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कक्षा दसवीं/ प्री-बोर्ड I परीक्षा 2025-26

Pre Board I Examination 2025-26 for Class X

SUBJECT : ENGLISH (Code No. 184)

General Instructions:

Read the instructions 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 Textbook

3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each Part.

SECTION A Reading Skills**20 MARKS**

Read the following passage carefully :

10

1 (1) If they go unaddressed, life's annoyances can affect your well-being. Scientific studies have found that people who rate high on tests for anger are at an increased risk for high blood pressure and heart disease. To process anger in a healthy way, Todd Kashdan, a psychology professor at George Mason University in Virginia, recommends you attempt to understand why you feel upset. Without pinpointing why you're angry, he says, "You can't get a foothold to figure out what your body is mobilizing to do."

(2) When harnessed properly, anger can be a motivator. Frustration can drive us to choose a novel path while problem-solving or to become focused and committed — taking up a new cause, for example. Frustration may also be useful in negotiations. But watch, how you express it : raising your voice during a debate may be helpful, but the same tactic could potentially undermine collaborative work.

(3) Vexation has limits. Kashdan recommends thinking of anger as a speedometer, where 10 kilometres per hour is irritation and 100 kilometres per hour is blind rage. Speed limits are a measure of effectiveness: momentary annoyance during a negotiation might be useful, but rage seldom is. If you use anger as a tool too often, people will learn to avoid you. While others may offer small amounts of time and effort to keep your temper from erupting, you'll miss out on their best contributions.

(4) If you get into a disagreement with someone, pause for a moment and try to understand that person's point of view, then look for a mutually beneficial solution. Once you become angry, your thinking gets too narrow. To bring anger down a notch, psychologists recommend practising deep breathing. Focus on inhaling and exhaling, and picture your breath travelling to your diaphragm. Create a playlist of music to help relax when you feel agitated. Different genres work for different people.

(5) Keep disagreements from turning into fights by improving your communication skills. Avoid cutting others off or using accusatory adverbs like 'always' and 'never'. "Unhealthy anger, the inability to cool down when upset, can be a symptom of mental health disorders such as depression," says Darin Dougherty of the Harvard Medical School. Speak to your doctor if this feels familiar : medication and cognitive behavioural therapy help.

(6) After anger runs its course, let go. Experts offer three steps for decompressing after you've been hurt : make sense of the wrongdoing with a loved one or a therapist; avoid dwelling after you've processed the issue; and, finally move on — find humour in the situation or leave the environment if it has become toxic

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- | | | |
|------|--|----|
| i | Complete the following statement : According to the passage, it is important to understand the reason for your anger because _____. | 1 |
| ii | According to the author, which of the following is an effective way to bring down anger ?
(A) practising deep breathing
(B) playing a musical instrument for others
(C) travelling to different places
(D) going for a physical workout | 1 |
| iii | Select the option that displays what the writer projects, with reference to the following :
If you get into a disagreement with someone, pause for a moment and try to understand that person's point of view. (Paragraph 4)
(A)denial (B) conviction (C) reflection (D) compassion | 1 |
| iv | Select the option which is closest in meaning to 'undermine'. (Paragraph 2)
(A) collective (B) emphasize (C) unilateral (D) weaken | 1 |
| v | Explain this statement from Paragraph 2 – "Frustration can drive us to choose a novel path while problem-solving." | 2 |
| vi | How can communication skills help in anger management? | 1 |
| vii | Complete the sentence appropriately: If your anger remains uncontrolled,
(A) Decisions will get delayed resulting in losses.
(B) you will not receive the best contributions.
(C) there can be momentary annoyance during a negotiation.
(D) people will respond equally aggressively. | 1 |
| viii | How can you unwind after letting go of your anger? Give two suggestions from the text. | 2 |
| 2 | Read the following passage carefully : | 10 |
| (1) | Rotation of crops is a universal phenomenon which is practised by most of the farmers of the tropical and temperate countries. The main objective of rotation of crops is to obtain higher agricultural returns on the one hand, and to maintain the soil fertility on the other. | |

(2) In other words, the rotation of crops helps in making agriculture more sustainable. The importance of crop rotation is more in the areas where farmers grow two, or more than two crops in the same field in a year. Irrigation facilities have also been appreciably developed in the country during the last three decades. The availability of water to the arable land has helped in the intensification of agriculture.

(3) In the areas such as Punjab and Haryana, where the Green Revolution is a big success, one soil exhaustive crop (rice) is followed by another soil exhaustive crop (wheat). Subsequently, the field vacated by wheat is devoted to either rice or maize or cotton. Thus, in one year, the farmers are harvesting three soil exhaustive crops from the same field. Such a rotation of crops may fetch more income to the farmers, but depletes the soil fertility at a faster pace.

