

Question Paper

Conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)



Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions

- (i) This question paper contains 13 questions in three sections: Reading, Writing and Literature.
- (ii) Attempt questions according to the choices and instructions for each question. Write the correct question number and part on your answer sheet.
- (iii) Adhere to the word limits prescribed for each question.
- (iv) In Questions 3–9, attempt one of the two alternatives or extracts, where a choice is given.
- (v) In Question 10, answer any five of the six questions in 40–50 words each. In Question 11, answer any two of the three questions in 40–50 words each.
- (vi) In each of Questions 12 and 13, answer one alternative in 120–150 words.

1. (1) Five enterprises received approval and grants for prototype development of sustainable educational toys.

(2) The government authorities, educational institutions and EdTech start-ups are planning to introduce state-of-the-art, made-in-India educational toys that not only throw light on Indian values and civilisations, but also help in developing children's critical thinking, and decision-making skills.

(3) "One such enterprise is working on different types of projects that can teach children how electromagnets and magnetic fields work. These projects can resolve a lot of issues in many schools in tier two and three cities that don't have proper infrastructure. Another is working on an excavation site to teach children about ancient Indian civilizations. It has implanted a few artifacts at the site, which the children will have to find so that they are able to learn how to preserve and label artifacts. Another start up has proposed to create miniaturized labs for schools in tier 2 and 3 cities where children can learn concepts of Physics. "We will ensure that these prototypes are developed within a year and then the production can be scaled up," says the senior manager of the project talking about the importance of indigenously-built educational toys.

1. (continued)

(4) Playtime is vital for the cognitive development of children and toys are an essential component that helps enhance specific cognitive abilities and skill sets. "Well-designed toys ignite students' curiosity, increase focus and can be very beneficial in helping them master a skill and enhance understanding. These can be in the form of visuals, auditory aids, kinesthetic, or a mixture of all three." says HOD, Early Childhood Education.

(5) Toys offer an engaging avenue to teach mathematical, verbal, problem-solving skills. "Toys that engage students in experiential learning enhance their special awareness and fine motor skills. Those designed for two or more players help students develop better social skills as they learn to negotiate, settle differences, etc, with their peers."

(6) Experiential gadgets and toys enable students to learn faster and retain lessons longer. "A child's interest is piqued when he is taught in a contextual framework as opposed to rote learning. The Indian education system has been witnessing several innovations with the development of toys and gadgets that can be used and felt in person or through VR platforms across subjects, be it Science, Technology, Math or Engineering.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage given above:

1(i). By tier 2 and tier 3 cities, the author refers to:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (A) Metro cities | (B) Cities with huge population |
| (C) Underdeveloped cities | (D) Cities with less population |

1(ii). Complete the sentence with evidence from the text.

The made-in-India educational toys serve dual purpose of _____.

1(iii). The author's point of view that can be inferred from the above passage is that:

- | | |
|--|--|
| (A) educational toys are the booming business. | (B) educational toys are meant to entertain children. |
| (C) educational toys will replace teachers. | (D) educational toys will make education more pragmatic. |

1(iv). Complete the following sentence appropriately:

Educational toys enhance the personality of children by _____.

1(v). Read the five headlines (a) - (e), given below:

- (a) Sustainable Educational Toys are Developmentally Appropriate.
- (b) Sustainable Educational Toys Promote Free play.
- (c) Sustainable Educational Toys - Free and Widespread.
- (d) Sustainable Educational Toys - Experiential Learning.
- (e) Sustainable Educational Toys - Hinder Interaction with people.

Identify the option that displays the headline that DOES/DO NOT correspond with what the passage highlights.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| (A) only (e) | (B) (a) and (b) |
| (C) (c) and (e) | (D) only (c) |

1(vi). What evidences do you gather from the passage to state that educational system is revolutionized by educational toys? Answer in about 40 words.

1(vii). Explain in about 40 words, how education at grassroot level is benefitted by these projects.

1(viii). As opposed to learning by heart, experiential toys:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| (A) ignite interest | (B) challenge the teachers |
| (C) replace textbooks | (D) confuse learners |

1(ix). Playing is usually considered a distraction. Is it justified on the part of the narrator to assert that playing is an important aspect of education? Write your answer in about 40 words.

2. (1) People below the age of 20 and above the age of 50 are more likely to believe fake news. Those relatively new to the use of the internet still do not grasp the concept of fake information over these platforms, reveals a new survey 'Countering Misinformation in India.' This survey has been conducted jointly by Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI).

(2) At least 40% of the respondents believed in 'misinformation' received over social media if it came with leading backgrounds and evidence, while 34% of them believe the information when it is shared by a trustworthy organization.

