

Class X Session 2023-24
Subject - English (Lan & Lit)
Sample Question Paper – 5

Time allowed: 3 hours

Maximum marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. The question paper contains three sections - Reading, Writing & Grammar and Literature.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION – A
READING SKILLS (20 MARKS)

1. Read the following text.

(10)

(1) There are many among us who, given the opportunity to leave India, are only too happy to go. But whenever I have had the chance to go away, I have held back. Or something has held me back. What is it that has such a hold on me, but leaves others free to where they will, sometimes never to come back? A few years ago, I was offered a well-paid job in a magazine in Hong Kong. I thought about it for weeks, worried myself to distraction, and finally, with a great sigh of relief, turned it down. My friends thought I was crazy. They still do. Most of them would have jumped at a comparable offer, even if it had meant spending the rest of their lives far from the palmfringed coasts or pine-clad mountains of this land. Many friends have indeed gone away, never to return, except perhaps to get married, very quickly, before they are off again! Don't they feel homesick, I wonder.

(2) I am almost paranoid at the thought of going away and then being unable to come back. This almost happened to me when, as a boy, I went to England, longed to return to India, and did not have the money for the passage. For two years I worked and saved like a miser (something I have never done since) until I had enough to bring me home.

And 'home' wasn't parents and brothers and sisters. They were no longer here. Home, for me, was India. So, what is it that keeps me here? My birth? I take too closely after a Nordic grandparent to pass for a typical son of the soil. Hotel receptionists often ask me for my

passport. 'Must I carry a passport to travel in my own country?' I ask. 'But you don't look like an Indian,' they protest. 'I'm a Red Indian,' I say.

(3) India is where I was born and went to school and grew to manhood. India was where my father was born and went to school and worked and died. India is where my grandfather lived and died. Surely that entitles me to a place in the Indian sun. If it doesn't, I can revert to my mother's family and go back to the time of Timur the Lame. How far back does one have to go in order to establish one's Indianness? It must be the land itself that holds me. But so many of my fellow Indians have been born (and reborn) here, and yet they think nothing of leaving the land. They will leave the mountains for the plains; the villages for the cities; their country for another country, and if other countries were a little more willing to open their doors, we would have no population problem-mass emigration would have solved it.

(4) But it's more than the land that holds me. For India is more than a land. India is an atmosphere. Over thousands of years, the races and religions of the world have mingled here and produced that unique, indefinable phenomenon, the Indian: so terrifying in a crowd, so beautiful in himself. And oddly enough, I'm one too. I know that I'm as Indian as the postman or the paanwala or your favorite MP. Race did not make me an Indian. Religion did not make me an Indian. But history did. And in the long run, it is history that counts.

Ruskin Bond

Answer the following questions, based on the passage.

i. Why did the author work and save like a miser for two years? Answer in about 40 words.

(2)

ii. "Don't they feel homesick, I wonder." By "they" the author meant: (1)

- A. Those who dreamt of getting a job in a foreign land.
- B. Those who wanted him to take the job at Hong Kong.
- C. Those who have taken a job in a foreign land and never returned home.
- D. Those who left India for England.

iii. From the sets (1) - (5) below, identify two sets of antonyms. (1)

- 1. Opportunity - Chance
- 2. Revert - Retrograde
- 3. Establish - Destroy
- 4. Terrifying - Tranquilizing
- 5. Indefinable - Inexpressible

A. 2 and 3

B. 3 and 4

C. 1 and 5

D. 4 and 5

iv. Complete the sentence appropriately.

The author having a Nordic grandparent gave him a _____. (1)

V. What is the author trying to explain with the following line? Answer in about 40 words.

(2)

"It must be the land itself that holds me."

vi. Complete the sentence appropriately.

"We would have no population problem- mass emigration would have solved it." The tone of the author here is _____. (1)

vii. Choose the one sentence that has the incorrect usage of the word "typical".

A. It's typical of the boss to criticise someone when they're down.

B. Typical! I do all the work and she gets all the glory.

C. On a typical day, our students go to classes from 7.30 am to 1pm.

D. You can know typical of his daily routine.

viii. Which of these statements is false?

(1)

A. The author was afraid of leaving India and unable to return home.

B. The job offer was to work in a magazine.

C. Home for him meant his brothers and sisters-his family.

D. He did not enjoy proving his Indianness.

2. Read the following text.

(10 m)

(1) 'Vegetables' are important protective food and highly beneficial for the maintenance of health and prevention of disease. They contain valuable food ingredients which can be successfully utilized to build-up and repair the body.

