BYJU'S CBSE Class 10 English Language and Literature Sample Paper 2023-24

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER (2023-24) ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (Code No. 184)

CLASS-X

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Time allowed: 3 Hrs.

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

SECTION A : READING SKILLS (20 marks)

Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages

1.	Read the following text. 10 m
(1)	As a high school student, studying poetry can be a rollercoaster ride. This journey is punctuated by
	moments of profound appreciation for simpler pieces and intermittent frustration with more
	complex works. Let's be real here - some poems are just plain confusing and no amount of re-reading
	seems to help decipher the intended meaning. The puzzlement that results from such instances can
	be both vexing and demotivating. If solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing Sudoku is a
	better option. One is led to ponder if obscurity was the goal.
(2)	Conversely, some pieces resonate with the reader's soul. stirring feelings of warmth, happiness, and
	connection to the world. Often, these compositions centre on themes that are universally
	understood, such as love, nature, or faith. Being able to actually understand what the poet is trying
	to say can feel like a little victory and is a welcome relief after grappling with more perplexing poetry.
(3)	Then there are poems that are emotionally charged; the ones that make the reader curl up in a ball
	and cry or jump up and down with joy. One is left in awe of the poet's ability to convey emotion
	through words. Let's not forget the downright weird poems. These are the ones that defy
	categorization and leave the reader to their own devices in attempting to interpret meaning. The
	author's use of figurative language and unconventional imagery can create a sense of bewilderment
	that is either intriguing or off-putting. Regardless, the reader can appreciate the uniqueness of the
	work.
(4)	Despite the wide range of emotions and reactions that come with studying poetry, it can be a
	rewarding pursuit. Not only does reading poetry allow one to appreciate the artistic beauty of the
	written word but also enables one to develop crucial critical thinking and analytical skills. The process
	of unlocking a poem's meaning can feel like cracking a code or solving a puzzle but the sense of
	accomplishment derived from mastering a challenging piece can be deeply gratifying. Finally,
	impressing an English teacher with a well-analysed poem can be a source of pride and validation.
(5)	Overall, studying poetry is like a box of mixed chocolates, you never know what you're going to get.
	But whether it's complex, emotional, simple, or just downright weird, there's always something to
	be gained from the experience. So, let's applaud all the poets out there, for making us laugh, cry,
	scratch our heads, and occasionally feel like a genius.
A	Created for academic usage/ 414 words
Ansv	ver the following questions, based on the passage above.



i	Which of the following statements best describes the author's attitude towards studying	1			
	poetry?				
	A. Finds poetry to be a frustrating and meaningless endeavor.				
	B. Believes that the emotional rollercoaster of studying poetry is not worth the effort.				
	C. Recognizes the challenges of studying poetry but also acknowledges the rewards it				
	offers.				
	D. Feels that poetry is too obscure and abstract for the average person to appreciate.				
ii	What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from paragraph (1)? Rationalise your response	2			
	in about 40 words.				
	If solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing Sudoku is a better option. One is led to				
	ponder if obscurity was the goal.				
iii	Complete the sentence appropriately.	1			
	The author's use of vivid imagery in the paragraph (3), such as "curl up in a ball and cry" and				
	"jump up and down with joy", greatly affects the reader because				
iv	The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets (a)-(e)	1			
	below, identify two sets of antonyms:				
	(a) intriguing and off-putting (b) deciphering and interpreting				
	(c) appreciate and applaud (d) simple and challenging				
	(e) emotions and feelings				
v	Complete the sentence appropriately.	1			
	We can say that the author's tone becomes more neutral and objective when discussing weird				
	poems, compared to other types of poetry because				
vi	Based on the reading of the passage, examine, in about 40 words, how studying poetry can	2			
	be like exploring a new city.				
vii	What is the message conveyed by Hina's experience, in the following case?	1			
	Hina spends hours trying to analyze a poem for her assignment and finally feels a sense of				
	accomplishment and pride, once she understands.				
	A. Only those with natural talent for poetry should engage with it.				
	B. Persistence makes studying poetry a rewarding pursuit.				
	C. Study of poetry is guaranteed to impress others.				
	D. The efforts of studying poetry is inversely proportional to the rewards gained.				
viii	State whether the following lines display an example of a simple / complex / emotionally	1			
	charged / downright weird , poem.				
	The cup rises in the east				
	The sun rises in the east,				
	A new day begins, a fresh start.				
	Birds chirp, nature wakes up, A peaceful feeling in my heart.				
2.	Read the following text.	10 m			
2.	Reduction in green areas has caused various environmental problems. People squeezed be				
(1)	concrete structures are looking for various ways to meet their longing for green. One				
	ways to do so, is vertical gardens and green walls. Vertical gardening is a unique met				
	mays to do so, is vertical Bardens and Sreen wais. Vertical Bardening is a unique met				



