

Class XII Session 2025-26

Subject - English Core

Sample Question Paper - 5

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. This question paper has **13** questions. **All** questions are **compulsory**.
2. This question paper contains **three** sections - Section A : **Reading Skills**, Section B : **Creative Writing Skills** and 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

1. **Read the passage given below:**

[12]

It's been said countless times that "breakfast is the most important meal of the day". But not many people seem convinced. Some school-children and office -goers are still leaving home without it and weight- watchers are still giving breakfast a miss. "I am not hungry in the morning" is the commonest explanation. Even if you don't recognize it as hunger, the body does give out signals that it is low on fuel. For instance, studies of school-children (aged 9-11) show that those who skip breakfast have a slower reaction time and more muscle fatigue in school sports. The average scores are lower on written tests, compared to breakfast eaters. To the teacher, such children could look listless, which they maybe because they haven't had the protein that really wakes up the brain. (After an overnight fast, the blood sugar level drops. Strangely it takes protein, not sugar, to build it up again.)

Office workers who skip breakfast are usually big consumers of office tea and coffee- a means of staying alert and suppressing hunger. Adult breakfast skippers may have trouble concentrating on work and show lower work output. They are also likelier to be irritable and impatient at work. Clock-watching frequently for the lunch-hour, fatigue, anxiety, forgetfulness, confusion, and indecision-all these have been linked to low blood sugar levels, usually caused by hunger. If any of that sounds familiar, maybe what you need is breakfast. Some nutrients like protein and calcium are better absorbed if they are taken in small quantities several times a day. A packed lunch and a big dinner cannot make up for nutrition missed in the 'a.m.'

What goes into a good breakfast? Protein for mental alertness and carbohydrates to give the body some get-up and go. Small amounts of fat and sugar are okay but just enough to tempt the appetite.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- i. Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option. (1)
Adult breakfast skippers may face consequences like _____ on work.

- i. Trouble concentrating
 - ii. High work output
 - iii. Low concentration
 - iv. Both trouble in concentrating and low output
- ii. Comment on writer's take as to why people skip breakfast in the morning. **(1)**
- iii. List the two instances to show how body does give out signals that it is low on fuel. **(2)**
- (Clue: Think about the result of skipping meal)**
- iv. Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'comfortable', from words used in the given passage. **(1)**
- i. Impatient
 - ii. Irritable
 - iii. Indecisive
 - iv. Anxious
- v. Two nutrients that are better absorbed if taken in small quantities are: **(1)**
- A. Proteins
 - B. Carbohydrates
 - C. Calcium
 - D. Sugar
- i. Only A and B
 - ii. Only A and C
 - iii. Only A and D
 - iv. Only B and D
- vi. Office workers are big consumers of tea and coffee. Based on your understanding of paragraph two, list one major reason behind it. **(2)**
- vii. What happen to the children who do not take breakfast? **(1)**
- viii. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following: **(1)**
- _____ is the nutrient that must be taken only to tempt the appetite.
- ix. Name some nutrients that are better absorbed if they are taken in small quantities several times a day. **(1)**
- x. What are some negative effects observed in schoolchildren who skip breakfast? **(1)**

2. **Read the following passage carefully:**

[10]

1. People below the age of 20 and above the age of 50 are more likely to believe fake news. Those relatively new to the use of the internet still do not grasp the concept of fake information over these platforms, reveals a new survey 'Countering Misinformation in India.' This survey has been conducted jointly by Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI).
2. At least 40% of the respondents believed in 'misinformation' received over social media if it came with leading backgrounds and evidence, while 34% of them believe the information when it is shared by a trustworthy organization.
3. The dominant factor that drives people to forward such information is their belief that it might benefit others and help in their safety. In fact, that was the response of almost 50% of the respondents. This was compounded by the fact that at least 20% of the respondents expressed their lack of trust in conventional media thus their faith in contents shared by common people over social media.
4. But even then, newspapers still remain the top source of information for most. At least 53% of the respondents trust what is generally perceived as neutral media and only 29% trust technology and social

media platforms.