(2) Vegetables are valuable in maintaining alkaline reserve in the body. They are valued mainly for their high vitamin and mineral contents. Vitamins A, B and C are contained in vegetables in fair amounts.

Faulty cooking and prolonged careless storage can, however, destroy these valuable elements. There are different kinds of vegetables. They may be edible roots, stems, leaves, fruits and seeds. Each group contributes to diet in its own way. Roots are high in energy value and good sources of vitamin B group. Seeds are relatively high in carbohydrates and proteins.

(3) Leaves, stems and fruits are excellent sources of minerals, vitamins, water and roughage. It is not the green vegetables only that are useful. Farinaceous vegetables consisting of starchy roots such as potatoes, sweet potatoes, the tubers and legumes are also valuable. They are excellent sources of carbohydrates and provide energy to the body.

(4) To derive maximum benefits of their nutrients, vegetables should be consumed fresh as far as possible. Most vegetables are best consumed in their natural raw state in the form of salads. An important consideration in making salads is that the vegetables should be fresh, crisp and completely dry. If vegetables have to be cooked, it should be ensured that their nutritive value is preserved to the maximum extent possible. The following hints will be useful in achieving this:

(i) The vegetables, after thorough wash, should be cut into as large pieces as possible.

(ii) The cut pieces should be added to water which has been brought to boiling point and to which salt has been added. This is necessary to avoid loss of B-complex vitamins and vitamin C.

(iii) Only bare minimum water necessary to cover vegetables should be used. Spinach and other tender greens need no water.

(iv) Vegetables should not be exposed to atmospheric air. They should be covered tightly while cooking.

(v) They should be cooked for as short a time as possible. They should be cooked till they are just soft to touch for easy digestion.

(vi) They should be served hot.

To prevent loss of nutrients in vegetables, it would be advisable to steam or boil vegetables in their own juices on a slow fire and the water or cooking liquid should not be drained off. If the vegetables are boiled hard and for a long time in a large quantity of water, they would lose their nutritive and medicinal values.

(5) No vegetable should be peeled unless it is so old that the peeling is tough and unpalatable. In most root vegetables the largest amount of minerals is directly under the skin and these are lost if vegetables are peeled. Soaking of vegetables should also be avoided if taste and nutritive value are to be preserved. Finally, vegetables should not be cooked in aluminium utensils.

Aluminium is a soft metal and is acted upon by both food acids and alkalis. There is scientific evidence to show that tiny particles of aluminium from foods cooked in such utensils enter the stomach and that the powerful astringent properties of aluminium injure the sensitive lining of the stomach, leading to gastric irritation, digestive and intestinal ailments.

(6) An intake of about 280 grams of vegetables per person is considered essential for maintenance of good health. Of this, leafy vegetables should constitute 40 per cent, roots and tubers 30 per cent and the other vegetables like brinjals, ladies fingers the remaining 30 per cent.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage.

i. Vitamins present in vegetables can be destroyed due to _____. (1)

A. faulty cooking and consumption

B. poor storage and exposure to rain

C. faulty cooking and poor storage

D. poor storage and poor eating habits

ii. Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

Carbohydrates and proteins are higher in _____.

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

The ideal way to eat vegetable is _____.

iv. To avoid loss of B-complex vitamins and vitamin C while cooking, what are the two things we should follow? (1)

1. Cut the vegetables in small pieces

2. Cut the vegetables in large pieces

3. The vegetables should be added to boiling salted water

4. Bare minimum water to be used with no salt

A. (1) and (4) B. (2) and (4) C. (2) and (3) D. (1) and (3)

v. Justify the following, in about 40 words. (2)

"Vegetables should not be cooked in aluminium utensils".

vi. Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

The correct percentage of vegetables to be consumed for good health is _____.

vii. Infer how we can derive the maximum benefit from vegetables' nutrients. Answer in about 40 words. (2)

viii. Which of these following statements is false? (1)

- A. Vegetables should be cooked for as short a time as possible.
- B. Vegetables should not be cooked in aluminium utensils.
- C. Roots are high in energy value and good sources of vitamin A group.
- D. An intake of about 280 grams of vegetables per person is considered essential for maintenance of good health.

SECTION-B

WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)

GRAMMAR

(10)

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed. (1 × 10)

i. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.

It's been years since I _____ pani puri.

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| A. have ate | B. had ate |
| C. have eaten | D. eat |

ii. Read the conversation between two friends, Arun and Kabir and complete the sentence by reporting Kabir's reply. (1)

Arun: Where are you going?

Kabir: To the market.

Arun asked Kabir _____.

iii. Choose the correct option to complete the given sentence. (1)

You _____ help your parents at home with the household chores.

- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| A. ought to | B. would |
| C. need | D. dare |

iv. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies its correction for the following line. (1)

Boys who have never fight with one another in school are bitterly annoyed today.

Option No.	Error	Correction
A.	fight	fought
B.	one	each
C.	have	has
D.	Boys	Boy

v. Complete the sentence by choosing the correct option. (1)

I _____ spicy food for lunch and my stomach still hurts.

- A. have
B. has
C. have had
D. having

vi. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. (1)

Reeta goes to church _____ Sunday.

- A. all
B. every
C. each
D. any

vii. Report the dialogue between mother and her daughter by completing the sentence. (1)

Daughter: Where did I keep my wallet?

Mother: Not again! Have you looked on your table?

In response to the question asked by the daughter, the mother asked _____.

viii. Identify the error and supply the correction for the given sentence. (1)

People of diverse faiths what live together do not turn against one another.

Error	Correction

ix. Change the given direct speech in the reported form. (1)

Teacher: When will you fill your registration form?

x. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. (1)

_____ the rain stops, the game will not resume.

- A. Will
C. Unless
B. Since
D. If

xi. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogues between two.
(1)

Squeak: We wanted to thank Jon for letting us stay inside.

Garfield: So, my wife knitted him a little something.

Squeak told Garfield _____ for letting them stay inside.

- A. that they had wanted to thank Jon
B. if they had wanted to thank Jon
C. that has wanted to thank Jon
D. that they have wanted to thank Jon

xii. Identify the error and supply the correction for the given sentence. (1)

If your feeling depressed, any chocolate can be a real tonic.

Error	Correction

WRITING

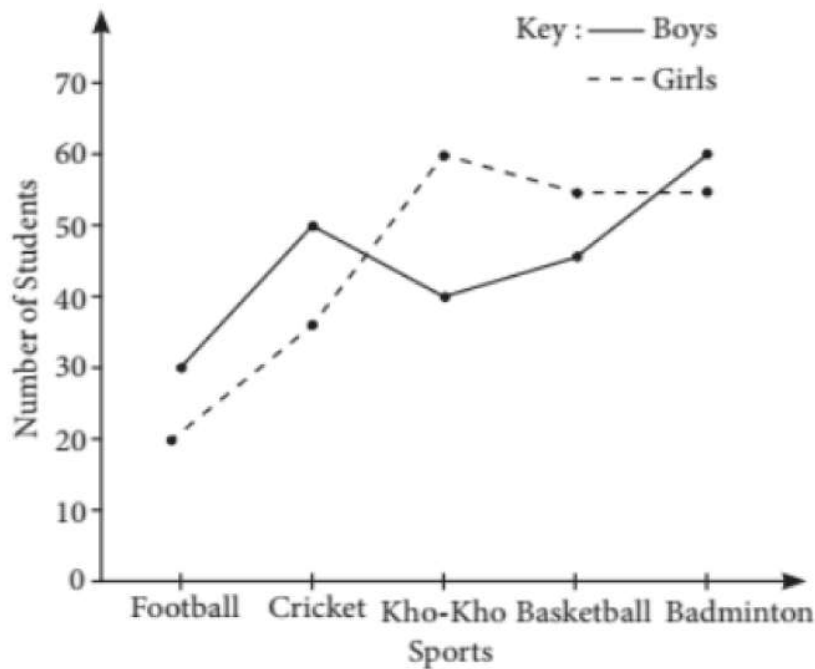
4. A. You are Ameeta living in 14/B, Ganga Villa, Vellore. Your family plans to go for a vacation to Udaipur this vacation. Write a letter to the Front Office Manager of a five-star hotel, in about 120 words seeking information about the types of rooms, tariffs, facilities, availability, etc. in their hotel. (5)

OR

4. B. You are Sachin/Somya, resident of D/14, Sunrise Apartments, Karol Bagh, Delhi. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, expressing your thoughts regarding the growing level of corruption among municipal officers. Also suggest measures to keep a check on corrupt municipal officers. (5)

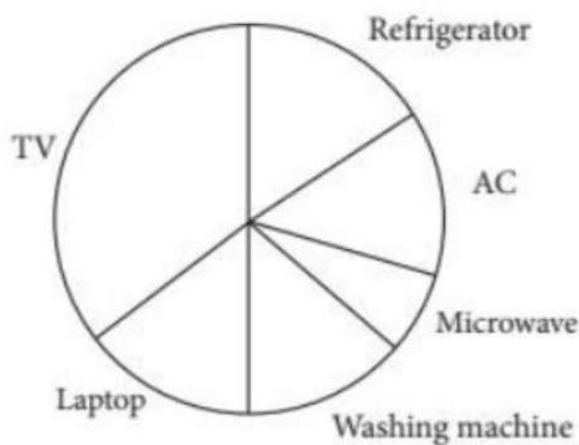
5. A. The given double line graph shows the number of boys and girls who participated in different types of sports in a school. Write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words summarising the information and make comparisons wherever relevant.

