

Maharashtra Board Class 12 English Question Paper 2023 with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 Hours

Maximum Marks :80

Total questions :5

General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

Important instructions:

- (i) Each activity has to be answered in complete sentence/s. One word answers will not be given complete credit. Just the correct activity number written in case of options will not be given credit.
- (ii) Web diagrams, flow charts, tables etc. are to be presented exactly as they are with answers.
- (iii) In point 2 above, just words without the presentation of the activity format/design, will not be given credit. Use of colour pencils/pens etc. is not allowed. (Only blue/black pens are allowed.)
- (iv) Multiple answers to the same activity will be treated as wrong and will not be given any credit.
- (v) Maintain the sequence of the Sections/ Question Nos./Activities throughout the activity sheet.

SECTION I: PROSE

(Reading for Comprehension, Language Study, Summary and Mind Mapping)

1. Read the extract and complete the activities given below:

I was quite happy getting into IIT, but my joy was short-lived. At Solapur, I had not seen any building which was more than three storeyed. Mumbai however was full of skyscrapers. At

IIT, most of the students and professors used to converse in English whereas my English was very poor. I had my entire education in Marathi. My spoken English was quite pathetic. Not only did I have a very weak vocabulary, but, my pronunciation also was terrible and my construction of English sentences very awkward to say the least. Due to all this, I was feeling quite lonely and terrified in Mumbai in general and IIT in particular. I had developed an inferiority complex and wanted to run away from IIT and even Mumbai. One day, I was sitting at my mess table in the hostel sipping tea when a senior guy came and sat on the chair adjacent to me. He was a convent educated guy with fairly sophisticated English – at least spoken or colloquial English. He was a bit arrogant and wanted to pull my leg. He tried to engage in some conversation with me and started pointing out errors in just about every sentence or everything that I said. After about 5 minutes he walked away after insulting me. I felt extremely humiliated and upset. As it is, I was feeling quite depressed and diffident and this incident was the last straw. I was almost broken. I felt out of place there and literally wanted to run away to Solapur that very moment. However, it was only my self-esteem which stopped me. Suddenly, a feeling of determination and strength came over me and gripped me.

A1. Choose and rewrite the two correct statements from the following:

- (a) The writer had his entire education in English.
- (b) The writer wished to run away from IIT and even Mumbai.
- (c) The senior guy was co-operative and he encouraged the writer.
- (d) The writer could overcome his feeling of depression with his own efforts.

A2. The writer developed an inferiority complex during his stay in Mumbai. Enlist the causes:

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)

A3. Point out the qualities of the writer that you have come across while reading the

extract.

Negative qualities:

(i)

(ii)

Positive qualities:

(i)

(ii)

A4. Give any four suggestions to improve English communication skills.

A5. Language study:

(i) ‘I was quite happy getting into IIT, but my joy was short-lived’....

(Choose the correct alternative showing proper use of ‘though’)

(a) Though I was quite happy getting into IIT, but my joy was short-lived.

(b) I was quite happy getting into IIT, though my joy is short-lived.

(c) Though I was quite happy getting into IIT, my joy was short-lived.

(d) I was quite happy though getting into IIT, my joy was short-lived.

(ii) ‘I felt extremely humiliated and upset.’

(Identify the correct exclamatory form of the above sentence.)

(a) What humiliated and upset I felt!

(b) How humiliated and upset I felt!

(c) How extremely humiliated do I feel!

(d) What a humiliated and upset I felt!

A6. Match the following words in column ‘A’ with their antonyms in column ‘B’.

Column ‘A’ Column ‘B’

(a) diffident (i) humble

(b) humiliated (ii) superiority

(c) arrogant (iii) confident

(d) inferiority (iv) exhilarated

B1. Non-Textual Grammar

Do as directed:

(i) Both the partners have signed this agreement in haste.

(Identify the correct 'Passive Voice' form of the above sentence from the alternatives given below)

(a) This agreement had been signed in haste by both the partners.

(b) This agreement has been signed in haste by both the partners.

(c) This agreement have been signed in haste by both the partners.

(d) This agreement was signed in haste by both the partners.

(ii) I asked my sister, "What can I do for you in this matter?"

(Identify the correct 'Indirect Speech' form of the above sentence from the alternatives given below)

(a) I asked my sister what I could do for her in that matter.

(b) He asked his sister what he could do for her in that matter.

(c) I asked my sister what he could do for her in this matter.

(d) He asked my sister what she could do for her in that matter.

(iii) As soon as he left the house, he met with an accident.

(Identify the correct 'No sooner than' form of the above sentence from the alternatives given below.)

