

**SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 1**  
**English Language and Literature (184)**  
**Class X (2024-25)**

**Time Allowed: 3 hours**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

**General Instructions:**

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

1. This question paper comprises 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper contains THREE sections -
  - Section - A : Reading Skills
  - Section - B : Grammar and Creative Writing Skills
  - Section - C : Literature Text Book
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

**Section A - Reading Skills**

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

**[10]**

1. The words probiotics, prebiotics, and postbiotics may sound like variations of the same thing, but what a difference a prefix makes. The first is a category of health-promoting microbes. The latter two groups are types of beneficial molecules. But all three biotics are critical for supporting the community of microscopic organisms that live in the gastrointestinal tract, known as the gut microbiome. With both beneficial and harmful bacteria living in the human body, these diet-related factors - the biotics - help tip the balance in the positive direction. It is important to understand their differences, as you'll see, because each of these factors serves a distinct purpose, even as they work together.
2. Despite their importance for the gut microbiome, the health benefits of these 'biotics', which are present in certain foods or result from their metabolism, extend beyond the digestive tract. A growing body of scientific evidence has linked prebiotics, probiotics, and postbiotics, with improvements in metabolic diseases - including obesity and cholesterol abnormalities - depressive symptoms and poor sleep quality, among many other conditions.
3. Besides promoting general gut health, consuming food rich in probiotics can improve irritable bowel syndrome and antibiotic-related diarrhea, prevent traveller's diarrhea, produce vitamins and increase nutrient absorption, and decrease the risk of common infections. In fact, when consumed regularly,

probiotics have been found to reduce the occurrence of upper respiratory tract infections (like the common cold).

4. Many different types of beneficial bacteria are considered probiotics. The most common ones include Lactobacillus and Bifidobacterium, of which there are dozens of strains. "You have to match what it is you're concerned about with the probiotic you should use," says Gregor Reid. Many different types of beneficial bacteria are considered probiotics.
5. Some foods, such as yogurt, kefir, kimchee, and fermented soybeans and kombucha naturally contain probiotics. But here's where things get complicated: not all fermented foods or yogurts contain probiotics, Reid says. As a consumer, a good starting point is to look for the phrase "contains live and active cultures" on the label; it's even better if specific strains of bacteria are listed, because then you'll know you're getting the right stuff.
6. Simply put, prebiotics are sources of food for those beneficial microbes - the probiotics. They are typically a form of carbohydrate or fiber that we don't have the enzymes to digest. As a result, they move through the digestive tract to the intestine, where beneficial bacteria (probiotics) can feast on them.
7. When you consume foods that are rich in probiotics and prebiotics, the microbes in your gut consume the undigestible prebiotic fiber and produce bioactive compounds called postbiotics. They are ultimately the endgame that we want - they affect how our gut operates and keeps the good bacteria there and the bad bacteria out.

**Answer the following questions, based on the above passage: (10)**

- i. Which of the following statements best describes the author's attitude towards probiotics? (1)
  - A. Probiotics, prebiotics and postbiotics are variations of the same thing, with just a difference of a prefix.
  - B. All fermented foods or yogurts naturally contain probiotics.
  - C. All three biotics are equally important to support microscopic organisms that live in the gut microbiome.
  - D. Only probiotics are important as they can improve irritable bowel syndrome and antibiotic-related diarrhea.
- ii. According to the writer, health benefits of all the 'biotics' extend beyond the digestive tract. Rationalise your response in about 40 words. (2)

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

To get the right probiotic and to match it with your body's requirement, it is important to see the label for \_\_\_\_\_.

iv. The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets (A) - (E) below, identify two sets of antonyms. (1)

A. increase and decrease

B. probiotic and postbiotic

C. beneficial and harmful

D. feast and fermented

E. consuming and digestive

v. Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

The author wants to stress the fact that there is not just one type of beneficial bacteria considered as probiotic, in fact, some probiotics have \_\_\_\_\_.

vi. Based on the reading of the passage, examine in about 40 words, the importance of prebiotics for the human gut and how they are related to probiotics. (2)

vii. As a consumer, if you want to pick a probiotic product, what is the most important thing to keep in mind?

