

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 2

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 passage carefully:

[12]

1. Five enterprises received approval and grants for prototype development of sustainable educational toys.
2. The government authorities, educational institutions and EdTech start-ups are planning to introduce state-of-the-art, made-in-India educational toys that not only throw light on Indian values and civilisations, but also help in developing children's critical thinking, and decision-making skills.
3. "One such enterprise is working on different types of projects that can teach children how electromagnets and magnetic fields work. These projects can resolve a lot of issues in many schools in tier two and three cities that don't have proper infrastructure. Another is working on an excavation site to teach children about ancient Indian civilizations. It has implanted a few artifacts at the site, which the children will have to find so that they are able to learn how to preserve and label artifacts. Another start up has proposed to create miniaturized labs for schools in tier 2 and 3 cities where children can learn concepts of Physics. "We will ensure that these prototypes are developed within a year and then the production can be scaled up," says the senior manager of the project talking about the importance of indigenously-built educational toys.

4. Playtime is vital for the cognitive development of children and toys are an essential component that helps enhance specific cognitive abilities and skill sets. "Well-designed toys ignite students' curiosity, increase focus and can be very beneficial in helping them master a skill and enhance understanding. These can be in the form of visuals, auditory aids, kinesthetic, or a mixture of all three." says HOD, Early Childhood Education.
5. Toys offer an engaging avenue to teach mathematical, verbal, problem-solving skills. "Toys that engage students in experiential learning enhance their special awareness and fine motor skills. Those designed for two or more players help students develop better social skills as they learn to negotiate, settle differences, etc, with their peers."
6. Experiential gadgets and toys enable students to learn faster and retain lessons longer. "A child's interest is piqued when he is taught in a contextual framework as opposed to rote learning. The Indian education system has been witnessing several innovations with the development of toys and gadgets that can be used and felt in person or through VR platforms across subjects, be it Science, Technology, Math or Engineering.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage given above:

- i. By tier 2 and tier 3 cities, the author refers to (1)
 - A. Metro cities
 - B. Cities with huge population
 - C. Underdeveloped cities
 - D. Cities with less population
- ii. Complete the sentence with evidence from the text. (1)

The made-in-India educational toys serves dual purpose of _____.
- iii. The author's point of view that can be inferred from the above passage is that _____. (1)
 - A. educational toys are the booming business.
 - B. educational toys are meant to entertain children.
 - C. educational toys will replace teachers.
 - D. educational toys will make education more pragmatic.
- iv. Complete the following sentence appropriately: (1)

Educational toys enhance the personality of children by _____.
- v. Read the five headlines (a) - (e), given below: (1)

- a. Sustainable Educational Toys are Developmentally Appropriate.
- b. Sustainable Educational Toys Promote Free play.
- c. Sustainable Educational Toys - Free and Widespread.
- d. Sustainable Educational Toys - Experiential Learning.
- e. Sustainable Educational Toys - Hinder Interaction with people.

Identify the option that displays the headline that DOES/DO NOT correspond with what the passage highlights.

- A. only (e)
 - B. (a) and (b)
 - C. (c) and (e)
 - D. only (d)
- vi. What evidences do you gather from the passage to state that educational system is revolutionized by educational toys? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- vii. Explain, how education at grassroot level is benefitted by these projects. (1)
- viii. As opposed to learning by heart, experiential toys (1)
- A. ignite interest
 - B. challenge the teachers
 - C. replace textbooks
 - D. confuse learners
- ix. Playing is usually considered a distraction. Is it justified on the part of the narrator to assert that playing is an important aspect of education? Write your answer in about 40 words. (2)
- x. How do experiential gadgets and toys benefit students in the learning process? (1)

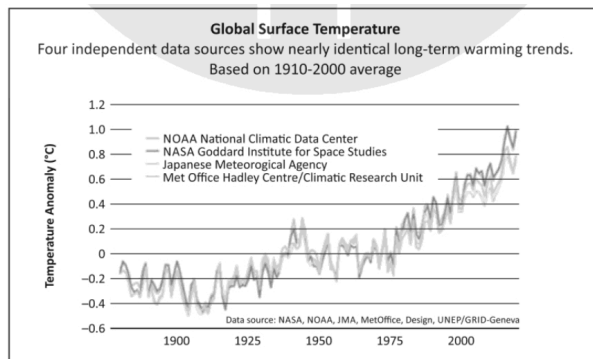
2. **Read the following passage carefully :**

[10]

