

BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA
FINAL TERM EXAMINATION (19 February 2026)
ENGLISH
Class - IX (Set - B)

Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allowed: 3 hours

General Instructions:

1. This question paper comprises 10 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper contains three sections:
Section - A Reading Skills (20 marks)
Section - B Grammar and Creative Writing Skills (34 marks)
Section - C Literature (26 marks)
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section - A (Reading)

(10)

Q1. Read the passage carefully.

1. Dirшти was young woman who had always been fascinated by the supernatural. She had read countless books and watched numerous documentaries about ghosts and other worldly beings. So, when she heard about an abandoned hotel on the outskirts of town that was said to be haunted, she knew she had to investigate.
2. One night, Dirшти decided to sneak into the dilapidated hotel with a few of her friends. As they made their way through the dark, eerie corridors, they heard strange noises and felt cold spots. They were convinced that they were not alone.
3. Suddenly, they came across a room that was different from the rest. It was filled with old cooking equipment and strange symbols etched into the walls. Dirшти felt a chill run down her spine as she entered the room. She knew that this was where the most paranormal activity occurred. As they were examining the room, they heard a loud bang coming from the hallway. They froze in fear, not knowing what was coming their way. They could hear footsteps approaching, and they knew they had to hide.
4. They quickly ducked behind some old shelves as the footsteps grew louder. The sound of breathing was getting closer and closer until finally, they saw a figure appear in the doorway. It was a man wearing a chef's hat, with a face that was twisted in a sinister smile. Dirшти and her friends felt their blood run cold as the man approached them. They could feel his cold breath on their faces as he leaned in, whispering in a deep voice, "You shouldn't be here."
5. Dirшти and her friends were frozen with fear as they stared into the chef's eyes. But suddenly, the lights flickered on and the figure disappeared. They looked around the room, and everything seemed normal. They had been so scared that they hadn't realized they were in a room with faulty wiring.
6. Disappointed, they realized that their ghost hunt had been a bust. They left the hotel feeling deflated and let down. They had hoped for an exciting, spine-tingling adventure, but all they got was a scary moment caused by faulty wiring. As they drove home, they couldn't help but feel foolish for getting so worked up over nothing. They had been so convinced that they would find evidence of the paranormal that they had overlooked the simple explanation for the noises they had heard.
7. Dirшти learned an important lesson that night. Sometimes, the scariest things are the ones that we create in our own minds. She realized that she didn't need to chase after the supernatural to experience thrills and excitement. The world around her was full of mystery and wonder, and she was content to experience it without the need for ghosts and ghouls.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

1. How does the setting contribute to the overall mood and atmosphere of the story?
 - a) It creates a sense of nostalgia
 - b) It provides a sense of false security
 - c) It adds to the suspense in the story
 - d) It presents a contrast with the real world

2. What is the main flaw in Drishti's approach to investigating the haunted hotel?
 - a) She was too focused on finding evidence of the paranormal
 - b) She was too skeptical and refused to believe the possibility of ghosts
 - c) She relied too heavily on other people's accounts of the supernatural
 - d) She didn't take enough precautions to ensure her safety
3. Complete the following suitably:
One night when Drishti, along with her friends, made her way through the dark eerie corridors
.....
4. Rectify the given false statement:
Drishti felt a chill run down her skin as she entered the forest.
5. What is the most significant lesson that Drishti learns from her experience in the haunted hotel?
6. Why did Drishti and her friends leave the hotel feeling deflated and let down?
7. Describe any two elements that classify the story as scary.
8. What did Drishti and her friends see, hear and feel in a room they entered in the hotel?
9. Why did Drishti decide to investigate the abandoned hotel?
10. Find the word from 'para 2' which means damaged.

Q2. Read the passage carefully.