Pick the best answer. (1)

A. Any fermented product that contains probiotics.

B. Checking the label for specific strains of bacteria.

C. All products under "probiotics" section in a grocery store are safe to pick.

D. Checking the label which clearly says "probiotics" is sufficient.

viii. "Despite their importance for the gut microbiome, the health benefits of these 'biotics', which are present in certain foods or result from their metabolism, extend beyond the digestive tract." (1)

As per this statement from the passage, how relevant are the 'biotics' for humans? Pick the best answer.

A. Their relevance has been proven by scientific evidence.

B. Not very relevant as more study is needed.

C. Their relevance cannot be generalised for everyone.

D. Only probiotics are relevant for humans.

2. Read the passage given below:

[10]

1. Increasing traffic congestion every year is causing increasing air pollution, wasting time and productivity and diverse respiratory diseases. Moreover, the cost of solving or reducing traffic congestion is enormous. However, neglecting the traffic jam problem would increase the social problems among citizens.
2. The number of vehicles has increased considerably in the city in the past five years. Due to this increase, the city roads witness frequent traffic congestions, but above all, the vehicles emitting pollutants are affecting the environment adversely.
3. The Capital's vehicular population saw an addition of more than five lakh vehicles last year, registering an increase of over 4%, according to the Delhi Economic Survey 2020-21.
4. In spite of the largest road network, through metro and bus services in major cities the transport system is not being able to keep pace with the growing demand. Consequently, more and more people use their private vehicles, leading to increased congestion on the roads. In spite of these challenges people in India prefer road travel over air and other means of travel. Citizens of Delhi/NCR have, time and again, pondered over the possibilities of how to reduce the traffic congestion in the city, especially during the peak hours. People should use public transport, the government must increase the facilities of public transport, people should avoid the unnecessary collection of vehicles and should use carpool and vehicle sharing.
5. What is required is proper implementation of corrective measures by citizens to get an organized traffic management system.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below: (10)**

- i. Infer one reason for the following, based on information in paragraph 1.  
Reducing traffic congestion is not easy. **(1)**
- ii. Select the appropriate option to complete the following sentence. The reasons for increased traffic congestion are \_\_\_\_\_. **(1)**
  1. use of private vehicles
  2. increase in demand for cars
  3. inability to keep pace with population control
  4. travelling by public transport
  5. emission of pollutants

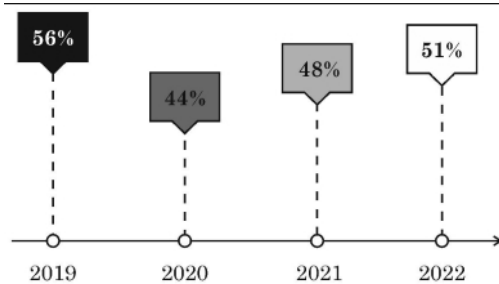
a. 4, 5

b. 1, 5

c. 1, 2

d. 2, 3

iii. Analyze the status of traffic between the years 2019-2022. (2)



What is required to get an organized traffic management system?

iv. Give the reasons for increase in vehicular congestion. (2)

v. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word / phrase from the paragraph 5. organized : chaotic :: lowest : \_\_\_\_\_ Clue : Just as organized is an antonym of chaotic, lowest is an antonym of \_\_\_\_\_. (1)

vi. The vehicles emit pollutants which affect \_\_\_\_\_ badly (1)

vii. Complete the following sentence. Use of public transport will reduce \_\_\_\_\_. (1)

viii. Select the appropriate option to complete the following sentence. The reasons for increased traffic congestion are \_\_\_\_\_. (1)

1. start car pooling
2. add electric buses
3. increase in public modes of transport
4. increase car collection points
5. increase taxation

a. 1, 4, 5

b. 3, 5

c. 2, 3, 4

d. 1, 3

## SECTION B GRAMMAR

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed [10]

(i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the brackets, for the given portion of a letter. [1]

Thank you for exceeding company expectations and \_\_\_\_\_ (inspire) your team with your spectacular work ethic.