5. However, what was surprising was that almost 45% of the respondents did not even know about the existence of fact-checking organization and most did not even know that journalists had to verify data before they let it out. Only 26% of the respondents believe that it is the responsibility of the media to curb or identify fake news. Many respondents also put the responsibility of identifying such fake news on an individual.
6. The survey has found that first time or early users of the Internet platforms are more susceptible to fake news than others. There is a need for building capacities and creating a National Civic Digital Literacy Strategic Plan.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage:

- i. Select the option that comes under conventional media: (1)
 - A. Instagram
 - B. Newspaper
 - C. Facebook
 - D. E-mail
- ii. Select the correct option: (1)

One factor that prompts people to believe fake news is that

 - A. it supports their point of view
 - B. they are biased
 - C. it is from a reliable site
 - D. it has more 'likes' and 'shares'
- iii. What according to the passage are the intentions of people who share information? (1)
- iv. Which reason do you infer from the passage is responsible for journalists spreading misinformation? (1)
- v. Complete the sentence appropriately: (1)

The threat faced by the new entrants in social media is _____.
- vi. Explain your understanding of the difference between **misinformation** and **fake news**. (1)
- vii. As per your inference drawn from para (1), which category of people fall as victims to fake news? (2)
- viii. What is the blame game that goes on in fixing the onus of identifying fake news? (2)

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

3. You are Roshni/Rahul, Secretary of ABC Colony Welfare Association, Naveenbagh. Write a notice for the society notice board informing residents that there will be no water supply in your colony on 24th and 25th April, 2024 due to maintenance work. Invent necessary details. **[4]**

OR

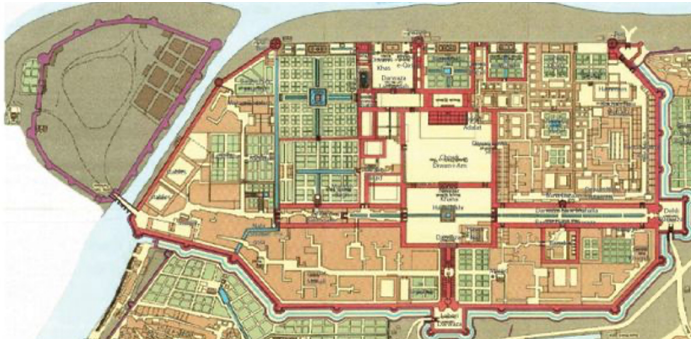
Draft a notice in about 50 words, urging students of classes IX and XI to participate in a three-week leadership camp to be held in your school. Mention date, day, time and venue of the camp. You are Rita/Kailash, President, Student Council.

4. You are Atul Gupta. You are opening a new branch of your business house NEWLIGHT FURNISHINGS at C-32, Ansal Plaza, Delhi. Write an invitation to your uncle to attend the inauguration ceremony and bless you. **[4]**

OR

You are Arushi/Anand, Secretary of the Fashion Design Club in your school. Create a formal letter of invitation, inviting renowned designer Piyush Bahl as chief guest to the fashion show, conceptualized and choreographed by the students themselves. Invent necessary details.

5. You are Ashutosh/Ashita Sarin, residing at 28, H-Block, Ashok Vihar, Delhi. You love Delhi and its beautiful architecture. Recently you visited the Red Fort and were disturbed to see the poor maintenance of the monument by the authorities concerned as well as by the careless and negligent attitude of the visitors who spoil the buildings by writing names, messages on the walls, domes, etc. Write a letter to the Editor, The Statesman, expressing concern over this state and the need for awakening a sense of pride and love for such monuments among the common people. [5]



OR

You have a degree in architecture and you have worked for a British firm for 5 years. Write an application for the post of Senior Architect in 'MIB Designs', Lucknow. You are Mridul/Mridula, 56, Cross Street, Bhopal.



M.I. GROUP

ARCHITECT REQUIRED



SR. ARCHITECT

The candidate must have the knowledge of Architectural work and experience of construction sites with bachelor degree of Architecture. Exp. 5 Year Exp. using with Auto Cad, 3D Max, Sketch & Other design Software. Salary - Negotiable/As per Industry Norms

For all the above positions, candidate bring their Resume with complete credentials along with passport size photographs. *No Interview will entertain without Resume & credentials.
Walk in Interview on 30th & 31st August 2017 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Interview Venue- MIB Designs, 2nd Floor, New Janpath Complex, Hazratganj, Lucknow. Phone No. - 9609999977

6. There are some places and communities in India where girl children are still denied education. You strongly feel that this will hamper the progress of our country. Write an article in 120-150 words on the topic : **Gender Equality - The Need of the Hour**. You are Sunil/Sunita. Use the following cues. [5]