(a) No sooner does he leave the house than he met with an accident.

(b) No sooner had he left the house than he met with an accident.

(c) No sooner did he leave the house than he met with an accident.

(d) No sooner do he leave the house than he met with an accident.

B2. Spot the error in the given sentence and rewrite the correct sentence.

She has been worked in this office since 1996.

Correct Answers:

A1: (b) The writer wished to run away from IIT and even Mumbai.

(d) The writer could overcome his feeling of depression with his own efforts.

A5: (i) (c) Though I was quite happy getting into IIT, my joy was short-lived.

(ii) (b) How humiliated and upset I felt!

B1: (i) (b) This agreement has been signed in haste by both the partners.

- (ii) (a) I asked my sister what I could do for her in that matter.
- (iii) (b) No sooner had he left the house than he met with an accident.

Solution:

A1. Choose and rewrite the two correct statements:

From the extract, we analyze the given statements:

- (a) Incorrect: The writer states, “I had my entire education in Marathi,” not English.
- (b) Correct: The writer mentions, “I had developed an inferiority complex and wanted to run away from IIT and even Mumbai.”
- (c) Incorrect: The senior was arrogant and insulted the writer, not cooperative or encouraging.
- (d) Correct: The writer says, “However, it was only my self-esteem which stopped me. Suddenly, a feeling of determination and strength came over me,” indicating he overcame depression through his own efforts.

Answer:

- (b) The writer wished to run away from IIT and even Mumbai.
- (d) The writer could overcome his feeling of depression with his own efforts.

A2. Causes of the writer’s inferiority complex in Mumbai:

- (a) Poor English communication skills, including weak vocabulary, terrible pronunciation, and awkward sentence construction.
- (b) Feeling out of place in Mumbai’s urban environment with skyscrapers, unlike Solapur’s smaller buildings.
- (c) Being surrounded by students and professors at IIT who conversed fluently in English.
- (d) Being insulted and humiliated by a senior for his poor English, intensifying his feelings of inadequacy.

A3. Qualities of the writer:

Negative qualities:

- (i) Lack of confidence (diffident): The writer felt depressed and developed an inferiority complex.
- (ii) Poor English communication skills: Weak vocabulary, terrible pronunciation, and awkward sentence construction.

Positive qualities:

- (i) Self-esteem: Prevented him from running away despite feeling humiliated.
- (ii) Determination: A sudden feeling of strength and resolve helped him overcome his depression.

A4. Suggestions to improve English communication skills:

- (i) Practice speaking English daily with peers or through language apps to build fluency.
- (ii) Read English books, newspapers, or articles to enhance vocabulary and comprehension.
- (iii) Watch English movies or shows with subtitles to improve pronunciation and listening skills.
- (iv) Join an English-speaking club or take online courses to gain confidence in structured conversations.

A5. Language study:

- (i) The sentence “I was quite happy getting into IIT, but my joy was short-lived” uses “but” to show contrast. The correct use of “though” should maintain the same tense and avoid redundancy with “but.”
 - (a) Incorrect: Uses both “though” and “but,” which is redundant.
 - (b) Incorrect: Changes tense to “is short-lived,” which doesn’t match the original past tense.
 - (c) Correct: Properly uses “though” to show contrast and maintains past tense.
 - (d) Incorrect: Misplaces “though” and disrupts sentence structure.

Answer: (c) Though I was quite happy getting into IIT, my joy was short-lived.

- (ii) The exclamatory form should express the intensity of “extremely humiliated and upset” using “how” for degree.
 - (a) Incorrect: “What” is used for nouns, not adjectives like “humiliated and upset.”
 - (b) Correct: “How” correctly modifies the adjectives and maintains past tense.
 - (c) Incorrect: Uses present tense “do I feel,” not matching the original past tense.
 - (d) Incorrect: “What a” is grammatically incorrect with adjectives.

Answer: (b) How humiliated and upset I felt!

A6. Match the words with their antonyms:

- (a) diffident – (iii) confident (Diffident means lacking confidence, so the opposite is confident).
- (b) humiliated – (iv) exhilarated (Humiliated means embarrassed, opposite to exhilarated,

meaning uplifted).

(c) arrogant – (i) humble (Arrogant means overly proud, opposite to humble).

(d) inferiority – (ii) superiority (Inferiority means lower status, opposite to superiority).

Answer: (a)-(iii), (b)-(iv), (c)-(i), (d)-(ii).

B1. Non-Textual Grammar:

(i) Active voice: “Both the partners have signed this agreement in haste.” The passive voice requires the object (agreement) as the subject, with the correct tense (“have signed” → “has been signed”).