- (ii) Identify the error and supply the correction for the following note in a laptop's user guide. [1]

This guide describes features that are common to most products. Some features cannot be available on your computer.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction
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- (iii) Read the conversation between a driver and his passenger. Complete the sentence by reporting the passenger's reply correctly. [1]

Driver: Do the bus timings suit you?

Passenger: Yes, if I catch the 9 a.m. one, I reach office on time.

The driver was trying to figure out whether the bus timings were convenient to the passenger. The passenger clarified that \_\_\_\_\_.

- (iv) Choose the correct reported speech of a given sentence: [1]

They said, "We really enjoyed a movie, we have never seen such a movie in life."

a) They said that they really enjoyed a movie, they never saw such a movie in life.

b) They said that they really had enjoyed a movie they have never seen such a movie in life.

c) They said that we really had enjoyed a movie we had never seen such a movie in life.

d) They said that they really had enjoyed a movie they had never seen such a movie in life.

- (v) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. [1]

He is an expert on languages, but he knows \_\_\_\_\_ (a lot of / little / a few) about mathematics.

- (vi) Identify the error and supply the correction for the following part of an advertisement of a web hosting site: [1]

One of the world's most popular domain name seller provides fantastic web hosting packages as well

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction
-------	------------

- (vii) Identify the error and supply the correction. [1]

The art displays in the wall are a wonderful way for children to express their talent.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction
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- (viii) When he \_\_\_\_\_ her as a cheater, she \_\_\_\_\_ him to the headmaster. [1]

- a) called / had complained                      b) has called / complains  
c) called / complained                      d) had called / complained

- (ix) **Report the dialogue between a grandson and his grandfather, by completing the sentence:** [1]

**Grandson:** Grandpa, why do you eat an apple every day?

**Grandpa:** Because an apple a day keeps the doctors away, my son.

In response to the question about why he eats an apple every day, the grandfather explains that \_\_\_\_\_.

- (x) Choose the correct reported speech of a given sentence: [1]

"I don't speak Urdu," she said.

- a) She said that she doesn't speak Urdu.                      b) She says that she didn't speak Urdu.  
c) She said that she didn't speak Urdu.                      d) She said that she didn't spoke Urdu.

- (xi) Complete the line from a self-awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option. [1]

Where the mind is without tear and the head is held high

Where knowledge is free

Where the world \_\_\_\_\_ not \_\_\_\_\_ up into fragments

By narrow domestic walls

- A. has been broken
- B. had been broken
- C. will be broken
- D. have been broken

- (xii) Identify the error and supply the correction, for the following: [1]

**Delhi Government**

**COVID-19 FAMILY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME**

An assistance of ₹50,000/- will be given to all family living in Delhi on each death of any family member due to COVID-19, whether or not they were earning members.

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

### SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

4. You are Sudheer/Sweety of 3-B, DDA Flats, Punjabi Bagh, Delhi. You noticed while traveling in the Metro that in spite of the strict vigilance people try to deface the Metro trains and stations. Write a letter to the editor of an evening newspaper suggesting DMRC, Delhi to start some awareness programs at the school level in coordination with the Directorate of Education explaining how such programs may help in bringing a positive change in people's attitude. [5]

