

**BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA**  
**First Term Examination (13 September 2023)**  
**Subject – ENGLISH CORE**  
**Class XI (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) (26 marks)**

**Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:** (10)

(1) When we think of the game of cricket, we come to the conclusion that it is primarily a game that depends on outstanding physical activities, good hand-eye-co-ordination, speed, skill and strength. It provides entertainment and generates strong feelings of excitement. A good match of cricket or of any other game neither adds to the existing stock of human knowledge nor reveals any secret of existence. It does not carry any deep meaning but most people, particularly the lovers of sports attach deep emotions and numerous meanings to it. Games are thought of as a metaphor for life. They are supposed to teach many lessons. In fact, more is said and written about a cricket match than about scientific findings or great philosophy.

(2) This is because games, like a morality play, in which settings and rules are made by us, can easily make people test their fair and foul conduct, principles of reward and punishment, and emotions of joy and disappointment. They can make us experience the thrill of war without exposing us to its dangers. A man watching a cricket match on T.V. and munching popcorn is like a surrogate warrior. In fact, games provide us with a safe outlet for our aggressiveness. If games become aggressive, they lose the very purpose of providing entertainment and purging us of our aggressiveness. They can calm our impatience without creating any conflict.

(3) Commentators, journalists, politicians and analysts can do a great favour to the competing teams by keeping the excitement within limits. The teams should play without being dominated by feelings of national honour and shame. Excellent performance of the players of both teams should be enjoyed and appreciated. Winning or losing in a game should not be taken seriously. A game is fun if it is played with true spirit of sportsmanship.

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

(a) Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option:

Most people conclude that cricket is primarily a game because (1)

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| (i) it is played as match           | (ii) it requires two teams                 |
| (iii) it includes physical activity | (iv) it depends only on skill and strength |

(b) Comment on the writer's reference to that cricket does not reveal any secret of existence. (2)

(c) List two responses which watching a game of cricket gives rise to. (2)

(d) Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'destroy from' words used in the passage. (1)

- |             |                 |                |              |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| (i) Reveals | (ii) Experience | (iii) Generate | (iv) Purging |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|

(e) The writer would not agree with the given statements based on paragraph 2, (1)

**Except :**

- (i) Rules of any game are made by people
- (ii) Watching a cricket match makes the viewer believe that he is fighting a battle.
- (iii) It is necessary for a game to be aggressive in order to build excitement.
- (iv) A game can test people's sense of fair judgement.

(f) With reference to the passage, a spectator is compared to a 'surrogate warrior'.

Choose the option that best describes this phrase.

(1)

A-1

- (i) A spectator who is paid to watch
- (ii) A spectator who is in pain while watching the match
- (iii) A spectator who enjoys the match as an armchair soldier
- (iv) A spectator who makes judgement about reward and punishment.

(g) Why does the writer compare games to a morality play?

(2)

**Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

(8)

- (1) In my most frustrated moments of navigating chaotic Delhi traffic, I close my eyes in the back seat and imagine what it would be like if some day just a thought would transport me from one place to another.
- (2) At times, sitting relaxed on my terrace, I look at the green tree tops that I see every day and wonder if some day, just with the power of my thoughts I would be able to create the image of the most vivid blue ocean and a sandy beach in front of me? Then having had enough of that, could my thoughts switch the scene to that of snowy mountain peaks?
- (3) Just thinking of these seemingly impossible things gives me a sense of well-being, because I do believe that if you can think it, you can will it and achieve it. If it occurs as a thought, it is possible to fructify as reality. After all, everything big started with a thought. Looking at birds flying freely in the sky, humans must have thought of the possibility of flying centuries before the invention of aeroplanes. The tallest skyscraper, the longest bridge across the ocean, the fastest train, the internet, cellphones-all are the end result of one thought.
- (4) As technology advances and we become more confident in our abilities to transform thoughts to reality, the gap between the ideas and implementation keeps shrinking. Today one of the biggest thrills of living is watching impossible-seeming thoughts turn to reality within one's lifetime!
- (5) If with the power of his 'big thought' Donald Trump becomes the President of the USA, what then is impossible? As he says in his book, 'Think Like a Billionaire', "I like thinking big. To me it is very simple. If you're going to be thinking anyway, you might as well think big."
- (6) True. None of the big achievements or discoveries in life happened by thinking small. To achieve big stuff, you have to think big. Most people avoid thinking big because of laziness, fear of extra work and the instinct to stay unnoticed and hence out of trouble. A large part of the workforce just wants to do their designated work and get done with it.
- (7) And then there are those who let their own small success become the enemy of possible bigger success, later. Sitting back to celebrate a small achievement, they underestimate their own potential. Whoever said that aspirations or possibilities 'have any limitations? The most pleasurable moments can be spent imagining what seems the impossible - Come on, let your imagination run wild! Believe in yourself and your thoughts. Some of the tips Donald Trumps shares to mould yourself to think big are, "Walk softly but carry a big attitude, conquer your doubts and ditch them; be proud of your big ego, and get into the habit of speaking your mind."
- (8) The power of thought is a form of energy that is impervious to time, space or present reality. It is important to hone and direct your thoughts towards bigger and better, impossible-to- imagine things. What you believe about yourself and what you believe about possibilities is crucial to not just what you become, but also critical to the world as we all experience it - now and in the future.
- (9) Dreams and thoughts must rule free without any limitations. Thoughts have to reach beyond and encompass the impossible, the unthinkable, the weird, the unheard-of and the shocking. Think beyond the realms of possibility and then aim to get there. Once there, think much beyond that possibility too. And then get going once again.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:**

- (a) \_\_\_\_\_ make(s) living more thrilling in modern times.
- (i) Big thoughts
  - (ii) Watching impossible - seeming thoughts turn to reality within one's life time
  - (iii) Thinking small
  - (iv) All of these

- (b) The passage suggests that \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (i) one should stop after making a seemingly – impossible, possible  
 (ii) dreams and thoughts should have limitations  
 (iii) one should continue to think big for ever  
 (iv) time, space and present reality affect the power of thought
- (c) \_\_\_\_\_ stop(s) people from achieving big.  
 (i) Avoiding thinking big  
 (ii) Sitting back to celebrate small success  
 (iii) Underestimating their potential  
 (iv) All of these
- (d) The author's wish list does not include \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (i) just a thought transporting her from one place to another  
 (ii) creating the image of blue ocean in front of her  
 (iii) switching the blue ocean image into that of snowy mountain peaks  
 (iv) feeling frustrated while navigating chaotic Delhi traffic
- (e) The word in para 7 which means 'qualities that can be developed' is \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (f) The word in paragraph 8 which means 'cannot be penetrated' is \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (g) This passage is about \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (i) escaping the harsh reality of the present life by dreaming of beautiful places  
 (ii) not being bound to reality by negative thoughts  
 (iii) thinking big, then willing it and then achieving it  
 (iv) technology being able to bring about change.
- (h) How did all advancement begin? Answer in one or two sentences.

**Q3. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (8)**

Twenty-one-year-old Jyoti Amge, the smallest woman in the world, laughs easily and often. Perhaps, from a height of twenty three inches, the world does look a bit funny. Afflicted with achondroplasia, a form of pituitary dwarfism, 21-year-old Amge is a bit shorter than her two-year-old nephew and a lad taller than her framed Guinness certificate. In fact, Amge, the youngest of five, wasn't even visible in her mother's womb. The doctors thought she wasn't alive and her mother Ranjana, who underwent a two hour caesarian operation in her tenth month to birth her, welcomed her youngest as a blessing. In all of Amge's birthday pictures in the album, her height is the same from age three to twenty-one. Kitted out in custom made frocks and bright red lipstick; with fancy beads lining her permed hair, the tiny Amge turned heads in Nagpur and became a hit with Hindi news channel crews that approached her for bytes, any excuse would do, even the elections. Apart from a cameo in a Mika Singh video, she appeared briefly on the reality show Big Boss 6.

"I have always wanted to be an actor," says Amge. Amge was quick to say yes when the producers of 'American Horror Story' Freak Show contacted her. "They had seen my interview in a New York daily," says Amge, who readily agreed to play the role of Ma Petite, the miniature sari-and- bindi-clad assistant of a woman.

"In spite of the name the show was not about freaks it was about compassion," says Amge.

"What makes the world so interesting in that we are different and some folks a little bit odd," she said. Sadly, Amge's own home country does not seem to respect differences. Amge's brother complained that unlike the West where "people ask permission before clicking a photo," Indians take her privacy for granted. People look at her like she's a wonder, an ajooba and try to get too close to her. I have to shelter her like a body guard, adds Satish.

Amge's family members now make up her entourage. They help Amge, who suffered an accident in Kashmir that severely fractured her left leg, with everything from braiding her hair to carrying her to the wash basin. Be it the nearby mall or a trip to China, one or more of them always accompany her.

