



ANGEL'S PUBLIC SCHOOL

SAMPLE PAPER

HALF YEARLY EXAM SESSION 2025 – 26

CLASS – X

TIME: 3 HRS

SUBJECT : ENGLISH

M.M:80

General instructions:

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

SECTION–A (Reading Skills)

(20 Marks)

I. Read the passage given below:

(10 marks)

- (1) The invention of the safety bicycle in the late nineteenth century transformed the world of cycling. While early versions of bicycles had been used in Europe since the seventeenth century, it was the safety bicycle with its lightweight hollow steel frame and equal-sized wheels that revolutionised the cycling experience.
- (2) This resulted in enhanced mobility for both men and women, allowing them to explore the countryside freely and travel between towns. Bicycles symbolised freedom, particularly for women, granting them self-reliable transportation and the ability to participate in recreational activities, like bicycle racing. The rise of bicycles also brought a shift in fashion, with more functional and relaxed clothing tailored specifically for cycling.
- (3) Bicyclists also became a political force. They played a significant role in the development of road maps, guiding riders along the best routes. They campaigned for better infrastructure to enhance their riding experiences.
- (4) Today, advances in technology, wearables and complex data analysis have transformed sports science, particularly in endurance sports, like cycling. Cyclists can now gather vast amounts of data simply by using mobile apps to track their activities. This data not only encompasses exercise details, like its volume or intensity, but also external factors like the impact of weather on the physiological response of the athlete. Furthermore, technology has made it easy to monitor performance-influencing data outside of training, such as heart rate or sleep quality, through various wearables and cost-effective mobile apps.
- (5) However, just because we are able to monitor so much information does not mean that it is useful for improving the sports performance of our athletes. In this sense, we believe that we must be critical while adopting any new technologies or trends in training. The first thing we should know is whether there is scientific support for the use of that new gadget or wearable. For example, core temperature is of great importance in the mechanisms that produce fatigue and exhaustion in endurance sports. A few years ago, a device came on the market that estimated this measurement in a non-invasive way and we saw many top cyclists and runners wearing it. However, a study later showed it to be an invalid device for measuring one's temperature.
- (6) Innovation in cycling has evolved from the invention of safety bicycles to technological advancements in sports science. Maximizing the potential benefits of these developments requires critical thinking to enhance the training and performance of modern cyclists.

Answer the following questions based on the passage above.

- (i) What is the passage mainly about? (1)
 - (a) How did the advancement of sports science impact the fashion industry?
 - (b) Why were the primary societal changes brought about by the rise of bicycles?
 - (c) How did the invention of the safety bicycle contribute to the development of wearable technology?
 - (d) In what ways did early versions of bicycles differ from the safety bicycle in the late nineteenth century?

- (ii) In which sentences does the author express uncertainty about the use of new technologies in training? (1)
- "... advances in technology have transformed sports science." (paragraph 4)
 - "This data not only encompasses exercise details but also external factors like weather." (paragraph 4)
 - "... just because we can monitor so much information does not mean it is useful." (paragraph 5)
 - "Maximizing the potential benefits of these developments requires critical thinking." (paragraph 6)
- (iii) Complete the sentence appropriately by providing two distinct reasons in the blank below. (1)
- It can be said the world of cycling has seen massive changes because _____.
- (iv) Which of these is opposite to 'invalid' as used in paragraph 5? (1)
- ethical
 - accurate
 - authentic
 - trustworthy
- (v) Using information solely from the passage, provide two distinct reasons to complete the sentence appropriately. (1)
- Bicycles can be seen as a symbol of empowerment because _____.
- (vi) Imagine you are a sports scientist tasked with developing a new technological tool to aid cyclists in their training. Provide a brief description, within 40 words, of its specific features and why you chose to include them. (2)
- (vii) Select the option that shows the correct relationship between (1) and (2). (1)
- Cyclists were able to improve the accuracy of maps.
 - Cyclists became influential and campaigned for better infrastructure.
- (2) is a contradiction of (1)
 - (2) is independent of (1)
 - (2) is an example of (1)
 - (2) is the cause of (1)