SHE TOO HAS A RIGHT
TO LIVE TO DREAM TO EDUCATION TO RESPECT TO EQUALITY TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
EDUCATE THE GIRL CHILD - CREATE AN

OR

You are Sweety/Suresh of LM Jain School, Ajmer. As Secretary of your school Co-Curricular Activities Club, you visited a slum area in your city where the people suffered a great loss of life and property in a massive fire. The students of your school rendered their services and materials to help the victims. Write a report in 100-125 words for your school magazine.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

7. **Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:**

[6]

but after airport's
security check, standing a few yards
away, 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 -----

- i. Choose the correct option:

In the above extract the narrator feels

- a. satisfied
- b. fearful
- c. nostalgic
- d. regretful

- ii. Identify the word in the extract that means **colourless**.

- iii. Complete the following analogy correctly:

She sang like a bird : Simile

All I did was smile and smile and smile : _____

- iv. Read the following statement and choose the correct option:

(1) The poet had gone through the security check.

(2) She did not want to look at her mother.

- a. (1) is true, but (2) is false.
- b. (1) is false, but (2) is true.
- c. Both (1) and (2) are true.
- d. Both (1) and (2) are false.

- v. What childhood fear is the poet referring to?

- vi. Fill the blank with appropriate words with reference to the extract:

Pale as a winter's moon suggests _____.

OR

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

“The hurt to the scenery wouldn’t be my complaint
So much as the trusting sorrow of what is unsaid:
Here far from the city we make our roadside stand
And ask for some city money to feel in hand
To try if it will not make our being expand,
And give us the life of the moving-pictures’ promise
That the party in power is said to be keeping from us.”

i. Who made the roadside stand and where?

- a. City people, near their homes
- b. Villagers, at their courtyards
- c. Poor people, far from the city
- d. Local people, on the mountains

i. option (a)

ii. option (b)

iii. option (c)

iv. option (d)

ii. Identify the phrase from the extract, that suggests the following:

Rural people want to sell their products for some brisk income.

iii. Complete the following analogy correctly.

greedy good doers: alliteration :: _____ : metaphor

iv. In the extract, what does the phrase **hurt to the scenery** indicate?

- a. the mismatching paint of the roadside stand
- b. harm caused to the natural scenery
- c. the painting of the mountains
- d. Both (a) and (b)

i. option (a)

ii. option (b)

iii. option (c)

iv. option (d)

v. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to (1) and (2) given below.

(1) The villagers had little earnings and have not seen much money.

(2) The government had fulfilled the promise they had made.

- a. (1) is true but (2) is false.
- b. (2) is true but (1) is false.
- c. (2) is the reason for (1).
- d. Both (1) and (2) cannot be inferred from the extract

vi. Fill in the blank with an appropriate phrase from the extract.

The government had promised dreamy life in the form of _____.

8. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

[4]

When I heard this, I didn't want to laugh any more, I felt terribly sad. How could they believe that it was disgusting if one of us held that package in his hands, even though the vadai had been wrapped first in a banana

leaf, and then parcelled in paper? I felt so provoked and angry that I wanted to touch those wretched vadais myself straightaway. Why should we fetch and carry for these people, I wondered. Such an important elder of ours goes meekly to the shops to fetch snacks and hands them reverently, bowing and shrinking, to this fellow who just sits there and stuffs them into his mouth. The thought of it infuriated me.

i. The elder handing snacks reverently, bowing and shrinking to the fellow indicates that the **fellow** was (1)

1. condescending
2. unassuming
3. submissive
4. disdainful
5. aggressive
6. domineering

- a. 2, 3 and 6
- b. 1, 4 and 5
- c. 1, 4 and 6
- d. 2, 3 and 4

ii. Based on the given context, choose the option that illustrates when a person can be provoked, out of the examples given below. (1)

1. The employees organised a peaceful protest outside the firm.
2. The manager ill-treated one of the employees and wrongfully terminated him.
3. The employees wrote a letter of complaint against the manager.
4. The director of the firm scheduled a meeting for reconciliation.

- a. Option 1
- b. Option 2
- c. Option 3
- d. Option 4

iii. What changed the mood of the narrator? (1)

iv. Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract. (1)

The narrator of the given extract is a Tamil Dalit woman whose penname is _____.

OR

Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

He was flung up out of the ocean - flung, it seemed, to his feet by a breaker. He staggered a few steps, his body outlined against the mist, his arms above his head. Then the curled mists hid him again. "Who is that?" Hana cried. She dropped Dr. Sadao's arm, and they both leaned over the railing of the veranda.