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations and also supply a title to it. (5)
- (b) Write a summary of the passage in not more than 50 words using the notes made. (3)

### SECTION- B (Grammar/ Writing Skills) (23 marks)

Q4. Rearrange the following words/ phrases into meaningful sentences. (1×3=3)

- a) waged/ one war/ Ashoka/ only/ too/ that/ and/ in/ his reign/ early  
b) horror/ saw/ the/ of it/ vowed/ he/ to go/ never/ war/ to/ again/ and  
c) kept/ promise/ his/ game/ and/ people/ he/ his/ peace/ lasting

Q5. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the correct word and the correction in your answer sheet. (½×8=4)

It take a long time for a country to rebuild after an earthquake. There must be aftershocks for days or weeks. Rebuilt cannot start until all the aftershocks have stop. Aftershocks are small tremors when shake the ground after an earthquake when rebuilding starts, new buildings may be very carefully planned. Sometimes they are build on huge blocks of rubber that will absorb no further earthquake.

Incorrect Correct

- |     |       |       |
|-----|-------|-------|
| (a) | _____ | _____ |
| (b) | _____ | _____ |
| (c) | _____ | _____ |
| (d) | _____ | _____ |
| (e) | _____ | _____ |
| (f) | _____ | _____ |
| (g) | _____ | _____ |
| (h) | _____ | _____ |

Q6. You are Mayank/ Mukta, the Head Boy/ Girl of APS School, Delhi. Write a notice in not more than 50 words for the school notice board, informing the students about the upcoming cultural Exchange Trip to Nepal. (3)

OR

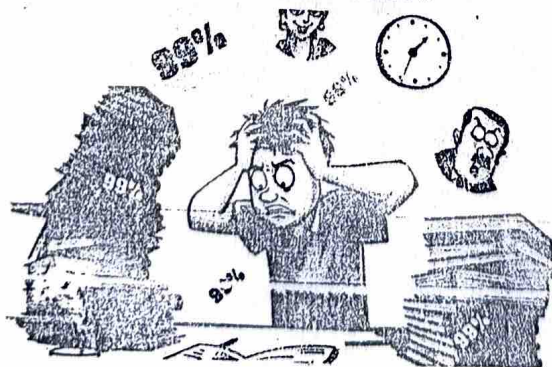
You are A.P. Raman of 22/ 14 Arabi Tank Lane, Trichy, Tamil Nadu. Your grandmother, Chennamo is missing from your home for the last 5 days. Draft a suitable advertisement with all details to be published in a local daily in the classified column.

Q7. Design a poster against the ill - effects of plastics on the environment. Suggest alternative solutions as well. (3)

OR

Design a poster emphasizing the ill effects of bingeing on Junk food.

Q8. Write a speech in 150 - 200 words on 'Exam Stress on Students' to be delivered in the morning assembly. You are Rohan/Ruhi of Class XI-A. (5)



or

"Bottled Water should be banned." Write a debate in about 120-150 words, in either for or against the topic.

- Q9. Write a letter to the Editor of an English daily, appealing for help for the victims of flood. (5)  
You are Rohit/ Reena.

OR

You have noticed many stray animals on the road during the busy hours of the day. These animals cause traffic jams as well as accidents. You have already written to the concerned authorities but no action has been taken so far. Write a letter to the Editor, The Hindu, drawing attention of the Municipal Commissioner, Chennai to this problem. You are Sonia/ Suresh, 12 MG Road, Chennai.

**SECTION - C (Literature) (31 Marks)**

**Q10. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow: (Do any one)**

A) *Then with eerie delicate whistle – chirrup whisperings.  
She launches away, towards the infinite  
And the laburnum subsides to empty.*

- i) Who has been described in the first time?
  - a) the saffron finch
  - b) the goldfinch
  - c) the blue finch
  - d) the green finch
- ii) What is the effect of the last line?
- iii) An example of onomatopoeia is \_\_\_\_\_.

OR

(1×3=3)

B) *And the sea, which appears to have changed less,  
Washed their terribly transient feet*

- i) The feet referred to in the lines belonged to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) The poet
  - b) the poetess' mother
  - c) her mother and mother's cousins
  - d) the poet and her cousins
- ii) The contrast brought out in these lines is between \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) The eternal sea and the mortal humans
  - b) Life and aging
  - c) That change is eternal
  - d) That nature is not prone to changing much with time.
- iii) What does the poet's word 'terribly' highlight
  - a) the bad state of feet
  - b) that the human feet will quickly outgrow their current size
  - c) that the immortal sea will keep flowing as it has
  - d) that human lives are momentary

**Q11. Read the given extracts given below and answer ANY ONE.**

(1×3=3)

(A) Despite atrocious weather, we had a wonderful holiday complete with a Christmas tree. New Year's Day saw no improvement in the weather, but we reasoned that it had to change soon. And it did change – for the worse :

- i) Who is 'we'?

- ii) Where were 'we'?
  - a) In the vast Pacific Ocean
  - b) In the Southern India Ocean
  - c) in the Cape Town
  - d) in the British Sea
- iii) The crew were hopeful of a change in the weather and it \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

(B) The Egyptian Mummy Project, which began an inventory in late 2003, has recorded almost 600 so far and is still counting. The next phase : scanning the mummies with a portable CT machine donated by the National Geographic Society and Siemens, its manufactures. King Tut is one of the first Mummies to be scanned – in death, as in life, moving regally ahead of his countrymen.

- i) The objective of the Egyptian Mummy. Project was to \_\_\_\_\_
- ii) What does the word 'inventory' mean?
- iii) The meaning of the statement "in death ..... countrymen" is \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Historians have been quite curious about Tut and his beliefs
  - b) There has been maximum interest in Tut's life and the mysteries of his death.
  - c) Tut is the first mummy to be scanned thoroughly.
  - d) Everything about the boy pharaoh is filled with speculation

**Q12. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. Any one. (4)**

(A) "Have you agreed with her that she should keep everything?" I asked. 'As if that's necessary', my mother cried. "It would simply be an insult to talk like that. And think about the risk she's running, each time she goes out of our door with a full suitcase or bag."

- i) Who is the person being referenced as 'she'?
- ii) In the expression "she should keep everything," 'everything' refers to \_\_\_\_\_
  - (a) all the money in their bank accounts
  - (b) all the precious things belonging to the author's family
  - (c) all the property of the author
  - (d) all the food in the house
- iii) According to the mother, the risk the woman running every time she stepped out with a suitcase or bag was \_\_\_\_\_
- iv) Who is the author of this extract?

**OR**

(B) Every family has a crazy streak in it somewhere, and my cousin Mourad was considered the natural descendant of the crazy streak in our tribe. Before him was our uncle Khosrove, an enormous man with a powerful head of black hair and the largest moustache in the San Joaquin Valley, a man so furious in temper, so irritable, so impatient that he stopped anyone from talking by roaring. It is no harm; pay no attention to it.

- i) What does the word 'Furious' mean?
  - a) Calm              b) Composed      c) Angry              d) Soothing
- ii) What was uncle Khosrove's pet dialogue?
- iii) What superlative feature did uncle Khosrove have?
  - a) Largest head              b) Largest hair      c) Largest moustache      d) Largest brain
- iv) What was the common feature between uncle Khosrove and Mourad?

A-5

**Q13. Answer any two of the following questions in about 40-50 words each. (3×2=6)**

- a) Why does the rain call itself 'impalpable'?
- b) Which moment of the day used to be the happiest for the grandmother in the city?
- c) King Tut's demise was a big event, even by royal standards. Why?

**Q14. Answer any one the following questions in about 40-50 words. (3×1=3)**

- a) "A suspicious man would believe his eyes instead of his heart." Who said these words? Why?
- b) Why did the narrator of the story want to forget the address?

**Q15. Answer any one the following questions in about 100-120 words. (6)**

- a) A life of dedication and integrity can be lived even without college or university level education, as the grandmother demonstrates. Elaborate according to the chapter 'The Portrait of a Lady'.

**OR**

The hurdles of life can be challenged if we have confidence to make optimum use of our potential. Elaborate according to the chapter, 'We're Not Afraid to die.....'

**Q16. Answer any one the following questions in about 100-120 words. (6)**

- a) Sometimes as human beings we are faced with an ethical dilemma as we are tempted to do wrong things. Discuss in the context of the chapter 'The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse'.

**OR**

People like Mrs. Dorling forget the ultimate end of man. For some earthly gain, people discard their values. Elucidate.

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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) (26 marks)**

**Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (10)**

(1) South India is known for its music, arts and rich literature. Madras or Chennai can be called the cultural capital and the soul of Mother India. The city is built low in pleasant contrast to the ghoulish tall structures of Mumbai and Kolkata. It has vast open spaces and ample greenery. The majestic spacious Mount Road looks like a river, wide and deep. A stroll on the Marina beach in the evening with the sea glistening in your face is refreshing. The breeze soothes the body, it refreshes the mind, sharpens the tongue and brightens the intellect.