OR

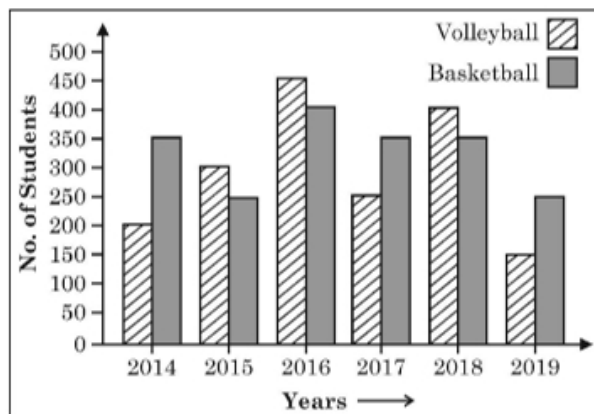
You are Ms. Monika Pundhir, the Sports Instructor in Army Public School, Agra. The Principal asks you to place an order for buying the necessary sports equipment required for the school. you came across the following discount offer on sports equipment.





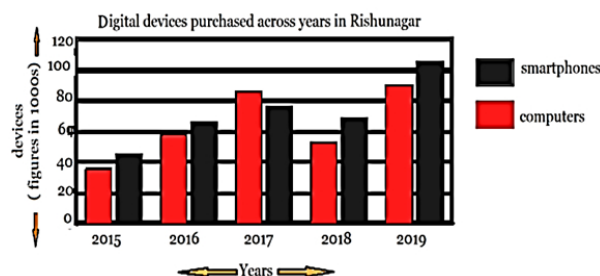
You decide to place an order to M/s Sethi sports, Jalandhar. Write a letter placing an order for the same.

5. The given bar graph shows the preferences of children in a school in playing different games over the span of six years. Write an analytical paragraph about the given information in about 100 words: [5]



OR

The chart below displays data about the number of digital devices purchased in Rishu nagar across the years 2015-2019. Write a paragraph analyzing the given data.



## SECTION C - LITERATURE

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [5]

- (i) Read the following extracts and answer the question/complete the sentences that follow: [5]

”You are disappointed”, Ausable said wheezily over his shoulder. “You were told that I was a secret agent, a spy, dealing in espionage and danger. You wished to meet me because you are a writer, young and romantic. You

envisioned mysterious figures in the night, the crack of pistols, drugs in the wine.”

- i. What makes Ausable comment to Fowler "You are disappointed"? (1)
- ii. Why did ‘he’ want to meet Ausable? (2)
- iii. Complete the given sentence: (1)  
Fowler was disappointed to meet Ausable because \_\_\_\_\_.
- iv. What is the meaning of the word **Espionage**? (1)
  - i. Finding out secret information
  - ii. Dealing with careless behaviour
  - iii. Ignorant about certain things
  - iv. Dealing indifferently

(ii) **Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

**[5]**

All through the night, Lencho thought only of his one hope: the help of God, whose eyes, as he had been instructed, see everything, to even what is deep in one’s conscience. Lencho was an ox of a man, working like an animal in the fields, but still, he knew how to write. The following Sunday, at daybreak, he began to write a letter which he himself would carry to town and place in the mail. It was nothing less than a letter to God. “God,” he wrote, “If you don’t help me, my family and I will go hungry this year. I need a hundred pesos in order to sow field again and to live until the crop comes because of the hailstorm...”

- a. Why Lencho thought only of his one hope: the help of God? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- b. Read the following descriptions (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract. (1)
  - a. Lencho worked in fields like an ox of a man. He worked like an animal in the fields.
  - b. Lencho became stressed and disappointed as everything went against the plan.
  - c. He felt helpless as no corn had been left and feared, that they might have to starve this time.
- c. What would be the word if a word were to be replaced with the phrase ‘the inner sense of right or wrong’? (1)

- d. Fill the blank with one word. Lencho wrote the letter to God, and he himself carried the letter to town and dropped in the \_\_\_\_\_. (1)

**7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [5]**

**(i) Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]**

The trees inside are moving out into the forest,  
the forest that was empty all these days  
Where no bird could sit  
no insect hide  
no sun bury its feet in shadow.