(3) The dominant factor that drives people to forward such information is their belief that it might benefit others and help in their safety. In fact, that was the response of almost 50% of the respondents. This was compounded by the fact that at least 20% of the respondents expressed their lack of trust in conventional media thus their faith in contents shared by common people over social media.

(4) But even then, newspapers still remain the top source of information for most. At least 53% of the respondents trust what is generally perceived as neutral media and only 29% trust technology and social media platforms.

(5) However, what was surprising was that almost 45% of the respondents did not even know about the existence of fact-checking organization and most did not even know that journalists had to verify data before they let it out. Only 26% of the respondents believe that it is the responsibility of the media to curb or identify fake news. Many respondents also put the responsibility of identifying such fake news on an individual.

(6) The survey has found that first time or early users of the Internet platforms are more susceptible to fake news than others. There is a need for building capacities and creating a National Civic Digital Literacy Strategic Plan.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage:

2(i). Select the option that comes under conventional media:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| (A) Instagram | (B) Newspaper |
| (C) Facebook | (D) E-mail |

2(ii). Select the correct option:

One factor that prompts people to believe fake news is that:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (A) it supports their point of view | (B) they are biased |
| (C) it is from a reliable site | (D) it has more 'likes' and 'shares' |

2(iii). What according to the passage are the intentions of people who share information?

2(iv). Which reason do you infer from the passage is responsible for journalists spreading misinformation?

2(v). Complete the sentence appropriately:

The threat faced by the new entrants in social media is _____.

2(vi). Explain your understanding of the difference between 'misinformation' and 'fake news'.

2(vii). As per your inference drawn from para (1), which category of people fall as victims to fake news?

2(viii). What is the blame game that goes on in fixing the onus of identifying fake news?

Section B — Writing (18 Marks)

3(a). Attempt the following in about 50 words.

Bharat Public School, I.P. Nagar, has recently constructed a Science Park, a dedicated area where specific equipments based on principles of science are setup.

As Rashi Kapoor, President of Science Club, draft a notice for the school notice board, informing students of the same. Mention relevant details.

3(b). Attempt the following in about 50 words.

You are the President, RWA Silver Oak Society. Draft a notice for the society notice board informing residents about the appointment of security guards at Gate Nos. 2, 3 & 4 and an increase of Rs. 1,000 in the annual maintenance charges to meet the expenditure. Mention relevant details.

4(a). Attempt the following in about 50 words.

You are a student counsellor of N.J. Public School. You are invited by S.M. International School, Kala Puram, to address Class XII students on Goal Setting & Time Management. Write a formal letter of reply accepting the invitation and confirming your presence at the stated time, include relevant details.

4(b). Attempt the following in about 50 words.

You are Mr. Anmol Gupta. You are planning to celebrate your sister's silver jubilee wedding anniversary. Draft the invitation card to be sent to relatives and friends, sharing all relevant details.

5(a). Attempt the following in 120 - 150 words.

You are Dinesh / Deepa of M.G. Nagar, Pratap Nagar. You are a pharma graduate. You saw the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised.

Write a letter to Ideal Pharma, along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

IDEAL PHARMA

Requires

Sales Representatives

Qualification: Graduation in Pharmacy

Experience: Min. 3 years in the relevant field

Skills: Product Knowledge, Communication Skills, Computer Competency

Apply to The Manager, Ideal Pharma, 55, Ajit Arcade, Tenalipuram within a week.

5(b). Attempt the following in 120 - 150 words.

To maintain 'work life' balance, there is a surge of people going on short and budgeted vacations. Seizing this opportunity more people are offering the home stay option. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily sharing your views on this trend. You may use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter. You are Ankit/Ankita.

- HOME STAY
- Budgeted travel option
- Home cooked meals
- Opportunity to enjoy local culture, cuisines, life-style
- Emerging opportunities for locals.
- Opportunity to showcase indigenous communities in villages/small towns.

6(a). Attempt the following in 120 - 150 words.

Television has great educational value. It can be used as a tool for learning, both at home and in classrooms. There is a range of channels, that offer educational content.

You are Gopal / Geeta of Class XII. Write an article for your School magazine describing how television can be used as a tool for education. You may use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose this article:

- easy access to T.V.
- informative, news
- documentaries, panel discussions
- programme on new technologies, science, history,
- National Geographic, astronomy etc.
- exposure to foreign culture, food, architecture, art etc.

6(b). Attempt the following in 120 - 150 words.

Your school recently organized Y-20 Chaupal under G-20 initiative. The theme chosen for the event was Health and Wellness. Nearly 20 speakers from Classes IX to XII participated and presented their innovative ideas.

You are Neeraj / Nirvita, student editor of your school magazine. Write a report on the event to be published in your school magazine.