(2) One can never feel dull in Chennai. The intellectual and cultural life of the city is something of a marvel. Every street corner of Chennai has a literary forum, a debating society, and music, dance and dramatic club. The intelligent arguments the sparkling wit and dashing irony enliven both the political and the literary meetings. There is a young men's association which attracts brilliant speakers and equally brilliant listeners to its meetings. It is a treat to watch the speakers use their oratorical weapons. Chennai speakers are by and large sweet and urbane though the cantankerous, fire-eating variety is quite often witnessed in political campaigning. The urbane speakers weave their arguments slowly like the unfolding of a leisurely Carnatic raga.

(3) Music concerts and dance performances draw packed houses. There is hardly any cultural family in Chennai that does not learn and patronise music and dance in its pristine purity. Rukmani Devi Arundale's 'Kalakshetra' is a renowned international centre. It has turned out hundreds of celebrated maestros and dancers who have brought name and glory to our country. Carnatic music has a peculiar charm of its own. It has the moon's soft beauty and moon's soft pace. Thousands of people flock to the temple 'maidans' to get drunk with the mellifluous melodies of their favourite singers. They sit out all night in the grueling heat, swaying to the rhythm of 'nadaswaram' and rollicking with the measured beats of 'mridangam'. M.S. Subbulakshmi is considered to be the Nightingale of the South.

(4) The Gods might descend from heaven to see a South Indian damsel dancing. There are several varieties of South Indian dance - Bharatnatyam, Mohiniyattam, Kuchipudi, Kathakali, etc. Age can neither wither nor custom stale its beautiful variety. Bharatnatyam is the most graceful and enchanting dance form, whereas Kathakali is the most masculine and virile. South Indian dances combine voluptuousness with purity. Here, every muscle and fibre of the body vibrates into life and as the tempo increases, a divine flame - like passion bodies forth as if making an assault on heaven.

(5) South Indian dress, particularly of the males, is puritanically simple. There you cannot distinguish a judge from an 'ardali' by their dress. South Indian ladies too look charming and graceful in their colourful Kanjeevaram and Mysore silk sarees.

(6) South Indian cuisine, especially 'dosa', 'idli' and 'vada' are so delicious that now we can enjoy them almost everywhere in India as well in some foreign countries. The Madras 'idli', which was a favourite of Gandhiji, is served with 'sambhar' and 'coconut chutney'.

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

(a) Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option:

For what is South India mainly known?

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| (i) for tasty food      | (ii) for its traditional music, art, literature |
| (iii) for scenic beauty | (iv) for its delicate and precise ways          |

(1)

- (b) What are the main attractions of the political and literary meetings? (2)
- (c) What is M.S. Subbulakshmi considered to be? (1)
- (d) Why are South Indian dances special? (1)
- (e) What can we conclude from the dressing style of the male members? (1)
- (i) it fosters a sense of equality
- (ii) it fosters simplicity in people
- (iii) it highlights the discrimination that exists in society
- (iv) Both (i) and (ii)
- (f) Which of the following dance forms is most masculine and virile? (1)
- (i) Bharatnatyam (ii) Kathakali (iii) Mohiniyattam (iv) Kuchipudi
- (g) 'One can never feel dull in Chennai'. Why? (2)
- (h) Pick the option from the following which corresponds to the words 'sophisticated' or 'refined'. (1)
- i) Cultural ii) Dramatic iii) Urbane iv) Oratorical

**Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (8)**

1. Each day is a chance to invest in life; a chance to renew yourself, to shed yesterday's skin to unburden yourself to get rid of yesterday's hurt. Be glad of life each day as it gives you a chance to work, love and play, and to look at the sun. And then when the sun sets, don't cry the tears will make you miss the beauty of the stars.
2. Life moves on and if you don't stop and look at the wonders already present in your life, you will miss life altogether.
3. Think of big thoughts but relish the small joys life offers you each day. Maybe it's as simple as smiling at someone. For, that could be the last day of life-for you or for the other person.
4. A small genuine act from you will cost you nothing but it could mean everything to somebody that day. Life is a succession of moments. Live each moment. Life has no romance without risk. All actions carry some amount of risk, may be less or more, but the element of risk is always present.
5. If there is no wind, row. Make things happen rather than let things happen. One can give nothing whatsoever without giving oneself, risking oneself. The most important thing in life is not what you get but what you give.
6. Once a preacher called at the home of a very poor family. When he came out, he found one son admiring his new car, so the preacher explained that he had received it as a gift from his brother.
7. Most lads would say, "I wish I had a brother like that." But this one said, "Mister, I wish I could be a brother like that."
8. If you are not enjoying this journey, for sure you won't enjoy the destination. It will become a moment to dread, not a moment you can actually look forward to. It's not what happens that determines our future, but what you do about what happens that counts.
9. Conquer the mind and you conquer the world. Looking back strains your neck muscles. Similarly, living in the past strains your life. Don't dwell on the past. Have faith in yourself and you will have faith in others. Fulfill your destiny. Remember, no one can make you unhappy without your consent.
10. The way you cope with life, is what makes the difference. Even peace of mind is not the absence of conflict but the ability to cope with it. You have to reach out to other people. That will teach you to forgive people and also forgive yourself.
11. Forgiveness means letting go of the past. Compassion is about stepping outside yourself. A kind compassionate act is often its own reward. Live your life without complaining, just like the tree.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below: (1×8=8)

- (a) Why should we be glad of each day?
- (i) Because we are more mature each new day
  - (ii) Because we have more energy
  - (iii) Because we are free of yesterday
  - (iv) Because we can live life, work and enjoy each new day
- (b) Explain in one or two sentences the phrase, 'make thing happen'.
- (c) Complete the sentence using a phrase  
A small genuine act (para 5) could mean \_\_\_\_\_.
- (d) We should not dwell on the past because \_\_\_\_\_
- (i) we should learn from our mistakes in the past
  - (ii) the past does not allow us to progress
  - (iii) our mistakes and failures in the past can depress us
  - (iv) the past will never come back
- (e) The word in paragraph 4 which means 'series' is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (f) Which word in para 4 can replace 'charm'?
- (g) If there is no wind, row' in paragraph 5 means \_\_\_\_\_.
- (i) if circumstances are adverse, make them favourable
  - (ii) take control of your situation
  - (iii) take advice and follow it
  - (iv) do not blame others for your problems
- (h) What does the lad's answer suggest to you? (para 7)
- i) He wants to be rich
  - ii) He wants to be able to give
  - iii) He loves his brother
  - iv) He does not think highly of those who ask

**Q3. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

**(8)**

1. It must have been a terrible experience. The earthquake began with strong side-to-side movements which knocked down any person who was standing. Then there were up-and-down movements, a vast rumbling and reverberating noise as of an artillery bombardment or a hundred aeroplanes. in the sky, and water gushed out in innumerable places out of huge fissures and craters and rose to about ten or twelve feet. All this probably lasted for three minutes or a little more, and then it died down; but those three minutes were terrible enough. It is not surprising that many people who saw this happen imagined that this was the end of the world. In the cities, there was noise of falling houses, and rushing of water, and an atmosphere full of dust which made it impossible to see even a few yards. In the rural areas, there was not much dust and one could see a little farther, but there were no calm-eyed spectators. Those who survived lay flat on the ground, or rolled about in an agony of terror.
2. The city of Monghyr was the last place in our tour. When we saw Monghyr and the absolute destruction of this rich city, we gasped and shivered at the horror of it.
3. All over the earthquake areas there was a very painful absence of self-help among the residents both in the cities and villages. Probably, the middle class in the cities were the worst offenders in this respect. They all waited for somebody to take action and help them, either the Government or the non-official relief agencies. Others who offered their services thought that the work meant ordering people about. Part of this feeling of helplessness was no doubt due to the nervous collapse brought about by the terror of the earthquake, and it must have gradually lessened.

4. In marked contrast with this was the energy and capacity of the large numbers of relief workers who poured in from other parts of Bihar and other provinces. It was wonderful to see the spirit of efficient service of these young men and women and, in spite of the fact that a host of separate relief organisations were working, there was a great deal of co-operation between them.

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations and also supply a title to it. (5)  
 (b) Write a summary of the passage in not more than 50 words using the notes made. (3)

**SECTION- B (Grammar/ Writing Skills) (23 marks)**

**Q4. Rearrange the following words/ phrases into meaningful sentences. (1×3=3)**

- a) our/ time/ that/ is/ the/ paradox/ of/ have taller/ we/ but/ shorter/ tempers/ buildings  
 b) have/ less/ more/ spend/ we/ but  
 c) bigger/ houses/ and smaller/ families/ less time/ but/ have/ we

**Q5. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the correct word and the correction in your answer sheet. (½×8=4)**

Mamta lost her father when she is still a child. Her uncle looked at all the property that she inherit from her father. , since a few years her uncle worked very sincerely. Afterwards he thinks, "This property should make me rich. How long should I kept serving my niece? I must do anything.

