

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 1

English Core (301)

Class XII (2024-25)

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 following text carefully and answer the questions that follow: [12]

1. As a young adult, life can be stressful and overwhelming at times. Juggling among school, work, social life, and other responsibilities, it can be easy to feel alone and disconnected from the world around us. Dogs are the ultimate companions for anyone looking to alleviate stress and loneliness. We'll explore many reasons why dogs make the best companions for young adults.
2. Unconditional love: Dogs are known for their loyalty and love for their owners, no matter what. They don't judge us, criticize us, or hold grudges against us. No matter how flawed or imperfect we may be, our dogs will always love us unconditionally. This kind of unwavering support and affection can be incredibly comforting for young adults struggling to find their place in the world.
3. Social connection: Dogs are great ice-breakers and conversation starters. Whether you're walking them in the park, taking them to the dog beach, or simply hanging out at home, dogs have a way of bringing people together. For young adults who may feel isolated or disconnected from their peers, having a dog by their side can be a great way to connect with others and form new friendships.

4. Increase physical activity: Dogs require regular exercise in order to stay healthy and happy. This means that young adults who own dogs are more likely to engage in physical activity themselves. Whether its going for a run, playing frisbee, or simply taking a leisurely stroll, getting out with your dog can be a great way to boost your mood and energy levels.
5. Emotional support : Dogs are also great emotional support animals for those struggling with mental health issues such as anxiety and depression. Their presence alone can provide a sense of calm and comfort, and their ability to sense their owner's emotions can be incredibly comforting. For young adults dealing with mental health challenges, having a dog as a companion can be a life-changing experience.
6. Improve responsibility and self-care : Owning a dog also comes with a great deal of responsibility and self-care. Dogs require regular feeding, grooming, exercise, and attention, which can be a great way for young adults to develop a sense of responsibility and self-discipline. Additionally, having a dog as a companion can encourage young adults to take better care of themselves, such as making sure they get enough sleep, eat healthy, and engage in regular exercise.
7. For all these reasons and more, dogs make fantastic companions for young adults. Whether you're looking for emotional support, social connection, increased physical activity , or simply someone to love and be loved by, a dog can provide all these things and more. So the next time you're feeling stressed or overwhelmed, consider finding a furry friend to take on the world with you.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage:

- i. What is the significance of owning a dog for a young adult who is striving for acceptance in society? (1)
 - A. It means increased physical activity.
 - B. It builds a sense of responsibility.
 - C. It helps young adults get more sleep.
 - D. It is a source of unconditional love.
- ii. A dog can encourage its owner to lead a healthier life by _____.
Complete the above sentence appropriately, with a characteristic or description.
(1)
- iii. Share evidence from the text, in approximately 40 words, to support the view that dogs provide a sense of calm and comfort to those struggling with mental

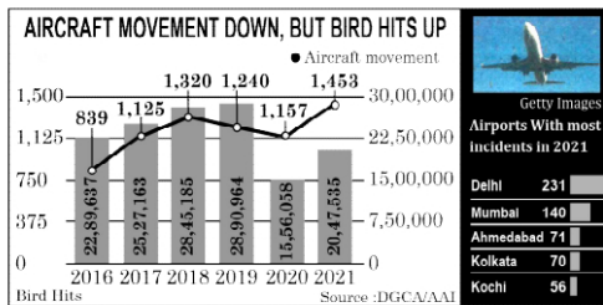
health issues. (2)

- iv. Explain in about 40 words the statement that **dogs are great ice-breakers**. (2)
- v. Which of the following activities help(s) young adults, owning a dog, build their sense of responsibility and self-discipline? (1)
 - A. walking the dog daily
 - B. feeding it regularly
 - C. engaging the services of a dog trainer
 - D. Both (A) and (B)
- vi. What does this article aim to do? (1)
 - A. Explain the benefits of owning a dog.
 - B. Provide advice on how to get a dog.
 - C. Discuss how to take proper care of a dog.
 - D. Describe the experiences of dog owners.
- vii. Select the option that is similar in meaning to the phrase **take on the world**. (1)
 - A. travel the world
 - B. accept a responsibility
 - C. to be pessimistic
 - D. have a global outlook
- viii. What does the underlined part in the sentence **consider finding a furry friend to take on the world with you** refer to? (1)
- ix. What is the tone of the article? (1)
 - A. critical but supportive
 - B. indifferent and bored
 - C. positive and informative
 - D. humorous and casual
- x. How do dogs exemplify unconditional love for their owners? (1)

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

[10]

Read the following report and answer the questions by choosing the correct/most appropriate option:



1. How bird hits happen, why they are a concern?

New Delhi June 20

At least two bird strike incidents happened on Sunday. Both aircrafts returned to their airports of origin and were grounded for maintenance. An ABC aircraft, which took off from Guwahati towards Delhi, suffered damage to its left engine following a bird hit at 1600 feet. The pilots returned to Guwahati. The other strike happened on another flight from Patna to Delhi. The pilots of the aircraft suspected a bird strike during the take-off roll but continued to climb.

