

BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA
Final Examination (3 March 2026)
Subject – ENGLISH CORE
Class XI (Set – A)

M.M.80

Time: 3 hrs.

General Instructions:

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

1. This question paper has 16 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains three sections -
Section A : Reading Skills,
Section B : Grammar and Creative Writing Skills
Section C : Literature.
3. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
4. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
5. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A : READING SKILLS (26 marks)

[10]

1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

Read the passage given below:

1. I know many friends of mine who drink coffee regularly but do not know that coffee exists in different forms other than instant coffee. There are many who swear by Flora café classic or Coco gold, which they consider premium coffee. I may sound offensive but instant coffee is not the only way; in fact it's a very bad way of making coffee! Instant coffee cannot match up to brewed coffee's flavour nor does it have Arabica beans. It uses Robusta beans that are lower in flavour. Don't know the difference?! Read on ...
2. That plant might be a genius! It created a chemical that would keep pests away. Fortunately for us and unfortunately for the plant - that plan did not work the way it was intended to. The chemical might have averted a few pest attacks, but attracted a far greater threat human beings. The plant I am talking about is coffee and the chemical is caffeine.
3. To begin from the beginning - coffee is from a more mature part of the tree - the seed - unlike other stimulants. The ripe berry is picked and de-pulped leaving us with a seed called 'green bean' or 'green coffee'. Green bean is uncharacteristically bland with a taste nowhere close to that of coffee, but it is valued for its higher antioxidant levels.
4. It's an interesting phenomenon to see how this bland green bean turns to a flavourful coffee bean. Coffee bean is a seed and like any other seed is rich in proteins, fats and all necessary ingredients for giving birth to a new plant. When exposed to heat, the fats and carbohydrates in the bean turn into essential oils, which give the characteristic taste and aroma to the coffee bean. The degree of roasting depends on the need or purpose of use.
5. These beans are ground so that the surface area of the bean is increased, which makes extraction easier. The bean can be ground or crushed but making the particles uniform will ensure equal extraction, or else the smaller particle will get over extracted and the larger one under extracted. Hence, the burr grinder is used to ensure a way in which all particles are of similar sizes.

A-1



6. Does under extraction give a lighter coffee and over extraction a stronger one? No. For a lighter or stronger coffee less or more coffee powder has to be used. Why? Under extraction will not get all the flavours of the coffee as the water runs too quickly. It will not get what you want - it will taste sour. Over-extraction will bring out all unnecessary flavours rendering the taste bitter.

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

The author complained that his friends _____.

a) considered Coco gold as premium coffee.

b) were not aware of different forms of coffee.

c) were severely addicted to drinking coffee.

d) consumed only Flora classics.

(b) Comment on the writer's reference to the unique feature of coffee plant. (paragraph 2)

(c) List the reason why the author refers to humans as **great threat to coffee plants**.

(d) Select an option that conveys the same meaning as **energiser** from words used in paragraph 3.

a) mature

b) antioxidant

c) bland

d) stimulants

(e) Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference with respect to the following:

Fats and carbohydrates turn into essential oils leading to _____.

(f) Comment on the writer's reference to the interesting phenomenon in paragraph 4.

(g) Over extraction does not give a stronger coffee. Based on your understanding of paragraph 6, list one method to get stronger coffee.

(h) The writer would not agree with the given statements based on paragraph five EXCEPT

a) Grinding gives stronger aroma.

b) The burr grinder grinds coffee beans uniformly.

c) Less surface area makes extraction easier.

d) Good coffee is a mix of smaller and bigger particles.

(i) Why is it fair to say that the right degree of extraction of coffee is important?

(j) Select the most suitable title of the above passage.

a) The Art of Coffee Making

b) The Coffee Addict

c) Benefits of Consuming Coffee

d) Green Coffee – The perfect antioxidant

2. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[8]

1. The North-East of India is a melting pot of variegated cultural mosaic of people and races, an ethnic tapestry of many hues and shades. Yet, these states are lesser explored as compared to the rest of the country. The new generations of travellers who are 'money rich and time poor' are increasingly looking for unique experiences - a phenomenon being called the emergence of the 'experience economy'. For this new and growing breed of tourists, the North-East with its variety and uniqueness holds immense attraction.