Here are the questions based on the extract from "The Enemy" by Pearl S. Buck:

1. How does Hana react when she sees the man outlined against the mist?

- a) She calls for help.
- b) She drops Dr. Sadao's arm.
- c) She runs towards the man.
- d) She steps back in fear.

2. What is Dr. Sadao and Hana's initial reaction upon seeing the man?

- a) They ignore him.
- b) They immediately run to help him.

c) They lean over the railing of the veranda.

d) They call the police.

3. The man was flung up out of the _____, outlined against the mist.

4. What obscures the man's figure after he is flung up and seen by Hana and Dr. Sadao?

9. **Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:**

[6]

M. Hamel went on to talk of the French language, saying that it was the most beautiful language in the world — the clearest, the most logical; that we must guard it among us and never forget it, because when a people are enslaved, as long as they hold fast to their language it is as if they had the key to their prison. Then he opened a grammar book and read us our lesson. I was amazed to see how well I understood it. All he said seemed so easy, so easy

i. Which of the following can be attributed to M. Hamel's declaration about the French language?

a. subject expertise

b. nostalgic pride

c. factual accuracy

d. patriotic magnification

ii. Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is a NOT TRUE explanation as to why Franz found the grammar lesson "easy".

a. Franz was paying careful attention in class this time

b. M. Hamel was being extremely patient and calm in his teaching.

c. Franz was inspired and had found a new meaning and purpose in learning.

d. Franz realized that French was the clearest and most logical language.

iii. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that Franz was receptive that day. (Clue: a sentence)

iv. Replace the underlined word with its antonym (phrase) from the extract.

It was advised to disassociate from their mother tongue.

v. Language is like the _____ to the prison of enslavement.

vi. Which of the following feature is not ascribed to the French language by M. Hamel?

a. It was the most beautiful language in the world.

b. It was a widely spoken language in the world.

c. It was the clearest language in the world.

d. It was the most logical language in the world.

OR

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

Saheb too is wearing tennis shoes that look strange over his discoloured shirt and shorts. "Someone gave them to me," he says in the manner of an explanation. The fact that they are discarded shoes of some rich boy, who perhaps refused to wear them because of a hole in one of them, does not bother him. For one who has walked barefoot, even shoes with a hole is a dream come true. But the game he is watching so intently is out of his reach.

i. What is Saheb wearing?

a. Jacket

b. Pants

c. Tennis shoes

d. None of these

ii. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.

The shoes were discarded because _____.

iii. Select the suitable word from the extract to complete the following analogy:

worry: bother:: faded: _____

iv. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

(1) Saheb was embarrassed to have torn shoes.

(2) The game of tennis was a distant dream for Saheb.

a. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.

b. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.

c. (1) is true but (2) is false.

d. (2) is the reason for (1).

v. What are the writer's concerns about Saheb in the given extract?

a. Education

b. Dreams

c. Career

d. All of these

vi. Rationalise, to support the given opinion:

Having even shoes with a hole is a dream come true for Saheb.

10. **Answer any five of the following questions in 40-50 words each:** [10]

(a) What lesson did Douglas learn when he got rid of his fear of water? [2]

(b) The poet says 'What I want should not be confused with total inactivity' ? What does he want to convey though he tells us to keep quiet and stay still? [2]

(c) What does 'ringed with ordeals' imply? (Aunt Jennifer's Tigers) [2]

(d) How does Sophie include her brother Geoff in her fantasy of future? [2]

(e) Why is the Englishman's visit referred to as unexplained mystery? Answer in reference to the chapter [2]

Poets and Pancakes.

(f) What drawbacks of interviews have been pointed out by Lewis Carroll? [2]

11. **Answer any two of the following questions in 40-50 words each:** [4]

(a) What makes the author say, **The world's geological history is trapped in Antarctica?** (A Journey to the End of the Earth) [2]

(b) Did the Tiger King shoot the hundredth tiger? [2]

(c) What was Akademik Shokalskiy? Where was it headed and why? [2]

12. Franz from The Last Lesson and the peddler from The Rattrap demonstrate the importance of learning from our [5]

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

Imagine you are John Keats, the poet of A Thing of Beauty

What advice might you offer to Kamala Das, the poet of **My Mother at Sixty-Six**, in the context of her pain of separation after her mother's departure, as displayed in the given lines:

...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.....