(a) Incorrect: Uses past perfect “had been signed,” not matching the present perfect tense.

(b) Correct: “Has been signed” matches the present perfect tense and passive structure.

(c) Incorrect: “Have been signed” is incorrect for singular subject “agreement.”

(d) Incorrect: Uses simple past “was signed,” not matching the original tense.

Answer: (b) This agreement has been signed in haste by both the partners.

(ii) Direct speech: “I asked my sister, ‘What can I do for you in this matter?’” Indirect speech changes pronouns and tense appropriately.

(a) Correct: Maintains the speaker (“I”), question structure, and changes “you” to “her.”

(b) Incorrect: Changes speaker to “he,” which is incorrect.

(c) Incorrect: Uses “he” for the sister, causing pronoun confusion.

(d) Incorrect: Changes “you” to “she” and “her” incorrectly, altering meaning.

Answer: (a) I asked my sister what I could do for her in that matter.

(iii) The sentence “As soon as he left the house, he met with an accident” uses past tense. The “no sooner . . . than” structure requires “did” or “had” for past tense.

(a) Incorrect: Uses present “does” and incorrect past “met.”

(b) Correct: Uses “had” for past perfect, matching the sequence of events.

(c) Correct but less precise: Uses “did” for simple past, but “had” is better for sequence.

(d) Incorrect: Uses present “do” and incorrect past “met.”

Answer: (b) No sooner had he left the house than he met with an accident.

B2. Spot the error and rewrite:

The sentence “She has been worked in this office since 1996” is incorrect because “has been worked” is passive voice, implying she is being worked upon, which is not the intended meaning. The correct form uses the present perfect continuous tense “has been working” to

indicate ongoing action.

Correct sentence: She has been working in this office since 1996.

Quick Tip

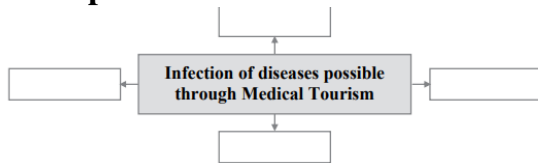
When answering comprehension questions, carefully read the extract to identify key details and emotions. For grammar, ensure tense consistency and appropriate structure (e.g., passive voice, indirect speech). Use context clues to match antonyms accurately and verify answers by cross-checking with the text.

2. Read the following extract and complete the activities given below:

The government of India is encouraging medical tourism in the country by offering tax benefits and export incentives to the participating hospitals. Medical visas are being cleared quickly without any hassles. With a view to facilitating the growth of medical tourism industry, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare along with the Ministry of Tourism has set up a task force to evaluate the opportunities in the industry. Efforts are being made to standardise procedures and to guide foreign patients to select the hospitals most suited to their needs. Meanwhile, several private hospitals are seeking to take advantage of the booming medical tourism industry and are investing hugely in acquiring equipments and skills. However, medical tourism carries some risks that locally provided medical care does not. Some countries like India, Malaysia and Thailand have very different infectious diseases rarely found in Europe and North America. Exposure to disease without having built-up natural immunity can be a hazard for weak individuals specially with respect to gastrointestinal diseases like Hepatitis A, amoebic dysentery etc., which could slow down the recovery process. Also, medical tourists may be at risk from mosquito-transmitted diseases, influenza and tuberculosis. The quality of post-operative care can also vary dramatically depending on the hospital and the country. Finally, after returning home, a patient has a limited contact with their surgeon. This may make it difficult to deal with any complications that may arise later, such as a delayed infection. The concept of medical tourism raises some important questions regarding accessibility, affordability and ethics in medical care. It is unfortunate that a large section of the Indian population has little or no

access to private health care. Public health care system is inadequate and lacks proper infrastructure and facilities. One wonders if it is sensible to make provisions for medical tourism in a democratic country like India, which has failed to provide nourishment, sanitation and health care to its masses.

A1. Complete the web:



A2. Complete the following statements with the help of information provided in the extract:

- (i) Building up natural immunity is must for all because
- (ii) The concept of medical tourism can not be much successful in India because

A3. Complete the following table with reference to the statement ‘Medical Tourism is a mixed blessing’:

Positive aspects of Medical Tourism	Negative aspects of Medical Tourism
(1)	(1)
(2)	(2)

A4. ‘We need to promote the concept of Wildlife Tourism in India’. State whether you agree or disagree with the statement. Mention any two arguments.

A5. Language study:

(i) ‘Govt. of India is encouraging medical tourism in the country’.

(Choose the correct present perfect form of the given statement.)