Incorrect Correct

- (a) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (b) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (d) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (e) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (f) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (g) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (h) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q6.** You are the secretary of the Science club of your school write a notice for your notice board encouraging the science student of class XI and XII to participate in the Inter School Science Exhibition to be held next week in a neighbouring school. You are Rohan/Rohini.

**OR**

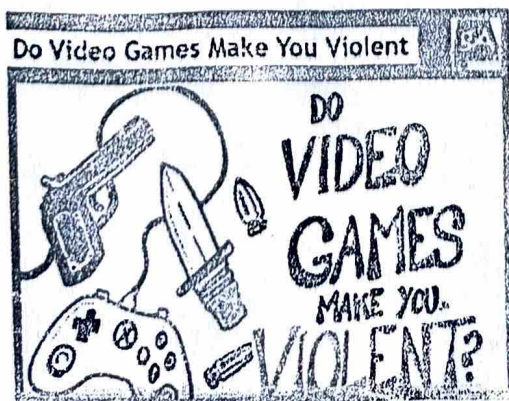
You are General Manager of PNT Company, Noida. Draft an advertisement under classified columns to be published in 'The Tribune for your company for the post of two sales executives. Specify your requirements, qualifications, experience and personality of the candidate. (3)

**Q7.** You are Secretary of the Best Friends Animal Society. Prepare a poster on kindness to animals to be displayed in the city at public places appealing to people to join the society and show kindness towards animals. (3)

**OR**

You are the Sports Instructor at Sadbhavna Primary School. You are arranging the Annual Sports Day of the school. Design an attractive poster to inform the parents of the students. about it.

**Q8.** "Video games promoting violence should be banned." Write a debate in about 120-150 words, in either for or against the topic. (5)



OR

The recent rise in incidents of violent behaviour of students is a matter of concern for all. The problem can be cured if students learn how to manage anger. Write a speech on the topic in 120-150 words to be delivered in the school's morning assembly.

- Q9. Write a letter to the Editor of a local newspaper expressing your concern at the sudden increase in the number of incidents of chain snatching and day light robberies in your city. You are Manoj/ Mohini from 32, Model Town, Haryana. (5)

OR

You are Aditi/ Aditya from 20, Officer Enclave, Chandigarh. Write a letter to the Editor of an English newspaper condemning a recent incident in which hundreds of trees were felled by a government agency in order to widen a road.

### SECTION - C (Literature) (31 Marks)

- Q10. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow: (Do any one) (1×3=3)

A) *I descend to lave the droughts, atomies,  
Dust layers of the globe,  
And all that in them without me  
Were seeds only, latent, unborn;*

- i) The rain makes itself useful by falling on the earth and by \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) quenching its thirst  
b) settling the dust and refreshing everything  
c) ending the drought  
d) all of the above
- ii) The expression "And all that ..... unborn" means \_\_\_\_\_
- iii) What is the meaning of the word 'lave'?

OR

B) *Till the goldfinch comes, with a  
Twitching chirrup*

A suddenness, a startlement at a branch end

- i) The poet says, "till the goldfinch comes" to show that  
a) The arrival of the bird is a welcome change  
b) The tree is silent after the bird comes  
c) There is a stillness before the bird comes  
d) The bird brings life to the silent laburnum tree
- ii) The meaning of a "twitching chirrup" is \_\_\_\_\_
- iii) What do the words "a suddenness ..... end" mean?

- Q11. Read the given extracts given below and answer ANY ONE. (1×3=3)

(A) One day I announced that we were being given music lessons. She was very disturbed. To her music had lewd associations. It was the monopoly of harlots and beggars and not meant for gentlefolk. She said nothing but her silence meant disapproval. She rarely talked to me after that.

- i) What does the statement, "To her music had lewd associations" mean?

- ii) One of the meanings below does not match the phrase "monopoly of harlots and beggars" \_\_\_\_\_
- Only the downtrodden learned music
  - Only the harlots and beggars earned money from this art.
  - It was to be learned exclusively
  - Music was not learned by the gentlefolk.
- iii) The expression "her silence meant disapproval" is the same as \_\_\_\_\_

OR

- (B) The night dragged on with an endless, bitterly cold routine of pumping, steering and working the radio. We were getting no replies to our Mayday calls – which was not surprising in this remote corner of the world.  
Sue's head had swollen alarmingly. She had two enormous black eyes, and now she showed us a deep cut on her arm. When I asked why she hadn't made more of her injuries before this, she replied, "I didn't want to worry you when you were trying to save us all."
- i) The statement "The night dragged on with an endless, bitterly cold routine ....." means that \_\_\_\_\_
- The crew were busy steering the ship to a safe spot by turns.
  - It was a punishing schedule on a long, cold night.
  - The crew were frantically sending messages and pumping out water in rotation.
  - All of the above
- ii) What do the words "No replies to our Mayday calls" means? State briefly.
- iii) The statement "not surprising in this remote corner of the world" refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Q12. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. Any one. (4)**

(A) 'Do you still know me?' I asked.

The woman looked at me searchingly. She had opened the door a chink. I came closer and stood on the step.

'No, I don't know you.'

'I'm Mrs. S's daughter'

She held her hand on the door as though she wanted to prevent it opening any further. Her face gave absolutely no sign of recognition. She kept staring at me in silence.

- i) The statement "The woman looked at me searchingly" means \_\_\_\_\_
- ii) When the author says – 'Her face gave absolutely no sign of recognition', it means that \_\_\_\_\_
- She actually didn't recognise the author
  - She had completely forgotten about Mrs. S.
  - She cunningly pretended not to recognize the author
  - She had a weak memory now
- iii) Why did she keep staring at her in silence?
- iv) Who is the author of this extract?

OR

- (B) That afternoon my uncle Khosrove came to our house. He sat in the parlour, sipping and smoking and remembering the old country. Then another visitor arrived, a farmer named John Byro, an Assyrian who, out of loneliness, had learned to speak Armenian. My mother brought the lonely visitor coffee and tobacco and he rolled a cigarette and sipped and smoked and then at last sighed sadly.

- i) Why was Byro sad?
- ii) Where was uncle Khosrove lost?
  - a) In thoughts of his wife                      b) In thoughts of his son
  - c) In thoughts of his brother                  d) In thoughts of his old country
- iii) Which country did Byro hail from?
  - a) Armenian              b) Indian   c) Assyrian   d) all of these
- iv) What does the word 'sighed' mean?

**Q13. Answer any two of the following questions in about 40-50 words each.** (3×2=6)

- a) To what is the movement of the goldfinch compared? What is the basis for the comparison?
- b) "We're not afraid to die..." is a saga of patience and bravery. Comment.
- c) What was the nature of the wealth with which king Tut's mummy was buried? What were the things of daily use which were buried with him?

**Q14. Answer any one the following questions in about 40-50 words.** (3×1=3)

- a) Aram justified that his stealing the horse wasn't actually stealing. Do you agree?
- b) Under what circumstances did the narrator's mother allow their valuable possessions to be carried away?

**Q15. Answer any one the following questions in about 100-120 words.** (6)

- a) There is no difference between mummy thieves and mummy investigators. Comment with reference to the chapter 'Discovering Tut - The Saga continues'.

OR

Emotions should never be allowed to stand in the way of an individual's progress. Comment with reference to the chapter, 'The Portrait of a Lady'.

**Q16. Answer any one the following questions in about 100-120 words.** (6)

- a) How does the story 'The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse' convey the message of honesty and integrity and how do the character maintain it irrespective of their desire to keep the horse with themselves?

OR

Betrayal of trust is an evil which may afflict people of any time or any age. Discuss this statement in the context of the chapter 'The Address.'

**BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA**  
**First Term Examination (13 September 2023)**

**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) I recently had submitted an article- 'Reforming our Education System' -wherein the need for our educational system to shift its focus from insisting upon remembering to emphasising or understanding was stressed upon.
- (2) This article brought back the memory of an interesting conversation between my daughter and myself in the recent times, wherein I had learnt that Economics and Physics were a few of the most difficult subjects for her as she had to mug up the answers. Though I offered to help her out with the immediate problem on hand. I learnt subsequently that many a time it pays to mug up the answer properly, because the teachers find it easier to evaluate that way. It seems, the more deviation there is from the way the sentences are framed in the textbook, the more risk one runs of losing marks.
- (3) This reminded me of a training session I had attended at work, where we were required to carry out an exercise of joining the dots that were drawn in rows of three without lifting the pen and without crossing the trodden path more than once. Though the exercise seemed quite simple, almost 95 per cent of us failed to achieve the required result, no matter how hard we tried. The instructor then informed us cheerily that it happened all the time because the dots that appeared to fit into a box-like formation do not allow us to think out of the box. That was when I realised that all of us carry these imaginary boxes in our minds. Thanks to our stereotyped upbringing that forces our thinking to conform to a set of pattern.
- (4) "What is the harm in conforming as long as it is towards setting up a good practice?" someone might want to ask. Perhaps, no harm done to others but to the person being confined to "think by rote" may mean being deprived of rising to the heights he/she is capable of rising to, even without the person being aware of the same.
- (5) If we instill too much fear of failure in the children right from the young age, the urge to conform and play safe, starts stifling the creative urge which dares to explore, make a mistake and explore again. As we know, most of the great inventions were initially considered to be the most outrageous and highly impractical. It is because the people inventing the same were not bothered about being ridiculed and brave enough to think of the unthinkable that these inventions came into being.
- (6) For many children, studies are the most boring aspect of their lives. Learning, instead of fun is being considered the most mundane and avoidable activity. Thanks to the propagators of an educational system which is more information-oriented than knowledge-oriented. Too much of syllabus, too many students per teacher, lack of enough hands-on exercises, teaching as a routine with the aim of completing the syllabus in time rather than with the goal of imparting knowledge, the curriculum more often than not designed keeping in view the most intelligent student rather than the average student are the important factors in this regard. Peer pressure, high expectations of the parents in an extremely competitive environment, the multitude of distractions in an era of technological revolution are adding further to the burden on the young minds.
- (7) For a change, can we have some English/Hindi poems like tickle, tickle and pickle for the young minds and send them on a wild goose chase for the pot of gold at the end of a rainbow? Can we have lessons in History that make the child feel proud of his heritage, instead of asking