(5)



OR

5. B. The given pie chart shows a variety of different electronic appliances used by average middle class families of old Gurugram. Write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words elaborating the given information.



SECTION-C

LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 MARKS)

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

(5)

A. I was safe! I turned to look for my friend in the black aeroplane, but the sky was empty. There was nothing there. The black aeroplane was gone. I could not see it anywhere. I landed and was not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota near the control tower. I went and asked a woman in the control centre where I was and who the other pilot was. I wanted to say "Thank you. She looked at me very strangely, and then laughed. "Another aeroplane? Up there in this storm? No other aeroplanes were flying tonight. Yours was the only one I could see on the radar?" So, who helped me...

i. Why do you think the woman in the control centre laughed? (1)

ii. The narrator exclaimed that he was "safe". Which of the following represented the most immediate threat to the narrator's safety? (1)

A. The black mountain-like storm cloud

B. The depletion of fuel in the last fuel tank

C. Being lost due to non-functioning equipment

D. The old rattling Dakota aeroplane

iii. Choose the option that correctly matches the idioms in Column A to the story's events in Column B. (1)

Column A – Idioms		Column B – Story events	
1.	Every cloud has a silver lining	(i)	The narrator really wanted to have a hearty English breakfast, even though he really ought to have turned back.
2.	To be on cloud nine	(ii)	The man in the other plane waved at the narrator and asked him to follow, closely drawing him out.
3.	To have your head in the clouds	(iii)	The compass and other instruments stopped working. The radio was dead too.
4.	Gathering clouds	(iv)	And there it was—the well-lit runway. An airport. The narrator could safely land.

A. 1-(iv); 2-(iii); 3-(ii); 4-(i)

B. 1-(iii); 2-(i); 3-(iv); 4-(ii)

C. 1-(i); 2-(ii); 3-(iii); 4-(iv)

D. 1-(ii); 2-(iv); 3-(i); 4-(iii)

iv. Why was the narrator not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota? Answer in about 40 words. (2)

OR

B. He discovered the joys of being bowled over, tramped on and squashed every few minutes. He became an accepted member of the gang, an unlikely, silky little object among the shaggy crew, fighting like a tiger for his share at mealtimes and hunting rats in the old henhouse at night. He had never had such a time in his life. All the while, Mrs. Pumphrey hovered anxiously in the background, ringing a dozen times a day for the latest bulletins.

i. Read the following statements, each of which describes the gist of the given extract. (1)

Select the option that captures the essence of the extract correctly.

Statement I: It highlights the kind of comforts and luxuries that Tricki was used to at home.

Statement II: It brings out a contrast between Tricki and Mrs. Pumphrey's state of being.

Statement III: It reflects that Tricki was happier at the surgery, and loved being with other dogs.

Statement IV: It shows Tricki's journey with his peers at the surgery, and documents his recovery.

A. Statements I and II

B. Statements III and IV

C. Statements I and III

D. Statements II and IV

ii. What does the reference to Tricki as a "silky little object" signify? (1)

A. Tricki was a very small and rather pampered dog.

B. Tricki was comfortably attired in fine silks and warm coats.

C. Unlike the other dogs, Tricki had lived in the lap of luxury with care and grooming.

D. The narrator's mockery of Tricki's life and treatment with Mrs. Pumphrey.

iii. Pick the option that reveals Tricki's characteristics in the context of 'fighting like a tiger for his share at meal times and hunting rats in the old henhouse at night.

(1)

(1) Selfish (2) Happy (3) Greedy

(4) Confident (5) Sturdy (6) Cruel

A. 2, 4 and 5 B. Only 2

C. 1 and 5 D. 3, 4 and 6

iv. How did Tricki discover the real joys of canine life? Justify your answer in about 40 words.

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

(5)

A. The fog comes

on little cat feet.

It sits looking

over harbour and city

on silent haunches

and then moves on.

i. Choose the option with qualities of the cat that Carl Sandburg applies to the fog?

(1) Cats are independent animals, they don't follow rules, they slip and slide in and out of our lives as they please.

(2) Cats are distrustful of strangers and can be jealous and moody.

(3) Cats are stealthy, moving in slow motion at times and they appear to be moving in a mysterious fashion.

