

BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA
FIRST TERM EXAMINATION (23 September 2025)
English Communicative
Class - X (Set - B)

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

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

Section - A (Reading Skills)

Q1. Read the passage carefully.

(12 marks)

1. His heavy bat was a major talking point whenever Sachin Tendulkar battled injuries in his over-two-decade-long career but the iconic cricketer said he was never convinced about giving it up for a lighter one as his timing got affected every time he tried the change. In his autobiography 'Playing It My Way', Tendulkar wrote that he was asked several times to try a lighter bat but it never worked for him.
2. "I used a pretty heavy bat and I was sometimes encouraged to move to a lighter one. Again, I did try but I never felt comfortable, as my whole bat swing depended on that weight. When I was hitting a drive, I needed the weight to generate the power. It was all to do with the timing," he explains. The all-time leading scorer in the game also offered an interesting take on how to hold the bat. "To me the bat should be an extension of your arm, and if you've reached the stage where it's become an extension of your arm, why do you need to change? What mattered to me most when I was batting was feeling comfortable. As long as I felt comfortable, it didn't matter where I was playing or who I was playing against. If you make technical adjustments, such as moving to a lighter bat, to cope with different conditions, there's risk of making yourself feel uncomfortable and of thinking too much about your technique," he says.
3. Tendulkar has advised budding batsmen against too much experimentation, saying, "the bat should be an extension of your arm" and there is no need for a change in technique if "you have reached that stage". "People have often commented on my own grip, which is very low down to the handle. It all goes back to when I started playing cricket when I was eleven, with my brother Ajit, who is ten years older. As I didn't have a bat of my own, I had to use Ajit's full-size bat and the only way I could cope with the weight at that age was to hold the bat right at the bottom of the handle," Tendulkar writes. "Some coaches suggested changing my grip, and I did experiment, but it never felt right. I had got used to feeling the end of the handle pressing against the inside of my forearm and if I gripped the bat further up I didn't have that, and batting just didn't feel natural. That's not to say that my technique didn't change at all, though. Throughout my career, I was always looking to improve and constantly tried new things to cope with different situations."
4. Tendulkar said one must try to read the bowler's mind rather than thinking too much about "your own batting". "I've always felt that I've batted best when my mind has been at the bowler's end of the pitch, not at my end. In fact, for both batsmen and bowlers, I've always believed that cricket is played best when your mind is at the opposite end and that problems occur when your mind is stuck at your own end. For example, if a bowler is thinking too much about bowling no-balls, he's not going to be able to bowl what he wants to bowl. Instead his mind should be at the batsman's end, focusing on where he's going to pitch the ball, which way he's going to swing it and so on. As a batsman, if I'm not consciously worrying about my footwork or my backlift or my wrist-work, then I know that I'm



in the right space, because my mind needs to be opposite end, figuring out what the bowler is trying to do. There's no time to think about both ends at the same time," he says.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above

(1)

a) Tendulkar's bat was a major talking point because?

- i) of its light weight ii) of its heavy weight iii) of its moderate weight iv) of its sae weight

(1)

b) Complete the following sentence appropriately.

To Tendulkar, the bat was a/an

(1)

c) Why didn't Tendulkar never switch to a lighter bat?

d) "I've always felt that I've batted best when my mind has been at the bowler's end of the pitch, not at my end."

(2)

Elucidate in about 30-40 words.

(1)

e) What advice did Tendulkar give to budding batsmen?

(2)

f) Elaborate the reason why Tendulkar's grip was very low down to the handle.

g) Select the option that makes the correct use of 'budding', as used in the passage, to fill in the blank space.

i) The trees are early this year.

ii) The rose bushes are

iii) The young star is now popular in Hollywood.

iv) The leaves were on the trees.

(1)

h) Complete the following sentence appropriately.

It is important to read a bowler's mind because

(1)

i) State whether the given assertion is TRUE or FALSE.

People have often commented on Tendulkar's confidence.