Pen down a letter as Keats, to soothe her melancholic heart referring to the poem **A Thing of Beauty**.

You may begin this way:

Dear Kamala

I recently read your poem, **My Mother at Sixty-Six**, and...

You may end this way:

I hope my words would comfort you and help in gulping the bitter reality of the transient life. As I have said earlier,
nothing but a thing of beauty can only be a perpetual source of joy.

Warmly,

John Keats

13. Mr. Lamb lives alone and keeps the doors of his garden open for all. Today a teenage boy called Derry entered his garden accidentally. He wanted to leave but Mr. Lamb coaxes him to stay and eventually, they enter into a conversation where he comes to know how Derry is not liked by anyone. [5]

As Mr. Lamb, express the bond that united you with this boy in a diary entry. Also, account for the ways in which he consoled the boy and tried to inspire him to overcome the feeling of loneliness.

You may begin like this:

Today I found a reflection of myself in that lad who had landed in my garden...

OR

In the story, 'The Enemy', Hana plays an important role in saving the life of the injured person.

In an attempt to regard his wife's contribution to his life, Dr. Sadao expresses his gratitude towards his wife in a diary entry.

As Sadao, Hana's husband, write this diary entry. Support your response with reference to the story.

You may begin this way:

Most often I wonder whom I would have married if I had not met Hana. She has been such a great support to me...

Solution

SECTION A – READING SKILLS

1.
 - i. (iv) Both trouble in concentrating and low output
 - ii. According to the writer, people think that they are not hungry in the morning, which becomes the commonest explanation.
 - iii.
 - i. Studies of school-children (aged 9-11) show that those who skip breakfast have a slower reaction time and more muscle fatigue in school sports.
 - ii. The average scores are lower on written tests, compared to breakfast eaters.
 - iv. (iv) Anxious
 - v. (ii) Only A and C
 - vi. Office workers who skip breakfast are usually big consumers of office tea and coffee- a means of staying alert and suppressing hunger.
 - vii. Children who skip breakfast have a slower reaction time and more muscle fatigue in school sports
 - viii. Fat
 - ix. Some nutrients like protein and calcium are better absorbed if they are taken in small quantities several times a day.
 - x. Schoolchildren who skip breakfast show slower reaction times, increased muscle fatigue in sports, and lower average scores on written tests compared to those who eat breakfast. They may appear listless due to a lack of protein that helps wake up the brain after an overnight fast.
2.
 - i. (B) Newspaper
 - ii. (C) it is from a reliable site.
 - iii. According to the passage, people share the news with the intent that it might benefit others and help in their safety.
 - iv. Authentic background and evidence are crucial for journalists to prevent the spreading of misinformation. Without a background check of the evidence, it might spread false news even if done unintentionally.
 - v. The threat faced by the new entrants in social media is that they do not grasp the concept of fake information on these platforms.
 - vi. False information that circulates without intention is referred to as misinformation. It might be the consequence of being misled or inadvertent mistakes. Contrarily, fake news is purposefully produced and disseminated in order to trick or influence people, frequently in support of a political or personal agenda.
 - vii. Two categories of people fall victim to fake news: People below the age of 20 and above the age of 50. Also, those who are new to the use of the internet and those who are not aware of the concept of fake news.
 - viii. The blame game that goes on in fixing the onus of identifying the fake news is between media and individuals. On one hand, it is believed that individuals should verify the information before spreading it whereas on the other hand, it is also said that the media should also be equally responsible in curbing the spread of fake news. It has also been mentioned that individuals have a lack of trust in the media.

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

ABC Colony Welfare Association, Naveenbagh

NOTICE

Date: 13th September 2024

Dear Residents,

This is to inform you that there will be no water supply in our colony on **24th and 25th April 2024** due to essential maintenance work on the main water pipeline. The maintenance work will start at 8:00 AM on 24th April and is expected to be completed by 6:00 PM on 25th April.

We request all residents to kindly store sufficient water in advance to meet their needs during this period. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

For any queries or assistance, please contact the undersigned.

Secretary

Rahul

3. Secretary, ABC Colony Welfare Association

OR

D.A.V. Public School

Notice

14 January 2023

Leadership camp

Students currently enrolled in classes IX and XI are invited to participate in a Leadership Camp scheduled to take place at the school premises from Wednesday, January 18, 2023, to Tuesday, February 20, 2023. Interested students should contact the undersigned.