him to mug up the years of the events? Can physics and chemistry lessons be taught more in the laboratories than in the classrooms? Can a system be devised so as to make the educational excursions compulsory for schools, so that visits to historical/botanical places are ensured without fail? Can the educational institutes start off inter-school projects on the internet, the way the schools in abroad do, so as to encourage the child to explore on her own and sum up her/his findings in the form of a report?

(8) Finally, can we make the wonder of the childhood lost and get carried forward into the adulthood, instead of forcing pre-mature adulthood on children? I, for one, have realised that it is worth doing so, hence, I have asked my child to go ahead by choosing to write the answers on her own, in her own language by giving vent to her most fanciful imagination!

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

- (a) 'Many a time it pays to mug up answer properly.' Why does the writer say so? (2)
- (b) What stifles the creative urge in children? (1)
  - (i) The urge to be always right
  - (ii) The urge to do well in everything
  - (iii) The urge to conform and play safe
  - (iv) the urge to take risks
- (c) Identify the factors that make studies, for many children, the most boring aspect of their lives. (2)
- (d) What is adding further to the burden on the young minds? (2)
- (e) How does the writer want Physics and Chemistry to be taught? (1)
  - (i) More in the classrooms
  - (ii) More in the laboratories
  - (iii) More in the historical places
  - (iv) More in the botanical places
- (f) What does the article 'Reforming our Education System' emphasise upon? (1)
- (g) What have made learning a very boring process? (1)
  - (i) Too much syllabus
  - (ii) Too many students per teacher
  - (iii) No hands-on exercise
  - (iv) All of these
- (h) What are the 'imaginary boxes' referred in the passage? (1)
- (i) "Thanks to our stereotyped upbringing that forces our thinking to conform to a set of pattern." Pick the option in which the meaning of 'conform' is the same as it is in the passage (1)
  - (i) Flout
  - (ii) Follow
  - (iii) Ignore
  - (iv) Oppose

**Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

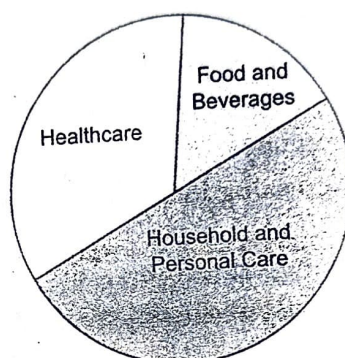
**(10)**

(1) Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) are products that sell quickly at relatively low cost. FMCG is the fourth-largest sector in the Indian economy. There are three main segments in the sector-food and beverages, which account for 19% of the sector healthcare, which accounts for 31% of the share; and household and personal care which account for the remaining 50% share. The urban segment contributes to 55% of the revenue share, while the rural segment accounts for 45%. Rise in rural consumption will drive the FMCG market. The Indian processed food market is projected to expand to US\$ 470 billion by 2025, up from US\$ 263 billion in 2019-20.

(2) The Indian FMCG industry grew by 16% in 2021, a 9-year high, despite nationwide lockdowns, supported by consumption-led growth and value expansion from high product prices, particularly for staples. Real household spending is projected to increase 9.1% after 2021, after a decrease of 9.3% in 2020 due to the economic impact of the pandemic. Price increase across product categories will offset the impact of rising raw material prices, along with volume growth and resurgence demand for discretionary items.

(3) The FMCG sector has received good investments and support from the Government in the recent past. The sector witnessed healthy FDI inflows from April 2000- March 2022. Furthermore, as per the Union Budget 2022-23, a substantial amount has been allocated to the Department of Consumer Affairs, an increased amount has been allocated to the Department of Food, and Public Distribution. In, 2021-22, the Government approved Production-Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI) with an outlay of a larger amount to help Indian brands of food products in the international markets.

(4) The Government's Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme gives companies a major opportunity to boost exports. The future outlook of the FMCG rural sector looks on track now. Rural consumption has increased, led by a combination of increasing income and higher aspiration levels. There is an increased demand for branded products in rural India. The growth of organised sector in FMCG is expected to rise with an increased level of brand consciousness, augmented by the growth in modern retail.



**Table I. FMCG Products**

1. Processed foods: Cheese products, cereals
2. Prepared meals: Ready-to-eat meals
3. Beverages: Bottled water, aerated drinks, and juices
4. Baked foods: Biscuits, bread
5. Fresh foods, frozen foods, and dry foods: Fruits, vegetables, milk, butter, frozen food, and nuts
6. Medicines: Aspirin, pain relievers, and over-the-counter medication that can be purchased without a prescription
7. Cleaning products: Baking soda, washing powder
8. Cosmetics and toiletries: Beauty products, soaps, toothpastes
9. Office supplies: Pens, pencils

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:**

(a) Does the following statement agree with the information given in para 1? (1)

Food and beverages segment dominates the Global FMCG market and is expected to retain its dominance.

**Select from the following:**

True: If the statement agrees with the information.

False: If the statement contradicts the information.

Not Given: If there is no information on this.

(b) What do you think gives opportunities to boost exports? (1)

(c) Select the option that displays the most likely reason for FMCG rural sector being on track. (1)

(i) FMCG sector has been unable to get investments from the Government.

(ii) PLI schemes don't reach the rural sector.

(iii) Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) of the online grocery segment in India expected to double in the next five years.

(iv) There is a desire to buy branded products in the villages too.

(d) Complete the sentence based on the following statement: (1)

The Indian FMCG industry grew by 16% in 2021, a 9-year high, despite nationwide lockdowns because \_\_\_\_\_

(e) Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option: (1)

The combination of increasing income and higher aspiration levels in the rural areas has led to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (i) the Government taking a direct interest
- (ii) the demand for branded products
- (iii) price increases across product categories
- (iv) the fall of supply in urban areas

(f) How is the Government trying to help Indian brands of food products in the international markets? (2)

(g) What will be the impact of increased level of brand consciousness? (2)

(h) Based on the reading of the passage, correct the following statement: (1)

The urban segment contributes to about 45% of the revenue share, while the rural segment accounts for 55%.

### SECTION- B (Writing Skills) (18 marks)

Q3. Draft a notice in 50 words, urging students of classes IX and XI to be volunteer teachers for a three week literacy camp to be held in your school for children of the neighbourhood slums as part of the community service internship. Mention the dates, timings and the venue of the camp. You are Rita/Kailash, teacher – in – charge of community service. (4)

OR

You are Neelam/ Nitesh. Secretary of the School Library Club. The club is organizing an Inter School "Let's Read a Book" week to help develop and encourage the habit of reading among children today. Draft a notice in 50 words for your school notice-board inviting club members from classes X – XII to be student volunteers to plan the activities and organize the event. Invent necessary details.

Q4. On 30<sup>th</sup> November your school is going to hold its annual sports day. You want Mr. Dhanraj Pillai, a noted hockey player to give away the prizes to the budding sportspersons of the school. Write a formal invitation in about 50 words requesting him to grace the occasion. You are Karuna/Karan, Sports Secretary, Sunrise Global School, Agra. (4)

OR

You are Rahul/Neha. You have been invited by the Youth Club of your locality to act as one of the judges for an Inter – school group song competition organized by the club. But unfortunately, you cannot accept this invitation due to your previous engagement. Write to the Secretary of the club regretting your inability to accept the invitation.

Q5. You are Shanti Srinivasan of 7, Mangalore Road, Udipi, Karnataka and you feel strongly about the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. Write a letter to the Editor of an English newspaper decrying the bloodshed and destruction in the war and seeking an early end to it for the sake of mankind. Also, seek the intervention of world leaders, including the Indian Prime Minister, for an early, peaceful and amicable resolution to the conflict. (5)

OR

You are Raghu Adhikari/ Ragini Adhikari of 59, Sunrise View, Dhanbad, Jharkhand. You see the following advertisement in the local daily and decide to apply for the job of a Junior Software Developer. Write a letter of application (cover letter and CV) in 120-150 words to P. Sulekha Raja, H.R. Head, Insoft India Private Limited.