Q2. Read the following passage carefully:

(10)

- We need to eat healthy in order to stay healthy. Let's start by walking to the nearest grocery or vegetable market for shopping in the old way, rather than stepping out of the house and getting into the car. Grocery shopping will be an easier experience and you will bring home healthier foods if you start with a healthy grocery shopping list. With a grocery list in-hand, you won't wonder what to buy!
- Fresh vegetables and fruits should make up the largest part of your healthy shopping. Vegetables and fruits have vitamins, minerals, anti-oxidants, and they are usually low in calories. Choose a variety of fruits and vegetables that everyone in your family will enjoy. Among fresh vegetables, go for lettuce, cucumbers, carrots, tomatoes, onions, peas, potatoes, and cauliflower, to name a few. Include fruits like bananas, apples, oranges, pomegranates, pears, etc.
- Most of your grain and cereal products should be made from whole grains and not from refined flours. This part of your list includes whole grain breads, pastas, and breakfast cereals. Whole grains are important for vitamins, minerals, and fibre, which is often lacking in modern diets.
- Protein and meat choices should consist mostly of fish, poultry and lean meats. Eggs, nuts, seeds and legumes are also good protein choices. Choose fresh food over frozen food. Beverages should be kept simple. Water, low fat milk, juices, and herbal teas are all good choices. If you opt for soft drinks, choose diet sodas and diet soft drinks to avoid extra sugar. Dairy products should include yogurt, cheese, and low-fat milk. Probiotic curd and yogurt are a great new option for a healthy meal.
- Olive oil is a natural juice that preserves the taste, aroma, vitamins, and properties of the olive fruit. Olive oil is the only vegetable oil that can be consumed as it is - with salad and as a dip with bread. The healthy benefits of using olive oil are due to its high content of mono-unsaturated fatty acids and its high content of anti-oxidants. Studies have shown that olive oil offers protection against heart problems by keeping cholesterol levels low. Olive oil is very well tolerated by the stomach, and it also fights against cancer.



6. Frozen foods are a convenient way to keep vegetables on hand but as a rule we should try to avoid all processed food and focus only on fresh produce. Foods in cans and jars are also very convenient. Look for low sodium, low fat, and low calorie, if it is necessary for you to buy them.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above

- a) What are the different fruits and vegetables we should include in our list? Why? (2)
 b) Why are whole grains important? (2)
 c) Fill in the blank using appropriate word. (1)
 Most of your grain and cereal products should be made from _____.
 d) What are the good choices of beverages? (1)
 1) Coffee 2) Herbal teas 3) Sweet Soda 4) Full-cream milk 5) Water 6) Juice
 i) (1), (3), (4) ii) (2), (5), (6) iii) (1), (4), (3) iv) (2), (3), (5) (2)
 e) Why are the health benefits of using olive oil? (1)
 f) 'Olive oil is very well tolerated by the stomach.' (1)
 Replace the underlined word with the most suitable word and rewrite it without changing its meaning.
 g) What are the good protein choices? (1)

Section - B (Writing Skills)

- Q3. As Neha/Nikhil, a student of Class X, write an e-mail to the School Coordinator in about 50 words, requesting the organisation, for a stress management workshop before the final exams to help students cope with pressure. (3)
- Q4. Write a factual description, in not more than 100 words, of a bookshelf that you arranged in your study room. (4)
- Q5. Attempt any one of the following: (7)
 You are a sports scout. Write a letter to the Governor of your region, drawing attention to the need for creating and upgrading sport facilities and following practices to enable the local/ indigenous sporting talent from your city, to hone their skills. Include specific recommendations. Write the letter in not more than 120 words using ideas from Unit 1 : Health and Medicine, along with your own.

OR

Many complaints about unfair means being used in exams have come in. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily newspaper in 120 words giving reasons for this trend and suggest measures to combat this. You are Arun/ Aruna, 12, Fort Road, Kochi.

- Q6. Attempt any one of the following: (8)
 Space tourism, though in its early stages, is a reality. As Jagmeet Singh of class X-D, write an article for your school magazine, in about 150 words, discussing the opportunities and challenges of space tourism, the ethical considerations surrounding it and how it might impact society.
 Use the given cues, along with your own ideas and those you may have gathered from Unit : Science, to create this article.

- Safety concerns and potential accidents in space tourism
- Space debris and the need for responsible space traffic management
- Turning space into a commodity: the ethics of commercialising space
- Ensuring equality and access to space tourism opportunities
- Promoting responsible and sustainable practices in space tourism
- Balancing economic opportunities with environmental and social responsibility

OR

You feel that the 'Clean India Campaign' has not been as effective as you thought it should have been. As Ankit/ Ankita, write an article in 150 words discussing the reasons for this. Also highlight the measures that common man and a student can take to make it a success.