**i. Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)**

It is clear that Personification is the poetic device used for 'No sun bury its feet....' because (Clue: explain how personification applies here)

**ii. State whether the following statement is True or False: (1)**

The extract uses trees as a symbol for conservative people.

**iii. Select the appropriate option to complete the sentence, according to the extract. The idea of a forest that has been 'empty all these days' is \_\_\_\_\_. (1)**

- A. unnatural
- B. scary
- C. magical
- D. legendary

**iv. Which three things cannot happen in a treeless forest? (2)**

**(ii) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]**

Suddenly, suddenly they heard a nasty sound,  
And Mustard growled, and they all looked around.  
Meowch! cried Ink, and ooh! cried Belinda,  
For there was a pirate, climbing in the window.

**i. What can you infer from the repetition 'suddenly, suddenly' in the above extract? (1)**

- a. There was an immediate change in the scene.
- b. It focuses on the hasty attack and the loud noise.
- c. It emphasises that an unexpected noise was heard.

d. It draws our attention to the loud cry that occurred.

ii. What did Mustard do when he heard a nasty sound? (1)

iii. Fill in the blank with one word. The rhyming scheme of the lines \_\_\_\_\_.  
(1)

iv. The poet could have included a burglar or an intruder in the poem, but chose to include a pirate. Explain this choice. (2)

8. **Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words** [12]

(i) Where is Coorg? [3]

(ii) "On pads of velvet quiet In his quiet rage". Who is referred to here? Why does he express his anger quietly? [3]

(iii) How does Chubukov defend **Squeezer**? (**The Proposal**) [3]

(iv) Anne wrote in her diary to get things off her chest. List any two reasons why getting things off one's chest is recommended by counsellors as therapeutic. [3]

(v) For Frost, what do fire and ice stand for? [3]

9. **Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.** [6]

(i) What does Mrs. Pumphrey do to help Tricki? Is she wise in this? [3]

(ii) How does Bholi become her teacher's masterpiece? [3]

(iii) What made the boys follow Griffin? [3]

10. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words** [6]

(i) Imagine that the narrator shared his story with friends and family once he got home. One of them, a spiritual leader, decided to incorporate the story as part of his weekly sermon to the congregation. Another friend, a psychologist, worked the story into his next lecture on survival instinct and crisis management. Do you think the two interpretations of the story would be different? If so, how?

What insights might the narrator get about his mysterious experience, if he were to attend both the sessions? Answer in the context of the lesson **Two Stories about Flying**.

(ii) The tiger in the zoo is pacing back and forth in his enclosure, restless and frustrated. He sees the Mandela in the next cage over and they make eye

contact. The man is old and tired, but there is a fire in his eyes. They begin to speak to each other, each in their own language, but understanding each other perfectly. Imagine that they are both discussing about achieving freedom and never giving up hope.

You may begin like this.

The tiger says, "I was born wild, free, but I was captured and put in this zoo. I long to be free again, to roam the forests and plains."

Mandela replies ...

11. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.** [6]

- (i) Madam Forestier writes a diary entry after having met Matilda, knowing the truth and seeing the transformation in her friend. Write a short diary entry as Madam Forestier about your encounter and how you felt. You may begin like this. [6]

20th July, Monday 9:00 pm

I couldn't recognise Matilda at all. I wish she had told me the truth about the necklace.

