

O. P. JINDAL SCHOOL, SAVITRI NAGAR**Annual Examination (2025 – 2026)****Class: IX****Subject: English****MM: 80****Time: 3 Hrs.****(Fifteen Minutes Extra will be given for reading the Question Paper.)****General Instructions:**

1. This paper is divided into four parts: A, B, C & D. All questions are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.
3. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
4. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A: READING SKILL 20 Marks**Q1. Read the following passage carefully:**

(1) On a Sunday full of possibilities, I'm confused by too many choices. I unlock my phone and innumerable choices pour: movies, music, podcasts, games, and this truly perplexes me. Amidst my indecision, a dust-ridden copy of 'The Bell Jar' falls from the bookshelf. My guilt finds respite in the puddle of addictive videos online.

(2) In a hyper connected world, books are left to age pale yellow. Reading is seen by the newer generations as mundane. Though the benefits of reading are common knowledge, the privilege of choice overpowers. Many publishers and bookstores have now shut down.

(3) 'The blast of the digital' has made everything catering to shrinking attention spans, with overwhelming choices from online poetry to captions to tweets. The reading fabric of Gen Z is brief. They are reading rapidly and recklessly. Reading for sole bliss seems to be a thing of the past. Though digital reading might be a new avenue for words, studies suggest that printed text develops better comprehension.

(4) The Reading Manifesto of October 2023 rightly argues that digital reading is 'superficial' and confined to mere text decoding. Reading text, on the other hand, helps cultivate better cognitive abilities, attention span and vocabulary. We live in an age where fake news prevails. The much required ability to distinguish between fact and fiction can only be developed by critical reading of printed texts.

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

- (i) In paragraph (1), what causes the indecision in the author's mind ? 1
- (ii) How does the author describe the current state of reading among the new generation ? 1
- (A) They are more engaged with books than ever before.
- (B) They find reading more exciting than digital media.

(C) They view reading as mundane and prefer digital media.

(D) They balance their reading between digital media and printed texts.

(iii) Complete the following with the correct option from the given two.

'Privilege of choice' in paragraph (2) means :

1

(A) Easy and readily available options

(B) Rare and valuable opportunities

(iv) Complete the following suitably and support it with a reason.

2

The difference between digital reading and reading printed text is _____. Paragraph (3)

(v) The phrases "reading rapidly and recklessly" and "overwhelming choices" convey that Gen Z _____.

Paragraph (3)

1

(vi) State whether the following statement is True or False :

1

Reading only for pleasure is a thing of the past. Paragraph (3)

(vii) The Reading Manifesto states that digital reading _____. Paragraph (4)

1

(A) is deep and comprehensive

(B) is superior to traditional reading

(C) fosters superficial reading confined to text decoding

(D) has an impact on cognitive skills

(viii) Support the writer's idea that reading has many advantages and it can counteract the spread of fake news. Paragraph (4)

2

Q2. Read the following report carefully:

(1) India is geographically diverse and offers a variety of cultures that come with their own experiences, making it one of the largest markets for travel and tourism — both international and domestic.

(2) A recent survey conducted by a well-known travel company revealed surprising statistics about the status of tourism in the country. Most of the international tourists were senior citizens between the ages of 65 – 75 years while domestic tourism mostly attracted the younger age group between 40 – 55 years.

(3) The reasons for these findings were many. With air travel becoming cheaper, international travel was no longer a privilege of the rich. The mystic experiences attract people from outside the country. Furthermore, the tourism department of India is also working hard to spread awareness about the rich heritage, culture, architecture, cuisine, art and craft of every state.

Domestic tourism is becoming popular because of the improvement in transport infrastructure, modern railways and development of tourist sites.

(4) Above all, the people of India are welcoming hosts who leave no stone unturned in their hospitality, connecting with others by creating emotional connections. In India, there is a story at every corner you turn that is filled with love, warmth, and excitement.

Answer the following questions based on the report above:

(10 Marks)

(i) Complete with a suitable reason.

1

The most likely reason why India is one of the largest markets for travel and tourism is that _____.

(ii) Fill in the blank with an appropriate word/phrase.

1

The term 'mystic experiences' suggests that the tourists_____.

(iii) What did the surprising statistics reveal about the status of tourism ?