Following the take off rotation, they were informed by the cabin crew of sparks emanating from the left engine. Subsequently, the pilots were also informed by air traffic control of smoke coming out of one of the engines. The pilots declared an emergency and returned to Patna.

2. Why are bird strikes a concern?

Bird strikes are among the most common threats to aircraft safety, and they typically occur during take-off or landing. Dozens of bird-strikes happen each day but some can be more dangerous than others. Typically, when birds collide with an aircraft's airframe, it is unlikely to cause significant problems for the pilots flying. But there

are instances when the aircraft engine ingests the birds. This can lead to a loss of thrust for the engine and cause maneuverability problems for the crew. In these cases, where a jet engine ingests a bird, procedures would generally call for pilots to land the plane at the closest airport. While most airframe bird strikes are not

considered critical to air safety, if a collision cracks a window or a wind screen, pilots will look to land as early as possible.

3. How critical are bird strikes to air safety?

Smaller planes would generally be more susceptible to the dangers of bird strikes than larger ones.

However, given that bird strikes mostly happen during take-off and landing, these incidents could distract the pilots during what are highly critical phases of flights that demand the complete attention of the crew.

4. What causes bird-strikes?

The presence of birds around an aircraft increases the chances of a bird strike. In the monsoon, as water puddles emerge on open grounds attracting insects to breed, the presence of birds increases. In some cases, bird hits also happen at higher altitudes when a plane is cruising. These are more dangerous than the low-altitude hits, given that they can cause rapid depressurization of cabins. Other reasons for bird activity around the air field could be presence of landfills or waste disposal sites that can attract a large number of birds.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- i. Does the following statement agree with the information given in paragraph 1.

(1)

When an airplane is hit by a bird or is suspected to have been hit, the passengers must be asked to get down at once.

Select from the following :

True : If the statement agrees with the information.

False : If the statement contradicts the information.

Not Given : If there is no information on this.

- ii. Select the option that displays the most likely reason for Bird hits. **(1)**

- a. when the aircraft is overloaded
- b. at the time of landing or taking off
- c. when the crew become negligent
- d. when the passengers become panicky

- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately with one word. **(1)**

Smaller planes are generally more _____ than the larger ones.

- iv. Complete the sentence by selecting the most appropriate option: **(1)**

When the window or the windscreen of the air plane is cracked due to a bird hit _____.

- a. the crew must rush to the cockpit.
- b. the pilot must land at the earliest airport.
- c. the pilot must inform the maintenance engineer.
- d. the pilot must get instructions from the aviation wing what should do in emergency.

- v. Complete the sentence appropriately with one/two words. **(1)**

In cases where the aircraft engine infests the bird, it leads to the loss of thrust

and causes problems in _____.

- vi. Which are the areas more prone to bird hits and why (2)
- vii. Based on the reading of the text, state a point to challenge the given statement:
(2)

The area around airfields should be clear of any waste disposal sites.

- viii. In order to save the lives of the passengers the pilots should (1)
- be instructed not to cruise at high altitudes.
 - should not rotate engines.
 - not permit the passengers to open windows.
 - vigilance should be beefed up.

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

3. An International Book Fair is being held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 7th to 14th February 2020. As Librarian, Goodwill Public School, Maurice Nagar, Delhi, write a notice informing the students about the fair. Give all the other necessary details. [4]

OR

Mr. Virendra Sehwaq, who was to deliver a talk to help the cricket players to do well in the game is not able to come on the given day. Write a notice in about 50 words informing the students about the new date on which he is coming. You are Gopal/Garima, Secretary Sports Club, Uday School, Green Park, Kanpur.