- (ii) How did Anil lead his life? What was his profession? Why was Anil ready to have Hari Singh as a servant? [6]

**Solution**  
**SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 1**  
**English Language and Literature (184)**  
**Class X (2024-25)**

**Section A - Reading Skills**

1.
  - i. (C) All three biotics are equally important to support microscopic organisms that live in the gut microbiome.
  - ii. The writer emphasizes that prebiotics, probiotics, and postbiotics not only promote gut health but also have broader health benefits. Scientific evidence links them to improvements in metabolic diseases, depressive symptoms, sleep quality, and reduction in upper respiratory infections.
  - iii. contains live and active cultures
  - iv. (A) increase and decrease  
(C) beneficial and harmful
  - v. dozens of strains
  - vi. Prebiotics are crucial for gut health as they serve as food for beneficial microbes (probiotics). These undigestible fibers ensure the growth and activity of probiotics, which in turn maintain a balanced gut microbiome and overall health.
  - vii. (B) Checking the label for specific strains of bacteria.
  - viii. (A) Their relevance has been proven by scientific evidence.
2.
  - i. The cost of solving or reducing traffic congestion is enormous.
  - ii. 1, 2
  - iii. Proper implementation of corrective measures by citizens.
  - iv. (1) People prefer to travel on roads  
(2) Growth in demand of private vehicles
  - v. Peak
  - vi. environment
  - vii. traffic congestion
  - viii. 1, 3

**SECTION B GRAMMAR**

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed

(i) The correct form of the word is **“inspiring”**.

(ii)	Error	Correction
	cannot be available	may not be available

(iii) if he caught/catches the 9 a.m. one, he would reach/reaches office on time.

(iv) **(d)** They said that they really had enjoyed a movie they had never seen such a movie in life.

**Explanation: {**

They said that they really had enjoyed a movie they had never seen such a movie in life.

(v) Little

(vi)	Error	Correction
	seller	sellers
(vii)	<b>Error</b>	<b>Correction</b>
	<b>in</b>	<b>on</b>

(viii) (d) had called / complained

**Explanation: {**

had called / complained

(ix) an apple a day keeps the doctors away

(x) (c) She said that she didn't speak Urdu.

**Explanation: {**

She said that she didn't speak Urdu.

Simple Present becomes Simple Past; note that the pronouns have to be changed accordingly.

(xi) A. has been broken

The whole situation presented in the extract states the present condition.

(xii)	<b>error</b>	<b>correction</b>
	all	every

## SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

4. 3-B, DDA, Flats,

Punjabi Bagh,

Delhi

29<sup>th</sup> May 20XX

The Editor

i-Next

Delhi

Sir,

**Subject: Awareness to keep Metro clean**

I would like to thank the DMRC, Delhi for providing the citizens of Delhi with so much ease in commuting. I frequently use the Metro and find it very convenient. While travelling, I have noticed that though there is strict vigilance still people deface the Metro trains and stations. The tendency of people to deface public property causes lots of

problems. They think that it's not their work to maintain the cleanliness around the public property like Metro. I feel that if the DMRC, collaborates with the Directorate of Education and runs awareness programs in schools, we would be able to cover a wide spectrum of people and spread the message. It would be a great service to the city if you address this issue in your daily.

Thank you,

Yours faithfully,

Sweety.

OR

Army Public School,

Agra

6th July 2018

M/s Sethi Sports

Rainak Bazaar

Jalandhar,

Sir,

**Subject: Supply Of Sports Equipments For School**

Through this letter, the sports committee of our school has approved of certain items of sports materials manufactured by you.

The list of particulars are as follows:

- i. Hockey Sticks - 15
- ii. Tennis Racquet - 20
- iii. Cricket Kits - 20
- iv. Tennis Ball - 10
- v. Wickets - 6
- vi. Volleyball Net - 3

We request you to give a 15% discount on the purchase of the sports equipment and a further 10% discount that is usually granted to the institutional buyers. It goes without saying that you will have to bear the mail and other expenses involved in the dispatch and delivery of equipment.

All the items should be in good condition, well bound and packed properly. Any damage to these items during transportation will be your responsibility. Please dispatch the goods at your earliest convenience if our terms and conditions are acceptable to you.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely,

Monika Pundhir

(Sports instructor).