# WE'RE HIRING!

**JUNIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER**

**IF YOU HAVE**

BSc in Computer Science  
Problem solving and analytical mindset  
Excellent teamwork and interpersonal skills  
Interest in TFS+VS+BS, SQL, C# and OOP, ORM technology,  
MVC+API, Javascript+jQuery,

**3 months introduction  
and training on areas:**

TFS + VS + #S  
SQL  
C# and OOP  
ORM technology

MVS + API  
Javascript + JQuery  
Client-side  
framework

- Q6. Fast paced life, changing work culture and family structure have left the elderly very vulnerable, neglected, lonely and distressed. Write an article in about 120-150 words describing the problem and suggesting old age homes as a solution to it. You are Prateek/ Prateeka. (5)

OR

As a student reporter, you attended a 'SAY NO TO PLASTIC' day – long awareness campaign organized by Flora International School. The inter-school event included a panel discussion, student presentations, sapling planting, skits and poster-making competition. You are Radhika/Raghav. Write a report covering this event in 120 – 150 words for your school magazine.

### SECTION – C (Literature) (40 Marks)

- Q7. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow: (6)

4) *And such too is the grandeur of the dooms  
We have imagined for the mighty dead ;  
All lovely tales that we have heard or read :  
An endless fountain of immortal drink,  
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink*

(A Thing of Beauty)

- i) Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract
- The beauty of nature
  - The power of imagination
  - The immortality of art and literature
  - The inevitability of death

- ii) State whether the given statement is True or False with reference to the extract  
By referring to the dead as "mighty", the poet emphasizes their importance and the power they exerted on the people.
- iii) Complete the sentence appropriately  
The "endless fountain of immortal drink" is an apt analogy for the tales of the mighty dead because \_\_\_\_\_
- iv) The use of the word "brink" in the extract suggests that the immortality that is being poured onto us is on the verge of overflowing. This creates a powerful image of \_\_\_\_\_
- v) Based on the poem rhyme scheme, evident in lines 2 – 5 of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 1?  
Said      think      tombs
- vi) Select the option that is NOT true about the lack of punctuation at the end of line 1 in the extract.
  - a) Creates a sense of continuity and flow that connects the line with the second line.
  - b) Encourages the reader to continue reading seamlessly without any pause.
  - c) Creates a sense of anticipation and expectation for the reader.
  - d) Encourages a revisit to the ideas in the preceding lines.

OR

*B) I looked again at her, wan, pale  
as a late winter's moon and felt that old  
familiar ache, my childhood's fear  
but all I said was, see you soon, Amma  
all I did was smile and smile and smile.....*

*(My Mother at Sixty Six)*

- i) What is the speaker's emotional state when looking at her mother?
  - a) Confused and disoriented      b) Nostalgic and longing
  - c) Empathetic and understanding      d) Fearful and apprehensive
- ii) What does the use of the word "but" at the beginning of the line, 'but all I said..' suggest?
- iii) Select the word that Will Not complete the sentence appropriately.  
The description of the mother as wan, pale as a late winter moon creates a vivid image of :
  - a) Vulnerability      b) sensitivity      c) frailty      d) mortality
- iv) State whether the given statement is True or False.  
The poetic device used in the line, 'pale as a winter's moon' is the same as the one used in the line, 'the winter wind wistfully wailed at night'.
- v) What message do these lines highlight, in the context of familial relationships, and the speaker's sense of anxiety and fear at the prospect of losing her mother?
- vi) Complete the sentence appropriately  
The repetition of the word, 'smile' suggests that \_\_\_\_\_.

**Q8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (4)**

- (A) Climate change is one of the most hotly contested environmental debates of our time. Will the West Antarctic ice sheet melt entirely? Will the Gulf Stream ocean current be disrupted? Will it be the end of the world as we know it? Maybe. Maybe not. Either way, Antarctica is a crucial element in this debate. -not just because it's the only place in the world, which has never sustained a human population and therefore remains relatively 'pristine' in this respect; but more importantly, because it holds in its ice-cores half-million-year-old carbon records trapped in its layers of ice.

**(Journey to the End of the Earth)**

- i) How does the absence of a human population in Antarctica make it significant in the climate change debate?
- ii) Why is "climate change" described as a "hotly contested" issue in the extract provided?  
This is so, because there \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) is universal agreement on the causes and implications of climate change
  - b) is a planned path ahead about how to address climate change
  - c) are differing views on the causes and implications of climate change
  - d) are minimal reports of fresh threats to climate change
- iii) The analogy of a time machine is an appropriate analogy for the role of carbon records in the study of climate change because \_\_\_\_\_.
- iv) Give one reason why the writing style of the extract can be called factual and informative.

**OR**

- (B) In other words, the Tiger King is dead. The manner of his death is a matter of extraordinary interest. It can be revealed only at the end of the tale. The most fantastic aspect of his demise was that as soon as he was born, astrologers had foretold that one day the Tiger King would actually have to die.

"The child will grow up to become the warrior of warriors, hero of heroes, champion of champions.

But..." they bit their lips and swallowed hard. When compelled to continue, the astrologers came out with it. "This is a secret which should not be revealed at all. ,

And yet we are forced to speak out. The child born under this star will one day have to meet its death."

**(The Tiger King)**

- i) Complete the sentence appropriately,  
The author's purpose in using foreshadowing, is to \_\_\_\_\_
- ii) In the given extract, what emotion were the astrologers feeling when they "bit" their lips and swallowed hard"?
  - a) Humiliation      b) Disbelief      c) Grief      d) Unease
- iii) Which trait are the astrologers lauding when they say "warrior of warriors, hero of heroes, champion of champions"?
- iv) How is the line, "the most fantastic aspect of his demise", an example of contrast?

**Q9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (6)**

- (A) Usually, when school began, there was a great bustle, which could be heard out in the street, the opening and closing of desks, lessons repeated in unison, very loud, with our hands over our ears to understand better, and the teacher's great ruler rapping on the table. But now it was all so still! I had counted on the commotion to get to my desk without being seen; but, of course, that day everything had to be as quiet as Sunday morning. Through the window I saw my classmates, already in their places, and M. Hamel walking up and down with his terrible iron ruler under his arm. I had to open the door and go in before everybody. You can imagine how I blushed and how frightened I was.

**(The Last Lesson)**

- i) List any two sensory details present in this extract.
- ii) Why does the protagonist feel anxious about entering the classroom on this particular day?
  - (a) The classmates have started the lesson
  - (b) The teacher is in a bad mood
  - (c) The classroom is too quiet
  - (d) The protagonist is running late
- iii) Complete the sentence appropriately.  
The phrase "as quiet as Sunday morning" suggests that \_\_\_\_\_.
- iv) Pick evidence from the extract that helps one infer that this was not the protagonist's first time being late to school.
- v) What does the term 'terrible iron ruler' indicate about M. Hamel?
- vi) Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract?
 

a) The Fears of a Latecomer	b) The Importance of Punctuality
c) The Rigidity of the School System	d) The Anxiety of a Young Student

**OR**

- (B) The Champaran episode was a turning-point in Gandhi's life. "What I did," he explained, "was a very ordinary thing. I declared that the British could not order me about in my own country." But Champaran did not begin as an act of defiance. It grew out of an attempt to alleviate the distress of large numbers of poor peasants. This was the typical Gandhi pattern - his politics were intertwined with the practical, day-to-day problems of the millions. His was not a loyalty to abstractions; it was a loyalty to living, human beings. In everything Gandhi did, moreover, he tried to mould a new free Indian who could stand on his own feet...
- i) In the extract, the phrase 'loyalty to abstractions' refers to a strong commitment to \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) selected groups (b) simple pleasures (c) certain ideologies (d) governmental authorities
  - ii) Select a suitable word from the extract to complete the following analogy :  
Change : transform : relieve : \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii) Select the correct option to fill in the blank :  
The primary motive of Gandhi's actions was to \_\_\_\_\_.  

a) make Indians self-reliant	b) eradicate peasant poverty
c) unite the people of Champaran	d) expose the incompetence of the British
  - iv) Which of these best describes the primary purpose of the extract?
    - a) It highlights Gandhi's intention to use peasants to overthrow colonial power.
    - b) It points out why the Champaran episode is still relevant in free modern India.
    - c) It explains the differences between the political strategies of Gandhi and the British
    - d) It shows how Gandhi's position in the Champaran struggle reflected his political views
  - v) Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer Gandhi's view of his own accomplishments. (clue : a word)
  - vi) Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.  
Gandhi uses the words 'turning point' to refer to the Champaran incident because it \_\_\_\_\_.

**Q10. Answer any five of the following questions in about 40-50 words each. (5×2=10)**

- a) What can be inferred from Rajendra Prasad's recorded upshot of the lawyer consultations, at Motihari?