(10)

1. I must confess that I am overwhelmed by the trust my people have placed in me by electing me to the highest office in the land
2. Dr Radhakrishnan brought to the Presidency a mental equipment, a degree of erudition and wealth of experience rarely to be found anywhere. During a lifetime devoted to the pursuit of knowledge and truth, he has done more than probably any other man to bring out and explain Indian philosophical thought and the oneness of all true spiritual values. He has never lost his faith in the essential humanity of man and he himself has never ceased to champion the right of all men to live in dignity and with justice.
3. I can only assure you that I enter this office in a spirit of prayerful humility and total dedication. I have just taken the oath of loyalty to the Constitution of India. It is the Constitution of India. It is the Constitution of a comparatively new State which is free citizens have, for the first time in history, given to themselves. It is the young State of an ancient people who, through the long millennia and through cooperation of diverse ethnic elements, have striven to realise timeless, absolute values in their own peculiar way I pledge myself to the service of those values. For, though some concrete realisation of a value may become inadequate with the change of circumstance, the value remains eternally valid and presses for newer and fresher realisation. The past is not dead and static, it is alive and dynamic and is involved in determining the quality of our present and the prospects of our future.

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

1. Which of the following statement best describes Dr. Radhakrishnan's thoughts on the past?
 - a) Past values are of great importance
 - b) Past is dead and static
 - c) The past is not dead and static, rather it is alive and dynamic and is capable of shaping our present and future.
 - d) The past alone can make our future bright
2. The narrator felt overwhelmed because the people of India:
 - a) maintained peace during his regime
 - b) trusted him
 - c) elected him as the President of India
 - d) none of these
3. Based on the understanding of the passage, complete the following statement appropriately:
Dr. Radhakrishnan, when elected as the President of India, entered the office with a and
.....

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4. The phrase 'diverse ethnic elements used in para 3 refers to
5. What qualities of Dr. Radhakrishnan made him to be an efficient and very talented President of India?
6. Why was Dr. Radhakrishnan overwhelmed?
7. Why did Dr. Radhakrishnan call the past not dead and static?
8. What did Dr. Radhakrishnan pledge when he took the oath of loyalty to the Constitution of India?
9. Find the word from para 2 which means 'depth of knowledge'.
10. Give a suitable title to the passage.

Section - B (Writing & Grammar)

Q3. Attempt any one of the following:

The Students' Council of your school has organised an excursion to Ajanta and Ellora for the students of Classes IX and X during the winter break. As the President of the council, write a notice in not more than 50 words telling the students about the excursion. (4)

OR

As Rohan/ Riya, the Class Representative of Class X, write an e-mail, in about 50 words, to the Principal, requesting the appointment of a Career Counsellor to guide students in choosing their future career paths.

Q4. Attempt any one of the following:

Write a factual description on "A Water logged Street" (5)

OR

Write a dialogue between Father and Son regarding the career of the son after passing his Senior Secondary Examination. The opening sentences have been given below. Write five dialogue each for father & son.

Father : Splendid performance in the Board. What are your future plans?

Son : Thanks. With your blessings. I have got 98 percent.

Q5. Attempt any one of the following:

Write a letter to the Editor of "The Hindustan Times" regarding the health hazards of excessive screen time for children. (Word limit 120) (7)

OR

You are Rohan/ Riya, a resident of 10 MG Road, Pune. You saw an advertisement in the newspaper regarding a "3-Month Web Designing Course" at Aptech Education, Mall Road, Pune. Write a letter of enquiry asking for details. (8)

Q6. Attempt any one of the following:

Taking cues from MCB Unit - 7 Sports and Games, write an article on "Promotion of Gender Equality through Sports". (Word limit : 150)

Hints:

Breaking stereotypes, Skill development builds confidence, Teamwork, Leadership skills in girls, Empowering women, Role of women in cricket, Equal opportunities

OR

Children these days are tech - savvy. They like gadgets. Use cues given below along with your own ideas and those you may have gathered from the Unit: "CHILDREN", to write an article for your school magazine in about 150 words, describing "Role of Technology/ Computers in Education and in the life of children".