5. The given double bar graph represents student engagement in two of the most popular sports, i.e., Volleyball and Basketball. It shows a great variation in the interest of students preferring volleyball each year, however, basketball as a preference as a sport is quite constant. The highest number of children playing volleyball was in 2016 whereas it was preferred the least in the year 2019. However, there was a hike in 2018. Similarly, basketball showed a slight hike in 2016 but a decline is easily observed in 2019 like 2015. Initially, there were only 200 students who played volleyball in the year 2014 which increased gradually and reached 450 in the year 2016. There was a mixed response as the very next year the numbers declined but it again rose in 2018 followed by a decline in 2019. Basketball was preferred to volleyball thrice i.e., in 2014, 2017 and 2019. There was no change in the number of students playing basketball for the years 2017 and 2018.

OR

### **Purchase of Digital Devices**

According to the given data, a large number of digital devices were purchased in Rishu nagar across the years 2015-2019. The data indicates that more smart phones were purchased in 2015 as compared to the computers which numbered approx- 35,000 in 2015. There was a gradual size in the purchase in 2016 when the number of smart phones rose to 60,000 and computers to 59,000. The trend suddenly changed and a sharp rise was seen us. The purchase of computers in 2017 which again dropped to approx. 45,000 in 2018. The year showed a decline in the purchase of smart phones as well. But the year 2019 brought hope and cheer for the sellers when there was again an upward trend in both smart phones and computers. To sum up it can be said that the purchase of digital devices across these fire years showed the incline of people towards the hi-tech devices.

### **SECTION C - LITERATURE**

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

- (i) i. Fowler was disappointed to see Ausable because he had unrealistic views about secret agents.  
ii. Fowler wanted to meet him because he was a writer and wished to meet a real spy.  
iii. He was disappointed to meet Ausable who looked ordinary, slow, sluggish and a very fat person who lived in a small room on the top floor of a cheap hotel.  
iv. (a) Finding out secret information
- (ii) a. Lencho spent his entire night thinking of the only option left and : to seek the help of God, who, he had been informed, has its eyes and ears everywhere.  
b. Lencho worked in fields like an ox of a man. He worked like an animal in the fields.  
c. Conscience.  
d. mailbox.

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

- (i) i. ....the sun, which is non-human, is attributed the human feature of having feet.  
ii. False - (Trees are symbolic of woman. Adrienne Rich is a feminist poet.)  
iii. Option - A (Trees are an integral part of nature/forest. So, it is unnatural to depict treeless forest.)  
iv. A forest is a natural habitat for numerous birds and insects. When forests are cleared, no bird can make its nest, nor can insects hide in the bark of the trees and there's nothing to shade the area from sunlight.
- (ii) i. (c) It emphasises that an unexpected noise was heard.  
ii. Mustard growled when he heard a nasty sound.  
iii. The rhyming scheme is a a b b.  
iv. The poet chose a pirate over any burglar or a thief because **a pirate looks evil and nasty**. The way his leg crippled as one of them was of wood, pistol in both of his hands and a cutlass between his teeth was scarier than a burglar.

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

- (i) Coorg (or Kodagu) is the smallest district situated midway between Mysore and Mangalore in Karnataka. It is believed to be the heaven on earth which must have been drifted from the kingdom of God.
- (ii) The reference is to the tiger who is in a cage in the zoo. The tiger expresses his anger quietly because he finds himself helpless as he is locked and his freedom has been curtailed. Thus, he is unable to show his anger and ferocity.
- (iii) In order to quieten the boastful arguments of Lomov regarding his pet dog 'Guess'. **Chubukov appreciated Squeezer saying that he was pure-breed, firm on his feet and has well sprung ribs**. Lomov and Natalya were not able to decide whose dog was superior as Natalya was proud of her dog, Squeezer who was young and belonged to a pedigree, whereas Lomov considered it to be uppershot and boasted of his pet 'Guess' who he believed was a first-rate dog. But Natalya considered 'Guess' to be old and as ugly as a worn out cab horse.
- (iv) Getting things off one's chest helps you to find ways of coping better with life's issues. At the same time it also helps you to overcome your problems in a safe and confidential environment.
- (v) The word 'fire' stands for 'desire'. In the poem, it indicates all types of greed and lust to have more and more possessions. The word 'ice' in the poem indicates 'hatred and indifference' which is as cold as 'ice'. Unlike fire, it grows slowly but can be more destructive and is sufficient to devastate the world twice.