Use the following cues along with your own ideas to draft the report:

- Wellness - holistic and multidimensional,
- date, venue, time
- physical fitness / yoga
- emotional and intellectual well-being
- revival of alternative medicines etc.
- importance of social interaction

Section C — Literature (40 Marks)

7. Read the following extract and answer the questions.

*Sometimes I feel myself I can hardly bear
The thought of so much childish longing in vain,
The sadness that lurks near the open window there,
That waits all day in almost open prayer.
For the squeal of brakes, the sound of a stopping
car,
Of all the thousand selfish cars that pass,
Just one to inquire what a farmer's prices are
And one did stop, but only to plow up grass
In using the yard to back and turn around;
And another to ask the way to where it was bound;*
(A Roadside Stand)

7(i). Select the option that has the same literary device as in 'The sadness that lurks near the open window there'.

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|--|--|
| (A) Lucy moved across the room like a warship sailing into battle. | (B) Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life. |
| (C) The water-wraith was shrieking. | (D) The pen is mightier than the sword. |

7(ii). They prayed for the stopping of a car. When one car finally stopped, it brought _____ to the people of the roadside stand.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| (A) help | (B) happiness |
| (C) disappointment | (D) cash flow |

7(iii). Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line, '..... childish longing in vain'.

7(iv). Complete the sentence appropriately.

The emotion of the poet reflected in the above extract is _____.

7(v). The expression 'selfish car' suggests that _____.

7(vi). Based on the rhyme scheme evident in the last two lines of the extract, which word would rhyme with the last line?

brass / reply / sound

OR

7. Read the following extract and answer the questions.

*... but soon
put that thought away, and
looked out at Young
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes, but after the airport's security
check,
standing a few yards away, I looked again at her,
wan, pale
as a late winter's moon and felt that old
familiar ache, my childhood's fear,*
(My Mother at Sixty-six)

7(i). Select the correct option.

The impact of 'merry children' on poet's mind:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| (A) caused anxiety | (B) created a sense of longing |
| (C) brought comfort | (D) reminded her of her own childhood |

7(ii). The tone of the poet expressed in the above lines is:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| (A) sadness and helplessness | (B) excitement and eagerness |
| (C) appreciation and gratitude | (D) anger and anxiety |

7(iii). The words 'wan, pale' indicate the mother's _____.

7(iv). Complete the following sentence appropriately.

The poet looked at her mother again to _____.

7(v). Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line 'felt that old familiar ache'.

7(vi). 'put that thought away'.

What is the intention of poet that can be inferred from the above line?

8. Read the following extract and answer the questions.

The reason the programme has been so successful is because it is impossible to go anywhere near the South Pole and not be affected by it. It's easy to be blase about polar ice caps melting while sitting in the comfort zone of our respective latitude and longitude, but when you can visibly see glaciers retreating and ice shelves collapsing, you begin to realise that the threat of global warming is real.

Antarctica, because of her simple eco-system and lack of biodiversity, is the perfect place to study how little changes in the environment can have big repercussions.

(Journey to the End of the Earth)

8(i). As per the given extract, the reason for the success of the programme is:

- | | |
|--|--|
| (A) the participation of young students. | (B) the journey to Antarctica. |
| (C) the exposure to reality. | (D) it was impossible to go near south pole. |

8(ii). Complete the following sentence.

The warning that can be inferred from the above extract is _____.

8(iii). State whether the statement given is TRUE or FALSE with reference to the extract.
Global warming is a threat to human survival.

8(iv). Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line "It's easy to be blase about polar ice caps melting while sitting in the comfort zone".

OR

8. Read the following extract and answer the questions.

From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers inhabiting Pratibandapuram.

The State banned tiger hunting by anyone except the Maharaja. A proclamation was issued to the effect that if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated.

The Maharaja vowed he would attend to all other matters only after killing the hundred tigers. Initially the king seemed well set to realise his ambition.

(The Tiger King)

8(i). Select the correct option:

'...he would attend to all other matters only after killing hundred tigers'. This reflects Tiger King's:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| (A) courage | (B) determination |
| (C) selfishness | (D) kindness |

8(ii). Complete the sentence appropriately.

'From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers.' The above statement is ironical in the sense _____.

8(iii). 'if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated'.

What trait of the king is reflected in the above line?

8(iv). State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.

The King's ambition is to save people from the tigers.

9. Read the following extract and answer the questions.

"Why do you do this?" I ask Saheb whom I encounter every morning scrounging for gold in the garbage dumps of my neighbourhood.

Saheb left his home long ago. Set amidst the green fields of Dhaka, his home is not even a distant memory. There were many storms that swept away their fields and homes, his mother tells him. That's why they left, looking for gold in the big city where he now lives.

"I have nothing else to do," he mutters, looking away.

"Go to school," I say glibly, realizing immediately how hollow the advice must sound.

"There is no school in my neighbourhood. When they build one, I will go."