		rpose of vertical gardens and les (landscape architects, archite					
	and incr	rease the visual value. In these sys nd the desired environment ha	stems, nature	and struc	tures are i		-
		garden case studies often sho				ould be in	the foregrou
	when v	ertical gardens are planned, they asses and city squares, and decor	are generall	y made	as aesthe	tic elemer	nts in the c
	on the	support that the visual quality an satisfaction of the users. Hence, ups from of a metropolitan city.	a survey ques	tionnaire	was prep	ared for res	sidents of va
+		ble 1 - Total number of participants		ie I, uisp	lays these	responses	•
	No	b. Survey statements	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
	Ve	rtical gardens-		1			
	1	in urban areas	191	138	43	9	19
	2		128	164	77	25	6
	3	increase air quality -indoors and outdoors	172	147	51	28	2
	4	reduce energy and water consumption	58	47	125	68	2
	5			144	106	30	6
	6	have a relaxing and calming effect	161	177	44	7	11
	7		86	107	152	42	13
	8		195	139	44	6	16
	9		135	173	55	25	12
	10	are among the determining factor to visiting a place	59	133	141	54	13
	11		9	84	123	126	48
	12		71	132	97	77	23
	13		81	207	100	10	2
	14		34	101	106	131	28
	15	5 funds are best used for social issues	57	72	100	130	41



	Adapted for academic usage - 2019 case-study -Investigating the vertical garden applications in 225 words	
Ans	ver the following questions, based on the passage above	
i	Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of paragraphs 1 & 2.	1
	We can say that the situation of people living in concrete structures is comparable with a fish living in a fishbowl, and the need for vertical gardens to the need for decorations in the	
	fishbowl because	
ii	Fill the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of paragraph 2.	1
	The statement that , urban spaces have become more closely connected with the desired natural surroundings through the incorporation of nature and structures in vertical gardens	
	and green walls, is a (fact/ opinion) because it is a (subjective	
	judgement/ objective detail).	
iii	Justify the following, in about 40 words.	2
	While the survey results suggest that vertical gardens may be effective in improving the	
	quality of life in urban areas, further research and evaluation may be necessary to fully	
	understand their effectiveness and potential drawbacks.	
iv	Based on the survey results, which two concerns should a city government, looking to install vertical gardens, address?	1
v	In Table 1, the statement 3, "Vertical gardens increase air quality - indoors and outdoors,"	1
	received the most neutral responses from participants, with 51 respondents indicating a	
	neutral stance. State any one inference that can be drawn from this.	
vi	Select the option that correctly displays what 'intertwined' signifies. (Reference-Paragraph 2)	1
	(i) (ii) (iv) (v)	
	A. (i), (iv) and (v)	
	B. Only (ii)	
	C. Only (iii)	
	D. (ii) and (v)	
	FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED CANDIDATES In the given sentence taken from paragraph 1, select the option that correctly replaces the	
	I III LITE VIVETI SETTLETICE LAKETI TIOTTI DATAVIADITI I. SETECLI LITE ODLIOTI LITAL COTTECLIV TEDIACES LITE T	
	underlined word, with its most likely antonym.	
	underlined word, with its most likely antonym.	
	underlined word, with its most likely antonym. Vertical gardening is <u>a unique</u> method of gardening.	
	underlined word, with its most likely antonym. Vertical gardening is <u>a unique</u> method of gardening. A. an indefinite	

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vii	Infer c	ne benefit and one drawback of vertical gardening, in comparison to other solutions,	2
	such a	s community gardens or parks. (Answer in about 40 words)	
viii	Which	of the following is the main takeaway from the study mentioned in the passage?	1
	Α.	Vertical gardening has minimal impact on the environment or human well-being.	
	В.	Vertical gardening is a sustainable practice that can transform urban spaces into green	
		areas.	
	С.	The impact of vertical gardening on the environment and human well-being has	
		already been thoroughly explored.	
	D.	The study needs to include experts from horticultural firms to offer any	
		recommendations for further research.	

SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 marks)

	GRAMMAR	10
3	Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed.	1x10
i.	Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter: Dear Sir	1
	This is with reference to committee's letter of recommendation that (highlight) the nominations for 'Safe Residential Area' award for this current year.	
ii.	Read the given sentence from a recipe review article. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence. This delightful recipe must keep your hunger pangs at bay with its balanced spices and oriental flavour.	1
	Use the given format for your response.	
iii.	Abhilash and Neha had a conversation about the inauguration of Neha's Dance Academy. Report Abhilash's question. Is your best friend helping you in this venture?	1
iv.	Read the dialogue between Shabnam and her mentor, Sara, regarding her summer internship programme. Sara: Why did you choose to participate in this internship programme? Shabnam: Ah! I am convinced this programme has the potential to enhance my abilities.	1
	Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.	
	Sara asked Shabnam in that internship programme. Shabnam sighed and exclaimed that she was convinced that programme had the potential to enhance her abilities.	
	A. why to choose to participate B. to choose participation C. why he had chosen to participate	



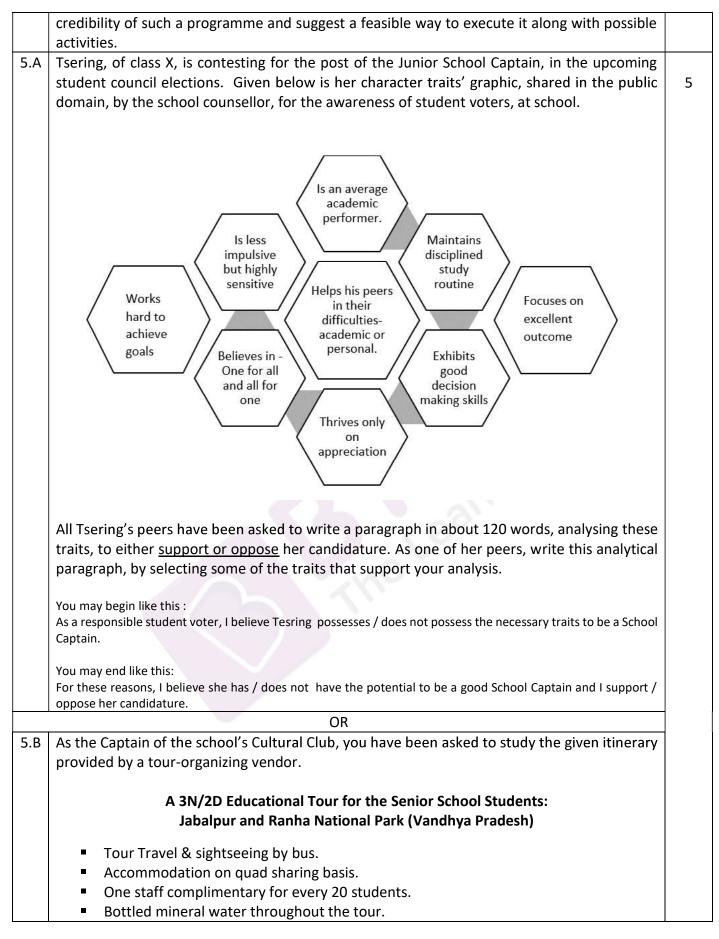
v. Fill the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the concluding line of an issued circular by an Organisation, to its Managers. 1 A copy of the plan is enclosed and		D. with her choice in participating					
A copy of the plan is enclosed and	٧.	Fill the blank by choosing	the correct op	tion, to cor	nplete the co	oncluding line of an issued	1
Team Leaders for compliance. Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from a commercial company's current marketing strategy. 1 Vi. Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from a commercial company's current marketing strategy. 1 View Image: I		circular by an Organisation, to its Managers.					
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vi. Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from a commercial company's current marketing strategy. 1 The company aimed at increasing authority in areas frequently visited by the clients. 1 Use the given format for your response. error correction vii. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the closing line, from an analytical report. 1 In conclusion, this study explores the association among short-sleep pattern and overweight youngsters. 1 Viii Complete the given narrative, by filling the blank with the correct option. 1 The experience of nursing an injured bird left me grateful for knowing the importance of being kind and compassionate to all creatures. 1 A. feeling B. having felt 1 D. feels 1 1 ix. Report the dialogue between a vendor and his customer, by completing the sentence: 1 the vendor greeted his customer respectfully and mentioned that he was pleased to see him. The customer answered in the affirmative and explained that 1 x. Fill the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the live feed on a school news channel. 1		A copy of the plan is enclo	sed and	(that/	' then/ this) m	ay be communicated to all	
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C. felt D. feels ix. Report the dialogue between a vendor and his customer, by completing the sentence: 1 ix. Vendor: It is nice to see you, Sir! 1 Customer: Yes, indeed! Unlike last month, I have been away for quite some time this month. 1 The vendor greeted his customer respectfully and mentioned that he was pleased to see him. 1 The customer answered in the affirmative and explained that 1 x. Fill the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the live feed on a school news 1 channel. Congratulations Change Makers! The regional competition awards have been announced and our school music club	viii	The experience of nursing importance of being kind	D tive, by filling th g an injured bir	In ne blank wit d left me	for h the correct		1
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	A. had been won	
	B. will win	
	C. was winning	
	D. has won	
xi.	Complete the line from a self- awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option.	1
	The river runs through your veins	
	The trees and mountains your name	
	The moon and stars watch over	
	You're guiding your way back home	
	To dream the night away.	
	A. will call	
	B. call	
	C. had called	
	D. calls	
xii.	Identify the error and supply correction for the following note in a passengers' flight	1
	instruction manual:	
	Note- Passengers will not reach the airport late in order to avoid	
	a fine equivalent to 5% of the basic fare.	
	Use the given format for your response.	
	error correction	