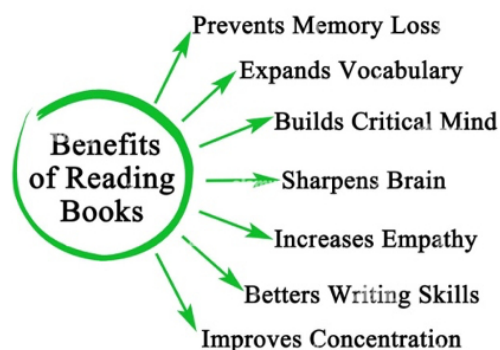
4. You are Manoj. You are going on a picnic with a group of your classmates to Kama Lake, near Karnal. Write an informal invitation to your friend Mohit to join you on that day. [4]

OR

You have received an invite on the wedding of your friend, Akshat. As Radhika/Rakesh, write a letter expressing your extreme happiness at the news and explaining your inability to attend the function. Convey your best wishes for the future to the couple.

5. National Book Trust organised a week-long book fair at Anna Grounds, Chennai. You visited the fair and bought a few books. You were pleased with the arrangements, enthusiasm of the visitors and the fact that books have not yet lost their relevance in the world of the Internet. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the [5]

editor of a local newspaper to express your feelings. You are Lalit/Latha, 112, Mount Road, Chennai.



OR

You are Ram/Rajani, living at 1, Rana Pratap Marg, New Delhi. Read the advertisement given below and apply for the job that suits you giving your bio-data separately.

SITUATION VACANT

Sun University requires lecturers in English and demonstrators in Physics, Chemistry and Botany for their new Campus at Panipat. Only candidates with a minimum of a 5-year of experience can apply. Excellent command over English is a must. Excellent package and compensation for experienced persons. Those interested may e-mail to sununiversityjobs@gmail.com or mail their response to Box no 123, 'The Harbinger', New Delhi.

6. There are long traffic jams on roads due to the street markets that come up every evening. The narrow roads and number of honking cars creates a traffic hazard. You are perturbed to see this daily squabble between the hawkers and commuters. Write an article in 120-150 words drawing attention to this problem and suggesting ways to resolve this problem. You are Rita/Rakesh. You may use the cues given below. [5]

PROBLEM OF TRAFFIC JAMS DUE TO STREET MARKETS	
IMPACT	SOLUTIONS
* Accidents * Traffic Jams * Road Rage * Inconvenience to Pedestrians	* Create Awareness * Alternate Venue * Strict Action

OR

You are Sanjay/Sanjana, a reporter with. The Hindustan Times. You witnessed a fire accident in a crowded market in Delhi. Write a report to be published in the newspaper. Invent the necessary details.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

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

[6]

I saw my mother beside me
doze, open mouthed, her face ashen like that
of a corpse and realised with pain
that she was as old as she looked but soon
put that thought away, and looked out at Young
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes.

- i. Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the expression **ashen like that of a corpse**.
 - a. He was a lion in the battle.
 - b. The flood swallowed more than a dozen villages.
 - c. He walked as slowly as a snail.
 - d. The tree blocks the free flow of water.
- ii. Choose the correct option that best explains the reason for the poet **to put that thought away**.
 - a. The mother's face was pale and ugly.
 - b. It was unbearable for her to see her mother sleeping.
 - c. She was troubled by the thought of her mother's perpetual state of exhaustion.
 - d. She was deeply pained by the thought of the mother's imminent death.
- iii. What do the expressions **doze open mouthed** describe about the poet's mother?
 - a. She is sleeping and relaxing.
 - b. She is aged and exhausted.
 - c. She is tired of travelling.
 - d. She is not in a mood to talk to her daughter.

iv. Answer in ONE word.

The poet uses the image of sprinting trees to emphasize the _____ to the ageing mother.

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

(1) The poet portrays typical mother-daughter love and affection.

(2) The poet is horrified by the thought of losing her.

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

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

c. Both (1) and (2) can be inferred from the extract.

d. (2) is the reason for (1) and can be inferred from the extract.

vi. What mood does the expression **merry children spilling** bring in?

a. Happiness and enthusiasm

b. Innocence and playfulness

c. Laziness

d. Joy

OR

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

The polished traffic passed with a mind ahead,

Or if ever aside a moment, then out of sorts

At having the landscape marred with the artless paint

Of signs that with N turned wrong and S turned wrong

“Offered for sale wild berries in wooden quarts,

Or crook-necked golden squash with silver warts,

Or beauty rest in a beautiful mountain scene,

You have the money, but if you want to be mean,

Why keep your money (this crossly) and go along.”

i. What articles are **offered for sale** at the stand?

a. Wooden containers of wild berries

b. Golden squash or gourd

c. Paintings of mountain scenery

d. Both Wooden containers of wild berries and Golden squash or gourd

ii. What is the meaning of **beauty rest in a beautiful mountain scene**?

a. A beautiful natural stay amid scenic mountains

b. The rustic view around the roadside stand

c. Beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder

d. The beautiful landscape of the mountains in the village

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

(1) The poor people at the roadside stand feel dejected and angry when city people decline to buy anything.