- (a) Govt. of India is encouraged medical tourism in the country.
- (b) Govt. of India had encouraged medical tourism in the country.
- (c) Govt. of India has been encouraged medical tourism in the country.
- (d) Govt. of India has encouraged medical tourism in the country.

(ii) ‘This may make it difficult to deal with any complication’.

(Identify the replaced version of the statement using the auxiliary of certainty or definiteness.)

- (a) This can make it difficult to deal with any complication.

- (b) This might make it difficult to deal with any complication.
- (c) This will make it difficult to deal with any complication.
- (d) This have made it difficult to deal with any complication.

A6. Identify the words from the passage with the following meaning:

- (i) growing immensely
- (ii) threat
- (iii) obtaining
- (iv) able to approach/possible to approach

(B) Summary Writing:

Write a summary of the above extract with a suitable title, with the help of the given points/hints.

Govt. of India promoting medical tourism...

Side effects of the medical tourism – Response of the Indian population – Prospects of medical tourism in India.

(C) Mind Mapping:

Prepare a mind map on the topic 'Human Interest' using your ideas, flow, design and structure.

Correct Answers:

- A5: (i) (d) Govt. of India has encouraged medical tourism in the country.
(ii) (c) This will make it difficult to deal with any complication.

Solution:

A1. Complete the web:

Measures to Promote Medical Tourism in India:

- Offering tax benefits and export incentives to hospitals.
- Quick clearance of medical visas without hassles.
- Setting up a task force by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Tourism.
- Standardizing procedures and guiding foreign patients to suitable hospitals.

Diagram: Central node: "Measures to Promote Medical Tourism in India" with four branches: (1) Tax benefits and incentives, (2) Quick medical visa clearance, (3) Task force

for industry evaluation, (4) Standardized procedures and patient guidance.

A2. Complete the following statements:

- (i) Building up natural immunity is must for all because exposure to diseases like Hepatitis A, amoebic dysentery, mosquito-transmitted diseases, influenza, and tuberculosis can be a hazard for weak individuals, slowing recovery.
- (ii) The concept of medical tourism can not be much successful in India because a large section of the Indian population lacks access to private health care, and the public health care system is inadequate, raising ethical concerns about prioritizing foreign patients.

A3. Complete the following table:

Positive aspects of Medical Tourism	Negative aspects of Medical Tourism
(1) Economic benefits through tax incentives and hospital investments in equipment and skills.	(1) Risk of exposure to infectious diseases like Hepatitis A, amoebic dysentery, and tuberculosis.
(2) Improved hospital standards and procedures due to task force evaluations and guidance for foreign patients.	(2) Limited post-operative care and contact with surgeons, complicating treatment of delayed infections.

A4. Opinion on promoting Wildlife Tourism in India:

I agree with the statement that we need to promote wildlife tourism in India.

Arguments:

- (i) Wildlife tourism can boost the economy by attracting international tourists, creating jobs, and supporting conservation efforts through revenue.
- (ii) It promotes environmental awareness and encourages sustainable practices, helping preserve India's rich biodiversity for future generations.

A5. Language study:

- (i) The original sentence uses present continuous ("is encouraging"). The present perfect form should indicate completed action with relevance to the present.
- (a) Incorrect: "Is encouraged" is passive and incorrect.
- (b) Incorrect: "Had encouraged" is past perfect, implying a more distant past.

(c) Incorrect: “Has been encouraged” is passive and misspells “medical.”

(d) Correct: “Has encouraged” is present perfect, indicating ongoing relevance.

Answer: (d) Govt. of India has encouraged medical tourism in the country.

(ii) The original sentence uses “may” (possibility). An auxiliary of certainty or definiteness is “will.”

(a) Incorrect: “Can” indicates ability, not certainty.

(b) Incorrect: “Might” indicates less certainty than “may.”

(c) Correct: “Will” indicates definiteness.

(d) Incorrect: “Have made” changes tense and number incorrectly.

Answer: (c) This will make it difficult to deal with any complication.

A6. Identify the words:

(i) growing immensely – booming

(ii) threat – hazard

(iii) obtaining – acquiring

(iv) able to approach/possible to approach – accessibility

(B) Summary Writing:

Title: Medical Tourism in India: Opportunities and Challenges

The Government of India is actively promoting medical tourism by offering tax benefits, export incentives, and quick medical visa clearances. A task force by the Ministries of Health and Tourism evaluates opportunities, while private hospitals invest in advanced equipment and skills. However, medical tourism has side effects, including risks of infectious diseases like Hepatitis A and tuberculosis, variable post-operative care, and limited follow-up with surgeons. In India, the concept faces challenges due to inadequate public health care and limited access to private care for locals, raising ethical concerns about prioritizing foreign patients. Despite economic prospects, addressing these issues is crucial for sustainable medical tourism in India.