Section - C (Grammar)

Q7. Fill in the blanks (i) - (iii) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets.(3)
In order to maintain a balanced lifestyle, we (i) (can/ should/ must) prioritise self-care practices, such as regular exercise and healthy eating habits, to promote overall well-being. Individuals should also (ii) (have engaged/engage/ being engaged) in mindfulness activities, such as meditation or yoga, to improve mental health. Additionally, seeking support from friends, family, or mental health professionals (iii) (every / some / any) time one feels overwhelmed can contribute to a balanced and fulfilling lifestyle.

Q8. 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. The science is clear: to avoid worst	avoid	the	worst
(a) Impacts of climate change, emissions to be
(b) reduced by almost half by 2030 and net-zero
(c) by 2050. Achieve this, we need to end our reliance on fossil fuels and invest in alternative sources of energy
(d) that clean, accessible, affordable, sustainable and reliable.

Q9. Do as directed

I) Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence.

Person X: We, as a nation are integrated into one unit. You know this, right? Person Y: Er ... I do but I'd appreciate knowing a little more please.

Person X: (i) INTO / NATIONAL INTEGRATION / UNIFYING DIVERSE COMMUNITIES / A COHESIVE WHOLE, /REFERS TO /IS ESSENTIAL FOR / FOSTERING SOCIAL HARMONY /THE PROCESS OF/ AND STABILITY /WHICH/ WITHIN A NATION

II) Report the conversation given below by filling in the blanks to complete the following paragraph.

Student 1: I've decided to become a mathematician.

Student 2: Really? Why?

Student 1: Because I already excel at dividing my attention between homework and video games!

Student 1 told student 2 that they wanted to become a mathematician. Student 2 was taken by surprise and (i) Student 1 exclaimed (ii) their attention between homework and video games.

Section - D (Literature)

Q10. Read the given extract carefully. Attempt any two out of three extracts: (4+4=8)

A) "How amused everyone would be if they knew what really happened," said Louisa Mebbin a few days after the ball.

"What do you mean?" asked Mrs. Packletide quickly.

"How you shot the goat and frightened the tiger to death," said Miss Mebbin, with her disagreeably pleasant laugh. (Mrs. Packletide's Tiger)

1. What impact did Louisa Mebbin wish to create on Mrs. Packletide, with her statement, "How amused everyone would be if they knew what really happened"?

3. Why did Mrs. Packletide ask Louisa Mebbin what she meant by her comment?
4. What feelings did the speed of Mrs. Packletide's response reflect? (any two)
5. What does the writer mean by 'disagreeably pleasant laugh'?

B) The hand that mocked them and the heart that fed

And on the pedestal these words appear -

My name is Ozymandias, king of kings:

Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair

Nothing beside remains.

1. Explain the line "The hand that mocked them and the heart that fed".
2. What had the traveller described earlier?
3. What light does the inscription throw on the temperament of the mighty king Ozymandias?
4. Which two important themes of the poem do the above lines reflect upon?

C) Well, you needn't be, because I just came to tell you to stop bothering us for assistance; you ain't going to get it. We're going on strike!"

1. Who is the speaker?
2. How is 'you' bothering 'us'?
3. What does the word, 'assistance' mean?
4. Why are 'we' going on a strike?

Q11. Answer any five of the following six questions in about 30-40 words each : (5x2=10)

- a) How do Jacopo and Nicola show their dedication and love for their family member in Two Gentlemen of Verona?
- b) What kind of woman is Lavinia?
- c) Why is Mrs. Packletide compared to Nimrod?
- d) Discuss the themes explored in the play "The Dear Departed".
- e) Discuss how Shakespeare's sonnet Not Marble, nor the Gilded Monuments conveys the theme of immortality through poetry.
- f) Evaluate how 'The Letter' by Dhumaketu portrays the impact of separation on human emotions.

Q12. Answer any one of the following in about 150 words. (8)

- a) In the poems The Frog and the Nightingale and Ozymandias, discuss how the characters' attitudes towards power and influence contribute to their respective outcomes.

OR

- b) Tortured by doubt and remorse, the postmaster sits in the glow of a charcoal Sighri that night, waiting for news of his daughter. As he sits, he writes his diary. As the postmaster, write a diary entry in about 150 words outlining your feelings about the day's events.