) Choose the correct option which proves that Aditi is a strong critical thinker. (1)
- i) Aditi memorises facts and recites them during exams.
- ii) Aditi analyses data and formulates hypotheses in her science projects.
- iii) Aditi follows the instructions given by her teachers without questioning.

Section - B (Writing Skills)

- Q3. As Aditi/ Arjun, a student of Class X B, write an application in about 50 words, to the Principal requesting the organisation of a 'Health and Hygiene Awareness Workshop' for students. Mention the importance of such a session and how it will benefit the students. (3)
- Q4. Write a factual description, in not more than 100 words, of a potted plant that you and your sibling recently chose to gift your parents. (4)

- Q5. Attempt any one of the following: (7)

Accidents in big cities are a common phenomenon. Unfortunately, hardly anyone comes to the rescue of road victims because of fear of harassment by the police. Now that the Supreme Court has issued guidelines that people who take road victims to a hospital will not be questioned or detained, there is no reason why bystanders/passersby should hesitate to help road victims and thus discharge their duty as responsible citizens. Write a letter in 120 words to the editor of a national daily requesting him to make people aware of Supreme Court guidelines and urge them to help people in distress. You are Shom/ Shobha, 24, Raj Nagar, Kanpur.

OR

Taking ideas from Unit 2 : Education, along with your own ideas, write a letter in not more than 120 words to the Education Minister, urging the inclusion of mental health awareness programs in schools. Discuss the rising stress among students and suggest ways to provide guidance and support.

- Q6. Attempt any one of the following: (8)

Many students focus only on marks and not on real learning. This creates pressure and reduces interest in studies. Write an article in about 150 words encouraging students to value learning over scoring high marks. You are Meena/ Manav. Use the clues along with your own ideas and those you have gathered from Unit 2 : Education.

- Obsession with marks and ranks
- Lack of curiosity and deep understanding
- Learning for life, not just exams
- Importance of skills, creativity and values

OR

You had visited Antarctica and had an opportunity to see the polar ice caps melting and realised that the threat of global warming is very real. Taking ideas from the MCB unit of Environment, along with your own ideas, write an article in 150 words on what a student can do to preserve the environment. You are Rama/ Ram.

Section - C (Grammar)

- Q7. Complete the tasks from (a) - (c) as directed.

- A) Fill in the blanks (i) - (iii) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets. (3)
- Perna and Sushil _____ (has/ have/ had) spent years together. On growing up they _____ (had got/ have go/ got) separated and went their own ways. Sushil _____ (becomes/ became/ had become) a well-known sports personality while Perna pursued her artistic passion.

B - 3

- B) In the following paragraph, one word has been omitted in each line. In your answer sheets, remember to write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, as shown below. The first one has been done as an example.

	(4)		
	Before	Omission	After
e.g. A particular mineral that will formed from a certain combination of elements.	will	be	formed
(a) This depends the physical			
(b) and chemical conditions under the material forms.			
(c) This results a wide range of colours.			
(d) hardness, crystal forms, lustre density that a particular mineral possesses.			

C) Do as directed

- I) **Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence.** (1+2=3)

The King summoned his ministers who were whispering to each other and said to them:

The King : What are you whispering about?

Minister 1: Your highness, we were talking about the new education policy in the country.

Minister 2: education experience/ a more dynamic/ for a holistic/ the NEP is/ and wholesome/ pave the way/ approach/ which will

- II) **Report the dialogues to complete the paragraph that follows:**

The King summoned his ministers who were whispering to each other and said to them:

The King : How will the new policy benefit college students?

Minister 2: The policy will provide for an interdisciplinary education that has flexible study plants./ The King asked Minister 2 how would the new education policy benefit college students?

Minister 2 told the King that the new education policy (a) Interdisciplinary education (b) flexible study plans.

Section - D (Literature)

- Q8. Read the given extract carefully. Attempt any two out of three extracts:** (4+4=8)

A) ANTONY: O mighty Caesar! Dost thou lie so low?
 Are all thy conquests, glories, triumphs, spoils,
 Shrunk to this little measure? Fare thee well.
 I know not, gentlemen, what you intend,
 Who else must be let blood, who else is rank:
 If I myself, there is no hour so fit
 As Caesar's death hour, nor no instrument
 Of half that worth as those your swords, made rich
 With the most noble blood of all this world.
 I do beseech ye, if you bear me hard,
 Now, whilst your purpled hands do reek and smoke,
 Fulfil your pleasure. Live a thousand years,
 I shall not find myself so apt to die:
 No place will please me so, no mean of death,
 As here by Caesar, and by you cut off,
 The choice and master spirits of this age?

1. When and where was Caesar assassinated?
2. Who was Mark Antony?
3. What does Antony say while addressing Caesar's dead body?
4. What does he ask the conspirators to do?

B) He lifted his head from his drinking, as cattle do,
 And looked at me vaguely, as drinking cattle do,
 And flickered his two-forked tongue
 from his lips, and mused a moment,
 Being earth-brown, earth-golden
 from the burning bowels of the earth

B-4

1. The poet has used 'simile' in the first line, comparing the snake to a cattle. Why?
2. Why did the snake move his forked tongue?
3. What do the expressions 'Earth brown' and 'earth golden' refer to?
4. Explain; 'burning bowels of the earth'.

C) Mothers carrying their babies home through the jungle after the day's work in the fields hushed their singing lest they might curtail the restful sleep of the venerable herd-robber. The great night duly arrived, moonlit and cloudless. A platform had been constructed in a comfortable and conveniently placed tree, and thereon crouched Mrs. Packletide and her paid companion, Miss Mebbin. A goat, gifted with a particularly persistent bleat, such as even a partially deaf tiger might be reasonably expected to hear on a still night, was tethered at the correct distance. With an accurately sighted rifle and a thumb-nail pack of patience cards the sportswoman awaited the coming of the quarry. "I suppose we are in some danger?" said Miss Mebbin. She was not actually nervous about the wild beast, but she had a morbid dread of performing an atom more service than she had been paid for.

1. How did the mothers contribute their share in helping Mrs. Packletide shoot the tiger?
2. Explain 'venerable herd-robber'.
3. Who is Miss Mebbin?
4. Why did Miss Mebbin remark, "I suppose we are in some danger"?

9. Answer any five of the following six questions in about 30-40 words each : (5x2=10)

- a) "Waiting for the last bus from Padua." Where were the boys waiting for the bus and why?
- b) How did the game 'Dragonquest' end?
- c) What judgement does the frog give on the nightingale's first performance?
- d) How does Mr. Abel leave his daughters and their husbands shocked and bewildered?
- e) How did Patol Babu's past experience with acting influence his decision to accept the film role?
- f) How does the landscape around the statue of Ozymandias is in contrast with its message?

(8)

10. Answer any one of the following in about 150 words.

- a) How does 'Virtually True' challenge the boundary between reality and illusion, similar to the blurred reality of supernatural elements in 'A Shady Plot'? Examine how both texts depict experiences that make the characters question what is real?

OR

- b) Imagine you are the friend Shakespeare writes about in the poem. Write a letter thanking him for his love and for making your memory eternal through his poetry.

B-5