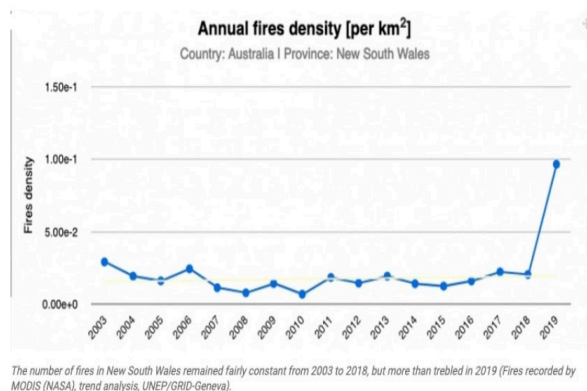
Australia's 2019-2020 Bushfire Season was not Normal

1. Data from satellite sources assembled by the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) World Environment Situation Room confirms that the wildfires in Australia in the last two months of 2019 and the first six weeks of 2020 were far from normal. 2019 was the second hottest year on record since 1880, and Australia recorded its warmest temperatures ever in December 2019.
2. "Rising temperatures continue to melt records. The past decade was the hottest on record. Scientists tell us that ocean temperatures are now rising at the

equivalent of five Hiroshima bombs a second. One million species are in near-term danger of extinction. Our planet is burning,” says United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres.



3. “The trend is very clear: 37 of the last 40 years were the warmest recorded since 1880, and the six warmest years recorded were the last six years,” says Pascal Peduzzi, Director of UNEP’s Global Resource Information Database in Geneva. “For those who think Australia is always burning, graphs clearly show that these fires were exceptional.”



4. “This service, accessible via the UNEP’s World Environment Situation Room, is provided for all countries at national and provincial levels. It identifies trends in wildfire activity since 2003, when the data first became available and monitoring began. We have sliced and diced the satellite-based data on wildfires worldwide from 2009 to the present day. We analyse the wildfires’ data by month, type of land cover, protected area, province and nation to produce information products,” Peduzzi adds. (Source: UN Environment)

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- i. Does the following statement agree with the information given in the extract?

(1)

When temperatures rise and ice melts, more water flows to the seas from glaciers and ice caps, and ocean water warms and expands in volume.

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. Do you think that ocean temperatures are currently rising at a rate of five Hiroshima bombs every second? Support your answer with reference to the text. **(2)**

iii. Select the option that lists the CORRECT statement. **(1)**

- A. Pascal Peduzzi is the Director of UNEP's Global Renaissance Information Database
- B. Pascal Peduzzi is the Director of UNO's Global Resource Information Database
- C. Pascal Peduzzi is the Manager of UNEP's Global Resource Information Database
- D. Pascal Peduzzi is the Director of UNEP's Global Resource Information Database

iv. Complete the sentence based on the following statement. **(1)**

In December 2019, Australia experienced its warmest temperatures ever. We can claim that the warmest temperature is because of _____.

v. The graph compiled with data from four different sources shows that the global surface temperatures have been _____. **(1)**

- A. steady
- B. falling
- C. rising
- D. not changed

vi. The passage talks about how Australia's 2019-2020 Bushfire Season was not Normal. Concerning the given statement, describe what is highlighted in the first graph. **(2)**

vii. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option. **(1)**

For those who believe that Australia is constantly on fire, the graph makes it abundantly clear that these _____.

- A. fires were normal
- B. fires were usual
- C. fires were exceptional
- D. fires were steady

viii. Complete the sentence appropriately with one word. (1)

Since 1880, 37 of the last 40 years have been the _____ on record, and the last six years have been the warmest on record.

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

3. The Traffic Police of your district has agreed to hold a one-day programme on road safety in your school. Draft a notice in about 50 words to be put up on the school notice-board, informing students of classes 8 - 12 to assemble at the appointed place. You are Shaili/Suneet, Sports Incharge. Mention day, date, time and venue. [4]

OR

As the Principal, National Public School, Ramnagar, write a notice in about 50 words informing the students that with effect from 20th of January the school shall start at 9 AM instead of 8 AM. Give reasons for the change.

4. Write a letter to your friend inviting him on the house-warming-ceremony of your newly constructed house. [4]

OR

You have received an invitation to attend the prize giving ceremony for the Inter-School Science Exhibit Competition. Write a formal letter in 50 words to the Principal of Rose Public School, Simla informing him/her about your inability to attend the ceremony. You are Dr. Suri. Mention day, date, time and venue.