Kailash

President

Student Council

4. 2475D Model Town,

Delhi.

25th March 2019.

Dear Uncle,

With God's grace and your blessings, I am diversifying my business concern. A new branch of our NEW LIGHT FURNISHINGS is going to be inaugurated at C-32, Ansal Plaza, Delhi on 30th March 2019 at 9.00 am. You are cordially invited with your family to attend the inauguration and lunch.

Please do come and join the ceremony with pleasure and shower your blessings on us.

Yours sincerely,

Atul Gupta

OR

Fashion Design Club

Greenwood High School

123 Elm Street,

Mumbai, Maharashtra

September 14, 2024

Mr. Piyush Bahl

Renowned Fashion Designer

456 Fashion Avenue,

Mumbai, Maharashtra

Subject: Invitation to be the Chief Guest at Greenwood High School's Fashion Show

Dear Mr. Bahl,

I hope this letter finds you well. On behalf of the Fashion Design Club at Greenwood High School, I am delighted to extend an invitation to you to be the Chief Guest at our annual fashion show, which will be held on October 5, 2024, at 5:00 PM in the school auditorium.

This year's fashion show is particularly special as it has been entirely conceptualized and choreographed by our talented students. The theme for the event is "Fusion of Tradition and Modernity," showcasing a unique blend of traditional and contemporary fashion. Our students have put in tremendous effort to create innovative designs and choreograph captivating sequences, and we believe your presence would greatly inspire and motivate them.

We would be honoured if you could grace the occasion with your esteemed presence and share your valuable insights with our budding designers. Your experience and expertise in the fashion industry would be immensely beneficial to our students, and we are confident that your participation would elevate the event to new heights.

We look forward to your positive response and hope to welcome you to our fashion show.

Thank you for considering our invitation.

Yours sincerely,

Arushi/Anand

Secretary, Fashion Design Club

Greenwood High School

5. 28, H-Block

Ashok Vihar

Delhi

12 July 2019

The Editor

The Statesman
New Delhi
Sub: Poor Maintenance of Monuments

Sir,

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to assert the fact that we Indians, particularly Delhiites do not value our heritage. We carelessly spoil our treasures. It can be seen in the attitude of our people towards the historical monuments. Delhi is rich in monuments. In Europe, such a legacy would be preserved and beautified but here it is spoiled and ruined by our own people through sheer ignorance, carelessness, laziness and disregard. In case you happen to visit the Red Fort, you will find not history but romantic messages.

We must be proud of our city and its heritage. Then only we will be motivated to preserve its beauty and elegance. I appeal to fellow citizens to open their eyes and fall in love with the beauty of our city and help in its proper maintenance.

Yours faithfully,
Ashita Sarin.

OR

56, Cross Street
Bhopal
11th February, 20XX
The Managing Director
MIB Designs
Lucknow
Sir,

Subject Application for the post of Senior Architect

This is in reference to your advertisement in 'The Hindu' dated 10th January, 20XX for the post of Senior Architect in your reputed company. I hereby wish to apply for the same.

Please find attached my resume. If I am considered for the above-mentioned position in your esteemed firm, I would devote my best towards the responsibilities entrusted to me. I assure you professionalism and hardwork on my part.

I would be readily available for a personal interview if selected. Awaiting a positive response!

Yours sincerely,
Mridul

Resume

Name: Mridul

Father's name: Suraj Singh

Date of birth: 5th April 1991

Address: 56, Cross Street, Bhopal

Academic Qualifications:

Degree	Board/ University	Year	Division
Graduation	CBSE	2008	First
Bachelor of Architecture	Institute of planning and Architecture	2012	First

Experience: Asstt. Architect, British Construction Company, Bhopal (December 2013 - Present)

Expected salary: Rs. 55,000 per month

Languages fluency: English, Hindi

Hobbies: Sports, traveling

Contact information: 8059XXXXXX / mridulXX@gmail.com

6.

Gender Equality: The Need of the Hour

By Sunil/Sunita

She, too, has a right. A right to live, to dream, to chase her aspirations. Denying girls the chance to education not only stifles their potential but also holds back the progress of our nation. It's disheartening that in some places and communities in India, girl children are still denied this fundamental right.