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

- (i) Mrs. Pumphrey thinks that Tricki is suffering from malnutrition. So she gives him malt, cod-liver oil and a bowl of Horlicks. As a result, she overfeeds him. No, she is not wise in this because consequently, the dog falls ill.
- (ii) Bholi was definitely her teacher's masterpiece as she was not a simpleton anymore. She became the ideal human being. Now she could take her own decisions. She was capable to choose between right and wrong. Under her guidance, she overcame her handicap of stammering. She changed into a bold and confident girl. Now she had the courage to revolt against a social evil of dowry and refused to marry the greedy Bishamber Nath.
- (iii) The footprints were of a man who was bare feet; they wondered who could be bare feet in such cold weather in London. The footprints were appearing from nowhere, following one after another; the boys kept following them; however, soon they became fainter and fainter and disappeared completely.

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

- (i) Yes, two interpretations of the story would be different. Spiritually, a person has deep faith in God and he recalls him in the time of distress he will definitely be answered. God will surely send help through his messengers as done in chapter 1. A letter to God. The postmaster became the messenger of God. Whereas psychologically, it interprets 'Never say die' till the end.

The narrator might also have got the insight of never to lose hope in the most hopeless situation. No one knows who may come to save you. The narrator was hopeless when he was caught in the storm. He lost all contact with Paris control and all his instruments were dead. Then came a help from unknown source in form of the mysterious pilot of the black aeroplane to guide the narrator to safety.

- (ii) The tiger says, "I was born wild and free, I should be in a jungle, hiding in a shadow to hunt for a prey, but I am locked in concrete cell. My strength is behind the bars. I long to be free again, to roam the forests and plains."

Mandela replies, "I, too, was born free, but I have been in this prison for years. I, too, long to be free again."

The tiger asks, "What is freedom?"

Mandela replies, "Freedom is the ability to live as we choose, to do as we please, to be free from oppression and tyranny."

The tiger says, "That sounds like a very difficult thing to achieve. I'm not sure I could ever be truly free."

Mandela says, "I think it's something we all strive for. It's the reason we fight for justice and equality. It's what gives us the strength to keep going, even when the odds are

against us." The tiger was inspired by Mandela's words, and he vowed to never give up hope that one day he would be free again.

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

(i) 20th July Monday 9:00 PM

I couldn't recognise Matilda at all. I wish she had told me the truth about the necklace, which she didn't. I feel so sorry for her. The poor lady had to go through so much just for the sake of one artificial necklace worth 400 francs. I am surprised she hid this all from me fearing I would demand the real price of the necklace from her. Oh! I wish she should have at least spoken to me once, so that I could have got her out of this predicament. My innocent friend, Matilda, whom I love so dearly, had to go through this pain of having lost my necklace in the ball. She during this course of life has become a much tougher person. She no longer is that sweet face of woman she used to be. It clearly pains to see her like this. I would like to help her.

Madam Forestier

(ii) Anil was a twenty-five years old man. He was a writer by profession who wrote for a magazine to earn his livelihood. He earned money by fits and starts. He was a kind-hearted fellow. He loved honesty. He led a very simple life. He spent economically. When he got money, he spent it on his friends. This was the example of his simplicity. When the narrator met Anil and requested him for work. Anil told him that he could not afford his salary. But on the narrator's request, Anil decided to offer him shelter. Anil told him that he would have to cook. But the narrator didn't know how to cook. So, Anil taught him the art of cooking. He treated him kindly. He never insulted him. He also taught him how to read and write so that he could lead a respectable life.