	WRITING	10
	Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose .	
4.A	As Vaishali Nathani of 214, Indrayani Apartments, Vaishali Street, Daipur, you believe that	
	forming Ecology clubs and appointing Eco-minders in your city can aid in the preservation and	
	conservation of nature.	
	Write a letter to the MLA of your city area, in about 120 words, suggesting the need to form	5
	such clubs. Share their importance and implications. Recommend the involvement of resident	
	volunteers for implementation of eco-club activities that nurture and protect the local	
	ecosystem.	
	OR	
4.B	As Armaan Khan, the School Literary Captain of Ujjwal Academy, Old City, Kiladerabad, you	
	believe that languages can help bridge regional divides and promote unity.	
	Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, suggesting the introduction	
	of an online regional language learning programme managed and run by student councils and	
	language clubs in the city. The programme aims to help residents who have recently relocated	
	to a new region in picking up the local language organically. Share the importance and	





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- Dance Party on 22 November.
- Insurance policy of ₹ 20,000/- per head.
- Provision of Tour Manager's assistance to all places.

Day	Estimated time of departure from	Estimate d time of arrival	Sight-seeing Destination/ Activity	Time spent at the destination
22 Nov. 2023	8:49 am (Nagpur Junction)-8 hrs. 30 min	5:23 pm	Reporting at the hotel	
23 Nov. 2023	9:00am (hotel)	10:00am	Bhawartal Garden	1 hr.
	11:00am (garden)	11:40am	Bhedaghat Dhuandhar Falls	1hr.
	12:40pm (falls)	1:00pm	Lunch (nearby restaurant)	1 hr.
	2:00pm (restaurant)	2:15pm	Marble Rocks Cable car tour	1hr. 30 mins
	3:45pm (Marble Rocks)	4:45 pm	Rani Durgavati Museum	1 hr. 30 mins
	6:15pm (museum)	7:00pm	Back to the hotel	
24 Nov. 2023	5:30am (hotel)- 170 kms- 4 hrs. drive	9:30am	Ranha Tiger Reserve	7hrs.
	4:30pm (Tiger Reserve)	9:00pm	Back to the hotel	
25 Nov. 2023	7:54 am (Jabalpur Railway station)- 8 hrs. 45 min	4:21 pm	Nagpur Railway Junction	
students' safe words, by sele (ou may begin lik	inerary to either <u>approv</u> cy, interest, and physical cting features that suppo e this :	wellness. W ort your ana	the tour proposal, while Vrite this analytical paragra lysis.	ph in about 1

You may end like this: Therefore, the tour proposal for the educational trip should be approved / rejected.