(Lost Spring)

9(i). Choose the correct option.

The expression 'scrounging for gold' refers to:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| (A) searching for gold items. | (B) looking for something that can fetch money. |
| (C) rummaging the garbage. | (D) digging to find food to eat. |

9(ii). The influence of nature in Saheb's life was that it:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| (A) brought prosperity | (B) yielded food for them |
| (C) gave them home | (D) brought disaster |

9(iii). Complete the sentence with an appropriate word.

Saheb's conversation with the narrator draws _____ of readers towards Saheb.

9(iv). Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line "..... realizing how hollow the advice must sound".

9(v). The expression 'when they build one, I will go' indicates Saheb's _____ to go to school.

9(vi). State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.

'... his home is not even a distant dream' states that Saheb sees his home often in his dream.

OR

9. Read the following extract and answer the questions.

Then the poet spoke. He couldn't have addressed a more dazed and silent audience - no one knew what he was talking about and his accent defeated any attempt to understand what he was saying. The whole thing lasted about an hour; then the poet left and we all dispersed in utter bafflement - What are we doing? What is an English poet doing in a film studio which makes Tamil films for the simplest sort of people? People whose lives least afforded them the possibility of cultivating a taste for English poetry. The poet looked pretty baffled too, for he must have felt the sheer incongruity of his talk about the thrills and travails of an English poet. His visit remained an unexplained mystery.

(Poets and Pancakes)

9(i). Choose the correct option:

The reason for the bewilderment of the audience is:

- | | |
|--|---|
| (A) unknown identity of the visitor. | (B) that the speaker had not been introduced to them. |
| (C) the visit of an English poet to a Tamil film studio. | (D) that they did not understand English. |

9(ii). By 'thrills and travails' the author refers to:

- (A) joy and happiness (B) interest and aspiration
(C) excitement and pain (D) shocks and surprises

9(iii). Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line, "He could not have addressed a more dazed and silent audience".

9(iv). The failure of the speaker to connect with the audience with reference to the extract is his _____.

9(v). What information in the extract reveals the fact that the people have no exposure other than to their own circle?

9(vi). State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.

The audience were enthralled by the poet's impressive speech.

10(i). Explain the inference that can be drawn from the line: "Will they make them sing in German, even the pigeons?" (The Last Lesson)

10(ii). "Father laughed, but there was terror in my heart."

What does the above statement speak of the father? (Deep Water)

10(iii). The tigers in the panel that she made

Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.

What is the tone of the poet reflected in the above lines? (Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

10(iv). What is Pablo Neruda's complaint against fishermen? (Keeping Quiet)

10(v). How and why does Keats relate 'mighty dead' to the 'Thing of Beauty'? (A Thing of Beauty)

10(vi). 'Jansie, knowing they were both earmarked for the biscuit factory, became melancholy'.

What inference about Jansie's character is drawn from the above line? (Going Places)

11(i). Why was Charlie fascinated with Galesburg? (The Third Level)

11(ii). "I must get rid of this man for your sake". Said Dr. Sadao.

How will you describe Dr. Sadao as a husband with reference to the above line? (The Enemy)

11(iii). 'The words that Annan spoke to me that day made a deep impression on me'.

What inference do you draw about the bond between Annan and Bama? (Memories of Childhood)

12(a). Attempt the following in 120 - 150 words.

'..... but will keep

A bower quiet for us. (A Thing of Beauty)

Perhaps the Earth can teach us

as when everything seems dead

and later proves to be alive. (Keeping Quiet)

Based on ideas from 'Keeping Quiet' and 'A Thing of Beauty', as President of Eco Club of your school. Draft a speech on the importance of preserving nature for the benefit of mankind.

You may begin like this.

Good morning to one and all!

After reading both the poems, I strongly believe
.....

12(b). Attempt the following in 120 - 150 words.

She gave a little cry of joy. She found a small
rattrap, ... (The Rattrap)

Saheb-e-Alam received a pair of discarded shoes
with a hole in one of them. In spite of this he was
very happy. (Lost Spring)

Compare the joy that both Edla and Saheb
experience after receiving their respective gifts.

13(a). Attempt the following in 120 - 150 words.

Imagine you are Derry speaking at the funeral of
Mr. Lamb highlighting Mr. Lamb's optimism and
the change he brought about in your attitude
towards life. (On the Face of it)

You may begin like this.

Dear friends,

I will be eternally grateful to Mr. Lamb

13(b). Attempt the following in 120 - 150 words.

After having escaped from Japan with the help of
Dr. Sadao, Tom (the prisoner of war) writes an
article highlighting how Sadao's actions
demonstrated the importance of humanity and
living in harmony. (The Enemy)

You may begin like this:

Humanity is a value that binds us together

- End of Question Paper -