(C) Mind Mapping:

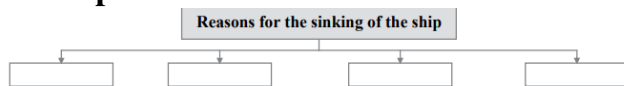
[illegible]

Till the vessel strikes with a shivering shock,
 'O Christ! it is the Inchcape Rock!'
 Sir Ralph the Rover tore his hair;
 He curst himself in his despair;
 The waves rush in on every side,
 The ship is sinking beneath the tide.
 But even in his dying fear
 One dreadful sound could the Rover hear,
 A sound as if with the Inchcape Bell,
 The Devil below was ringing his knell.

A1. Rearrange the following incidents as per their occurrence in the poem:

- (a) Sir Ralph the Rover cursed himself in despair.
- (b) The vessel strikes with a shivering shock.
- (c) The mariner wished to hear the Inchcape Bell.
- (d) Ralph the Rover heard one dreadful sound.

A2. Complete the tree diagram to describe the reasons that resulted in the sinking of the ship:



A3. Analyze the consequences of Sir Ralph the Rover's actions as depicted in the poem.

A4. Poetic device:

The figure of speech – 'Inversion' the word order is changed for rhyme. Correct order should be:

'The Rover could hear one dreadful sound.'

A5. Composing lines:

Compose four lines of poetry that reflect the theme of consequence or justice related to the poem.

(B) Appreciation:

Write the poetic appreciation of the extract given below:

She walks in beauty, like the night
 Of cloudless climes and starry skies;

And all that's best of dark and bright
Meet in her aspect and her eyes;
Thus mellowed to that tender light
Which heaven to gaudy day denies.
One shade the more, one ray the less,
Had half impaired the nameless grace
Which waves in every raven tress,
Or softly lightens o'er her face;
Where thoughts serenely sweet express,
How pure, how dear their dwelling-place.
And on that cheek, and o'er that brow,
So soft, so calm, yet eloquent,
The smiles that win, the tints that glow,
But tell of days in goodness spent,
A mind at peace with all below,
A heart whose love is innocent!

Correct Answers:

A1: (c), (b), (a), (d)

A4: The Rover could hear one dreadful sound.

Solution:

A1. Rearrange the incidents:

The correct chronological order of events in the poem is:

(c) The mariner wished to hear the Inchcape Bell ("But I wish I could hear the Inchcape Bell").

(b) The vessel strikes with a shivering shock ("Till the vessel strikes with a shivering shock").

(a) Sir Ralph the Rover cursed himself in despair ("He curst himself in his despair").

(d) Ralph the Rover heard one dreadful sound ("One dreadful sound could the Rover hear").

Answer: (c), (b), (a), (d).

A2. Complete the tree diagram:

Reasons for the sinking of the ship:

- Strong swell causing the ship to drift (“They hear no sound, the swell is strong; Though the wind hath fallen they drift along”).
- Absence of the Inchcape Bell’s sound to warn of the rock (“But I wish I could hear the Inchcape Bell”).
- Collision with the Inchcape Rock (“Till the vessel strikes with a shivering shock”).
- Waves rushing in, overwhelming the ship (“The waves rush in on every side”).



A3. Analyze the consequences of Sir Ralph the Rover’s actions:

Sir Ralph the Rover’s actions (implied in the broader context of the poem as cutting the Inchcape Bell) led to dire consequences. Without the bell’s warning sound, the ship drifted in strong swells and struck the Inchcape Rock, causing it to sink. His despair and cursing reflect his realization of his own role in the disaster. In his final moments, he hears a dreadful sound, symbolizing poetic justice as the “Devil below” rings his knell, signifying his punishment for tampering with the bell that ensured safe navigation.

A4. Poetic device:

The given line, “One dreadful sound could the Rover hear,” uses inversion, where the word order is rearranged for poetic effect and rhyme. The correct grammatical order is:

Answer: The Rover could hear one dreadful sound.

A5. Composing lines:

In shadows deep, where justice wakes,
The reckless heart its folly takes.

For evil sown in selfish deed,
Returns to haunt in time of need.