(2) They feel angry because they want to earn money after selling their goods.

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.

iv. Fill the blank with an appropriate word, with reference to the extract.

'Why keep your money (this crossly) and go along', implies that the passersby should not _____.

v. Complete the following analogy correctly.

marred: spoiled :: _____ : vessel

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

The people who live in the city, i.e; the city folk who drove through the countryside.

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

[4]

I did not open my mouth to answer. Then the steps were quickened and the voices became excited. The sounds came nearer and nearer. Women and girls entered the room. I held my breath and watched them open closet doors and peep behind large trunks. Someone threw up the curtains, and the room was filled with sudden light. What caused them to stoop and look under the bed. I do not know. I remember being dragged out, though I resisted by kicking and scratching wildly. In spite of myself, I was carried downstairs and tied fast in a chair.

(Memories of Childhood)

i. Select the appropriate option: (1)

_____ sounds came nearer and nearer _____.

A. describes the increase in volume.

B. adds suspense and anxiety to readers.

C. reflects the thought of the speaker.

D. is a factual narrative.

ii. Complete the following sentence: (1)

In spite of myself' suggests that the speaker was _____.

iii. What do you infer from the first line of the extract? (1)

- A. It was her first day in school.
- B. She did not want to get caught.
- C. She was unprepared for the lesson.
- D. She preferred to be by herself.

iv. State whether the statement given below is True or False: (1)

The speaker hoodwinked the people looking for her.

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]

Usually, when school began, there was a great bustle, which could be heard out in the street, the opening and closing of desks, lessons repeated in unison, very loud, with our hands over our ears to understand better, and the teachers great ruler rapping on the table. But now it was all so still! I had counted on the commotion to get to my desk without being seen; but, of course, that day everything had to be as quiet as Sunday morning. Through the window I saw my classmates, already in

their places, and M. Hamel walking up and down with his terrible iron ruler under his arm.

- i. What was observed when the school began usually?
 - a. A lot of activity leading to noise
 - b. Cleanliness of the school premises
 - c. Lessons of the patriotism
 - d. Focus on the language
- ii. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.
Franz was afraid to enter the class because _____.
- iii. Select the suitable word from the extract to complete the following analogy:
rapping: striking :: _____: clamour
- iv. M. Hamel can be understood to be _____ as he is standing in the given extract.
 - a. cranky
 - b. strict
 - c. irritation
 - d. arrogant
- v. Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is TRUE about that day.
 - a. By the time Franz reached, the teacher had left the classroom.
 - b. It seemed that the school was closed, like a Sunday morning.
 - c. Franz reached the class without being noticed.
 - d. M. Hamel was composed and was sitting quietly.
- vi. The class was _____ that day.

OR

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

“Why aren’t you wearing chappals?” I ask one.

“My mother did not bring them down from the shelf,” he answers simply.

“Even if she did he will throw them off,” adds another who is wearing shoes that do not match. When I comment on it, he shuffles his feet and says nothing. “I want shoes”, says a third boy who has never owned a pair all his life. Travelling across the country I have seen children walking barefoot, in cities, on village roads. It is not lack of money but a tradition to stay barefoot, is one explanation. I wonder if this is only an excuse to explain away a perpetual state of poverty.

- i. Why was the one (being asked) not wearing chappals?
 - a. Because he had none
 - b. Because one of them was broken
 - c. Because his father had asked him not to wear
 - d. Because his mother did not bring them down from the shelf
- ii. Infer the reason behind the given action of the boy.
He shuffles his feet and says nothing.
- iii. What is the author's excuse to explain away their constant state of poverty?
 - a. Calling them habitual unhygienic
 - b. To term 'walking barefoot' as a tradition
 - c. To reuse the 'worn out shoes'
 - d. Not to bring chappals out of the shelf
- iv. Replace the underlined word with its antonym from the extract.
It was only an excuse to explain their transitory poverty.
- v. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements (as per the author) given below.
 - (1) As if they had a tradition to stay barefoot.
 - (2) Walking barefoot was due to their poverty.
 - 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).
- vi. What, according to the other boy, would Saheb do with his chappals?