2. A study conducted in 2020 by Dr. Sherap Bhutia, revealed that the foreign tourist arrival in the North-East increased from 37,380 persons in 2005 to 118,552 in 2014. The overall growth rate of tourist (both domestic and foreign) in the North-East was as high as 26.44% during 2005-06. A high and positive growth of 12.53% was registered in foreign tourist visits to North-East States of India during 2012 from 2011, which further rose to register a growth of 27.93% during 2013 from 2012. Foreign tourist arrivals in the North-East witnessed a growth of 39.77% during 2014 from 2013, according to data provided from the Ministry of

A-2



3. The study recommendations for tourism planners included the need to concentrate on some key areas like enhancement of tourist facilities, tourism financing, focus on community involvement and others for the formulation of a sustainable tourism strategy in the North-East States of India.

(a) Infer one reason for the following, based on information in paragraph 1.

The rate of tourism in the North-East of India puzzles tourism officials

(b) Select the appropriate option to fill in the blanks.

From paragraph 1, we can infer that the _____ and _____ of the North-Eastern states aid attracting the 'money rich and time poor' tourists.

i. distinctiveness

ii. conventionality

iii. diversity

iv. uniformity

v. modernity

A. i & iii

B. ii & iv

C. ii & v

D. i & iv

(c) Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/ phrase from paragraph 1:

aroma : cooking :: _____ : painting

(Clue: Just like aroma is integral to cooking, similarly _____ is/are integral to painting)

(d) Select the correct option to complete the following sentence:

Travellers advocating the 'experience economy' seek a holiday package with (Paragraph 1)

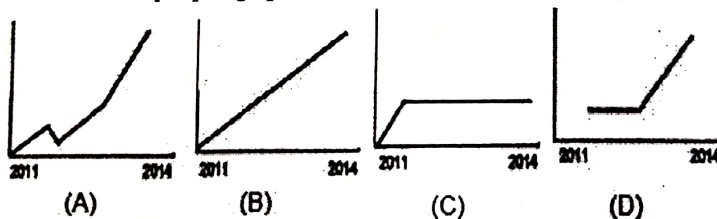
A. grand facilities, expensive hotels and excellent services to pamper them.

B. a wholesome experience within the budget they have planned for.

C. places and cities to buy things from and opportunities spend money.

D. cost-effective services, affordable accommodation and many days of touring.

(e) Select the chart that appropriately represents the trend of foreign tourist travels in the North-East, from 2011-2014, as per paragraph 2.



A. Option 1

B. Option 2

C. Option 3

D. Option 4

(f) Fill in the blank by selecting the correct option.

The study of tourist travel statistics in the North-East, from 2005 to 2014 showed _____ results.

A. expected

B. encouraging

C. inconsistent

D. questionable

(g) Substitute the word 'witnessed' with ONE WORD similar in meaning, in the following, sentence from paragraph 2:

Foreign tourist arrivals in the North-East witnessed a growth of...

(h) List any 2 examples of **tourist facilities** as referred to, in Paragraph 3.

A-3

3. Read the following passage carefully.

1. During summers you come across attractive advertisements with catchy slogans for different types of cold drinks. These can be found everywhere right from the newspaper and magazine pages to the prime slots in electronic media. At bus stands and the railway stations also, huge hoardings showing ads of popular film stars promoting brands of aerated beverages invariably catch attention. Small kids and teenagers become the main target of this campaign.
 2. Despite the fact that these aerated drinks hardly provide lasting relief from thirst, people consume them voraciously. The very name of these drinks is a contradiction in itself, as these hardly contain anything which may be described as cold because they contain no more than a few chemicals like sodium bicarbonate and caffeine, a known artificial mood elevator. No wonder after consuming these drinks there is a feeling of abdominal gas, distension, loss of appetite and also disturbed sleep. Besides aerated drinks, the market is also flooded with numerous types of soft drinks.
 3. Most of these drinks are nothing more than a combination of certain fruit flavours, artificial colouring material and citric acid as preservative. Doctors all over the world are worried about the prevailing trend of using artificial colours and flavours in food items. Apart from causing different types of allergy, most of these colours are also found to be carcinogenic.
 4. In India since times immemorial, many domestic cold drinks have been used. These are both refreshing and safe. With the passage of time and due to Western influences, it seems alien things are preferred to the traditional ones. Many such Indian drinks are cold, refreshing and can be prepared at home. The cooling effect of the popular Indian *lassi* made from curd or the *kachchi lassi* by adding little milk in a glass of sweetened water is incomparable. The *lassi*, churned from curd, is a protection against diarrhoea and gastroenteritis. Similarly, the use of lemon *shikanjawi* in sultry and scorching summer is also very beneficial. Lemon, being a natural blood purifier, replenishes the body with essential electrolytes.
 5. Once a popular evening drink in most of the Punjabi homes, *thandai* made by crushing peeled almonds, rose petals, cardamom and cucumber seeds has almost disappeared. Proven diuretic, *sattoo* was a great help in case of burning micturation and urinary stone formation.
 6. The artificial and the aerated drinks cannot match the efficacy of home-made cold drinks. Still there is another class of these drinks known as *sharbats*, *bael*, *shatoot*, *mango*, *sandal* and many other Indian medicinal plants can be used in this form. Their use is not only economical but superbly beneficial for health. So let us return to home-made cold drinks.
- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, in points only using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary – minimum 4) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it.