5. Day by day lavish weddings are becoming more and more fashionable. Hotels, farm houses and banquet halls are booked months in advance. Even lower middle class families are entertaining thousand plus guests. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily advocating simple weddings. You are Rani/Raj, 121 Bank street, Kanpur. [5]

Traditional wedding expenses	Expense			
	Cost	Hotel or banquet for venue ₹2 lakh	International cuisine ₹4.8 lakh	Traditional decorations ₹2.5 lakh

OR

You are Sudha / Sudhir resident of A-7, Shanti Park. You read the following advertisements in a newspaper.

SITUATION VACANT

I wanted a young and experienced graduate with fluency in English and Hindi to work as a receptionist at Customer Care booths of NCR Groups of Hotels, Delhi. Contact Manager along with your complete C.V. within 7 days of this advertisement.

Draft an application in response to the advertisement giving your detailed resume.

6. You are Nishi/Nishant, a social worker, you feel that progress and advancement of a [5]
India can be enhanced by educating the girl child. He/She writes an article of 120 -
150 words for the local newspaper expressing his/her views. You may use the cues
given below.

Advantages of Educating the Girl child

- financial independence
- lead productive lives
- can participate in decisions that affect them
- build better future for themselves & their families

OR

You are a staff reporter of 'The Hindu', New Delhi. You have witnessed a road accident involving a lorry and a Maruti car at Mathura Road. Write a report in 100-125 words.
You are Ashok/Aruna.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

7. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: [6]

And
looked out at Young
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes, but after the airport's
security check, standing a few yards
away, I looked again at her, wan, pale
as a late winter's moon and felt that old
familiar ache ...

- i. What is the most likely reason the poet capitalised **Young Trees**?
- a. convey a clearer meaning.
 - b. highlight the adj.-noun combination.
 - c. enhance the contrast.

d. draw a connection with the title.

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

(1) The poet knows her mother has aged.

(2) She is struck with the pain of separation.

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.

iii. Choose the option that completes the sentence given below.

Just as the brightness of the winter's moon is veiled behind the haze and mist, similarly, _____.

a. the pain of separation has shaded mother's expression.

b. age has fogged mother's youthful appearance.

c. growing up has developed a seasoned maturity in the poet.

d. memories warm the heart like the pale moon in winter.

iv. Choose the correct option out of the ones given below.

a. **Simile**- then merry children spilling

Metaphor- old familiar ache

b. **Metaphor**- pale as a late winter's moon

Imagery- Young Trees sprinting

c. **Imagery**- all I did was smile

Personification- the merry children spilling

d. **Personification**- Young Trees sprinting

Simile- Pale as a late winter's moon

a. Option (a)

b. Option (b)

c. Option (c)

d. Option (d)

v. What do young sprinting trees signify?

a. Active

b. Cheerful

c. Bright

d. All of these

vi. **Familiar ache** refers the poet's _____ fear.

OR

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

“It is in the news that all these pitiful kin
Are to be bought out and mercifully gathered in
To live in villages, next to the theatre and the store,
Where they won’t have to think for themselves anymore,
While greedy good-doers, beneficent beasts of prey,
Swarm over their lives enforcing benefits
That are calculated to soothe them out of their wits,”
And by teaching them how to sleep they sleep all day,
Destroy their sleeping at night the ancient way.

- i. Fill the blank with an appropriate word, with reference to the extract.
'... And by teaching them how to sleep' here 'they' are the _____
- ii. Complete the following analogy correctly.
greedy good doers: alliteration :: beneficent beasts of prey : _____
- iii. The phrase in the extract **greedy good-doers** implies
 - a. the people who work for betterment of poor
 - b. politicians who are well aware of their duties
 - c. selfish people who also raise false hopes
 - d. Both (a) and (b)
 - i. option (a)
 - ii. option (b)
 - iii. option (c)
 - iv. option (d)
- iv. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to (1) and (2) given below.
 - (1) The city dwellers make promises for the betterment of the villagers.
 - (2) The city dwellers have ulterior motives.
 - 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.

v. Fill in the blank with an appropriate word:

Identify the phrase which refers to the deprived villages _____.

vi. Choose the one which is not the part of the news:

- a. Resettlement of poor
- b. They will enjoy the facilities of theatre and store
- c. They will be given extra land
- d. They will enjoy all the comforts

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

[4]

I cried aloud, shaking my head all the while until I felt the cold blades of the scissors against my neck, and heard them gnaw off one of my thick braids. Then I lost my spirit. Since the day I was taken from my mother I had suffered extreme indignities. People had stared at me. I had been tossed about in the air like a wooden puppet. And now my long hair was shingled like a coward's! In my anguish I moaned for my mother, but no one came to comfort me. Not a soul reasoned quietly with me, as my own mother used to do; for now I was only one of many little animals driven by a herder.