10. **Answer any five of the following questions in 40-50 words each:** **[10]**
- (i) When and how did Douglas develop the fear of water? **[2]**
 - (ii) What according to Pablo Neruda in the poem **Keeping Quiet** is the lesson that we should learn from Mother Earth? **[2]**
 - (iii) What is the significance of the image **Massive weight of uncle's wedding band** in the poem **Aunt Jennifer's Tigers**? **[2]**
 - (iv) Why did Sophie wish to delve more deeply in **her brother's affections**? **[2]**
 - (v) How was 'Pancake' brought to the Gemini Studios and why? **[2]**

(vi) 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]

(i) How does one lose all earthly sense of perspective and time in Antarctica? [2]

(ii) Why did Maharaja order the Dewan to double the tax? [2]

(iii) What happened to Gondwana 650 million years ago? [2]

12. Franz from The Last Lesson and the peddler from The Rattrap demonstrate the importance of learning from our mistakes to evolve into better people. Imagine that Shubhangi, your friend, feels as if she has made a mistake by not taking her academics seriously. Write an essay to Shubhangi in 120-150 words discussing instances from the two texts to give her an insight into the human tendency to make mistakes and learn from them. [5]

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

..... but will keep

A bower quiet for us. (**A Thing of Beauty**)

Perhaps the Earth can teach us

as when everything seems dead

and later proves to be alive. (**Keeping Quiet**)

Based on ideas from **Keeping Quiet** and **A Thing of Beauty**, as President of Eco Club of your school. Draft a speech on the importance of preserving nature for the benefit of mankind.

You may begin like this.

Good morning to one and all!

After reading both the poems, I strongly believe _____.

13. Derry who was always in search of secluded places, finds one in Mr. Lamb's garden. Although his seclusion did not last for long there as the owner turns up, he ends up being a frequent visitor of this place. Create a diary entry as Derry reflecting on the qualities of Mr. Lamb that attracted you towards him. [5]

You may begin like this:

The moment I noticed that I was not alone as the old man could see me, I wanted to leave. But an interesting rather **peculiar** conversation kept me glued...

OR

In the story, 'The Enemy', Dr. Sadao was compelled by his duty as a doctor to help the enemy soldier. Hana, his wife, assisted him to get through this difficult time.

Recalling this challenging event, write a diary entry as Hana, which was defied even by your domestic staff.

You may begin this way:

I was well aware of the fact that the act of saving the wounded enemy soldier was a serious crime by law and would be questioned by everyone...

Solution
SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 1
English Core (301)
Class XII (2024-25)

SECTION A – READING SKILLS

1. i. (D) It is a source of unconditional love.
 - ii. A dog can encourage its owner to lead a healthier life by:
 - Giving emotional support
 - Keeping him happy
 - Reducing anxiety and depression
 - Helping in mental health issues
 - Giving a sense of calm and comfort
 - Engaging him in physical activities.
 - iii. Dogs 'ability to sense their owner's emotions can be incredibly comforting, having a dog as a companion can be a life-changing experience, they alone can provide a sense of calm and comfort, they support to deal with anxiety and depression.
 - iv. Dogs are great ice-breakers and conversation starters. Dogs have a way of bringing people together. Having a dog, by the side of young adults who may feel isolated or disconnected, can be a great way to connect and form new friendships.
 - v. (D) Both (A) and (B)
 - vi. (A) Explain the benefits of owning a dog.
 - vii. (B) accept a responsibility.
 - viii. Dog/pet/companion/any hairy animal which gives companionship.
 - ix. (C) positive and informative.
 - x. Dogs exemplify unconditional love for their owners through their loyalty and unwavering affection, as they do not judge, criticize, or hold grudges against their humans. This steadfast support can be particularly comforting for young adults who are struggling to find their place in the world.
2. i. False: If the statement contradicts the information.
 - ii. (b) at the time of landing or taking off
 - iii. susceptible
 - iv. (b) the pilot must land at the earliest airport.
 - v. the maneuverability of the crew.
 - vi. Open fields with puddles, as well as the existence of landfills and trash disposal sites, are more prone to bird strikes.
 - vii. A high number of birds are drawn to the presence of landfills or trash disposal sites.
 - viii. (a) be instructed not to cruise at high altitudes.

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

NOTICE

Goodwill Public Schools

4th Feb 2020

There is an international book fair is being held at Pragati Maidan New Delhi from 7th to 14th February 2020 from 7:30 a.m to 6:00 p.m. Interested students are requested to come and check different books by different writers. It would be a good opportunity for all to see and suggest some books for library purpose.