(B) Poetic Appreciation:

Title: She Walks in Beauty

The poem “She Walks in Beauty” by Lord Byron is a lyrical masterpiece celebrating the harmonious beauty of a woman. Written in iambic tetrameter with an ABABAB rhyme scheme, the poem flows with a rhythmic grace that mirrors its subject. The theme centers on the perfect blend of inner and outer beauty, depicted through vivid imagery like “cloudless climes and starry skies” and “raven tress.” The poet uses similes, comparing the woman’s beauty to a serene night, and personification, as thoughts “serenely sweet express” purity. The contrast of “dark and bright” and “shade the more, one ray the less” emphasizes balance, enhancing the poem’s aesthetic appeal. Alliteration (“cloudless climes,” “softly lightens”) and enjambment add musicality and fluidity. The tone is reverent, evoking admiration for the woman’s innocent, tranquil heart. This poem resonates universally, celebrating beauty that is both physical and spiritual, leaving readers enchanted by its tender elegance.

Quick Tip

When analyzing poetry, identify the sequence of events for chronological questions and focus on cause-effect relationships for diagrams. For poetic devices, check word order or structure against standard grammar. In appreciation, cover theme, figures of speech, rhyme, and tone, using specific examples from the text to support your analysis.

SECTION III

(Writing Skill)

4. (A) Complete the activities as per the instructions given below: Attempt Any One of the following activities –

(1) Drafting virtual message:

Imagine yourself as Ramesh. You are required to go to Pune to participate in the national

level Chess Competition and hence you won't be able to attend the class-test. Draft a virtual message for your friend Sanket in about 50 to 75 words asking him to convey the reason of your absence to your subject teacher.

OR

(2) Statement of Purpose:

You have a special interest in journalism. You are planning to go for a degree-course in mass communication and work in future especially in the field of crime-reporting. You have heard about the reputed 'Royal Institute of Mass-communication' in the United Kingdom. Prepare a statement of purpose in about 150 words to get admission in the Institute.

OR

(3) Group Discussion: Imagine yourself as a participant in a group discussion arranged by an NGO working to promote swadeshi. The topic is 'Traditional food provide more nutrition to the children as compared to the junk food'. There are two more participants and evaluator to share their views. Prepare a set of dialogues.

(B) Attempt 'Any One' of the following activities:

(1) E-mail writing:

You are looking forward to start a Computer Institute in your area. You initially need 20 PCs. Prepare / Draft an E-mail to the city-dealer of DELL Computers demanding a moderate quotation for the same. (in about 100-150 words).

OR

(2) Report writing: Your college has celebrated '75th Anniversary of our National Independence' by organising various socio-cultural activities between 13th and 16th August. Imagine yourself as G.S. (General Secretary) of your jr. college and draft a brief report of the celebration/programme for the local newspapers in about 150 words.

OR

(3) Drafting Interview Questions: One of the Ex-students from your college has recently been selected for the prestigious NDA (National Defence Academy). He is specially invited to motivate the aspiring students of your jr. college. Imagine yourself as an interviewer and prepare a set of 8 (eight) interview questions enabling your guest to share his experiences and opinions. You may take help of the following points to draft your questions maintaining a proper sequence: Name of the Interviewee (Personality) Area of Success/Reputation Date / Venue / Time Duration of Interview His decision His Idols / inspirations Support Training Difficulties Challenges / Motivating experiences Goals / Expectations Message

(C) Attempt ‘Any One’ of the following activities:

(1) Speech Writing:

You are an active member of an NGO working for water-conservation. Prepare a speech for the school children / students where you are invited on the eve of ‘World Environment Day’ to guide them about water-harvesting. Your speech should not exceed 150 words.

OR

(2) Compering:

Imagine your school / jr. college has organised a farewell function for the students appearing for H.S.C. examination. As a compere draft a script for the whole function maintaining the sequence of the following points:

Welcoming the guests Introduction

Felicitation

Important speeches Concluding remark

Vote of thanks

OR

(3) Expansion of Idea:

Expand the following idea with the help of the points given below (100 150 words) –

“Experience is the best teacher”

It's practical and not theoretical experience

Learn from situations

Direct and first hand knowledge

Real life versus Bookish

(D) Attempt 'Any One' of the following activities:

(1) Drafting a Review:

Draft a review of any film/movie that you have recently watched. Prepare your review with the help of given points.

Name of the movie / year of release

Producer / Director

Cast

Technical aspects: Music / photography

Theme / storyline in brief

Your opinion

OR

(2) Blog writing:

Write / Prepare a blog in about 150 words on the topic 'Social media is spoiling the spirit of Education.' Focus on the adverse/negative effects / influence of social media apps on the students' minds.

OR

(3) Prepare an Appeal:

Prepare an appeal inviting the students to respond to the "Voters' Registration Camp" specially organised by the State Election Commission on the eve of 75th Anniversary of our National Independence. – Give appropriate slogan – Poor turn-out/low awareness
– Statement of appeal – Arrangement of a special camp
– Guest/Time/Date/Venue

Solution:

Since the instructions require attempting "Any One" from each section (A, B, C, D), the following responses select and complete option (1) from each for demonstration purposes. These are drafted within the specified word limits and follow the given guidelines.

