

O. P. JINDAL SCHOOL, SAVITRI NAGAR**Periodic Test –I II (Round – I) 2025 – 2026****Class: XI****Subject: English Core****MM: 20****Time: 1 Hr.****General Instructions:**

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING & GRAMMAR and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A- READING

(1) Honey is a natural sweet substance produced by honeybees from the nectar of flowers. Known for its distinct flavour, aroma, and health benefits, honey has been used by humans for over 8,000 years. India ranks among the top honey-producing countries in the world, with Punjab, West Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh being the leading producers. Honey is widely consumed not only as a food but also as a medicine in traditional healing systems like Ayurveda.

(2) The popularity of honey lies in its numerous health benefits. It is rich in antioxidants, enzymes, and minerals that boost immunity and aid digestion. Studies show that honey can soothe sore throats, heal wounds, and provide a natural energy boost. However, excessive consumption can increase blood sugar levels and lead to weight gain, so moderation is key.

(3) Beekeeping, also known as apiculture, is the process of maintaining bee colonies for honey production and pollination. It requires skill, patience, and knowledge of bee behaviour. Bees play an essential role in pollination, which supports agriculture and biodiversity. Without bees, crop yields and ecosystems would suffer greatly.

(4) Honey production involves several steps: collecting nectar, processing it in the hive, and storing it in wax combs. After extraction, honey is filtered and packed for commercial sale. The quality of honey depends on factors like flower variety, climate, and handling methods. Beekeepers must ensure cleanliness and proper hive management to maintain purity.

(5) Globally, China is the largest producer of honey, followed by Turkey and Argentina. Indian honey, especially from mustard and eucalyptus flowers, is valued for its natural taste and purity. The government has launched the “National Beekeeping and Honey Mission” to promote modern beekeeping practices, increase rural employment, and enhance honey exports. Thus, honey symbolizes not only sweetness but also sustainability and livelihood.

Answer the following questions based on the passage:**(4 marks)**

(i) *Honey is one of the most valued natural products in the world.* Support the above statement in about 40 words with evidence from the text.

(ii) Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below.

Assertion: Beekeeping contributes to environmental balance.

Reason: Bees are important for pollination, which sustains agriculture and ecosystems.

- A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C. A is true, but R is false.
- D. A is false, but R is true.

(iii) State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE:

Abundant consumption can escalate the blood sugar levels and lead to weight loss.

(iv) Substitute the word “purity” in the sentence “Beekeepers must ensure cleanliness and proper hive management to maintain purity” with ONE WORD similar in meaning.

SECTION B - WRITING AND GRAMMAR

Q2. Answer any one in 100 - 120 words:

(5 marks)

Read the following news article carefully and answer the question that follows:

Digital Devices and Teen Mental Health: A Growing Concern

A recent national survey by the Indian Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IIMHN) revealed that nearly 68% of Indian teenagers spend over 6 hours daily on their smartphones. The study found a direct link between prolonged screen time and rising cases of anxiety, depression, and sleep deprivation among adolescents. Experts warn that excessive use of social media apps and online gaming platforms may be reshaping how young people interact, think, and even perceive themselves. However, others argue that digital devices have also enhanced learning, creativity, and connectivity, especially during the pandemic. With online education, digital skills, and global exposure becoming essential in today's world, technology cannot simply be viewed as a villain.

You are Divya / Dev, a student of Class XI of Horizon Public School, Pune. Your school is conducting an Inter-School Debate Competition on the topic: “Digital technology is doing more harm than good to today's youth.” Using ideas from the article and your own understanding, write a debate either FOR or AGAINST the motion

OR

Your school is organizing an Inter-School Debate Competition for Class XI students. The topic for the debate is: “*Academic success depends more on hard work than on intelligence.*” As Ananya / Arjun, a student of Class XI of Springdale Public School, Lucknow, you are participating in the competition. Write a debate either FOR or AGAINST the motion.

Q3. Rearrange to make meaningful sentences (Any THREE):

(3 marks)

- (a) wear / these / people / a majority / of / days / a watch
- (b) time / it / in / measures / seconds / and / hours / minutes
- (c) shapes / different / a wristwatch / sizes / and / is available / in
- (d) like / digital / while / prefer / wristwatches / mechanical ones / others / some people

SECTION C- LITERATURE

Q4. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

(2x1 = 2 marks)

*“I am the Poem of Earth,” said the voice of the rain,
Eternal I rise impalpable out of the land and the bottomless sea,
Upward to heaven, whence, vaguely form'd, altogether changed, and yet the same,*

I. Which idea about rain is best conveyed through the lines “altogether changed, and yet the same”?

II. Identify the poetic device used in the expression “I am the Poem of Earth.”

A. Metaphor B. Personification C. Simile D. Alliteration

Q5. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40- 50 words each:

(2x3 = 6 marks)

- I. What advancements have taken place in archaeology since 1922 as discussed in ‘Discovering Tut’?
- II. Explain how rain cleanses & beautifies its origin as discussed in the poem ‘The Voice of the Rain’.
- III. AR Williams says, “*King Tut is ...in death as in life regally ahead of his countrymen.*” How far do you agree with the assertion and why?