An educated girl child becomes an empowered woman, a contributing member of society, and a torchbearer for future generations. Educating girls fosters positive change, improves family well-being, and strengthens the social fabric. Let us strive for gender equality, where every child, regardless of gender, has equal access to education and opportunities. It's time to break the barriers

and prejudices that hold girls back and pave the way for a brighter, more equitable future for all. Let us invest in educating the girl child, for in her education lies the path to an informed, progressive, and prosperous India.

OR

Relief Measures for Fire Victims

by Sweetie, Secretary,

Co-Curricular Activities Club

Ajmer, 10th March, 20XX: A frightening fire of great intensity hit a major area of the slums under the new over-bridge in the city in the morning hours of 8th March, 20XX. A sudden sound of a cylinder-blast caught the people unawared, and the whole area was engulfed in smoke within no time. People rushed out of their houses in great panic to save their lives but some got trapped in the blaze. In a bid to offer some relief, our school held its emergent meeting. The students of Co-Curricular Activities Club visited that area to transport and distribute relief care packages. Collection points were fixed and announced by the students to deposit their contribution. A special forum was set up to collect other necessary items such as clothes, blankets, tents etc. The funds collected will also be used effectively for rehabilitation purposes. Inspired by our school's efforts, many other government and private agencies too rushed to offer immediate help.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

7. i. In the above extract, the narrator feels fearful.
ii. Pale
iii. She sang like a bird: Simile
All I did was smile and smile and smile: Repetition
iv. (1) is true, but (2) is false.
v. Here the poetess refers to her fear as a child when she used to be anxious about getting separated from her mother.
vi. Pale as a winter's moon suggests dull face.

OR

- i. option (c)
ii. city money to feel in hand
iii. Trusting Sorrow
iv. option (b)
v. a. (1) is true but (2) is false.
vi. Moving pictures
8. i. 1, 4 and 6
ii. Option 2
iii. The fact behind the comic story changed the mood of the narrator.
iv. Bama

OR

1. b) She drops Dr. Sadao's arm.
2. c) They lean over the railing of the veranda.
3. The man was flung up out of the ocean, outlined against the mist.
4. The man's figure is obscured by the curled mists.
9. i. patriotic magnification
ii. Franz had realized that French was the clearest and most logical language.
iii. All he said seemed so easy, so easy.
iv. It was advised to **hold fast** to their mother tongue.
v. key,
vi. b. It was a widely spoken language in the world.

OR

- i. Tennis shoes
ii. they had a hole in one of them
iii. discoloured
iv. b. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.
v. Dreams
vi. He walked barefoot and to wear a shoe even with a hole was like a dream for him.
10. Answer any five of the following questions in 40-50 words each:

- (i) When he got rid of his fear of water that had been haunting him since childhood, Douglas realised that the only thing that one has to fear is the fear itself. If one can overcome his fear, then there is nothing that one cannot achieve.
- (ii) The poet says 'What I want should not be confused with total inactivity' though he tells us to keep quiet and stay still. He calls us to stop all activity and not speak in any language, to introspect and know our existence. He wants no rush, no engines, no harm to fish, no war, whether green war, war with gases and/or war with ammunition. He does not want us to indulge in any activity that is potentially destructive and imbalanced between human and nature. He wants us to introspect ourselves and find out our strengths and weaknesses. We should work not only for self-improvement but for the improvement of others so as to spread bonhomie (cheerfulness). The poet wants us to establish communication with our fellow beings at a spiritual level.
- (iii) 'Ringed with ordeal' implies to be surrounded by hardships and sufferings. Aunt Jennifer has been so victimized in her life that even after her death she remains trapped. We find her a victim of gender injustice and oppression.
- (iv) Sophie is jealous of the fact that her brother has access to the world outside. She fantasises about going to these places with him someday in the future wearing a yellow dress. She fantasises that the world would rise to greet them.
- (v) The Englishman who visited the Gemini Studios was a mysterious man as no one could decipher his identity, whether he was a poet or an editor. His accent was so different that no one at the studio could understand what he said and it became difficult to comprehend anything. Hence his visit to the studio was an unexplained mystery.
- (vi) Lewis Carroll considers interviews as an 'unwarranted intrusion' that is immoral and an offence against his person. He shunned interviews for fear of being projected as larger than life. His vehement refusal for interviews enabled him to keep his fans as well as interviews at arm's length.