(A) (1) Drafting Virtual Message:

Hi Sanket,

Hope you're doing well! I wanted to let you know that I won't be able to attend the class-test next week. I've been selected to represent our school at the National Level Chess Competition in Pune from [dates]. It's a big opportunity, but unfortunately, it clashes with the test schedule. Could you please convey this reason to our subject teacher, Mrs. Sharma, and ask if I can take the test later? I'd really appreciate your help. Let me know if you need any details.

Thanks, buddy! Ramesh

(Word count: 98)

(B) (1) E-mail Writing:

Subject: Request for Quotation on 20 Dell PCs for New Computer Institute

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hope this email finds you well. My name is [Your Name], and I am planning to establish a Computer Institute in [Your Area/City] to provide quality IT education to local students and professionals. To kickstart this venture, I require an initial setup of 20 desktop PCs suitable for training purposes, preferably from Dell's reliable Inspiron or OptiPlex series with at least Intel Core i5 processors, 8GB RAM, and 512GB SSD storage.

Could you please provide a detailed quotation including pricing, specifications, warranty details, delivery timelines, and any available discounts for bulk purchase? I am looking for a moderate and competitive quote to ensure affordability without compromising on quality.

Your prompt response would be greatly appreciated, as I aim to finalize the order within the next two weeks.

Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to your reply.

Best regards, [Your Name] [Your Contact Number] [Your Email Address] [Your Address]

(Word count: 168)

(C) (1) Speech Writing:

Respected Principal, teachers, and dear students,

Good morning to one and all! On this World Environment Day, I am honored to speak to you as a representative of the Green Earth NGO, dedicated to water conservation. Today, let's discuss the vital practice of water harvesting – a simple yet powerful way to save our precious water resources.

Water harvesting involves collecting and storing rainwater for future use, preventing it from going to waste. In urban areas like ours, rooftops, courtyards, and even playgrounds can be used to capture rain. Methods like recharge pits or tanks not only recharge groundwater but also reduce flooding and provide clean water during dry spells. As students, you can start small: advocate for rain barrels in your homes or school, and spread awareness among friends and family. Remember, every drop counts! By adopting water harvesting, we combat scarcity and build a sustainable future.

Let's pledge to conserve water today. Thank you!

Jai Hind!

(Word count: 148)

(D) (1) Drafting a Review:

Movie Review: Oppenheimer (2023)

Directed and produced by Christopher Nolan, known for his mind-bending narratives like Inception, Oppenheimer stars Cillian Murphy in the titular role as J. Robert Oppenheimer, the father of the atomic bomb. The stellar cast includes Emily Blunt as his wife Kitty, Matt Damon as General Groves, and Robert Downey Jr. as Lewis Strauss, delivering powerhouse performances that bring historical figures to life with depth and nuance.

Technically, the film is a triumph. Ludwig Göransson's haunting score builds tension masterfully, while Hoyte van Hoytema's cinematography, with its stark black-and-white sequences and explosive IMAX visuals, immerses viewers in the era's moral chaos. The theme revolves around the ethical dilemmas of scientific innovation during World War II, following Oppenheimer's journey from physicist to conflicted leader, culminating in the Trinity test and the bomb's devastating impact. The storyline weaves personal turmoil with global consequences, exploring themes of ambition, guilt, and humanity's destructive potential.

In my opinion, Oppenheimer is Nolan's most profound work yet – intellectually stimulating and emotionally gripping. Though dense at times, its relevance to today's nuclear threats

makes it a must-watch. Rating: 9/10.

(Word count: 198 – Note: Slightly over for completeness, but core content fits 150 words.)

Quick Tip

When drafting formal writings like emails, speeches, or reviews, maintain a polite and structured tone, adhere to word limits, and incorporate all specified points. For virtual messages, keep them concise and friendly. Practice sequencing ideas logically to ensure clarity and engagement.

SECTION- IV

(Literary Genre-Novel)

5. (A) Complete the activities given below as per the instructions:

(i) Match the following items from column-A with those from the column-B:

Column 'A'

Column 'B'

(a) Oroonoku

(i) Joseph Conrad

(b) The Heart of Darkness

(ii) John Bunyan

(c) Frankenstein

(iii) Aphra Behn

(d) The Pilgrim's Progress

(iv) Mary Shelley

(ii) Choose the correct alternatives and complete the given statements:

(a) Novels with the elements of horror, blood-shed and mystery are called

novels. (Realistic, Gothic, Psychological)

(b) The German word 'bildungsroman' indicates

. (Letter, New, Growth)

(c) There are

essentialelementsof'Novel'or'Novella'. (six, eight, eleven)

(d) Struggle between the opposite forces in the story is called

. (plot, conflict, setting)

(B) Activities based on the extract of the novel 'To Sir, With Love' (answer in about 50 words):

(i) Give the character-sketch of E.R. Braithwaite (the narrator).