i. **Then I lost my spirit.** Choose the option that DOES NOT refer to **spirit**. (1)

- 1. resolve
 - 2. energy
 - 3. determination
 - 4. indifference
 - 5. enthusiasm
 - 6. will power
- a. 1, 2 and 5
 - b. 2, 4 and 6
 - c. 1, 3 and 6
 - d. 3, 4 and 6

ii. Choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below. (1)

Statement 1 The author had been subjected to humiliation when she was separated from her mother.

Statement 2 Nobody was able to ease her distress and empathise with her.

- a. Statement 1 is true but Statement 2 is false.

- b. Statement 1 is false but Statement 2 is true.
 - c. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 cannot be inferred from the passage.
 - d. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 can be inferred from the passage.
- iii. What is the tone of the given extract?
- iv. Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract. (1)
- In her community, _____ hair was worn by mourners and cowards wore _____. (1)

OR

Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

Sadao slept badly that night. Time and time again he woke, thinking he heard the rustling of footsteps, the sound of a twig broken or a stone displaced in the garden — a noise such as men might make who carried a burden.

- i. What burden had the **men** to carry?
 - a. Dr. Sadao himself
 - b. Dead body of Tom
 - c. The General
 - d. The things they have stolen from Sadao's house.
- ii. What quality of Sadao has been depicted here?
- iii. Why did Sadao awake again and again?
- iv. Who are the **men** referred to?
 - a. General and his subordinate
 - b. Servants
 - c. Assassins
 - d. Messengers from General

9. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [6]

I heard M. Hamel say to me, "I won't scold you, little Franz: you must feel bad enough, see how it is ! Everyday we have said to ourselves. Bah! I've plenty of time I'll learn it tomorrow. And now you see where we've come out. Ah, that's the great trouble with Alsace; she puts off learning till tomorrow. Now those fellows out there will have the right to say to you. 'How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language ?' But, you are not the worst, poor little Franz. We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with".

(The Last Lesson)

i. 'And now you see where we've come out.' (1)

The tone of M. Hamel in the above line is that of:

- A. kindness
- B. happiness
- C. regret
- D. enthusiasm

ii. 'We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with.' (1)

Select the option, which conveys the meaning of **reproach** as reflected in the above line.

- A. The player received a reprimand for breach of rules.
- B. The students approached the management with a demand for new canteen.
- C. The clerk received a letter of appreciation for his innovative ideas.
- D. She could not find a way to broach the subject with her boss.

iii. State whether the following statement is true or false with reference to the extract. (1)

M. Hamel endorses the belief that there is plenty of time to learn their language.

iv. Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

'You must feel bad enough.' Through these words M. Hamel urges the people _____.

v. Identify the line from the text that reinforces the theme of patriotism in the story. (1)

vi. She puts off learning till tomorrow. The phrase 'puts off' suggests _____. (1)

OR

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

"I sometimes find a rupee, even a ten rupee note", Saheb says, his eyes lighting up when you can find a silver coin in a heap of garbage, you don't stop scrounging, for there is hope of finding more. It seems that for children, garbage has a meaning different from what it means to their parents. For the children it is wrapped in wonder, for the elders it is a means of survival.

One winter morning I see Saheb standing by the fenced gate of the neighbourhood club, watching two young men dressed in white, playing tennis. "I like the game", he hums, content to watch it standing behind the fence. "I go inside when no one is around" he admits. "The gate keeper lets me use the swing."

i. Saheb found a rupee

- a. on the street
- b. in the garbage dump
- c. in Firozabad
- d. on the tennis court

ii. Which emotion of Saheb is revealed in the phrase **his eyes lighting up**?

- a. anxiety
- b. envy
- c. happiness
- d. greed

iii. For the elders garbage is _____ and for children it is _____.

iv. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to I and II given below:

I. Saheb watches the game from outside.

II. Saheb had lost the previous match.

- a. I is true but II is not
- b. II is true but I is not
- c. Both I and II are true
- d. Both I and II are untrue

v. **Scrounging** in the passage most nearly means.

- a. digging
- b. searching
- c. flinging
- d. burying

vi. **There is hope for finding more.** Explain with reference to the above extract.

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

(i) Why did Douglas fail to come to the surface of the pool as he hoped to? [2]

(ii) How can suspension of activities help in making life better? (Keeping Quiet) [2]

(iii) The tigers in the panel that she made [2]

Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.