SECTION D : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)

(6.	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.	5
1	Α.	The question he tried to answer was simple: What is the purpose of the twelve tiny gold sp	ots on a
		monarch pupa?	
		"Everyone assumed the spots were just ornamental," Ebright said.	
		"But Dr Urquhart didn't believe it."	

https://byjus.com



	To find the answer, Ebright and another excellent science student first had to build a development of the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly's full development project won Ebright first place in the county fair and entry into the International Scie Engineering Fair. There he won third place for zoology. He also got a chance to work du summer at the entomology laboratory of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. (<i>The Making of a Science Context and Cont</i>	ent. This nce and ring the
i	State any one inference about Dr Urquhart from the given context: Everyone assumed the spots were just ornamental," Ebright said. "But Dr Urquhart didn't believe it."	1
ii	State TRUE or FALSE.	1
	None of the terms (a) -(d) below, can be applied to the question - <i>What is the purpose of the twelve tiny gold spots on a monarch pupa?</i> (a) A hypothesis - a proposed explanation for a phenomenon (b) An assumption - something that is taken for granted or assumed to be true without proof (c) A premise - a proposition that forms the basis of an argument (d) A theory - a well-substantiated explanation for a natural phenomenon	
iii	Ebright's approach towards finding the purpose of the gold spots on a monarch pupa was highly effective. Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract.	2
iv	Which phrase would correctly substitute 'a chance', in the given sentence from the extract. He also got <u>a chance</u> to work during the summer at the entomology laboratory of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.	1
	OR	
В.	LOMOV : It's cold I'm trembling all over, just as if I'd got an examination before me. The gree is , I must have my mind made up. If I give myself time to think, to hesitate, to talk a lot, to an ideal, or for real love, then I'll never get married. BrrIt's cold! Natalya Stepanovna is an e housekeeper, not bad-looking, well-educated. What more do I want? But I'm getting a nois ears from excitement. (Drinks) And it's impossible for me not to marry. In the first place, I'm 35— a critical age, so to speak. In the second place, I ought to lead a quiet and regular life. from palpitations, I'm excitable and always getting awfully upset; at this very moment my trembling, and there's a twitch in my right eyebrow. (<i>The Proposal</i>)	look for excellent se in my already . I suffer lips are
i	 Which of the following is NOT a reason why Lomov thinks he must marry? A. He is already 35 years old. B. He suffers from palpitations. C. He is excitable and easily upset. D. He is in love with Natalya. 	1
ii	Why is it fair to say that Lomov's tone, when he says "What more do I want?", is uncertain and questioning? Answer in about 40 words.	2
iii	Read the following descriptions (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract. (a) A debate is a formal discussion on a particular topic, usually with two or more people presenting different viewpoints and arguments.	1