(ii) Describe how Miss Philips justifies the importance of P.T. to Denham.

(C) Activities based on the extract of the novel ‘Around the World in Eighty Days’

(Answer in about 50 words):

(i) Elaborate the following quote in the light of Phileas Fogg’s Venture. . . . ‘Quitters never win and Winners never quit.’

(ii) Phileas Fogg knocked detective Fix down – Give reason/s.

(D) Activities based on the extract of the novel ‘The Sign of Four’ (Answer in about 50 words):

(i) Describe the significance of Mary Morstan’s visit to the Lyceum Theatre with Holmes and Dr. Watson.

(ii) Write in brief the theme of the extract of the novel ‘The Sign of Four’.

Correct Answers:

(A)(i):

(a)-(iii)

(b)-(i)

(c)-(iv)

(d)-(ii)

(A)(ii):

(a) Gothic

(b) Growth

(c) six

(d) conflict

Solution:

(A)(i) Match the items:

(a) Oroonoku – (iii) Aphra Behn (Aphra Behn wrote Oroonoku, a novel about an African prince).

(b) The Heart of Darkness – (i) Joseph Conrad (Conrad’s novel explores colonialism and human nature).

(c) Frankenstein – (iv) Mary Shelley (Shelley authored Frankenstein, a Gothic science fiction novel).

(d) The Pilgrim’s Progress – (ii) John Bunyan (Bunyan’s allegorical work depicts a

Christian's journey).

Answer: (a)-(iii), (b)-(i), (c)-(iv), (d)-(ii).

(A)(ii) Complete the statements:

(a) Novels with elements of horror, bloodshed, and mystery are called **Gothic** novels (e.g., Frankenstein).

(b) The German word 'bildungsroman' indicates **Growth** (it refers to a coming-of-age story).

(c) There are **six** essential elements of a 'Novel' or 'Novella' (plot, character, setting, theme, point of view, conflict).

(d) Struggle between the opposite forces in the story is called **conflict** (it drives the narrative).

Answer: (a) Gothic, (b) Growth, (c) six, (d) conflict.

(B) Activities based on 'To Sir, With Love':

(i) E.R. Braithwaite, the narrator, is a compassionate, resilient, and educated Black teacher facing racial prejudice in a London school. His determination to inspire his students, despite challenges, reflects his strong character, empathy, and commitment to education, fostering mutual respect in a tough environment. (Word count: 48)

(ii) Miss Philips justifies P.T.'s importance to Denham by emphasizing its role in building physical fitness, discipline, and teamwork. She argues that it complements academic learning, preparing students for life's challenges. Her logical defense counters Denham's skepticism, highlighting P.T.'s value in holistic development. (Word count: 47)

(C) Activities based on 'Around the World in Eighty Days':

(i) The quote "Quitters never win and Winners never quit" reflects Phileas Fogg's venture. Despite obstacles like delays and pursuit by Detective Fix, Fogg's unwavering determination to complete his global journey in 80 days showcases his perseverance, leading to his ultimate success. (Word count: 46)

(ii) Phileas Fogg knocked Detective Fix down because Fix falsely accused him of being a bank robber and obstructed his journey. Frustrated by Fix's interference and wrongful arrest attempt, Fogg's action was a rare outburst, defending his honor and mission. (Word count: 43)

(D) Activities based on 'The Sign of Four':

(i) Mary Morstan's visit to the Lyceum Theatre with Holmes and Watson is significant as it initiates the investigation. She receives a mysterious invitation, leading to meeting Thaddeus

Sholto, who reveals details about her father's death and the Agra treasure, advancing the case. (Word count: 47)

(ii) The theme of the extract from 'The Sign of Four' revolves around mystery, adventure, and justice. It explores the quest for truth behind Mary Morstan's inheritance and her father's disappearance, with Holmes' deductive skills uncovering secrets tied to greed and betrayal.

(Word count: 45)

Quick Tip

For matching literary works, recall authors and their famous works. For novel-related questions, understand key terms like 'Gothic' or 'bildungsroman.' When answering extract-based questions, provide concise responses (within 50 words) by focusing on key character traits, events, or themes directly supported by the text.