Girish Singhania

Librarian

3.

OR

UDAY SCHOOL

NOTICE

Date: 13/10/2024

'Mr Virender Schwag has postponed the visit'

All students are hereby informed that the visit of Mr. Virendra Schwag, who was to deliver talk to help the cricket players to do well in the game is not able to come on the given day. It has been rescheduled. He will now deliver his talk on **Monday, 25th September 2024, at 10:00 AM** in the **School Auditorium**. All cricket players are requested to attend.

With regards

Gopal/Garima

Secretary, Sports Club

4. 2436 Urban Estate,

Sector-15,

Karnal.

2 April 2019.

Dear Mohit,

You will be pleased to know that we have devised a way to beat the heat this summer. I, along with five of my classmates, have decided to go on a picnic to Kama Lake this Sunday, i.e. 7th April 2019. We'll assemble at my house at 8 a.m. We all will have a great time together. Do join us and carry some of the essentials with you like water bottle, cap or hat etc.

Yours truly,

Manoj

OR

Letter of Regret

Radhika/Rakesh

Pune, Maharashtra

13th September 2024

Akshat

Nashik, Maharashtra

Dear Akshat,

I hope this letter finds you in the best of health and spirits. I was overjoyed to receive the wonderful news of your upcoming wedding. It fills my heart with immense happiness to know that you have found your life partner and are about to embark on this beautiful journey together.

Unfortunately, due to an illness in my family, I regret to inform you that I will not be able to attend the wedding. It is with a heavy heart that I convey my inability to be present on such a joyous occasion. Please know that my thoughts and best wishes are with you and your partner on your special day.

Wishing you both a lifetime of love and joy.

With warm regards,

Radhika/Rakesh

5. 112, Mount Road

Chennai - 600001

11th February, 20XX

The Editor

The Deccan Herald

Chennai

Dear Sir,

Subject: Relevance of book fairs

Through your esteemed columns, I would like to praise people's love for books. National Book Trust organized a six-day book fair at Anna Grounds, Chennai recently. I was delighted to see many books being displayed on a variety of subjects.

Different publishers including some foreign publishers had set up their stalls. A variety of books on diverse subjects were available on heavy discounts. A large crowd visited the book fair and publishers were encouraging people to buy their books. It was really a pleasure to see people's enthusiasm to buy books.

Today there is a craze for e-books. Still, people buy books which they can read sitting anywhere in their house. This shows that books still hold their relevance and importance. Modern technology and the internet cannot stop people from buying books. People have realized that books are cheaper and require no maintenance, unlike a computer. In fact, many online stores like Amazon, Flipkart, etc. try to sell the latest books at the cheapest

prices. I hope you will publish my letter in your esteemed newspaper so that the readers never forget the value of books and the pleasure of reading.

Yours truly,

Lalit.

OR

1, Rana Pratap Marg

New Delhi

01 April 2019

The Principal, Sun University

Box no 123, 'The Harbinger'

New Delhi

Sir/Madam,

Subject: Application for the post of lecturer in English

In response to your advertisement published in The Times of India, dated February 25, 2019, I got to know that the post of English Lecture is vacant in your acclaimed institution and I wish to offer my candidature for the same.

I would like to bring to your notice that I possess all the aforementioned qualities required for the post. I hold experience of 7 years of teaching in a designated organisation. I received my post-graduate and graduate degrees from a well-renowned university and completed my school education from the CBSE board. I have a passion for teaching and a hunger to learn. I assure you that my dedication to work would add more value to your institution.

I am enclosing a copy of my bio-data for your perusal and kind consideration. I am available for an interview on any day of your convenience. If given a chance to serve you, I assure you to render the best of my services for the utmost growth of the organisation. In anticipation of an early response.

Yours faithfully

Ram/Rajani

Encl. : (i) Bio-data

BIO-DATA

Name	Rajani
Father's Name	Mr Rajan
Date of birth	21 April 1986
Address	1, Rana Pratap Marg, New Delhi
Phone	9810045693

E-mail	ra123@gamil.com
Marital Status	Married
Age	32 years
Nationality	Indian
Academic Qualifications	(i) BA (Hons) in English
	(ii) MA in English
Hobbies	Reading, travelling and net-surfing
Strengths	Proficiency in English and Hindi, computer literate
Experience	7 years as English Lecture University of Delhi
Names and Address of References	(i) Mr Vijay Mathur, Principal GD Goenka Public School, Pitampura, Delhi (ii) Mr Satish Ohri Head of Department: Commerce Delhi University, Delhi

6. Hawker Dilemma: Balancing Livelihoods and City Life

By Rita/Rakesh

The daily chaos caused by street markets clogging our roads is becoming progressively intolerable. Compact streets evolve into crowded thoroughfares, filled with blaring vehicles, frustrated commuters, and vendors striving to earn a livelihood. This **problem of traffic jams** not only causes **inconvenience to pedestrians** but also leads to **accidents, road rage, and a general sense of unease**.