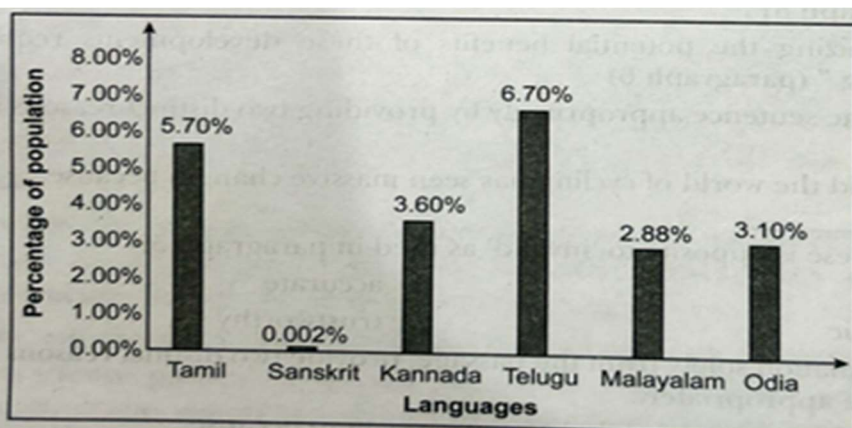
(viii) Below are statements from cyclists. Identify two statements that could be said by a cyclist in the late nineteenth century. (1)

- "I like having a personal coach on my wrist. It just told me how many calories I have burned so far!"
- "It's quite a struggle riding up these steep hills on my heavy steel-framed bicycle."
- "I feel so liberated whenever I hop on my bicycle. I didn't have freedom like this before!"
- "Ugh, there is so much traffic ahead. And I feel so pressured to meet my performance targets every time I hop on a bike."

II. Read the passage given below:

(10 marks)

- India is a country of many languages. The constitution recognises 22 languages officially, but over 121 unique languages have been identified in the country.
- To preserve and encourage the literary function of language, the government introduced 'classical languages' in 2004. According to the Ministry of Culture, a classical language is one that is at least 1,500 years old and has ancient, valuable literature recorded in it. Further, such a language is original and not derived from another language. Based on these guidelines, six languages have been classified as classical languages: Tamil, Sanskrit, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and Odia.
- The following graph shows the percentage of Indian people whose mother tongue is a classical language. This is as per data collected by the census of 2011. The census was not conducted in 2021 due to the pandemic.



- (4) According to the graph, around 6.7% of the Indian population are native speakers of Telugu, whereas Sanskrit has been identified as a mother tongue by only 0.002% of the population, which is around 24,821 people. Malayalam has the second lowest number of native speakers, making up about 2.9% of Indians.
- (5) The 2011 census data also noted that a majority of the native speakers reside in the area that their mother tongue originated from. For example, 93% of Kannada speakers live in Karnataka. Similarly, 93% of Malayalam speakers live in Kerala.
- (6) Balancing preservation of culture and inclusivity is a delicate equation for a heterogeneous country like India. With growing awareness, concepts like 'classical languages' may help us achieve harmony.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- (i) Which of these pieces of information can be confirmed by reading the passage? (1)
- the number of people in India who speak Tamil
 - where the majority of native Sanskrit speakers live
 - the reason Malayalam is considered a classical language
 - when the idea of classical language was introduced in India
- (a) Only (I) (b) Only (IV)
(c) Only (I) and (II) (d) Only (III) and (IV)
- (ii) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets. (1)
- Based on the passage, the _____ (functional/historical) value of a language is of utmost importance while _____ (preserving/categorising) it as a classical language.
- (iii) Imagine that a committee was formed to ensure that classical language have more native speakers by the time the next census is conducted. In 40 words, answer the following questions to help the committee achieve its objective. (2)
- Which classical language needs its attention most urgently and why?
 - Which classical language would be THIRD on its priority?
- (iv) State an example from the passage that shows that India is a 'heterogeneous country'. Answer in one sentence. (1)
- (v) Why has the writer stated the following line in the passage? Give a reason. (1)
- The census was not conducted in 2021 due to the pandemic.*
- (vi) Complete the sentence based on information from the passage. (1)
- If Tamil originated from Tamil Nadu, we can infer that _____ of the native Tamil speakers would be living in Tamil Nadu.
- (vii) Which of these hypothetical situations would help India achieve harmony? Justify your answer in about 40 words. (1)
- if the majority of Indians who speak a classical language are settled abroad
 - if more languages from remote and tribal areas of India are identified as classical languages
 - if the percentage of Indians who are native Telugu speakers increases to more than 10 percent
- (viii) Which of these sentences uses 'delicate' in the same way as paragraph (6) does? (1)
- She looked beautiful in the dress with the 'delicate' floral pattern.
 - He was frequently admitted to the hospital due to his 'delicate' health.
 - This discussion will require careful consideration as it is a 'delicate' matter.
 - Please handle these 'delicate' items carefully during transportation as they break easily.

2. Complete any 10 of 12 of the following tasks, as directed.

(i) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from a Health Magazine.

As per the advisory issued by the government, proper distancing, regular service of the buses and their proper disinfection _____ be ensured.

- (a) Ought (b) Must (c) Need to (d) Have to

(ii) Identify the error in the given sentence, from a school magazine report and supply the correction.

The heavy dose of chemicals that we ingest with every bite of fast food and carbonated drinks are a lethal combination for our health.