11. Answer any two of the following questions in 40-50 words each:

- (i) The world's geological history is trapped in Antarctica. This is because the modern world is battling with an increasing population and excessive burning of fossil fuels has created a blanket of carbon dioxide around the world which is increasing the average global temperature. The concretization of land has worsened the situation. But Antarctica is relatively untouched in this respect since it has never had a human population. Antarctica is a crucial element in the debate on climate change because it is relatively 'pristine'. More importantly, it holds in its ice-cores half-a million-year-old carbon records, trapped in its layers of ice. It embodies all that is prehistory: cordilleran folds, pre-Cambrian granite shields, ozone, and carbon; evolution and extinction. Hence, to study and examine the earth's past, present, and future, Antarctica is the best place to go. These are the factors that make Antarctica very important, geologically.
- (ii) The Tiger King actually did not shoot the hundredth tiger. The tiger was a weak one and fainted from the loud noise of the bullet that whizzed past him and the ignorant king celebrated his achievement. The unconscious tiger was killed by some other hunters who killed it to escape the king's wrath.
- (iii) Akademik Shokalskiy was a Russian research vessel that was heading towards Antarctica, the coldest, driest, windiest continent in the world to become a part of Geoff Green's 'Students on Ice' programme.

12. Shubhangi, all of us have made mistakes at one point or another in our lives. After all, to err is human. However, it is important to learn from our mistakes and evolve into better people. In "The Last Lesson" by Alphonse Daudet, Franz, the protagonist, regrets not taking his French lessons seriously until it was too late. He realizes the importance of his language and culture and how it connects him to his country. Similarly, in "The Rattrap" by Selma Lagerlöf, the peddler learns from his mistake of stealing and realizes that kindness and honesty are more important than material possessions. Both characters learn from their mistakes and evolve into better people. Shubhangi, it is never too late to start taking your academics seriously. Learn from your mistakes and work hard to achieve your goals. Remember, mistakes are opportunities to learn and grow.

OR

Dear Kamala,

I recently read your poem "My Mother at Sixty-Six," and I can understand the pain of separation that you are going through. Departure from a loved one is never easy, and it can leave us feeling lost and melancholic. However, I want to remind you of the beauty that surrounds us, even in moments of sorrow.

In my poem "A Thing of Beauty," I talk about how beauty has the power to take away our sorrows and provide us with a sense of peace and tranquility. I believe that beauty is not just about the external appearance of things, but it is also about the emotions and feelings that they evoke in us. Even in moments of sadness, we can find beauty in the memories we have shared with our loved ones.

I understand that it may be difficult to see the beauty in life right now, but I encourage you to keep looking. Remember that beauty is eternal and will never pass into nothingness. It will always be there to provide us with a bower quiet, full of sweet dreams, and quiet breathing.

I hope my words would comfort you and help in gulping the bitter reality of the transient life. As I have said earlier, nothing but a

thing of beauty can only be a perpetual source of joy.

Warmly,

John Keats

13. I found a reflection of myself in that lad who had landed in my garden today. I could feel a sense of bond with him as we both are victims of life's hard times. I lost a leg in war, while he burned a side of his face with acid. The only difference we have was in our perception of the world. What connected the young boy Derry with me was the feeling of comfort that he found in me as I did not treat him differently because of his disability. I could literally feel the pain he was undergoing and tried to inculcate a positive attitude in him. My effort was to apprise him that the confidence that our flaws become impediments to our success only if we allow them to be.

Since I have learnt to take things in my stride, I tried using my experiential knowledge to educate him for his revival. I made Derry believe that he had two arms, legs, ears, and eyes plus a tongue and brain which meant that he was no less than all the rest. And that if he chose and set his mind to it, then he could get on better than the rest. If he chose and set his mind to it, then he could get on better than the rest. Our difficulties or flaws should not become the governing factors of our life because then bitterness and disappointment would seep into everything.

OR

Most often I wonder whom I would have married if I had not met Hana. She has been such a great support to me through my thick and thin that words of thanks would not just be sufficient. The incident where she went against herself to stand by me was my decision to help the American prisoner of war. I could very well notice how she had to struggle to reconcile her loyalty to her country with her moral duty. Not only she went against her loyalty but also assisted me in the medical operations and the anesthetics while I was operating on Tom (the American prisoner) because Yumi, the nurse had refused to do so. She even managed all the chores herself when the servants left our home in protest. Despite being married for so many years, she is still the same loving wife. She has been my emotional anchor and has helped me navigate any moral dilemma that I have faced until now.