Finding a solution requires acknowledging the needs of both parties. While street vendors are essential to the city's vibrant character, their current presence on main roads creates a **traffic nightmare**.

To address this, a **balanced approach** is required. Firstly, **creating awareness** among commuters and hawkers about the dangers and inconvenience caused by street markets is crucial. Secondly, exploring **alternate venues** for these markets, like designated spaces with proper infrastructure, could provide a more organized and safer solution. Finally, to ensure the effectiveness of these measures, **strict enforcement** against those who flout designated areas is imperative.

By working together, we can find a sustainable solution that allows hawkers to earn a livelihood while ensuring smooth traffic flow and a safer environment for everyone.

OR

Fire Engulfed Central Market

10 May 2019,

New Delhi Over a hundred persons were trapped for two hours when a devastating fire broke out yesterday in the Central Market Lajpat Nagar between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Though no casualties were reported officially, fifty people were injured.

The fire broke out around 4.50 p.m. due to a short circuit in the mainline and spread quickly. There was panic and stampede as people rushed out of the overcrowded marketplace. The fire brigade and police arrived at the venue within half an hour. About a dozen firemen battled for two hours to bring the fire under control. The loss incurred is estimated to be about five crore rupees.

The injured persons were rushed to a nearby hospital. Many people sustained minor burns. The Governor has announced an inquiry into the mishap. The police are investigating the matter.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

7. i. He walked as slowly as a snail.
ii. She was deeply pained by the thought of the mother's imminent death.
iii. She is aged and exhausted.
iv. contrast
v. c. Both (1) and (2) can be inferred from the extract.
vi. a. Happiness and enthusiasm

OR

- i. Both Wooden containers of wild berries and Golden squash or gourd
ii. a beautiful natural stay amid scenic mountains.
iii. (2) is the reason for (1).
iv. stop/halt
v. quarts
vi. Polished traffic
8. i. (B) adds suspense and anxiety to readers
ii. Despite myself' suggests that the speaker was resisting involuntarily.
iii. (B) She did not want to get caught.
iv. False.

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. A lot of activity leading to noise

- ii. he was late and saw M Hamel walking up and down.
- iii. Commotion
- iv. strict
- v. b. It seemed that the school was closed, like a Sunday morning.
- vi. quiet/silent

OR

- i. Because his mother did not bring them down from the shelf
- ii. When the writer asked the second boy the reason for wearing a different shoe on each foot. He did not reply and shuffled his feet as he tried to hide the shoes and said nothing.
- iii. To term 'walking barefoot' a tradition
- iv. perpetual
- v. a. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.
- vi. He would throw them off.

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

- (i) Douglas had developed the fear of water as a child. When he was three or four years old, he went to the beach with his father for surfing where he got frightened, knocked-down and buried under water by powerful waves.
- (ii) In Neruda's "Keeping Quiet," Mother Earth imparts a crucial lesson. Just as a dormant seed blossoms when conditions permit, humanity can rectify mistakes and improve the Earth. It advocates against despair, urging us to emulate Earth's resilience and correct our wrongs, fostering a belief in the potential restoration of our damaged planet.
- (iii) The poet referred to the "wedding band" as the symbol of the wedding ring worn by Aunt Jennifer. The phrase "massive weight of Uncle's wedding band" conveyed the idea that she felt overwhelmed by her duties and responsibilities after getting married.
- (iv) Sophie was captivated by the belief that her brother, Geoff possessed knowledge of unfamiliar places and experiences. This fascination fueled her desire to learn more from him, and she yearned for his affection, hoping it would lead to him sharing those places and experiences with her.
- (v) 'Pancake' was the brand name of the make-up material that was brought in truckloads to the Gemini Studios. This popular brand of make-up was used by beautiful actresses all over the world. The charming actresses from Hollywood as well as Bollywood - they all must have used it in the early years of film-making.
- (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) Antarctica is very much unique as well as specific than other parts of the globe. It is completely devoid of human markers and more than 90 per cent of the earth's total ice-volumes are stored on this sub-continent. In the beginning there was no life except flora and fauna. There are neither trees nor buildings. So we lose all earthly sense of perspective and time there. There is a day of 24 hours.
- (ii) After killing ninety nine tigers, the Maharaja persisted in his search for the hundredth tiger. The king was in gloom. But soon he heard the good news that dispelled his sadness. The sudden disappearance of sheep gave them some hope and the Maharaja set out on an expedition to find the hundredth tiger, which was supposed to be the reason for all this. The Maharaja announced an exemption of tax for three years and set out on tiger hunt once again. But to find a tiger did not seem to be an easy job for them. The king waited for many days but the efforts seemed in vain and in his rage, the Maharaja ordered the dewan to double the land tax.
- (iii) Around 650 million years ago, long before humans arrived, Earth was home to a variety of flora and fauna. About 500 million years later, or 150 million years ago, Gondwana land began to break apart due to a meteorite impact on Earth. The fragmented pieces of Gondwana eventually drifted and formed new continents. As a result, we now have seven continents in the world.