(4) Cats often communicate with a combination of a distinctive sound and body language.

(5) Cats like to move on at their own pace and before you know it, they've disappeared.

A. Only 1 B. 2, 3 and 4

C. 1, 3 and 5 D. Only 4

ii. Which one/s of the following applies to the given lines? (1)

(1) Personification is a literary device where you give an animal, object or natural phenomenon, qualities or abilities that only a human can have.

(2) Transferred epithet is a literary device when an adjective usually used to describe one thing is transferred to another.

(3) Imagery is the language used by poets, and writers to create visual representation of ideas in the minds of the readers.

(4) Oxymoron is a figure of speech in which contradictory terms appear side by side.

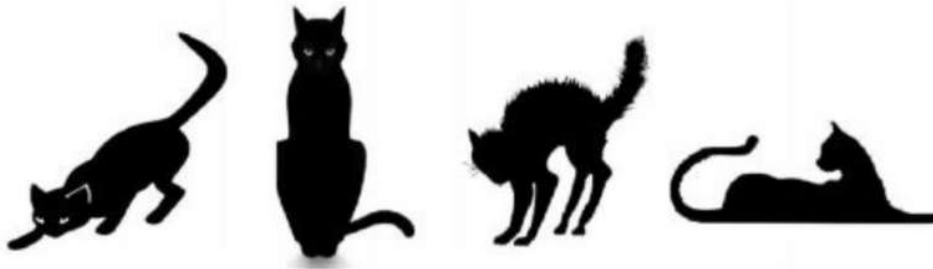
A. 1 and 4

B. 2 and 3

C. Only 1

D. Only 3

iii. Pick the option that includes an image of the cat on its haunches. (1)



A. Option (1)

B. Option (2)

C. Option (3)

D. Option (4)

iv. Why does the poet say that the fog is like a cat in the poem? Justify your answer in about 40 words. (2)

OR

B. Don't bite your nails, Amanda!

Don't hunch your shoulders, Amanda!

Stop that slouching and sit up straight,

Amanda!

i. What is the purpose of the speaker's words in the given extract? (1)

ii. Alliteration is a literary device used in the extract. (1)

Which of the following options DOES NOT include examples of this literary device?

A. The moon and the glittering stars watched over us.

- B. With that charming chat, Catherine chose comfort.
- C. Away ran the pathetic pooch pouting like a princess.
- D. Dee dee was driving down day after day.

iii. Select the option that fits with the following. (1)

slouching: straight :: _____ : _____

- A. transparent: translucent
- B. lazy: agile
- C. forgetful: lively
- D. generous: liberal

iv. What do you think Amanda is feeling in the given extract? Answer in about 40 words. (2)

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words.

- i. As he read the letter, the postmaster experienced conflicting feelings. Explain.
- ii. What compulsive habits had Mijbil developed? (3)
- iii. What was the effect of the policy of apartheid? (3)
- iv. Why does Lomov wish to propose to Natalya? (3)
- v. What prevented Valli from visiting the stall to have a drink? What can we infer about Valli from this? (3)

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.

- i. Mention any two contributions of Ebright to the world of science. (3)
- ii. How did Horace Danby plan his robberies? (3)
- iii. How did Griffin find himself butt naked in the chill January air for the second time? (3)

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.

- A. Life is full of trials and tribulations. Kisa Gotami also passes through a period of grief in her life. How does she behave in those circumstances? What lesson does a reader learn from the story of her life? Give any two points how you would like to act in the midst of adverse circumstances.

OR

B. Chekhov made fun of courtship in his day by using humour and exaggeration in the play. Write a paragraph using examples from the lesson "The Proposal" to help you explain. Mention any values you believe are necessary for a successful partnership as well.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.

A. "Richard Ebright possessed all the qualities required to succeed as a scientist." Justify.

OR

B. "Put the fear out of your heart and you will be able to speak like anyone else." These words of encouragement from the teacher highlight that change of social attitude and encouragement can help a child like Bholi to become confident and face the world bravely. Taking help from the lesson, 'Bholi' write how the social attitude towards Bholi made her an introvert. What should be done to help such children to face the world bravely?