	(b) A soliloquy is a speech given by a character alone on stage, which reveals their innermost			
1	thoughts and feelings to the audience.			
	(c) An aside is a brief comment or remark made by a character directly to the audience,			
	which is not intended to be heard by other characters on stage.			
iv	If an actor were to enact this extract, what would he be required to focus on, while	1		
	modulating his voice?			
7.	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.	5		
A.	But if it had to perish twice,			
	I think I know enough of hate			
	To say that for destruction ice			
	Is also great			
	And would suffice.			
	(Fire and Ice)			
i	Fill the blank with one word.	1		
	When the speaker says that ice could also bring about the end of the world , he refers to			
	, as the means for destruction.			
ii	What does the speaker's alignment with those who favour ice, suggest?	1		
iii	Which of the following best describes the speaker's attitude towards destruction caused by	1		
	ice?			
	A. Indifferent			
	B. Fearful			
	C. Dismissive			
	D. Respectful			
iv	Comment on the poet's use of language in these lines.	2		
		OR		
B.	The fog comes			
В.	on little cat feet.			
В.	on little cat feet. It sits looking			
В.	on little cat feet. It sits looking over harbour and city			
В.	on little cat feet. It sits looking over harbour and city on silent haunches			
В.	on little cat feet. It sits looking over harbour and city on silent haunches and then moves on.			
В.	on little cat feet. It sits looking over harbour and city on silent haunches			
	on little cat feet. It sits looking over harbour and city on silent haunches and then moves on. (Fog)	1		
в. і	on little cat feet. It sits looking over harbour and city on silent haunches and then moves on. (Fog) In what way does the language used in this poem challenge traditional ideas of what poetry	1		
i	 on little cat feet. It sits looking over harbour and city on silent haunches and then moves on. (<i>Fog</i>) In what way does the language used in this poem challenge traditional ideas of what poetry should be? 			
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i	 on little cat feet. It sits looking over harbour and city on silent haunches and then moves on. (<i>Fog</i>) In what way does the language used in this poem challenge traditional ideas of what poetry should be? What is the significance of the use of the word "little" to describe the fog in the poem and how does this word choice contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem? Answer 			
i	 on little cat feet. It sits looking over harbour and city on silent haunches and then moves on. (Fog) In what way does the language used in this poem challenge traditional ideas of what poetry should be? What is the significance of the use of the word "little" to describe the fog in the poem and how does this word choice contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem? Answer in about 40 words. 	2		
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iv	Identify the type of imagery used in the lines of the poem.	1
8	Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words.	4x3=12
i	Justify the opinion that the traditional baker and his bread play a significant role in the	3
	cultural and social fabric of Goan society. (Glimpses of India-I)	
ii	How does Leslie Norris use vivid imagery and metaphorical language in A Tiger in the Zoo,	3
	to effectively depict the confinement and oppression, experienced by the captive tiger.	
iii	Explain how the description of the devastation caused by the hailstorm reflects the sadness	3
	within Lencho, in A Letter to God?	
	Refer to the given lines, from the text -	
	Not a leaf remained on the trees. The corn was totally destroyed. The flowers were gone	
	from the plants. Lencho's soul was filled with sadness.	
iv	Kitty was a trusted friend to Anne. Elaborate.	3
	(From the Diary of Anne Frank)	
v	How does Ogden Nash's The Tale of Custard the Dragon , challenge the notion that	3
	individuals should conform to societal expectations?	
9	Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.	2x3=6
i	The story, A Triumph of Surgery is a powerful example of the importance of saying "no".	3
	Explain.	
ii	How does education play a transformative role in Bholi's life?	3
	(Bholi)	
iii	The various elements of Robert Arthur's writing style work together to create a sense of	3
	tension, uncertainty, and suspense, well-suited to the mystery and suspense genre of the	
10	story, <i>The Midnight Visitor</i> . Comment, with reference to any one element. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.	1x6=6
(A)	You have been asked to present an evaluation of the approaches of the mothers of both, t	
	seagull and Amanda, towards helping their children. Write this presentation draft includ	-
	insights, in about 120 words, comparing the approaches of both parents.	ing your
	You may begin this way:	
	One acknowledges that both parents, Amanda's mother and the baby seagull's mother bothhowever,	
	(Reference - Amanda! & His First Flight)	
	OR	
(B)	You have been chosen to address a student gathering from the neighbourhood schools, to s	speak on
	the resilience of human spirit required to transcend discrimination. Prepare the speech dra	
	more than 120 words, with reference to the commonality of themes in Nelson Mandela: Lo	ng Walk
	to Freedom and The Trees by Adrienne Rich.	
	You may begin this way: Good morning, everyone. Today, I'd like to discuss two pieces of literature that offer a powerful insight into the	resilience
	of the human spirit required to transcend discrimination.	- contence
	You may end this way.	
	To conclude, I'd like to say that Thank you	
11	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.	1x6=6
_		



(A)	Imagine that M. Loisel, from <i>The Necklace</i> by Guy de Maupassant, writes a diary entry, exploring the
	theme of class and social status, and the nature of social mobility, in the context of his own
	experience.
	Write this diary entry , as M. Loisel, in about 120 words.
	OR
(B)	A character arc is the transformation or development of a character throughout a story and refers to
	the changes a character undergoes as a result of their experiences, challenges, and interactions with
	other characters.
	In the light of the above information, trace the character arc of the thief in Ruskin Bond's <i>The Thief's</i>
	Story, in about 120 words.

