

ICSE Class 10 English Language Question Paper 2018

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH Paper – 1

(Two hours)

Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.

*You will **not** be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.*

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

*Attempt **all four** questions.*

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

*You are advised to spend not more than 35 minutes in answering **Question 1**
and 20 minutes in answering **Question 2**.*

Question 1

(Do not spend more than 35 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (350 - 400 words) on any one of the following: [25]

- (a) Write an original short story entitled 'The Gift'.
- (b) "Money is important for happiness." Express your views either **for** or **against** this statement.
- (c) Narrate an incident from your own experience when you helped to prepare a meal. Explain what you did and what you gained from the experience.
- (d) You had been waiting outside the examination hall. Describe what you saw and the sounds you heard when you arrived at the place. What were your feelings? Describe how the scene changed once you entered the hall and the examination started.

This Paper consists of 8 printed pages.

- (e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



Question 2

[10]

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select **any one** of the following:

- (a) Your uncle has offered to get you a pet for your birthday. Write a letter to him telling him what you would like, give reasons for your choice and tell him how you would take care of your pet.
- (b) The traffic outside your school is very heavy and chaotic.

Write a letter to the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic) pointing out the danger of such heavy and chaotic traffic in a school zone. Suggest possible solutions for the problem.

Question 3

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Granny knew I'd been in the train for two nights, and she had a huge breakfast ready for me.

Later she told me there'd been a letter from Uncle Ken.

'He says he's the manager in Firpo's hotel in Simla,' she said. 'The salary is very good. It's a steady job and I hope he keeps it.'

Three days later Uncle Ken was on the veranda steps with his bedding roll and *battered* suitcase.

'Have you given up the hotel job?' asked Granny.

'No,' said Uncle Ken. 'They have closed down.'

'I hope it wasn't because of you.'

'No, Aunt Ellen. The bigger hotels in the hill stations are closing down.'

'Well, never mind. Come along and have your lunch.'

Over lunch, Uncle Ken talked very seriously about ways and means of earning a living.

'There is only one taxi in the whole of Dehra,' he *mused*. 'Surely there is business for another?'

'I'm sure there is,' said Granny. 'But where does it get you? In the first place, you don't have a taxi. And in the second place, you can't drive.'

'I can soon learn. There's a driving school in town. And I can use Uncle's old car.'

'I don't think it will run now,' said Granny.

'Of course, it will. It just needs some oiling and greasing and a spot of paint.'

'All right, learn to drive.'

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So, Uncle Ken joined the driving school.

After a month Uncle Ken announced that he could drive and that he was taking the car out for a trial run.

‘You haven’t got your license yet,’ said Granny.

‘Oh, I won’t take it far,’ said Uncle Ken. ‘Just down the road and back again.’

He spent all morning cleaning up the car. Granny gave him money for a can of petrol.

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After tea, Uncle Ken said, ‘Come along, Ruskin, hop in and I will give you a ride. Bring Mohan along too.’ Mohan and I needed no urging. We got into the car beside Uncle Ken.

‘Now don’t go too fast, Ken,’ said Granny anxiously. ‘You are not used to the car as yet.’

Uncle Ken nodded and smiled and gave two sharp toots on the horn. He was feeling pleased with himself.

Driving through the gate, he nearly ran over a cat.

Miss Kellner, coming out for her evening rickshaw ride, saw Uncle Ken at the wheel of the car and ran indoors again.

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Uncle Ken drove straight and fast, tootling the horn without a break.

At the end of the road there was a roundabout.

‘We’ll turn here,’ said Uncle Ken, ‘and then drive back again.’

He turned the steering wheel, we began going round the roundabout, but the steering wheel wouldn’t turn all the way, not as much as Uncle Ken would have liked it to... So, instead he went on – and straight through the Maharaja of Jetpur’s garden wall.

It was a single-brick wall, and the car knocked it down and *emerged* on the other side without any damage to the car or any of its occupants. Uncle Ken

brought it to a halt in the middle of the Maharaja's lawn.

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Running across the grass came the Maharaja himself. When he saw that it was Uncle Ken at the wheel, the Maharaja beamed with pleasure.

'Delighted to see you, old chap!' he exclaimed. 'Jolly decent of you to drop in again. How about a game of tennis?'

- (a) Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage: [3]

One word answers or short phrases will be accepted.

(i) battered (line 7)

(ii) mused (line 15)

(iii) emerged (line 48)

- (b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words.

(i) Why did Granny hope Uncle Ken would keep his job at Firpo's hotel? [2]

(ii) When Uncle Ken arrived with his luggage, Granny remarked that she hoped the hotel had not closed down because of him. What does this remark tell you about Uncle Ken? [2]

(iii) Why did Uncle Ken think that driving a taxi in Dehra would be profitable? [2]

(iv) Which sentence tells you that the narrator and his friend were waiting to be invited for a drive in a car? [2]

(v) Why did Miss Kellner run indoors when she saw Uncle Ken at the wheel of the car? [2]

(vi) What was Uncle Ken's intention at the roundabout? [2]

- (c) (i) In not more than 60 words, describe what happened after the car went through the wall. [8]

(ii) Give a title to your summary in 3(c)(i). Give a reason to justify your choice of the title. [2]

Question 4

- (a) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

Example:

(0) *beginning*

Alice was (0) _____ (begin) to get very tired of (1) _____ (sit) by her sister on the bank and of having nothing to do: once or twice she had (2) _____ (peep) into the book her sister was reading, but it (3) _____ (have) no pictures or conversations in it, "and what is the use of a book," (4) _____ (think) Alice, "without pictures or conversations?"

Alice wondered whether the pleasure of (5) _____ (make) a daisy-chain would be worth the trouble of getting up and picking the daisies, when suddenly a White Rabbit with pink eyes (6) _____ (run) close by her. Alice did not think this was very remarkable, until the Rabbit actually (7) _____ (take) a watch out of its waistcoat-pocket, and (8) _____ (look) at it, and then hurried on.

- (b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word: [4]

- (i) The poet's mother was stung _____ a scorpion.
- (ii) "Please write _____ what I tell you otherwise you will forget," the teacher said.
- (iii) The dog was hiding _____ the bed, barking at the stranger.
- (iv) Sheila's grandmother found it difficult to climb _____ the steep staircase.
- (v) The soldier fought bravely _____ his country.
- (vi) There is no use crying _____ spilt milk.

- (vii) I don't know what they were arguing _____ but I could hear angry voices.
- (viii) The school playground is out _____ bounds for the pupils of the primary school.
- (c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence **without using and, but or so:** [4]
- (i) They have to go to bed early every night. They are allowed to stay up late on Saturdays.
- (ii) The children were delighted. The exams had been cancelled.
- (iii) We are not allowed to play in the sun. We are not allowed to play in the rain.
- (iv) This is the place. The dog was rescued from its cruel owner.
- (d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. [8]
- (i) She laid the table after she had finished the cooking.
(Begin: When.....)
- (ii) He is old but still he works hard.
(Begin: Despite.....)
- (iii) The delivery boy was requested to bring the parcel the next day.
(Rewrite using direct speech)
- (iv) I prefer playing a game to watching television.
(Begin: I would rather.....)
- (v) Every family has a black sheep.
(Begin: There is no.....)
- (vi) I have never worn a more ill-fitting suit.
(End: ever worn.)

(vii) Anil is too fast a runner not to come first in the race.

(Begin: Anil is so.....)

(viii) As soon as the sports meet ended, the children ran on the field.

(Begin: Hardly.....)