1

(A) India is the hub of sustainable tourism.

(B) International tourists were mostly senior citizens.

(C) Air travel has become cheaper.

(D) Our experiences enhance the market for tourism.

(iv) Which age group of travellers prefer domestic travel over international tourism ?

1

(v) Why is domestic tourism becoming popular ?

1

(vi) What is the contribution of the people of India in enhancing tourism ?

2

(vii) What was earlier only the luxury of the rich ?

2

(viii) What, according to the report, are the reasons for the rising popularity of international tourism to India ?

1

I. Attractive packages

II. Economic air travel

III. Affordable shopping

IV. Mystic experiences

V. Rich cultural heritage

Select the correct option :

(A) Only I

(B) I, III and IV

(C) II, IV and V

(D) Only V

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS 24 Marks

Q3. Your school is organizing an Inter-Class Debate Competition for students of classes IX to XII. Write a notice in 50 words announcing the details of the competition, including the theme, date, venue, and registration process. Encourage all interested students to participate. **(4 Marks)**

OR

You are Sarju Pandey /Sarika Pandey, president, Kenwood Residents welfare Association, Eden Garden, Chennai. Write a notice in not more than 50 words for the residents of your colony

informing them that the lift of your apartment will remain closed on 12th and 13th of this month due to maintenance work.

Q4. The school plans to take students of Class 8 & 9 for a trip to Darjeeling. The students of Class 8 & 9 are excited after the announcement was made in the morning assembly. Construct a dialogue between Maya and Rohan, in about 100 words who are discussing their upcoming school trip.

(5 Marks)

OR

Shan is in a dilemma as he wants to go for an excursion to Goa but his father insisted that he has to stay back for his cousin's wedding. Construct a dialogue between both of them in about 100 words.

Q5. Write a letter to your friend in 120 words describing a recent family vacation you enjoyed.

You are Shiv /Shivani living at 150-1st floor, Dilshad Apartments, Delhi. (120 words) **(7 Marks)**

Toy train ride through misty tunnels- snow-dusted pine forests- cozy bonfire
storytelling- horseback adventures on apple orchards - steaming momos at a local dhaba

OR

Write a letter to your cousin in 120 words inviting him/ her to participate as a volunteer in a charity event for a local animal shelter. You are Shiv /Shivani living at 150-1st floor, Dilshad Apartments, Delhi. (120 words)

Pet adoption drives under sunny skies

- Grooming stations with wagging tails
- Fun fair games for animal lovers
- Auction stalls raising rescue funds
- Volunteer teams in colorful tees
- Heartwarming stories from strays
- Group photo with happy paws

Q6. Inclusive education, which means embracing diversity of all kinds irrespective of gender, race, economic deprivation, physical and mental challenges, etc..... is urgently needed in schools.

Use the cues given below along with your own ideas, write an paragraph on 'Education – a Right for All' in about 150 words. You are Zeenat/Zia.

(8 Marks)

Importance of Inclusive Education- Better critical, emotional, empathetic, social skills development. Improve academic outcome – respect for diversity Promotion of equality → social justice → reducing stigma against differently abled.

OR

Increasing urbanization and industrialization in our country is having an adverse effect on historical monuments and threatening their existence, Write a paragraph in about 150 words on 'Preserving Geoheritage – For A Better Tomorrow'. Use the cues given below along with your own ideas. You are Shammie/Suresh.

Importance of Geoheritage Landscape alteration → impact of mining
Pollution from industries → effects on geoheritage. Urbanization and industrialization → loss of natural – habitat- Need for sustainable development strategies.

SECTION C: GRAMMAR 10 Marks

Q7. Complete the task from (a) to (c) as directed :

a) Fill in the blanks (i) – (iii) with the appropriate options from those given in the brackets. (3 Marks)

Rahul : Rakesh, I (i) _____ (must/would/could) say, your choice of music (ii) _____ (is/was/has been) rather unconventional for a teenager. How (iii) _____ (do/does/done) you expect to be taken seriously by the audition committee ?

b) In the following paragraph, one word has been omitted in each line. In your answer sheets, remember to write the missing word that comes before and after it, as shown below. The first one has been done as an example. (4 Marks)

NO	Text	Word before	Omission	Word after
Eg.	My clothing reflects condition of the poorest of Indians.	reflects	the	condition
(i)	By wearing simple dhoti			
(ii)	I stand solidarity with			
(iii)	them highlight the need			
(iv)	for reliance and independence			

c) Do as directed. (3 Marks)

(i) Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence. 1

Reporter : Good afternoon Mr. Prasad. Indeed an honour to speak with you.