SOLUTIONS

- i. The author remembered the time when, as a boy, he worked hard and saved like a miser for two years because he was longing to return to India, which he considered his home, and did not have enough money for the passage.
 - ii. C. Those who have taken a job in a foreign land and never returned home.
 - iii. B. 3 and 4
 - iv. reason for hotel receptionists asking for his passport
 - v. The author is trying to explain that India is his homeland, where he was born, and that it is a place with distinct landforms, people, and cultures. He cannot even think of leaving his country because of his love for and attachment to it.
 - vi. sarcastic
 - vii. D. You can know typical of his daily routine.
 - viii. C. Home for him meant his brothers and sisters-his family.
2. i. C. faulty cooking and poor storage
- ii. seeds
 - iii. raw in salad
 - iv. C. (2) and (3)
 - v. Aluminium is a soft metal that is affected by both food acids and alkalis, so it should not be used to cook vegetables. There is scientific proof that dishes cooked in these utensils include minute particles of aluminium that enter the stomach, where their potent astringent properties harm the sensitive lining of the stomach and cause gastric irritation, digestive issues and intestinal disorders.
 - vi. 40% of leafy vegetables, 30% of tubers and roots and 30% of other vegetables
 - vii. We can derive the maximum benefits from the vegetables, nutrients by consuming them as fresh as possible. Most of the vegetables are used in salads and are best consumed in their raw state, so we should keep in mind that those vegetables should be fresh, crisp, and completely dry. And if we are consuming them cooked, we should make sure that their nutritional value is preserved to the maximum extent possible.
 - viii. C. Roots are high in energy value and good sources of vitamin A group.

3. i. C. have eaten
 ii. where he was going
 iii. A. ought to

iv.

Option No.	Error	Correction
A.	fight	fought

- v. C. have had
 vi. B. every
 vii. if she had looked on her table

viii.

Error	Correction
what	who

- ix. The teacher asked the student when she would fill her registration form.
 X. C. Unless
 xi. A. that they had wanted to thank Jon

xii.

Error	Correction
your	you're

4. A.

14/B, Ganga Villa
 Pragati Colony, Vellore, Karnataka
 9th December, 20××

The Manager
 Front Office
 The Shangria Hotel
 Udaipur, Rajasthan

Subject : Enquiry about Tariffs and Availability of Rooms

Sir/Ma'am

My family plans to visit Udaipur for sight-seeing in the month of June this year. We may stay at your esteemed hotel which is located at the most beautiful part of the city; provided your tariff plans suit our budget. We are four persons including two adults and two children and will be staying from the 2nd of June to the 6th of June 20××. We will prefer 'premier rooms' and will be requiring two such rooms.

Kindly, let me know your tariff plans for the above mentioned room type and also give details of the facilities provided by your hotel. Also, let me know about the availability on the mentioned dates and whether you provide pick and drop and sight-seeing facilities.

I would request you to mention any special concession offers, if going on.

Awaiting your reply.

Thanking you
 Yours faithfully
 Ameeta

OR

4. B.

D/14, Sunrise Apartments

Karol Bagh

New Delhi-37

2nd July, 20xx

The Editor

Hindustan Times

Kasturba Gandhi Marg

New Delhi-01

Subject : Growing Level of Corruption Amongst Municipal Officers

Sir/Madam,

Through the columns of your esteemed daily, I wish to bring to your attention and the public, the growing level of corruption among municipal officers. The Municipal Corporation of the city is already infamous for its style of working and is now faced with the new problem of growing level of corruption with its officials.

It has become almost impossible to get any work done without bribing the officers. Everyone from the bottom to the top is openly asking for bribe. The role of anti-corruption is also mysterious in this regard. They seem to be the only person not knowing about this and often fail to take any steps even after receiving complaints. They rather ignore it and some are even involved with the officers.

It's a shame that people agree to pay the bribe and extra amount even when they are entitled for the services and can take a step in this regard. It's immediately required that enquiry be set up and the image of the corporation is improved to install people's faith in this system.

I hope my views will be considered for public benefit.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

Sachin Mishra

5. A. The linear graph illustrates the number of boys and girls who participated in different types of sports in a school. The data given in the graph shows that football is least preferable with both boys and girls as only 20 girls and 30 boys have participated in football. Although there are 10 boys more in comparison to girls but it has the least male participants in comparison to other sports. Badminton is the most popular sports with boys and the second most popular is cricket. Boys participated more than girls in badminton with around 60 boys as compared to 55 girls. Girls also preferred basketball, equal to badminton with participation levels of over 55 as opposed to boys who numbered around 40. There is a huge difference in Kho-Kho in which around 60 girls participated which has the highest number of girl participants in comparison to other sports. On the contrary only 40 boys participated in Kho-Kho. On the other hand, girls are less interested in playing cricket, where there are only 35 participants, 15 less than boys. Boys have been shown as more active in badminton and than in cricket. Subsequently, the figures demonstrate that boys preferred playing badminton even more than the girls and spent slightly more time in playing cricket and than basketball. However, girls preferred Kho-Kho the most, and were equally interested in playing basketball and badminton, the least they preferred was cricket but also did not participate significantly in football.

