O. P. JINDAL SCHOOL, SAVITRI NAGAR

Periodic Test – I (Round – I) 2026 – 2027

Class: XI **MM: 20**

Subject: English **Time: 1 Hr.**

General Instructions:

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

SECTION A- READING

Q1. Read the following passage:

(1) Travel, they say, broadens the mind, but who exactly are 'they' ? These mysterious sages seem to know a thing or two about the transformative power of packing a suitcase and jetting off to distant lands. As Mark Twain wisely put it, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness." Indeed, leaving behind your familiar surroundings and completely involving yourself in a new culture is like enrolling in a crash course in the School of Life.

(2) Take, for instance, the confusing world of foreign languages. You might think you know how to navigate a city because you can book a hotel and call a taxi, but try finding your way through a maze of winding streets in an old European town. Suddenly, "Where is the train station ?" seems sadly not enough. It's a humbling experience, much like realizing that 'piazza' is Italian for 'square' and not a type of pizza. But therein lies the beauty: each navigational blunder is a lesson, each wrong turn a new entry in your personal map of life.

(3) Then there are the historical landmarks. Visiting the Colosseum isn't just a chance to take an Instagram-worthy selfie; it's a real-life history lesson that textbooks can only dream of. As you stand in the shadow of this ancient arena, you might find yourself daydreaming about gladiators and emperors, only to be jolted back to reality by a selfie stick to the face. Travel has a way of making history real, even if it sometimes includes the odd bruise.

(4) Moreover, travel teaches resilience and adaptability. Missed flights, lost luggage, and questionable hotel rooms can turn even the most meticulously planned vacation into a comedy of errors. Yet, these are the moments that foster growth and creativity. Who knew you could fashion a comb out of a hotel toothbrush and a bit of resourcefulness.

(5) Travel is a passport to a world of knowledge, where every stamp tells a story and every journey is a chapter in the grand, unfinished novel of your life. So, next time you find yourself lost in a foreign city, remember: you're not just a tourist; you're a student of the world, and the curriculum is as vast as your curiosity.

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

(i) According to Mark Twain, how does travel influence people ?

(ii) How does the author use the metaphor of 'crash course in the School of Life' to interpret the value of travel ?

(iii) The comparison of 'navigational blunder' to a 'lesson', in the context of travel, primarily highlights :

(A) the inevitability of getting lost while travelling.

(B) the educational value of travel experiences.

(C) the frustration of not knowing a foreign language.

(D) the importance of planning every detail of a trip.

(iv) Provide one textual evidence with reference to paragraph (4) to prove that travel promotes creativity.

SECTION B- GRAMMAR & CREATIVE WRITING

Q2. Fill the blanks with the correct form of the tenses: (Attempt any TWO) (2 Marks)

Very few people (i) _____ loneliness. It seems to me that most people (ii) _____scared of (iii) _____ left on their own.

(i)	(a) enjoy	(b) enjoys	(c) enjoyed	(d) enjoying
(ii)	(a) is	(b) am	(c) are	(d) was
(iii)	(a) be	(b) being	(c) been	(d) having

Q3. Attempt any one in about 50 words. (3 Marks)

You are Gaurav Singh of 4 A Enclave, Swarka, New Delhi. You want to sell your car. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words for publication in the times of India giving details of make, model, condition and giving your contact address.

OR

You are Shalini, resident of Vijay Vihar, Haryana. You want to let out a house. Draft an advertisement in about 50 words to be published in the classified columns of a newspaper.

SECTION C- LITERATURE

Q4. Read the following extract and answer the questions: (1x2 = 2 Marks)

'My mother's, that was before I was born

And the sea, which appears to have changed less

Washed their terribly transient feet.'

(i) When did this incident take place?

(ii) Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.

Assertion: the sea in the photograph remains the same.

Reason: the sea touched the girls' feet in the picture.

A. Assertion is true, reason is the correct explanation.

B. Assertion is true, reason is not the correct explanation.

C. Assertion is true but reason is false.

D. Assertion and reason are false.

Q5. Answer the following in 40 to 50 words each: (3 X 3 = 9 Marks)

(i) Mention three reasons why the author's grandmother was disturbed when he started going to the city school.

(ii) Comment on the title 'The Portrait of a Lady'?

(iii) Explain- *"Both wry with the laboured ease of loss".*