What is the tone of the poet reflected in the above lines?

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

- (iv) How is Jansie wiser than Sophie? [2]
- (v) Who was the English visitor to the studio in the lesson Poets and Pancakes? [2]
- (vi) What evidence from the text reveals that Rudyard Kipling did not walk the talk? (The Interview) [2]

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

- (i) What was the objective of the **Students on Ice Programme**? (**Journey to the End of the Earth**) [2]
- (ii) How was the hundredth tiger made available to the king? [2]
- (iii) Tishani Doshi considered the program I Do you agree with her? Why/Why not? [2]
(Journey to the End of the Earth)

12. The tramp had a dream while asleep in deep slumber. [5]

In his dream, **Robert Frost** (poet of A Roadside Stand') seconds his philosophy of the world being a rattrap citing the miserable condition of the poor people of the countryside.

But **Pablo Neruda** (poet of Keeping Quiet) disagrees with him and emphasizes the significance of mindfulness, introspection, and retrospection which leads to unity and brotherhood.

While **Gandhi** (Indigo) dissuades him from making wrong choices and explains to him the value of self-reliance even during tough times.

Write a personal account in the form of a diary entry as the peddler and explain the value that he derives from this dream.

You may begin this way:

In a strange dream, I encounter several individuals who enlighten me on...

OR

Keats presents the idea of beauty as eternal that has a timeless lifelong attraction.

According to him,

"...it will never

Pass into nothingness, but will keep

A bower quiet for us, and a sleep

Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing."

In the same vein, Neruda manifests the beauty of quietness to obtaining inner clarity.

"Now I'll count up to twelve

and you keep quiet and I will go."

Pen down your thoughts in the form of a descriptive essay by exploring a common connection that runs into the phrases like “pass into nothingness”, “quiet breathing” and “you keep quiet and I will go”.

13. Imagine yourself as one of the children of the locality, who had been mocking Mr. Lamb and called him **Lamey Lamb**. Create a diary entry as a grown-up mentioning the loneliness and disappointment of Mr. Lamb which you didn't notice at that time but now you can understand the excruciating pain he had to go through then and how he struggled to overcome these feelings. [5]

You may begin like this:

Lamey Lamb, yes that's what we called that man who lived alone in a big house...

OR

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

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

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

You may begin this way:

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

Solution
SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 2
English Core (301)
Class XII (2024-25)

SECTION A – READING SKILLS

1. i. (C) Underdeveloped cities.
 - ii. Promoting Indian values and civilizations while also developing children's critical thinking and decision-making skills.
 - iii. The author's point of view that can be inferred from the above passage is that - educational toys will make education more pragmatic.
 - iv. Educational toys enhance the personality of children by - promoting specific cognitive abilities and skill sets.
 - v. (C) (c) and (e)
 - vi. Educational toys offer opportunities for hands-on learning in a variety of subject areas, which transform the educational system. Students learn more effectively and efficiently with these toys because they encourage hands-on learning.
 - vii. By building miniature labs and excavation sites, the projects listed in the passage address infrastructure problems in tier 2 and tier 3 cities. As a result of these projects, students have the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the subjects they are studying through practical experience.
 - viii. (A) ignite interest
 - ix. In fact, the narrator is right when he says that play is an essential part of education. By igniting children's interest, sharpening their focus, and enhancing particular cognitive abilities, well-made toys promote their cognitive development.
 - x. Experiential gadgets and toys help students learn faster and retain lessons longer by piquing their interest through contextual learning rather than rote memorization.
2. i. Not Given - There is no information on this
 - ii. Yes.

Rising temperatures continue to melt records. The past decade was the hottest on record. Scientists tell us that ocean temperatures are now rising at the equivalent of five Hiroshima bombs
 - iii. D. Pascal Peduzzi is the Director of UNEP's Global Resource Information Database.
 - iv. wildfires in Australia
 - v. rising
 - vi. The first graph clearly highlights the alarming rising temperature trend that set the scene for our Australian 2019/2020 bushfire season.
 - vii. C. fires were exceptional
 - viii. warmest

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

ABC school

NOTICE

Date: 11th September 2024

Road Safety Program

Attention Students of Classes 8-12!!!

The Traffic Police of our district will conduct a one-day road safety program in our school. All students of classes 8 to 12 are requested to assemble at the designated venue on time. Your presence is highly encouraged. Please ensure that you behave properly during the program.