SECTION- B (Grammar & Writing) (23)

Q4. Complete the following passage by filling in the blanks with suitable words: (3)

Modern tree houses are usually built as play areas for children or (a) leisure purposes. Modern tree houses may also (b) integrated into existing hotel facilities. Along with sub-terranean and ground level houses, tree houses (c) an option for building eco-friendly houses (d) remote forest areas, because (e) do not require a clearing of a certain area (f) forest.

Q5. Rearrange the following group of words to form meaningful sentences: (4)

- (a) truthfulness, honest living, / purity of thought / based on / character is / moral outlook, / and deed
(b) such that / to character building / proper attention / in a manner / the school syllabi / should be prescribed / is given
(c) can modify / scarce / human behaviour / that makes / physical environment / useful water / in a way
(d) water scarcity are / variability / climatic changes and / some reasons / for / growth in population

Q6. Answer any one of the following : (3)

- A) While walking in a park in your neighbourhood, you found a small plastic bag containing some documents and some cash. Write a notice in about 50 words to be put on the park noticeboard asking the owner to identify and collect it from you. You are Amar/Amrita 9399123456.

OR

- B) You are Shirish Saxena of 47, Mall Road, Shimla. You are a young man of 35 with seven years of experience as an expert executive. You seek an immediate change to some prestigious export house in Mumbai/ Bangalore. Draft a suitable advertisement for the Situation Wanted column of a National Daily.

Q7. Answer any one of the following : (3)

- A) You are Mr. Anmol Gupta. You are planning to celebrate your sister's silver jubilee wedding anniversary. Draft an invitation card to be sent to relatives and friends, sharing all relevant details.

OR

- B) Publicity we proclaim that dowry is an evil. Privately we want our sons to fetch good dowries. Right from our school days we should be taught that demanding and even giving dowry is not only illegal but immoral too. Draw a poster in about 50 words highlighting dowry as a curse. You are Vikram/ Sonia.

Q8. Answer any one of the following : (5)

- A) You read in the newspaper daily that patients from abroad come to hospital in India and get themselves treated well in meagre amount. It would have been exorbitant elsewhere. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily in 120-150 words highlighting the importance of medical tourism in India. You are Tanay/ Tanisha, R-111, Mahalaxmi Apartments, Mumbai.

OR

- B) Rising incomes of the middle class families are leading to obesity among their children. Poring over books for hours coupled with the lure of TV and the internet has led to a sedentary lifestyle. Addiction to junk food is another cause of obesity. Write a speech in 150-200 words on obesity, its causes and how to prevent it.

Q9. Answer any one of the following : (5)

- A) 'The policy of reservation of seats for admission to the professional courses is good for the deprived sections of society'. Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against the motion.

OR

- B) You are Vibha Sharma a newsreporter. Write report in 120-150 words regarding the 'Heritage Festival' organized in your city last week.

Section C : Literature (31 Marks)

[3]

10 Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

Silence surrounds us. I would have
Him prodigal, returning to
His father's house, the home he knew,
Rather than see him make and move
His world. I would forgive him too,
Shaping from sorrow a new love.

- (a) What does the father want from his son?
- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| a) To leave his ego | b) To forgive him |
| c) To talk to him | d) To come back home |
- (b) Why does the father call his son prodigal?
- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| a) As he is successful | b) As he is a professional |
| c) As he is wasting his time | d) As he is a runaway |
- (c) The literary device used in the given lines is
- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| a) Anaphora | b) Simile |
| c) Alliteration | d) Hyperbole |

OR

11 Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

And who art thou? said I to the soft-falling shower, Which, strange to tell, gave me an answer, as here translated:
I am the Poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain,

- (a) What is strange in the given extract?
- | | |
|--|---|
| a) The rain calling itself the Poem of Earth | b) The rain is answering the question |
| c) That the poet could translate the voice | d) The poet asking question to the rain |
- (b) Why does the rain call itself the Poem of Earth?
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| a) As it travels back to its origin | b) As it has a purpose |
| c) As it beautifies the Earth | d) As it is beautiful |
- (c) As here translated indicates that
- | | |
|---|--|
| a) he was translating these lines for his readers | b) the rain was talking in our language |
| c) someone was translating these lines for him | d) the poet was making up these lines on his own |

1) Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[3]

My headache soon cleared as we careered down the other side of the pass. It was two o'clock by the time we stopped for lunch. We ate hot noodles inside a long canvas tent, part of a work camp erected beside a dry salt lake. The plateau is pockmarked with salt flats and brackish lakes, vestiges of the Tethys Ocean which bordered Tibet before the great continental collision that lifted it skyward.