OR

5. B. The given pie chart shows the type of various electronic appliances used by average middle class families in old Gurugram. The given data shows that an average middle class family in old Gurugram preferred to have a TV the most. Second preference happened to be refrigerator. AC, washing machine and laptop fell into almost same category. And the least preferred appliance is microwave. The pie chart shows comparison in the product preferred and it is mainly due to their usage and utility based on the usefulness in lessening the human workload. Laptop stands equal to washing machine and AC, as it has become a necessity aid in children's education. To conclude the given chart, it clearly shows TV as the most preferred choice and microwave as the least preferred one. This has helped us in understanding the consumer preferences in case of electronic appliances based on their usability.

6. A. i. Because she thought that the narrator's question was preposterous.

ii. B. The depletion of fuel in the last fuel tank

iii. D. 1-(ii); 2-(iv); 3-(i); 4-(iii)

iv. After landing, the narrator did not feel sorry to walk away from the old Dakota, as he had a horrendous accident, but he still managed to land the plane safely with the help of the strange black aeroplane. That is why the narrator wasn't sorry to walk away from the old Dakota.

OR

B. i. D. Statements II and IV

ii. C. Unlike the other dogs, Tricki had lived in the lap of luxury with care and grooming.

iii. A. 2, 4 and 5

iv. Tricki was a pampered dog who lived a luxurious life. When he fell sick, he was taken to the vet by Mrs. Pumphrey. During the treatment, he was listless at first, but after some time, he got involved with the other dogs, got bowled over by them, and fought for his meals. He became part of the gang. That is how he discovered the real joys of canine life.

7. A. i. C. 1, 3 and 5

ii. D. Only 3

iii. B. Option (2)

iv. The poet said the statement because like a cat, fog enters a place silently and covertly, and sits there and watches the harbour like a cat. Then it relocates to a new location to settle. Like how cats don't stay in one place for long, fog also moves around before finally disappearing.

OR

B. i. The purpose of the speaker's words in the given extract is to improve the listener's posture and habits.

ii. A. The moon and the glittering stars watched over us.

iii. B. lazy : agile

iv. Amanda is feeling suffocated as she is always told not to do one thing or another. She thinks her mother's constant nagging and controlled attitude are curtailing her freedom. She feels she should have been an orphan because she thinks they live a carefree life.

8. i. When the postmaster came across the letter, he broke out laughing, but turned serious immediately. He admired the writer's faith in God and wished he could have such faith. He decided to answer the letter, but after opening realized that the writer had asked for money, so he decided to collect money and send it on behalf of God.

ii. While they were in London, Mijbil developed some compulsive habits. Like children on their way to school, Mijbil would place his feet squarely on the centre of each pair of block or touch the iron railing or lamp post. Especially while coming back home, Mijbil would tug his owner to the wall of a primary school, jump on to it, and gallop the full length of its thirty yards.

iii. The policy of apartheid was very unfortunate for the South African people. It created a deep and lasting wound on the country and the people. Decades of oppression and brutality produced many great men. They were Oliver Tambo, Walter Sisulus, Yusuf Dadoo Bram Fisher, etc. There were others also like them. They were men of great character.

iv. Lomov is thirty-five years of age with health problems. He wishes to settle down by getting married. He knows that his neighbour and friend Chubukov's twenty-five years old daughter, Natalya is still single. She is beautiful, an excellent housekeeper and an estate manager, well-educated and belongs to an equally rich family as Lomov. Therefore, he wishes to marry Natalya.

v. Valli did not want to go to the stall and have a drink because she did not have any money for that. Even when the conductor offered her a cold drink free of charge, she refused firmly and said that she only wanted her ticket. This shows that Valli had a lot of self-will and pride.

9. i. Ebright's contributions to the world of science were great. He was able to identify the hormone's chemical structure. The photos of the chemical structure of the hormone proved an answer to the biology puzzle - how the cell can read the blue print of its DNA. It is the blueprint of life. Second, he discovered an unknown insect hormone which led to his new theory on the life of cells.

ii. Horace Danby planned his robberies meticulously. He planned very carefully each year. But ultimately he faltered. He planned well in advance for the Shotover Grange robbery by studying the house, its wiring, etc. He knew about the timing of the family members and servants. He even knew the dog by its name. He was completely prepared to execute his plan. But he failed to see through the lady's sweet, clever and crafty talks. He feared being caught red handed and hence fell prey to her plan and failed miserably and ended up in jail.

iii. As he had overslept in the big London store, when the store opened in the morning the store assistants came in. Griffin panicked and ran, chased by the assistants. He had to take off his newly found clothes to become invisible and escape, so he found himself invisible but naked in the chill January air for the second time.