[Reference – The senior lawyer replied, they had come to advise and help him; if he went to jail there would be nobody to advise and they would go home. What about the injustice to the sharecroppers, Gandhi demanded] (Indigo)

- b) Douglas uses sensory details to create a vivid image of the unfortunate experience in the pool. What might be the impact on the reader if the narration were more informative than sensory? (Deep Water)
- c) How does the setting of the remote forest location in 'The Rattrap' contribute to the overall tone and mood of the story?
- d) How might the message of the poem, Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' be different, if the following last four lines were omitted?

When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie  
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by  
The tigers in the panel that she made  
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.

- e) What does the description of Mukesh's family in Lost Spring reveal about gender roles?
- f) In Deep Water, which qualities of the swimming instructor played a role in helping Douglas overcome his fear?

**Q11. Answer any two the following questions in about 40-50 words. (2×2=4)**

- a) Identify Tishani Doshi's writing style in 'Journey to the End of the Earth' and state two aspects that characterize it using examples from the text.
- b) What does the play 'On the Face of it' suggest about the importance of empathy in overcoming prejudice and stereotypes?
- c) What great miracle did the ten day old Jilani Jung Jung Bahadur perform? How did it affect the people who listened to him?

**Q12. Answer any one the following questions in about 120-150 words. (1×5=5)**

- a) Franz from The Last Lesson and the peddler from The Rattrap demonstrate the importance of learning from our mistakes to evolve into better people. Imagine that Shubhangi, your friend, feels as if she has made a mistake by not taking her academics seriously. Write an essay to Shubhangi in 120 – 150 words discussing instances from the two texts to give her an insight into the human tendency to make mistakes and learn from them.
- You may begin like this :  
Shubhangi, all of us have made mistakes at one point or another in our lives. After all, to err is human .....

OR

- b) The different portrayals of women in the texts 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', 'Lost Spring', and 'My Mother at Sixty – six', offer insights into the experiences of women in society.
- You have been asked to address your peers and share –
- the ways these portrayals highlight the diversity of the female experience.
  - the importance of understanding each individual woman's challenges and experiences.

Compose this speech, with reference to any two of these prescribed texts listed above.

You may begin this way :

Good morning, everyone.

As I analysed the allotted texts.....

You may end this way.

To conclude, I'd like to say that .....

**Q13. Answer any one the following questions in about 120-150 words.**

**(1×5=5)**

- a) In the story, "The Third Level" by Jack Finney, Charley is obsessed with finding the third level. In an attempt to thrash out whether this obsession is a good quality or a harmful one; Charley's wife express her thoughts in a diary entry. As Louisa, Charley's wife, write this diary entry. Support your response with reference to the story.

You may begin this way:

I have been married to Charley for a few years now and I have always known him to be an intelligent man with an imaginative mind. However, his recent obsession with finding the Third Level has .....

**OR**

- b) Imagine that a few days after Mr. Lamb's fall from the ladder, Derry writes his thoughts on how his meeting with Mr. Lamb changed his perspective towards life. Think of yourself as Derry and express these thoughts.

You may begin like this:

A few days ago, I met an extraordinary person .....

**BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA**  
**First Term Examination (13 September 2023)**

Subject – ENGLISH CORE

Class XII (Set – B)

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:**

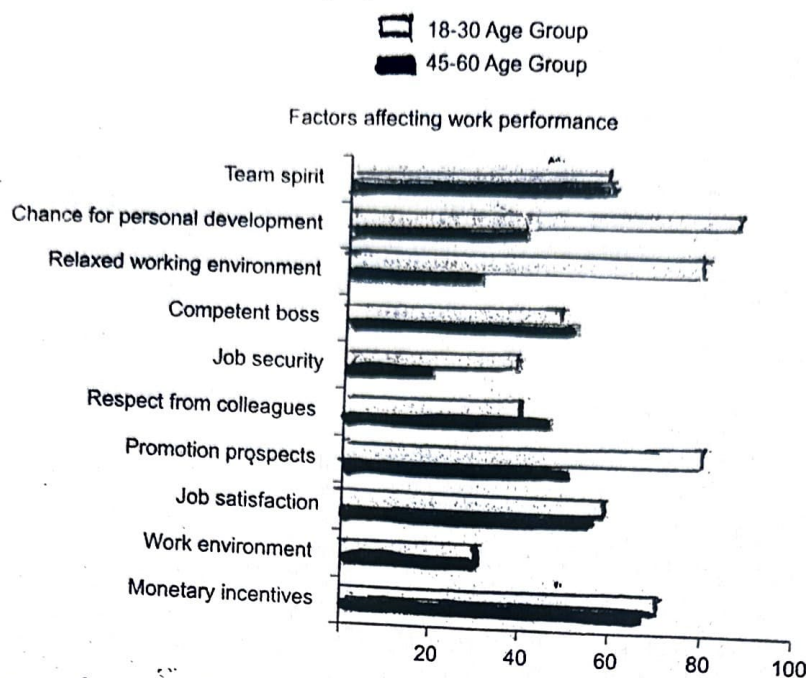
(12)

- 1) I was in Hyderabad, giving a lecture, when a 14-year-old girl asked me for my autograph. I asked her what her goal in life was. She replied, "I want to live in developed India." For her, you and I will have to build this developed India. You must proclaim: India is not an underdeveloped nation; it is a highly-developed nation.
- (2) Allow me to come back with vengeance. Got ten minutes for your country? YOU say that our government is inefficient. YOU say that our laws are too old. YOU say that the municipality does not pick up the garbage. YOU say that the phones don't work, the railways are a joke, the airline is the worst in the world and mails never reach their destinations. YOU say that our country has been fed to the dogs and is an absolute pit. YOU say, say and say.
- (3) What do YOU do about it? Take a person on his way to Singapore. Give him a name -YOURS. Give him a face YOURS. YOU walk out of the airport and you are at your international best. In Singapore, you don't throw cigarette butts on the roads or eat in the stores. YOU are as proud of their Underground Links as they are. You pay \$5 (approx. Rs. 60) to drive through Orchard Road (equivalent of Mahim Causeway or Pedder Road) between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- (4) YOU come back to the parking lot to punch your parking ticket, if you have overstayed in a restaurant or a shopping mall, irrespective of your status or identity. In Singapore, you don't say anything, DO YOU? YOU wouldn't dare to eat in public during Ramadan in Dubai. YOU would not dare to go out without your head covered in Jeddah. YOU would not dare to buy an employee of the telephone exchange in London at 10 pounds (Rs. 650) a month to see to it that my STD and ISD calls are billed to someone else. YOU would not dare to speed beyond 55 mph (88 kph) in Washington and then tell the traffic cop, "Do you know who I am? I am so and so's son. Take your two bucks and get lost." YOU wouldn't chuck an empty coconut shell anywhere other than the garbage pail on the beaches in Australia and New Zealand. Why don't YOU spit paan on the streets of Tokyo? Why don't YOU use examination jockeys or buy fake certificates in Boston? We are still talking of the same YOU
- (5) YOU, who can respect and conform to a foreign system in other countries but cannot in your own. YOU, who will throw papers and cigarettes on the road, the moment you touch Indian ground. If you can be an involved and appreciative citizen in an alien country, why cannot you be the same here in India. Once in an interview, the famous ex-municipal commissioner of Bombay Mr Tinaikar had a point to make. "Rich people's dogs are walked on the streets to leave their affluent droppings all over the place," he said. "And then the same people turn around to criticise and blame the authorities for inefficiency and dirty pavements. What do they expect the officers to do? Go down with a broom every time their dog feels the pressure in his bowels? In America, every dog owner has to clean up after his pet has done the job. Same is in Japan. Will Indian citizens do that here?" He's right.
- (6) We go to the polls to choose a government and after that forfeit all responsibility. We sit back wanting to be pampered and expect the government to do everything for us whilst our contribution is totally negative. We expect the government to clean up, but we are not going to stop chucking garbage all over the place nor are we going to pick up a stray piece of paper and throw it in the bin. We expect the railways to provide clean bathrooms, but we are not going to learn the proper use of bathrooms. We want Indian Airlines and Air India to provide the best of food and toiletries, but we are not going to stop pilfering at the least opportunity. This applies even to the staff, who is known not to pass on the service to the public. When it comes to burning

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

(10)

(1) Nowadays companies demand an outstanding job performance by every single employee to be better than that of their competition because there is competition among enterprises. The employers make efforts to motivate the employees and optimize performance.



(2) There are numerous factors affecting job performance. These can be divided into external and internal factors. The internal factors are team spirit, competent boss, respect from colleagues and job satisfaction. The external factors are chance for personal development, job security, promotion prospects and monetary incentives. The decisive determinant is that the employees remain highly motivated. One possible method to increase motivation is the salary. Employees are willing to stay longer hours in the office and perform better, when they have the chance to get financial rewards, for instance, a higher salary or bonuses.