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

Good morning to one and all!

After reading both poems, "Keeping Quiet" by Pablo Neruda and "A Thing of Beauty" by John Keats, I strongly believe that the preservation of nature is not just a necessity but a moral obligation for the benefit of mankind.

The Wisdom of Nature

In "Keeping Quiet," Neruda urges us to pause and reflect, suggesting that in moments of stillness, we can learn from nature. He writes, "Perhaps the Earth can teach us as when everything seems dead and later proves to be alive." This line reminds us that nature, even in its quietest moments, is full of life and wisdom.

The Beauty of Nature

Keats, in "A Thing of Beauty," celebrates the eternal beauty of nature. He writes, "but will keep a bower quiet for us," emphasizing that nature provides a sanctuary of peace and beauty. This beauty is not just aesthetic but also essential for our mental and emotional well-being.

The Importance of Preservation:

1. Nature provides essential services such as clean air, water, and fertile soil, which are vital for our survival.
2. Protecting natural habitats ensures the survival of countless species, maintaining the balance of our ecosystems.
3. Forests and oceans play a significant role in regulating the Earth's climate, helping to mitigate the effects of climate change.
4. Access to natural spaces has been shown to improve physical and mental health, reducing stress and promoting overall well-being.

Call to Action

As members of the Eco Club, it is our responsibility to lead by example and inspire others to take action. Here are some steps we can take:

1. Educate our peers and community about the importance of preserving nature and the benefits it provides.
2. Promote and adopt sustainable practices such as reducing waste, conserving water, and using renewable energy sources.
3. Organize tree planting drives, clean-up campaigns, and other community projects that contribute to environmental conservation.
4. Advocate for policies and initiatives that protect natural habitats and promote sustainability.

Thank you.

13. The moment I noticed that I was not alone as the old man could see me, I wanted to leave. But an interesting rather "peculiar" conversation kept me glued. I looked for secluded places as my self-confidence did not allow me to face the world. But I was surprised to see that Mr. Lamb did not find anything strange in me. He did not show any dislike or horror, which generally people expressed at first glance.
I noticed that like me, the old man also had a disfigured body part that attracted mockery.

Yet, he did not give in and was living his life happily. Mr. Lamb spoke words of encouragement, hope, and zest for life, which no one had ever spoken to me. He made me aware of his physical strength and explained the importance of emotional well-being. This realization drew me closer to the old man.

OR

I was well aware of the fact that the act of saving the wounded enemy soldier was a serious crime by law and would be questioned by everyone but what we did was based completely on humanitarian grounds. We also had valid reasons for this. Dr. Sadao did it because of his sense of duty as a doctor, and as his wife it was my duty to stand with him. It was a time when we had to face open defiance from our domestic staff and at that time, apparently, my humanitarian instincts prompted me to wash and feed the enemy soldier Tom. They refused to cooperate and threatened to report the matter to the police as Japan was at war with America at that time. It was a crime to provide shelter to the enemy. But how could I see a wounded person being left in the lurch?

Sadao was bound by his moral responsibility as a doctor to save Tom, but I was under no such compulsion. Despite this, I chose to abide by my husband's decisions because I had pledged to support him even through the most difficult times. That is why I assisted Sadao in the operation on the American, even though I could not stand the blood. I started puking at the very sight of it. But anyhow we managed to arrange for a safe escape of the American.