Hints:

Social interaction & Communication, Skill development, Access to information, Pros & cons, eyesight, mental health

Q7. Fill in the blanks (i) - (iii) with the appropriate option from those given in brackets. (3)

(i) In (these/ them/ those) days, Enid wore a lot of bright colours.

(ii) She (might/ shall/ may) decide to go to the party tonight if she finishes her work early.

(iii) He (may have/ would have/ will have) completed his extensive project by tomorrow evening, allowing him to finally relax and enjoy his weekend.

B-



Q8. In the following paragraph one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing words in the lines of the given paragraph, along with the words that come before and after it in the space provided. The first one has been done as an example. (4)

e.g. A man getting very impatient	Before	Missing	After
Again and again, he would peep the	man	was	getting
doctor's room to see many patients	(a)		
were left. After a long time his turn	(b)		
came, he got up and said, Sorry, doctor,	(c)		
I don't have problem now. This long	(d)		
Wait has cured the headache.			

Q9. Do as directed:

i) Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given information to create a meaningful sentence. (1)

communication/not matter/was slow/it did/between/different/when the/world/ the parts/of
But, in our times, the people feel the need for a common language.

Artificial languages are languages which emerge in experiments with humans.

They reflect the confidence we have in ourselves, but there is always need for a common language.

ii) Read the conversation given below and complete the passage that follows. (2)

Customer : Why is the meal so sour?

Waiter: Nobody has complained for five days sir about the meal.

Customer: What! Where is the Manager?

Waiter : He has gone to some other hotel to take dinner, sir.

One day a customer was taking dinner in a hotel. He asked the waiter why (a) The waiter told him (b) At this, the customer was shocked and wanted to know where the Manager was. The waiter replied that he had gone to some other hotel to take dinner.

Section - C (Literature)

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

A) Nobody could help liking this excellent man; which made it all the greater pity that his walk in life was of such a nature that it simply had to be kept from Harold.

1. Who is being referred to as 'this excellent man'?
2. What was the secret kept away from Harold?
3. What is meant by the expression 'walk in life'?
4. How is class consciousness displayed through this passage?

OR

B) Ah, thanks, Monseigneur. I. I. (he sobs). Ah 'I' am fool, a child to cry, but somehow you have made me feel that it is just as if something had come into me as if I were a man again and not a wild beast.

1. Who is the speaker here?
2. Why does the speaker thank Monseigneur?
3. Explain 'as if I were a man again and not a wild beast'.
4. Write the antonym of the word 'wild'.

OR

C) I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I
I took the one less travelled by,

1. What does the poet want to convey in the first line?
2. What was the difference the speaker mentions here?
3. What does the word 'hence' mean?
4. What does the choice of a less travelled road suggest about the character of the person?

Q11. Answer any six of the following seven questions in about 40 words each :

(6x2=12)

- a) How did the poet carry the sweet music in his heart in 'The Solitary Reaper'?
- b) How can one look after one's teeth, according to the poet?
- c) Compare the sixth stage with the seventh stage with reference to poem "The Seven Ages".
- d) In what sense Pescud resembled 'Trevelyan' the hero of the bestseller, 'The Rose Lady and Trevelyan'?
- e) What message does the author want to convey to the readers through 'A Dog named Duke'?
- f) Why did Juliette put up the 'For Sale' sign after it was dark?
- g) Why did the convict in 'The Bishop's Candlesticks' call the prison a hell?

Q12. Answer any one of the following two questions in about 120 words.

(1x6=6)

- a) As a reader of the two poems 'The Brook' and 'The Song of the Rain' you feel the music created by Nature in its purest form. Write an informal letter to an artist friend of yours who is an ardent lover of sketching natural landscapes describing the beautiful images of Nature brought out in both the poems.

OR

- b) Evaluate the characteristics that made Private Quelch unpopular in the army training camp. How did his habit of flaunting knowledge impact his relationships with both juniors and seniors and what role did it play in his ultimate downfall?