Day/Date: Monday, 18th September 2024

Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Venue: School Auditorium

Shaili/Suneet

Sports In-charge

3. ABC School

OR

NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL, RAMNAGAR

NOTICE

Change in School Timings

4th January 20XX

Students are hereby informed that with effect from 20th of January, school shall start at 9 AM instead of 8 AM, due to certain contractual issues with the private buses plying for the school. Timings will remain as it is until these issues are completely resolved, . Any inconvenience caused is deeply regretted.

Principal

4. 27, Urban Estate,

Sector 15,

Karnal.

29 March 2019.

Dear Vineet,

I cordially invite you to the house warming ceremony of our newly constructed house in Urban Estate. With God's grace, the Hawan Ceremony is scheduled to be at 10 a.m.

followed by lunch at 1.00 p.m. Kindly join us with your family on this auspicious day. I'll introduce you to my parents and close relatives. My family will be glad by your presence.

With regards,
Kartik Verma

OR

AK/91 Bank Street

Simla - 20

15 February, 2024

The Principal

Rose Public School

Simla, HP

Subject: Inability to attend Exhibit Competition

Sir,

Thank you for extending the invitation for the prize distribution of Inter-School Science Exhibition. I regret my inability to attend the event on 23rd Friday, 2024 at your school auditorium at 10:00 a.m. because of some prior commitments. Please accept my sincere apologies. I wish best of luck to the entire school team for the same.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Suri

5. 121, Bank street

Kanpur

10th December, 20XX

The Editor

The Times of India

Kanpur

Subject: Simple weddings better than exuberant ones

Sir,

Through the medium of this letter, I would like to express my concern over the meaningless display of wealth during weddings these days. In the present day, lavish weddings have become a trend. Hotels, farmhouses and banquet halls are booked months in advance. Even lower-middle-class families are entertaining more than a thousand guests and consequently, they have to pay debts for months and sometimes for years too. No stone is left unturned to fulfill the desire of pretentiousness of being affluent in front of society. There is no denying of the fact that a wedding is indeed an important occasion but this moment of joy should not become a burden for families. We need to invite only our relatives and close friends for a wedding. An overcrowded gathering only leads to chaos and unnecessary expenditure. It is always better to have a simple wedding ceremony and an amount can be set aside to give to the couple to start their new life.

I hope my letter gets some space in your newspaper so that, through this trusted medium, people understand that money should not unnecessarily be wasted on exuberant wedding celebrations but should be used to invest in building the foundation of a happy married life.

Yours sincerely

Ram

OR

A-7, Shanti Park

Delhi

16 December 2019

The Manager

NCR Group of Hotels

Delhi

Subject: Application for the Post of Receptionist

Sir,

In response to your advertisement in the Hindustan Times dated December 20, 2019, for the post of a receptionist, I hereby offer my candidature for the same.

I possess the requisite qualifications and experience. I want to join your hotels to fully utilize my potential.

You may call me for an interview on any date at your convenience. I shall be able to join my duties at one month's notice if appointed. I am enclosing my detailed resume for your perusal.

Thank You

Sudha/Sudhir

Enclosure: Detailed Resume

Resume / Bio Data

- Name: Sudha / Sudhir
- Father's Name: Mr. Subhas
- Age: 25 Years
- Address: A-7, Shanti Park, Delhi
- Hobbies: Music, Net Surfing, Photography, Sports
- Languages Known: Hindi, English
- Nationality: Indian
- Educational Qualifications:
 - Passed Secondary Exam. from CBSE with 8.5 CGPA
 - Passed Senior Secondary Exam. from CBSE with distinction
 - Passed Graduation from Delhi University with first division

- Professional Qualification:
 - Diploma in Computers from Aptech with first division
- Experience:
 - Worked as a receptionist with the ABC group of companies for 2 years
- Expected Salary: Negotiable
- References:
 - i. Dr. Mohit Aggarwal
(Surgeon), GTB Hospital, Delhi
 - ii. Mr. Ashok Kumar
Principal
AB Public School, Delhi

6. **Why Should We Educate Our Girls?**
- Nishi/Nishant

In terms of growth and progress, India has come a long way, but it still has a long way to go. Empowering young children through education is a pathway toward advancement and improvement. When girls attend school, they are more inclined to exert effort, assist others, and create improved prospects for themselves and their families. Education provides girls with financial independence that is crucial for poverty eradication and gender equality. Besides, it converts the non-productive population into productive ones. Educated girls can engage in decision-making, fostering a fairer society. Additionally, educating females breaks poverty cycles and enhances family health. In conclusion, educating girls is morally imperative and strategically beneficial for our nation's future. Investing in their education enhances opportunities for all.