10. A. Life is full of trial and tribulations. Kisa Gotami also passes through a period of grief in her life when her son, her only child, dies. Like any mother grieving the loss of her child, Kisa Gotami too goes mad with sorrow and carries her son's corpse to her neighbours asking them for medicine. This continues until someone take pity on her and tells her to meet Sakyamuni the Buddha. On meeting the Buddha and on being asked by him to bring a handful of mustard seeds, from a house where the family has never lost a loved one, Kisa Gotami joyfully sets out in search of such a house. But, soon she realises that death and suffering is a common phenomenon and that she is being blind and selfish in her grief. The lesson to be learned from the story of Kisa Gotami's life is that peace of mind cannot be obtained by grieving and acting selfishly. I would overcome my sorrows and surrender all selfishness. I would accept the fact that human life is mortal and that all of us have to suffer equally.

OR

B. Chekhov has used humour and exaggeration in the play to comment on courtship in his times. Ivan Lomov and Stephen Chubukov have known each other for years and share a cordial relationship. When Lomov goes to meet Chubukov and asks for Natalya's hand in marriage, Chubukov is elated. He hugs and kisses Lomov as he cannot contain his joy. Chubukov is a hypocrite and his hypocrisy creates humour in the play when he starts hurling abuses at his old friend Lomov and talks to him in a derogatory manner. He does this to support and encourage the shrew Natalya in her arguments with Lomov. What also adds to the elements of humour in the play is that the real purpose of the meeting, the marriage proposal, is almost forgotten amidst all this quarrelling over petty issues.

Exaggerated actions that exceed the limit of common sense are exemplified in all the characters. Lomov gulps down water, puts his hand over his heart, runs to the door and 'staggers out. Chubukov gives consent on behalf of Natalya for marriage to Lomov. "She is in love,... She's like a lovesick cat," says Chubukov, but he does not say anything to Natalya regarding the

proposal. Soon enough Lomov as well as the readers learn that Natalya is far from being a 'lovesick cat. Natayla argues fiercely and endlessly unaware of his intentions of marrying her. However, as soon as she comes to know the reality, Natalya becomes hysterical, falls down into a chair and wails. She tells her father to bring Lomov back because she is 'dying. Courtesy, sincerity, love and mutual understanding are keys of healthy relationship all of which are missing from Lomov and Natalya's alliance.

11. A. To become a scientist, one needs to have a keen eye, good thinker and also hardworking. To be good beyond measure in one's work, scientific curiosity is the most important ingredient, of which Richard Ebright was.

Ebright was sharp minded and curious. He worked from an early age, from kindergarten, and had collected all 25 species of butterflies found around his hometown by the time he was in second grade. Aside from that, he also raised and tagged them to help study their migration with Dr. Frederick. Despite losing in the Science Fair when he was in class VII, he did not falter. Instead, he learned the lesson that actual science was about real experiments which give results. His competitive streak also led him to perform real experiments.

In high school, he led to the discovery of a new theory of the life of cells, coming to the conclusion that DNA is the blueprint of all life. This discovery helped in his becoming a renowned scientist all over the world. Thus, we can safely say that Richard Ebright possessed all the qualities required to succeed as a scientist.

OR

B. "Put the fear out of your heart and you will be able to speak to anyone else." The words of encouragement from the teacher highlight that change of social attitude and encouragement can help a child like Bholi to become confident and face the world bravely.

However, this was not always the case with Bholi.

Throughout her childhood Bholi had to face many difficulties. She was considered a 'dumb cow' by everybody including her family members. Bholi had remained a backward child ever since she was just ten months old. She had fallen on her head and a part of her brain got damaged. An attack of small pox had left deep black pock marks on Bholi's entire body except eyes, when she was only two years old. The pock marks remained with her all her life. To add to the little girl's misery, Bholi learned to speak at the age of five. But her speech was not clear as she stammered. She became the laughing stock for other children. As a result, she kept quiet most of the time. When the utterly neglected Bholi was sent to school, her teacher changed the course of Bholi's life, she changed the quality of Bholi's life by encouraging, inspiring and showering Bholi with much deserved love and compassion.

To help children who are mentally/physically challenged they should be treated with love, care and sympathy as doing so can really work wonders. Kind words, demonstration of love and affection, a sympathetic pat help them gain confidence, enable them to believe in themselves and compete with others, and ultimately help them become socially acceptable. Such children need social, parental attention and encouragement so that they come out of their complex.