Mr. Prasad : Good afternoon sir.

Reporter : Sir, do you think your attire is appropriate for a meeting ?

Mr. Prasad : the simplicity / that /I / my attire / and modesty/ reflects / advocate

(ii) Report the dialogues to complete the paragraph that follows.

1+1

Mr. Prasad : Respect does not come from clothes but character.

Reporter : What if the management insists on formal clothing ?

Mr. Prasad : I would politely refuse to do so.

Mr. Prasad said that (1) _____. Not convinced with his reply the reporter further questioned

Mr. Prasad (2) _____. Mr. Prasad firmly replied that he would politely refuse to do so.

SECTION D: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK 26 Marks

Q8. Read the following excerpts and answer the questions briefly, for any two excerpts of the given three, (a), (b) & (c): **(4 X 2 =8 Marks)**

(a) Into the lean and slippered pantaloons,

With spectacles on nose and pouch on side,

His youthful hose, well saved, a world too wide

For his shrunk shank; and his big manly voice,

Turning again toward childish treble, pipes

(i) Which stage of man is referred to here?

1

(A) Fifth (B) Third (C) Seventh (D) Sixth

(ii) 'Shrunk shank' means _____

1

(A) socks (B) thin legs (C) wrinkled face (D) twisted neck

(iii) Why does his voice again become childish?

1

(A) Suffers from sore throat (B) Remains unwell
(C) Is like a child's voice again (D) His old age weakens his voice

(iv) What does the poet mean by lean and slippered pantaloons?

1

OR

(b) The pair set daily goals; Monday, the sixth fence post, Tuesday, the seventh fence post, Wednesday.....

(i) The pair in the above line refers to _____

1

(A) Doctor & Hooper (B) Marcy & Hooper
(C) Duke & Hooper (D) Marcy & Duke

(ii) Their daily goal was to _____

1

(A) cross the road (B) cover more and more distance
(C) carry each post everyday (D) fence one post everyday

(iii) The pair needed to set daily goals as _____

1

(A) Chuck had realised that he could be normal (B) they had been given a deadline
(C) they were in competition (D) they were lagging behind

(iv) "Slow and steady wins the race." What is the significance of this proverb in the above extract?

1

OR

(c) I come from haunts of coot and hern;

I make a sudden sally

And sparkle out among the fern,

To bicker down a valley'.

(i) Who comes from the haunts of coot and hern? 1

(A) The brook (B) The river (C) The birds (D) The flowers

(ii) What does it do among the fern? 1

(A) Shines (B) Moves (C) Flies (D) Disappears

(iii) What is the rhyme scheme of the above stanza? 1

(A) ABAB (B) AABB (C) ABAA (D) AABBB

(iv) What does the word, 'bicker' mean here? 1

Q9. Answer any six of the following questions in 30 to 40 words each: (6 x 2 = 12 Marks)

(i) What did the poet do in earlier days that have led to her tooth decay?

(ii) Why does the convict initially break into the Bishop's house?

(iii) In what way is Rain's coming to earth a pleasure mixed with sorrow?

(iv) Highlight on Juliette's feeling about the potential buyers, Gaston and Jeanne?

(v) Analyse the character of Jessie Allyn in "Best Seller." How does her background and personality influence her relationship with John A. Pescud?

(vi) What role does suspense play in "The Man Who Knew Too Much," and how does it contribute to the story's tension?

(vii) How does the absence of Harold's knowledge about his father's boxing career affect the dynamics within the Hooper family?

Q10. Answer any one of the following questions in about 150 words (6 Marks)

A. In "How I Taught My Grandmother to Read," how does the protagonist's effort to teach her grandmother reflect the value of patience and perseverance in relationships?

OR

B. Analyse the impact of solitude on the theme of melancholy in "The Solitary Reaper." How does the poet convey the emotional depth through the solitude experienced by the reaper?
