

PRACTICE QUESTION PAPER (2026-27)

CLASS: X

SUBJECT : ENGLISH

Time: 3 Hours

M.M. : 80

General Instructions:-

- (i) The Question Paper contains four sections – Reading Skill, Grammar, Writing Skill and Literature.
- (ii) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION - A

(20 Marks)

(READING SKILL)

Q 1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: **10**

The worst form of pollution that affects us the most is air pollution. The way the environment is being polluted today stands testimony to the fact that we are irresponsible occupants of this Earth and by polluting the air, we are meticulously working towards our own destruction. According to the World Health Organisation, about 2.8 million people die each year due to indoor pollution (over 5,00,000 occur in China alone). And about 2,00,000 deaths are due to outdoor air pollution. These data should act as an eye-opener for all of us. There are so many ways in which we contribute to air pollution. It is due to air pollution that a number of diseases have surfaced. There are several respiratory diseases which affect us adversely.

2. It is said that cigarette smoking is injurious to health. But it is not injurious to the health of only those who smoke cigarettes but also to those who come in contact with the smoke emitted from the cigarettes. People who take in the smoke of cigarettes while breathing normally do not realise that they are passive smokers and smoking cigarette or not is no different when the result is the same. Therefore, air pollution through smoking is the worst form of pollution to have hit us due to our own negligence.

3. Air is polluted even by burning garbage heaps, dry leaves, wood for cooking and even by fire-crackers. What is worse is that most of us understand the ill-effects of pollution, yet we are so indifferent towards our own health that we do not avoid the avoidable. Garbage heaps can be recycled instead of being burnt. Similarly, dry leaves can be buried in the soil inside pits. This will not only avoid pollution but also benefit the soil by fertilising it.

Questions:

- (i) What is the worst form of pollution that affects us badly?

- a. Air Pollution
- b. Water Pollution
- c. Noise Pollution
- d. All of these

(ii) What does increasing air pollution show about us?

- a. We are irresponsible residents of this earth.
- b. We are working towards our own destruction.
- c. We are indifferent towards our own health.
- d. All of these

(iii) How is air polluted?

- a. by burning garbage heaps
- b. by burning wood for cooking
- c. by fire-crackers
- d. All of these

(iv) Which of the following is the same as 'testimony'?

- (a) symbol
- (b) sign
- (c) mark
- (d) evidence

(v) Which of the following is opposite to 'adversely' (para 1)?

- (a) disorderly
- (b) adequately
- (c) harmfully
- (d) favourably

- (vi) According to WHO, how many people die due to outdoor air pollution?
- (vii) How is cigarette smoking injurious to passive smokers?
- (viii) What does the sentence 'We do not avoid the avoidable' convey?
- (ix) Give a suitable title for the passage.
- (x) What steps can be taken to control air pollution?

Q 2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

10

1. The term 'happy' has a variety of meanings. It stands for the lucky, fortunate, content, glad or cheerful. Happiness lies within the mind of the individual. No amount of external wealth may be helpful making him happy. Our forefathers had lifestyles, very much different from those we have today. Their life was based mainly on the concept of 'Simple living and high thinking'. People were satisfied with whatever they obtained after working hard. Excessive material wealth did not mean much for them. They derived mental satisfaction and enrichment, which they aimed at.
2. The structural framework of our forefathers' families was different from that of ours. They lived in a cohesive joint family structure where they were happier than us. They cared for each other. The siblings grew up with their cousins. The bond of love which they shared cannot be easily found in the nuclear family of the day. The family provided an emotional cushioning effect against tension and stress.
3. However, in the nuclear family, we are detached from the feelings towards our kith and kin. At times even the cousins do not recognize one another, when they happen to be self-centered. Disputes in the family may lead to divisions. This may finally destroy the family psyche. Our forefathers had a vision to make India the best. To attain their ambitions, they were ready to make all sorts of personal sacrifices. Their happiness lay in that of the millions of Indian brothers and sisters.

Questions:

- (i) Where does happiness lie?
- (ii) On which concept was the life of our forefathers based ?
- (iii) Mention one positive trait of joint family structure.
- (iv) What can not be easily found in the nuclear family?
- (v) What was the vision of our forefathers?

(vi) The term 'happy' has a variety of meanings that includes_____.

- a. lucky
- b. fortunate
- c. cheerful
- d. All of these

(vii) Which of the following words means the same as 'ancestors'?

- a. cousins
- b. siblings
- c. generation
- d. forefathers

(viii) Which thing did not mean much for them?

- a. health
- b. material wealth
- c. satisfaction
- d. Both 'b' and 'c'

(ix) What happens in a nuclear family?

- a. Family members become self-centered.
- b. Cousins do not recognise one another.
- c. Family members have no feelings for each other.
- d. All of these

(x) What makes a person really happy?

- a. luck
- b. inner contentment
- c. money

d. health

Section: B

(Grammar)

(10 Marks)

Q3 Attempt any ten sentences from the given items.

(A) Fill in the blanks with suitable modals.

(i) ___ she get a good partner!

a. Can

b. May

c. Will

d. Shall

(ii) How ___ you come into my room?

a. will

b. shall

c. dare

d. can

(B) Fill in the blanks with the correct article.

(iii) ___ Hindi is our official language.

a. No Article

b. The

c. A

d. An

(iv) My father reads ____ Indian Express daily.

- a. an
- b. a
- c. the
- d. No Article

(C) Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb.

(v) Delhi ____ (stand) on the bank of the Yamuna.