(4) A number of field studies were conducted to assess the traditional crop rotation pattern. One such field study about the changes in the rotation of crops was conducted in the village Banhera (Tanda), Haridwar district. The main rotation of crops of the village is shown in the table below.

<i>Traditional Rotation of Crops (1960-65) in Banhera (Tanda)</i>				
<i>Year</i>	<i>Kharif (mid-June to mid-October)</i>	<i>Rabi (mid-October to mid-April)</i>	<i>Zaid (April to June)</i>	<i>No. of days land left fallow</i>
1960	Millet/fodder/rice	Gram	Fallow	90
1961	Fallow	Wheat	Fallow	210
1962	Millet/fodder/rice	Gram	Fallow	90
1963	Fallow	Wheat	Fallow	210
1964	Millet mixed with urad/fodder/rice	Gram	Fallow	90
1965	Fallow	Wheat	Fallow	210

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- i Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of para 2. 1
One of the reasons that there has been an intensification of agriculture in the country is the development of irrigation facilities is a/an _____ (fact/opinion) because it is a/an _____ (subjective judgement/objective detail).
- ii Based on your understanding of paras 1 and 2, state whether the following statement is true or false. 1
If proper irrigation facility is provided, higher agricultural returns can be obtained by making crop rotation more sustainable.
- iii Justify the following in about 40 words. Crop rotation may fetch more income to the farmers, but depletes the soil fertility at a faster pace. 2
- iv Based on the table, mention the years when the land was left fallow for maximum number of days. 1
- v The study conducted in village Banhera (Tanda) reflects that during the years 1960 to 1965, from April to June, the land was left fallow or uncultivated throughout. State any one inference that can be drawn from this. 1
- vi Select the option that correctly states the significance of crop rotation as given 1

below :

- (1) Crop rotation is done to obtain higher agricultural returns.
- (2) Higher agricultural returns can be obtained by harvesting soil exhaustive crops.
- (3) Crop rotation demands that land should be left fallow for a few months to increase the fertility of soil.
- (4) Better irrigation facility to the arable land has helped in the intensification of agriculture.
- (5) If crops to be harvested are chosen wisely, crop rotation can help in maintaining fertility of soil.

Options :

- (A) (1), (2) and (4)
- (B) (1) only
- (C) (3) and (5)
- (D) (1) and (5)

- vii Crop rotation is helping in making agriculture more sustainable. Mention one benefit and one drawback of crop rotation. (Answer in about 40 words) 2
- viii Which of the following is the main takeaway from the study mentioned in the passage ? 1
- (A) The study needs to include more valid data to support the practice of crop rotation.
- (B) Crop rotation is a sustainable practice that can transform the agricultural sector.
- (C) The impact of crop rotation on been thoroughly explained.
- (D) Crop rotation is independent of the type of crops harvested and availability of water for irrigation.

SECTION B Grammar and Creative Writing Skills

20
marks
10

- 3 Complete any ten of the following twelve tasks, as directed. 10X1=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

Dear Mr. Sanjay,

I am writing this letter to officially inform you that the management has _____ (approve) the request submitted by you for a business trip to Germany.

- (ii) Read the given sentence from a book review article. 1

Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.

Isn't it great when you find one of those books that completely pulls you in and make you fall in love with the characters?

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- (iii) Tanmay and Sonia had a conversation about their summer vacation plans. Report Tanmay's question. 1

Where are you planning to go this summer vacation?

- (iv) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the warning given before a YouTube video.

1

Any props used in this video that show resemblance to _____
(some/many/any) illegal materials are merely props and should not be taken seriously. Do not try this at home.

- (v) Identify the error and supply the correction for the given sentence taken from an article about law.

1

A literary composition possess its own characteristics and its own standards of merit.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- (vi) Complete the given narrative by filling in the blank with the correct option. Summer is an ideal time to take a hike, especially if you _____ THE opportunity to explore one of our country's many state and national parks.

1

(A) are having (B) will have (C) have (D) has

- (vii) Read the dialogue between Amit and his sister Ambika regarding his future plan.

1

Ambika : Are you aiming for a State rank ?

Amit : Yes, I am. My teachers are guiding me to get my aim fulfilled.

Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.

Ambika asked Amit whether he was aiming for a State rank. Amit replied in the affirmative and _____ to get his aim fulfilled.