Use the given format for your response

Error	Correction

(iii) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the sentence.

_____ not talk to her when she is in bad mood.

- (a) Need (b) May (c) Dare (d) Must

(iv) Identify the error on a shops, hoarding and supply the correction, for the following sales offer:

Illegally parked vehicles will be fine.

Use the given format for your response

Error	Correction

(v) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report on the UNO.

The rebel troops crossed the bridge in boats over the Yamuna and stood clamouring for admittance below the Red Fort walls.

Option no.	Error	Correction
i.	troops	troop
ii.	in	of
iii.	over	under
iv.	for	over

(vi) Complete Nelson Mandela’s by quote filling in the blank with the correct option.

“ The greatest glory in living _____ not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.”

- (i) Lie (ii) Lies (iii) Lays (iv) Laying

(vii) Fill in the blank with the correct option.

When one gazes at the sky, the glimmer of stars _____ the vastness above.

- (i) Fill (ii) Fills (iii) To fill (iv) Is filling

(viii) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the live feed on a school news channel.

The regional competition awards have been announced and our school music club _____ the first prize.

- (a) Had been won (b) Was winning (c) Will win (d) Has won

(ix) Identify the error and supply the correction for the following statement.

The national team could adhere to a strict court of conduct, refraining from cheating and unethical behaviour, or else they will be disqualified.

Use the given format for your response

Error	Correction

(x) Identify the error in the given sentence:

The ship, Titanic and her fate continues to fascinate the imagination of the people.

Use the given format for your response

Error	Correction

(xi) Complete the given narrative, by filling the blank with the correct option

The two parks in our locality have virtually _____ over by undesirable elements.

- (i) Been taking (ii) Take (iii) Taken (iv) Been taken

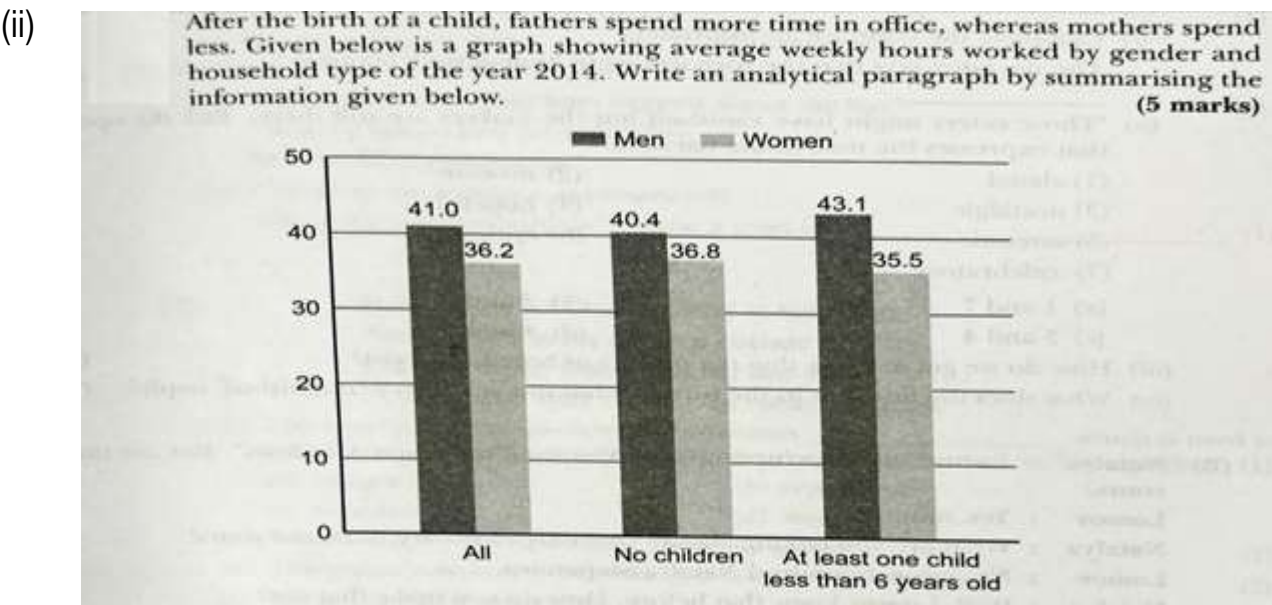
(xii) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from a magazine.

When our cherished ideas are contradicted by facts, we _____ avoid the human tendency to double down on those ideas.