A-6



[3]

(a)

Which word in the extract mean **moved quickly**

a) careered

b) stopped

c) erected

d) lifted

(b)

What did they have for their lunch?

a) Chinese food

b) Salt flats

c) Continental food

d) Noodles

(c)

Which of the following is not true about the place where they took lunch?

a) none of these

b) a canvas tent

c) work camp

d) by the side of a dry salt lake

OR

b)

Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

When I decided to go abroad for further studies, I was sure my grandmother would be upset. I would be away for five years, and at her age one could never tell. But my grandmother could. She was not even sentimental. She came to leave me at the railway station but did not talk or show any emotion. Her lips moved in prayer, her mind was lost in prayer.

(a) What is meant by the phrase **one could never tell**.

a) author did not want to tell about his

b) author did not want to leave his

destination

grandmother

c) author was afraid his grandmother

d) author feared his grandmother may die

before his return

(b) Which word in the extract is synonym of **higher**?

a) further

b) upset

c) emotional

d) even

(c) Why did author think that his grandmother would be upset?

a) he was going abroad

b) he was going broke

c) he was going away for five years

d) he was going for higher studies

12

Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

[4]

(a) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

Still kneeling, Andrew stared at the child with a haggard frown. The whiteness meant only one thing: asphyxia, pallida, and his mind, unnaturally tense, raced back to a case he once had seen in the Samaritan, to the treatment that had been used. Instantly he was on his feet. "Get me hot water and cold water," he threw out to the nurse. "And basins too. Quick! Quick!" "But, Doctor-" she faltered, her eyes on the pallid body of the child.

i. What instructions did Andrew give to the nurse? How did the doctor try to revive the child?
 ii. When the doctor instructed the nurse why did she hesitantly say, "But, Doctor-" in the extract provided? This is so, because she _____.

a. was sure about the treatment.

b. thought the efforts were useless.

c. did not trust the doctor.

d. was in utter amazement.

A-7



- iii. The analogy of whiteness of the child is an appropriate analogy for a case in Samaritan because _____.
- iv. Give one reason why the medical condition mentioned in the extract can be considered true in the case.

(b) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

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. That was all, no matter what anybody happened to be talking about. Once it was his own son Arak running eight blocks to the barber's shop where his father was having his moustache trimmed to tell him their house was on fire.

- i. What effect does the narrator's use of statements such as "It is no harm; pay no attention to it," have on the reader's perception of Uncle Khosrove's behaviour?
- ii. Which aspect of Uncle Khosrove's character in the passage contributes to the family's dismissal of his behaviour?
 - A. His enormous physical stature
 - B. His powerful black hair
 - C. The size of his moustache
 - D. His furious temper and impatience
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.

The narrator portrays Uncle Khosrove's imposing physical appearance in great detail because _____.

iv. Who was considered to be a natural descendant of Uncle Khosrove in the plot?

12 Answer the questions from either (a) or (b) in 40-50 words:

[6]

- (a)
 - i. Who did point out that the mummy was in bad condition? Who was held responsible for it?
 - ii. 'She launches away, towards the infinite'. Explain the given line. (The Laburnum Top)
- (b)
 - i. How did the narrator respond to little Jons words? What do his actions reveal about his character? Answer in context of We are Not Afraid to Die.
 - ii. Why does the poet think that he had lost his childhood? Answer in the context of Childhood.

14 Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 40-50 words

[3]

- (a) How did Mrs. Dorling behave when the narrator visited her address?
- (b) What course of action does Mrs. Fitzgerald suggest to Mrs. Pearson to tackle the situation?

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

[6]

- a) Why does the author aver that the growth of world population is one of the strongest factors disturbing the future of human society?
- OR
- b) Both wry with the labored ease of loss. The poet Shirley Toulson is missing her mother. What is the role of the mother in forming the personality of a child.

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

[6]

- (a) It is essential to possess intelligence and common sense to rule over others. Comment in the context of the chapter The Tale of Melon City.
- (b) Do you think it is justified to call a spade a spade, even it hurts the other person's feelings? Discuss in the light of Mrs. Pearson's remarks about Charlie Spence being 'buck teeth and half-witted' and Mr. Pearson being called 'Pompy-ompy Pearson' behind his back in the club.

A-8