- (A) told her that the teachers are guiding him
(B) replied that the teachers were guiding him
(C) told her that his teachers were guiding him
(D) replied that his teachers have been guiding him

- (viii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the opening line of a Privacy Policy document.

Your email address can only be recorded if you choose to send a message. It will not be used for any other purpose, and will not be disclosed without your consent.

1

Option No	Error	. Correction
(A)	can	will
(B)	choose	chooses
(C)	purpose	purposes
(D)	for	of

- (ix) Report the following dialogue between a doctor and his patient, by completing the sentence.

Doctor : Do you still have any pain in your lower back ?

Patient : No, there is no pain in the lower back, but I feel a numbing sensation in my left leg.

1

The doctor asked the patient if he still had any pain in his lower back. The patient

answered in the negative and explained that _____.

(x) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the part of the acknowledgement printed in a textbook.

Every effort _____ made to trace all the copyright holders. We apologize for some omissions and will gratefully acknowledge them as soon as they can be traced.

(A) were (B) are being (C) have been (D) has been

(xi) in the blank with the correct option.

The little tree by the old road fence Grew in the summer sun. ,

(A) to grow (B) to be growing (C) grown (D) growth

(xii) Identify the error and supply the correction for the following note

To maintaining the water-resistant and dust-resistant features of your device, make sure that the SIM card tray openings are free of dust and water.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

4 Attempt **any one** from (a) and (b) given below :

(a) You are Suyash/Suhani Pandey, the Eco-Club Captain of Kendriya Vidyalaya School, Shripur. You are well aware of the hazards of using plastic bags indiscriminately and want the authorities to ban the excessive use of these bags. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily in not more than 120 words, drawing attention towards the harm caused by plastic litter. Express your concern over environmental degradation due to plastic waste and request the public to avoid the reckless use of polybags.

OR

(b) You are Risha Khan / Zuhaan Khan, the sports captain of Highrise Public School, New Line, Rai Nagar. You believe that games and sports are an integral part of a student's life. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, sharing your views on the importance of physical education and suggesting the need to establish a dedicated sports university, so that students can pursue and focus on their favourite sport.

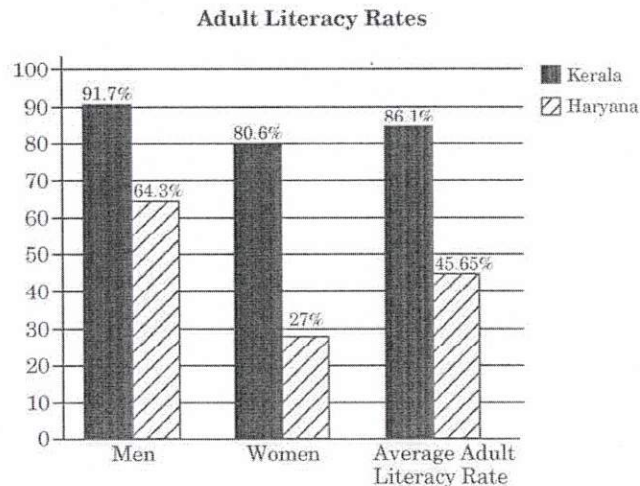
5

(a) In the past few years, the teaching-learning process has taken a leap and gone beyond the four walls of the classroom. Today, it has become possible to learn not just by sitting in a physical classroom, but from anywhere. Given below is a chart depicting the differences between E-learning and Classroom learning. Write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words, assessing the benefits and drawbacks of both, by selecting features that support your analysis.

E-learning	vs.	Classroom learning
• accessible anytime anywhere • at your own pace • no travel costs, saves time		• same place, same time • caters to the needs of the class • transportation cost and time-consuming

OR

- 5 (b) The bar graph given here, depicts the adult literacy rate in two states of India. Write an analytical paragraph in 100 120 words drawing comparison between the two and write possible reasons for this difference.



SECTION C
Literature And Supplementary Reading Text

40
marks

- 6 Read the following extracts and answer the questions for **any one** of the given two, (a) and (b) :

5

(a) Writing in a diary is a really strange experience for someone like me. Not only because I've never written anything before, but also because it seems to me that later on neither I nor anyone else will be interested in the musings of a thirteen-year-old schoolgirl. Oh well, it doesn't matter. I feel like writing, and I have an even greater need to get all kinds of things off my chest. 'Paper has more patience than people.' I thought of this saying on one of those days when I was feeling a little depressed and was sitting at home with my chin in my hands, bored and listless, wondering whether to stay in or go out. I finally stayed where I was, brooding : Yes, paper does have more patience and since I'm not planning to let anyone else read this stiff-backed notebook grandly referred to as a 'diary' unless I should ever find a real friend, it probably won't make a bit of difference. (From the Diary of Anne Frank)

(i) Why did Anne Frank finally decide to write in her diary? Answer in about 40 words.