- (i) Must (ii) Need (iii) Could (iv) Can

Creative Writing and Skills

- (i) You are Christopher, a resident of C-216, Margaret Green Avenue, Loni Road, Delhi. Three students of grade 10 from your residential complex went around the city at midnight and covered shelterless people with blankets without waking them up. You think that their work deserves appreciation and recognition. Write a letter to the secretary of your society, seeking recommendation for these youth, to be nominated for “Star Volunteers Award”. Suggest other ways how such acts of kindness could be recognised and awarded in the future. (5marks)



6. A. Read the extract given below and attempt the questions that follow : (5×1=5)

Inside the clouds, everything was suddenly black. It was impossible to see anything outside the aeroplane. The old aeroplane jumped and twisted in the air. I looked at the compass. I couldn't believe my eyes the compass was turning round and round and round. It was dead. It would not work. The other instruments were suddenly dead, too. I tried the radio. 'Paris Control? Paris Control ? Can you hear me? There was no answer. The radio was dead too. I had no radio, no compass, and I could not see where I was. I was lost in the storm.

- (i) As soon as the pilot was inside the cloud
 (a) his ears got blocked. (b) he choked with fear.
 (c) his vision was obstructed. (d) he was jumping up and down.
- (ii) The devices in the aeroplane were
 (a) malfunctioning. (b) broken completely.
 (c) giving wrong readings. (d) stopped responding completely.
- (iii) The Paris air control did not reply to the pilot's call because
- (iv) Select the option that correctly captures the application of the word 'twisted' as used in the extract.
 (a) Ragini twisted Raghav's wrist.
 (b) Ragini twisted the story to suit the occasion.
 (c) Ragini did not appreciate Raghav's twisted bent of mind.
 (d) Ragini watched the swimmer as he twisted twice in the air before diving into the water.
- (v) Fill in the blank with ONE WORD only :
 The narrator's comes through clearly when he sees the compass turning round and round.

Or

B. His fingerprint, for he had opened the safe without gloves, were all over the room and no one believed him when he said that the wife of the owner had asked him to open the safe for her. The wife herself, a grey-haired, sharp-tongued woman of sixty said that the story was non-sense.

- (i) Why was Horace arrested and sent to jail ? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- (ii) Who had actually prompted 'him' to open the safe ? (1)
 (A) the maid
 (B) his own accomplice
 (C) a lady thief
 (D) The neighbour of shotover Grange
- (iii) Complete the following sentence appropriately. (1)
 The wife of the owner of the house was a woman of
- (iv) State whether the following statement is True or False. (1)
 The wife of the owner was reticent woman.

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

A. No use to say 'O there are other balls' :

*An ultimate shaking grief fixes the boy
As he stands rigid, trembling, staring down
All his young days into the harbour where
His ball went. I would not intrude on him ;
A dime, another ball, is worthless. Now
He senses first responsibility
In a world of possessions.*

- (i) Having lost his ball the boy was
(A) confused (B) sad
(C) lost and confused (D) happy (1)
- (ii) The poet wants the boy
(A) to buy another ball (B) not to play with the ball again
(C) to grow up and cope with his loss (D) to grow up and forget this loss (1)
- (iii) The ball has gone into (1)
- (iv) In a world of possessions the boy senses responsibility. Comment in 30-40 words. (2)

OR

B. He should be snarling around houses

*At the jungle's edge,
Baring his white fangs, his claws,
Terrorising the village !*

- (i) 'He' referred to in the first line is
(A) an animal (B) a lion
(C) tigers (D) a tiger (1)
- (ii) 'Snarling around houses' reveals the
(A) angry mood (B) ferociousness
(C) sorrowful mood (D) loud voice (1)
- (iii) The use of the word 'village' for villagers is an example of (1)
- (iv) Why does the tiger visualized here behaves normally ? Answer in 30-40 words. (2)

8. Answer any four of the following five questions in about 40 to 50 words. (4x3=12)

- (a) How did Mandela's hunger for freedom change his life?
- (b) What is the theme of the poem "A Tiger in the Zoo"?
- (c) What did Lencho compare to new coins? Why?
- (d) How does the Seagull express his excitement when he saw his mother bringing food for him?
- (e) How does the poet suggest that you identify the lion and the tiger? When can you do so according to him?

9. Answer any two of the following in about 40-50 words each. (2x3=6)

- (a) Why could tricky not be cured at home?
- (b) What are Hari Singh's reaction to the prospect of receiving an education? Do they change over time?
- (c) State one likely reason that the writer of the midnight visitor chose to characterise possible as short and fat.

10. Answer any one of the following about 100 to 120 words. (6)

"The diary of Anne Frank" is a work of an insightful mind of a young girl. Explain.

OR

How is the title of the story, "A Letter to God" apt and suitable?

11. Answer any one of the following about 100-120 words. (6)

The ultimate message that one can get from the midnight visitor is that in any situation, we should not panic. Instead, we should take a step and face the situation with our presence of mind. Explain.

OR

The message of "A Question of Trust" is that we should not trust anyone without discovering out about that person. Analyse in detail with reference to character of Horace in the story.