OR

Road Accident Claims Three Lives
by Aruna, Staff Reporter

New Delhi, 20th December, 20XX: Two persons lost their lives and three others, including a child, are on the verge of losing their lives as a result of their grievous injuries. It all happened when an over-speeding lorry hit a Maruti car in which they were travelling. The accident took place on Mathura Road at about 10 PM.

The lorry driver was driving very rashly. His vehicle was at a very high speed. He soon lost control over the vehicle while trying to overtake a bus. In an attempt to save a collision with the bus, he hit a Maruti car. Out of the five people who were travelling in the car, two died on the spot and three were seriously injured. They had been admitted to Safdarjung hospital.

The accident caused a major traffic jam as the lorry blocked the road for almost an hour.

The lorry driver has been arrested and a case of rash driving and causing death due to negligence has been registered against him.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

7. i. enhance the contrast.
ii. d. (2) is the reason for (1) and can be inferred from the extract.
iii. age has fogged mother's youthful appearance. age has fogged mother's youthful appearance.
iv. Option (d) All of these
v. The young sprinting trees signify the active, cheerful bright, and energetic youth.
vi. childhood,

OR

- i. villagers
ii. oxymoron
iii. option (c)
iv. (2) is the reason for (1)
v. Pitiful kin,
vi. They will be given extra land
8. i. 1, 3 and 6
ii. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 can be inferred from the passage.
iii. Dismal/gloomy/depressing/sombre
iv. Short; Shingled

OR

- i. Dead body of Tom.
ii. serving humanity/helping nature/loyal professional
iii. He was waiting eagerly for someone's arrival.
iv. Assassins
9. i. (C) regret
ii. (A) The player received a reprimand for breach of rules.
iii. False
iv. to take stock of the fact that they let the chance of learning their language slip away, and they might never get that opportunity again.
v. The line that reinforces the theme of patriotism in the story is the line where M. Hamel wrote on the blackboard - "Vive La France!" It translates to 'Long Live France', highlighting M. Hamel's patriotism towards his country.
vi. The phrase 'puts off' suggest procrastination.

OR

- i. in the garbage dump

ii. happiness

iii. survival

iv. I is true but II is not

v. searching

vi. While they scrounge they find something useful or some money, that forces them to look for more.

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

- (i) Douglas failed to come to the surface as he had hoped to because he ended up swallowing a lot of water after being thrown into the pool. He was gripped by his fear and could not move his limbs.
- (ii) The poet believes that suspension of activities will allow a man to introspect which in turn would help him in analyzing his own actions, in solving many of his problems and in mending his destructive ways. He will also know the reasons behind his dissatisfaction and mental agitation.
- (iii) The poem depicts Aunt Jennifer's entrapment through the contrasting images of the vibrant, free-spirited tigers and her own passive, subservient existence. The tigers symbolize the power and independence that Aunt Jennifer lacks, while the weight of her husband's wedding band represents the oppressive forces she endures.
- (iv) We can see Jansie's sensibility and maturity in her attempts to remind her friend that they were earmarked for the biscuit factory. She believed that costly dreams were inappropriate for their real life conditions. In this way, she is wiser than Sophie.
- (v) The English visitor to the Gemini Studios was Stephen Spender. He was the editor of *The Encounter*, a British Periodical, and a famous English poet, essayist, and novelist of the twentieth century.
- (vi) The evidence is that Kipling's own son was not allowed to read his works despite Kipling's public persona of advocating for children's literature and education. This contradiction between his public statements and private actions shows he did not practice what he preached.

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

- (i) The objective of the 'Students on Ice programme' was to take High School students to the limits of the world and provide them not only with inspiring opportunities in education but also enable them to understand and respect our planet. The idea was to provide them with a life-changing experience at an age when they are ready to absorb, learn and most importantly act.
- (ii) In *The Tiger King* by Kalki, the Dewan had brought a tiger from the People's Park in Madras and kept it hidden in his house. When the Maharaja threatened him with dire

consequences, he understood that the only way to save himself was to 'plant' a tiger for the kill. So, he and his aged wife dragged the tiger to the forest where the king was hunting.

(iii) In "Journey to the End of the Earth," Tishani Doshi reflects on her experience with the "Students on Ice" program, which takes high school students to Antarctica to educate them about climate change and the environment. She considers the program invaluable because it provides young people with a firsthand understanding of the planet's fragility and the urgent need for environmental conservation.