(3) The bar graph (given above) shows the result of a survey conducted among workers in a company to analyse their work performance across ten different factors that contribute to make their work environment pleasant. The workers are grouped into two categories - those between the ages of 18-30 and those between 45-60. Interestingly, in six out of the ten factors surveyed, the 18-30 age group is shown to be more affected than the 45-60 age group. Factors, besides the salary, which affect the work performance of the two different age groups are interesting. These factors are the chance for personal development, relaxed working environment, promotion prospects, job satisfaction and monetary incentives. Furthermore, two out of the remaining four factors namely, team spirit and work environment have been equally influential among the two groups. The 45-60 years workers are impacted a lot by 'respect from colleagues' whereas the prospect of a promotion is an important reason that drives younger employees to work better.

(4) Job performance of happy employees is 31% more productive and they show three times more creativity than their unhappy counterparts. They are more resilient and more likely to stay in the same company for a longer period. Consequently they drive the company towards long-term goals by being more productive and efficient.

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

(a) Does the following statement agree with the information given in para 1?

(1)

When the company has a lot of competitors, it tries to invent the most efficient technology to stay ahead.

Select from the following:

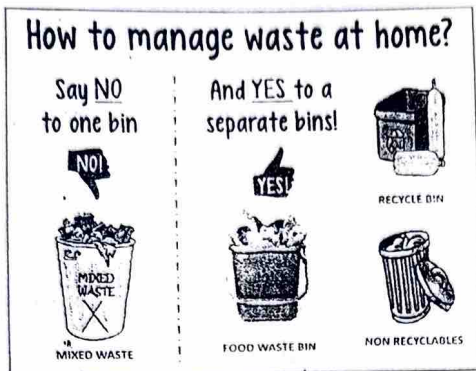
True: If the statement agrees with the information.

False: If the statement contradicts the information.

Not Given: If there is no information on this.

B-3

- Q5. You are Shubha/Krushna Mohanty, residing in Subhadra Apartments, Bhuvneshwar, Orissa. You have observed, with increasing concern, that garbage collection continues to be done without segregation in your neighbourhood. Write a letter to the editor of The Real Times, Bhuvneshwar, in about 120 – 150 words, explaining your concern along with the rationale behind the importance of garbage segregation. Suggest ways in which the Resident Welfare Association can participate in this programme. (5)



OR

Anita/Amit of Civil Lines, Kanpur, sees the following advertisement in 'The World News' and decides to apply for the job of a Sales Manager in a reputed export house. Write an application along with your resume in about 120 – 150 words to the Personnel Manager, Dezine Furniture Exports, Kanpur.

## Dezine Furniture Exports

*Requires*

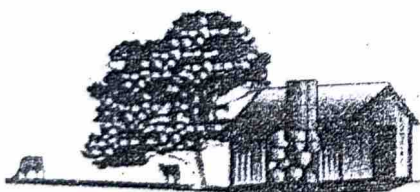
### Sales Manager

**QUALIFICATION:** B.Com.    **EXPERIENCE:** 3–5 years

**JOB REQUIREMENT:**  
Managing executives, setting targets and timelines.

Apply to: The Personnel Manager  
Dezine Furniture Exports, Tara Deep, Kanpur

- Q6. Taking ideas from the following visual, together with your own ideas, write an article in 150 words on the need to switch to organic farming in India. (5)



### Organic Farming : Concept

- ◆ uses nature as a model
- ◆ encourages natural predators to manage pests
- ◆ does not consume or release synthetic pesticides, chemicals
- ◆ based on maintaining a living soil
- ◆ feeding the soil, not the plant
- ◆ organic matter is maintained in the soil

### Here's how organic farming can benefit our planet and wellbeing



#### Fresh Air

Switching to the use of organic farming practices across the US could help eliminate carbon dioxide from the air equivalent to at least a third of the cars in our world.

#### Energy Savings

Organic practices could help reduce the energy used in farming up to 45%



#### Nature's Ally

In a world where nearly 40% of the farming land is suffering significant degradation, organic farming can help protect soils and conserve wildlife.

- i) Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the first line of the extract.  
 a) I'm as happy as I can be      b) Life is a roller coaster ride  
 c) Nature is God's gift to us      d) The dazzling divas enchanted all
- ii) What does the phrase 'a bower quiet' indicate?  
 a) serenity      b) morality      c) superiority      d) diversity
- iii) The benefits of a thing of beauty for humans include \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (1) Healthy body      (2) calm mind      (3) struggle – free life  
 (4) better relationships      (5) hope to carry on  
 Choose the most appropriate option.  
 a) Only (5)      b) (1), (2) and (5)      c) (1), (3) and (4)      d) (2) and (4)
- iv) Answer in one word  
 When the poet says that 'a thing of beauty' will never pass into nothingness, he means that it is \_\_\_\_\_.
- v) On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.  
 (1) We are surrounded by beautiful things  
 (2) Beautiful things provide us joy  
 a) (1) can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot  
 b) (2) can be inferred from the extract but (1) cannot  
 c) Both (1) and (2) can be inferred from the extract  
 d) (2) is the reason for (1) and can be inferred from the extract
- vi) What of the following is an apt title for the extract?  
 a) Full to the Brim with Joy      b) Beauty Galore  
 c) Live Life King Size      d) Hope Floats

**Q8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (4)**

**(A) Derry :** You're .... Peculiar. You say peculiar things. You ask questions I don't understand.

**Mr. Lamb :** I like to talk. Have company. You don't have to answer questions. You don't have to stop here at all. The gate's open.

**Derry :** Yes, but ...

**Mr. Lamb :** I've a hive of bees behind those trees over there. Some hear bees and they say, bees buzz. But when you listen to bees for a long while, they hum..... and hum means 'sin'. I hear them singing, my bees.

**Derry :** But ..... I like it here. I came in because I liked it..... when I looked over the wall.

**Mr. Lamb:** If you'd seen me, you'd not have come in.

**Derry :** No.

**(On the Face of It)**

- i) List the playwright's purpose of using ellipses (...) in this extract.
- ii) Select the option that best describes Derry and Mr. Lamb in the extract  
 a) Derry : introvert ; Mr. Lamb : friendly  
 b) Derry : fearful; Mr. Lamb : domineering  
 c) Derry : friendly; Mr. Lamb ; weird  
 d) Derry : open minded; Mr. Lamb: charming
- iii) Which of the following best summarises Mr. Lamb's attitude towards the bees?  
 a) Beauty is being true to yourself  
 b) There is a kind of beauty in imperfection  
 c) Beauty is the promise of happiness  
 d) The beauty of the world lies in the details.

- a) Statement 1 can be inferred from the extract, but statement 2 cannot be.
  - b) Statement 1 cannot be inferred from the extract but statement 2 can be.
  - c) Both the statements can be inferred.
  - d) Both the statements cannot be inferred.
- v) Replace the underlined word with its antonym from the extract.  
Without progress there will be stagnation and decay.
- vi) Choose the term which best matches the statement "Food is more important for survival than an identity"?
- a) Immorality      b) necessity      c) obligation      d) ambition

OR

(B) No one can imagine how sad and monotonous life can appear to such a vagabond, who plods along the road, left to his own meditations. But one day this man had fallen into a line of thought, which really seemed to him entertaining. He had naturally been thinking of his rattraps when suddenly he was struck by the idea that the whole world about him – the whole world with its lands and seas, its cities and villages – was nothing but a big rattrap. It had never existed for any other purpose than to set baits for people.

(The Rattrap)

- i) According to the extract, which of these words best describes the man?  
(a) Reflective (b) Impulsive (c) Indifferent (d) Simple-minded
- ii) Rewrite the given sentence after replacing the underlined phrase with its synonym.  
It had never existed for any other purpose than to set baits for people.
- iii) On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below:  
(1) The world offers living beings a life full of pleasure.  
(2) However, only compassionate people can enjoy those pleasures
  - a) (2) has been caused by (1)
  - b) (2) is a hypothesis based on (1)
  - c) (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can be
  - d) (1) can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot be
- iv) In one sentence, rationalize the given statement.  
It is challenging for others to be able to understand the despair of a vagabond's life.
- v) Replace the underlined word with its antonym from the extract.  
The man who thought that the world was a rattrap lived a life that was interesting.
- vi) The mood of the extract can be best described as :  
a) cautious      b) malicious      c) melancholic      d) apprehensive

**Q10. Answer any five of the following questions in about 40-50 words each. (5×2=10)**

- a) "You realize the true value of a thing only on losing it." Comment on this statement in the light of the story, "The Last Lesson."
- b) State the common issue faced by most of the aged in the current times, with reference to the poem 'My Mother at Sixty-six'.
- c) What do we come to know about the author of 'Lost Spring', Anees Jung, through her interactions with Saheb and Mukesh?
- d) Give two reasons why, according to Pablo Neruda, is 'Keeping Quiet' essential for attaining a better, more peaceful world. (Keeping Quiet)