2

(ii) What word best describes Anne?

(A) rebellious (B) reflective (C) flighty (D) considerate

1

(iii) Anne agrees with the saying 'Paper has more patience than people.' What does this show us about her attitude towards people ?

1

(iv) If the diary were 'a real friend', which one of the following qualities would Anne expect it to have?

1

(A) impatience (B) good listener (C) confident (D) energetic

OR

(b) NATALYA : Forgive us, Ivan Vassilevitch, we were all a little heated. I remember now: Oxen Meadows... really are yours. LOMOV : My heart's beating

awfully. My Meadows... My eyebrows are both twitching.... NATALYA : The Meadows are yours, yes, yours. Do sit down. [They sit] We were wrong. (The Proposal)

(i) 'We' refers to _____.

(ii) Why was Lomov's heart beating 'awfully' ?

(iii) Fill in the blank with a correct word from the brackets.

The use of the phrase 'twitching eyebrows' adds to the sense of _____ (agitation/pleasure).

(iv) Why does Natalaya say "Forgive us, Ivan... We were wrong" ? Substantiate in about 40 words from the given extract.

7 Read the following extracts and answer the questions for **any one** of the given two, (a) or (b):

(a) 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 (The Trees)

(i) Where are the trees moving out from?

(ii) How does the author's use of descriptive language enhance the impact on the reader ?

(iii) Complete the following suitably : The emptiness of the forest is highlighted by _____.

(iv) Explain the phrase "no sun bury its feet" with reference to the extract.

OR

(b) But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great And would suffice.
(Fire and Ice)

(i) State whether the following is True or False :

Ice melts the hate and destructive forces present around us.

(ii) What is 'ice' symbolic of in the above extract ?

(iii) What does the poet mean by saying that 'ice would also suffice'?

(iv) The use of the word 'perish' corresponds best with:

(A) disembark (B) revive (C) replenish (D) disintegrate

8 Answer **any four** of the following five questions in 40 – 50 words each:

(i) The postmaster, experiencing the contentment of a man who had performed a good deed, handed the letter to Lencho. How did Lencho react when he counted the money? (A Letter to God)

(ii) Coorg is known as 'the land of rolling hills.' Describe its picturesque beauty and biodiversity. (Glimpses of India)

(iii) Interpret how nature is a living entity as characterized by Carl Sandburg in his poem. (Fog)

(iv) Natalya is obstinate and argumentative. Give two examples from the story

highlighting her nature. (The Proposal)

(v) "Not from weeping nor from grieving will anyone obtain peace of mind; on the contrary his pain will be greater and his body will suffer." Validate this preaching of the Buddha with reference to the story, 'The Sermon at Benares'. (The Sermon at Benares)

9 Answer **any two** of the following three questions in 40 50 words each : 2x3=6

(i) Analyze how Herriot uses Tricki and Mrs. Pumphrey's relationship to comment on societal attitudes towards pets and the responsibilities associated with their care. (A Triumph of Surgery)

(ii) Today reading books is on the decline because of the prevalence of electronic media. Contrarily, earth is saved by a 'Book' in the chapter "The Book That Saved the Earth". Elaborate.

(iii) Discuss the character development of Griffin, as he grapples with the repercussions of his actions and attempts to navigate a world, where his once extraordinary abilities have become a burden. (Footprints without Feet)

10 Answer **any one** of the following two questions in 100 120 words : 6

(a) Amanda and Valli both represent a longing for freedom. Examine the above observation with reference to the two texts. (Amanda and Madam Rides the Bus)

OR

(b) In 'The Ball Poem', Berryman explores the themes of loss, growing up, and transformation. Mandela also experienced loss of freedom and suffering along with his countrymen during his growing years on the basis of his race and colour. Compare and contrast the commonality of themes in both the texts. (The Ball Poem and Nelson Mandela – Long Walk to Freedom)

11 Answer **any one** of the following two questions in 100 – 120 words : 6

(a) Bholi manages to break out of her shell and metamorphosize from an underconfident girl to a bold woman, who brimmed with confidence. Analyse the impact of education in her life. How does this story of self-transformation give us hope and encourage us to never compromise on our self-respect and dignity ? (Bholi)

OR

(b) The non-existent balcony plays a crucial role in 'The Midnight Visitor'. How? Examine the witty strategy used by Ausable in emerging as a super spy. (The Midnight Visitor)

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