12. In a strange dream, I encountered several individuals who enlightened me on their philosophies. Robert Frost, the poet of 'A Roadside Stand', agreed with my philosophy of the world being a rattrap. He cited the miserable condition of the poor people of the countryside who are ignored by the city people and the government. He highlights the innocence and ignorance of these poor people who expect from the rich and government agencies for support in vain. He believed that the truths like sympathy and humanity that he seeks, and presents are innate in the human heart and the common objects, which people may and often do know, but forget.

On the other hand, Pablo Neruda, the poet of Keeping Quiet, disagreed with Frost and emphasized the significance of mindfulness, introspection, and retrospection which leads to unity and brotherhood. He believed that we should take a moment to pause and reflect on our actions and thoughts to create a better world.

Lastly, Gandhi from Indigo dissuaded me from making wrong choices and explained to me the value of self-reliance even during tough times. He believed that we should not rely on others to solve our problems and should take responsibility for our own lives.

This dream has taught me that there are different perspectives on life, and it is essential to consider them all before making any decisions. I have learned that it is important to reflect on my actions and thoughts and take responsibility for my own life. I will try to incorporate these lessons into my life and become a better person.

OR

Beauty, in its various forms, has long captivated the minds and hearts of poets and thinkers throughout history. John Keats and Pablo Neruda, two renowned poets, explore the concept of beauty in their works, drawing attention to the enduring nature of its allure and the tranquility it brings.

In Keats' poem, he presents the idea that beauty will never "pass into nothingness." It will always remain, providing a serene refuge for us. This notion of eternal beauty resonates with the idea of a "bower quiet," a peaceful sanctuary where one can find solace and rest. Keats further describes this state as a sleep full of sweet dreams, health, and quiet

breathing. It evokes a sense of tranquility and inner peace that beauty can bring.

Similarly, Neruda's poem emphasizes the beauty of quietness. He invites the reader to keep quiet while he counts up to twelve, suggesting that in moments of silence, one can attain inner clarity and a deeper understanding of oneself and the world. The act of keeping quiet allows for introspection and reflection, enabling one to find peace and stillness amidst the chaos of life.

The common connection that runs through these phrases is the idea of finding serenity and tranquility through beauty and quietness. Both Keats and Neruda highlight the importance of embracing moments of stillness and appreciating the enduring allure of beauty. They remind us of the value of finding solace in the simple pleasures of life and the significance of inner peace.

In a world filled with noise and distractions, it is essential to pause, reflect, and appreciate the beauty that surrounds us. Whether it is the timeless beauty that Keats describes or the quietness that Neruda advocates, these moments of respite allow us to rejuvenate our souls and find balance in our lives.

In conclusion, the writings of Keats and Neruda offer profound insights into the enduring nature of beauty and the tranquility it brings. They remind us to cherish moments of stillness, appreciate the beauty that surrounds us, and seek inner clarity. By embracing these concepts, we can find solace, peace, and a deeper connection with ourselves and the world around us.

13. 'Lamey Lamb', yes that's what we called that man who lived alone in a big house. Then one day a boy called Derry entered his garden and we saw them getting well along with each other and having long chats in the garden. We had found the common connection between the two, which was their uniqueness, Derry had a burnt face and Mr. Lamb had a tin leg. As a child, it was due to our prejudice against those who could not be categorized as "normal" because of their physical deformity that we behaved that way. Now, I apprehend how lonely the old man would have been. The whole day he sat in the sun and read books which proved that books were his only true friends. Once he told Derry that he was interested in anybody or anything that God has created. It may be a person, flower, fruit, grass, weeds, or rubbish. I mean who on earth has such a big heart to be interested in everything? This man did not use curtains in his house because he wanted to enjoy both light and darkness. When I contemplate now, I realise that all these were the signs of his loneliness and also his ways of overcoming it.

OR

Most often I wonder whom I would have married if I had not met Hana. She has been such a great support to me through my thick and thins that words of thanks would not just be sufficient. The incident where she went against herself to stand by me was my decision to

help the American prisoner of war. I could very well notice how she had to struggle to reconcile her loyalty to her country with her moral duty. Not only she went against her loyalty but also assisted me in the medical operations and the anesthetics while I was operating on Tom (the American prisoner) because Yumi, the nurse had refused to do so. She even managed all the chores herself when the servants left our home in protest. Despite being married for so many years, she is still the same loving wife. She has been my emotional anchor and has helped me navigate any moral dilemma that I have faced until now.