- a. stands
- b. is standing
- c. had stood
- d. stood

(vi) I __ (paint) my house since morning.

- a. painting
- b. have painted
- c. have been painting
- d. painted

(D) Choose the option with the correct indirect speech of the following.

(vii) She said to you, "Were you playing a hockey match?"

- a. She told you that you were playing a hockey match.
- b. She asked you that you had been playing a hockey match.
- c. She told you that you had been playing a hockey match.
- d. She asked you if you had been playing a hockey match.

(viii) She said to her servant, " How silly and careless you are!"

- a. She requested her servant that she was very silly and careless.

- b. She exclaimed that her servant was very silly and careless.
- c. She told her servant that she is silly and careless.
- d. She told her servant that you were silly and careless.

(E) Choose the option with the correctly punctuated sentence.

(ix) meena usha rekha and sneha are good friends

- a. meena, Usha, Rekha and Sneha are good friends?
- b. meena, Usha, Rekha and Sneha are good friends.
- c. Meena, Usha, Rekha and Sneha are good friends.
- d. Meena, Usha-Rekha and Sneha are good friends.

(x) alas, mr r k mehta has lost his grandmother

- a. Alas! Mr. R. K. Mehta has lost his grandmother.
- b. Alas! mr r k mehta has lost his grandmother.
- c. Alas! Mr. r k Mehta has lost his grandmother.
- d. Alas! Mr. R. K. Mehta has lost his grandmother?

(F) Fill in the blanks with the correct non-finite form of the verb.

(xi) He knows how ___(drive) a car.

- a. driving
- b. to drive
- c. drive
- d. driven

(xii) This play is ___(amuse).

- a. amused
- b. amusing
- c. amuse

d. Having amused

SECTION - C

(WRITING SKILL)

(10 Marks)

Q4. Attempt any one of the following.

5

(i) Write a letter to a firm complaining against the late delivery of goods. You are Meena/Raman, Manager, Sunder Cloth House, Hall Bazar, Amritsar.

(ii) Write a letter to the editor of a national newspaper expressing your concern over the over-use of mobile phones by youngsters. You are Rahul/Reema of 140-C, Defence Enclave, New Delhi.

Q5. Attempt any one of the following.

5

(i) Write a story with the help of the given outlines:

A lion asleep.....a little mouse gets on his body...lion wakes up.....catches the mouse.....prays for mercy.....forgives it lion caught in a rope net.....the mouse helps the lion.... both happy.

(ii) Your school organised a free Eye Camp for the students of your school during autumn break. Well known eye-specialists were invited on this occasion. You are Ankit, the Head Boy of the school. Mentioning the title, the date, the number of students benefited from this camp, write a report of this camp in about 40 words for your school magazine.

Section-D

(Literature)

(40 Marks)

Q6. Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow.

5

He just felt a bit dizzy. Then he flapped his wings once and he soared upwards. "Ga, ga, ga, Ga, ga, ga, Gaw-col-ah," his mother swooped past him, her wings making a loud noise. He answered her with another scream. Then his father flew over him screaming. He saw his two brothers and his sister flying around him curveting and banking and soaring and diving.

Then he completely forgot that he had not always been able to fly, and commended himself to dive and soar and curve, shrieking shrilly.

- (i) From which chapter has this extract been taken?
- (ii) Why did the young seagull feel dizzy?
- (iii) What were his brothers and sister doing?
- (iv) What did the young seagull completely forget?
- (v) Which feeling of the young seagull does the phrase 'shrieking shrilly' express?

OR

LOMOV: But you can see from the documents, honoured Natalya Stepanovna. Oxen Meadows, it's true, were once the subject of dispute, but now everybody knows that they are mine. There's nothing to argue about. You see my aunt's grandmother gave the free use of these Meadows in perpetuity to the peasants of your father's grandfather, in return for which they were to make bricks for her. The peasants belonging to your father's grandfather had the free use of the Meadows for forty years, and had got into the habit of regarding them as their own, when it happened that....

NATALYA: No, it isn't at all like that! Both grandfather and great-grandfather reckoned that their land extended to Burnt Marsh - which means that Oxen Meadows were ours. I don't see what there is to argue about. It's simply silly!

Questions:

- (i) Name the chapter from which this extract has been taken.
- (ii) What was the subject of dispute between Lomov and Natalya?
- (iii) Why did Lomov's aunt's grandmother give Oxen Meadows to Natalya's father's grandfather?
- (iv) For how many years had the peasants free use of Meadows?
- (v) Which word in the passage means 'continuance'?

Q7. Answer any two of the following in about 30-40 words.

3 X 2=6

- (i) Why did Lencho write a letter to God? (A Letter To God)
- (ii) Why was Mr. Keesing annoyed with Anne? What did he ask her to do? (From the Diary of Anne Frank)

(iii) Why was the baker's entry described as musical? (A Baker from Goa)

(iv) Why does the conductor refer to Valli as 'madam'? (Madam Rides the Bus)

Q8 Answer any one of the following in about 100-150 words.

6

(i) How did Nelson Mandela's understanding of freedom change from his childhood to his young adult years?

(ii) How does Buddha bring about a different perspective in Kisa Gotami's understanding of life?

Q9 Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

5

(There is a languid, emerald sea,
where the sole inhabitant is me---
a mermaid, drifting blissfully.)

Questions:

(i) How is the sea described here?

(ii) Who is the sole inhabitant here?

(iii) How does she imagine herself in this stanza?

(iv) The stanza shows her desire for _____.

(v) Why is this stanza bracketed?

OR

Custard the dragon had big sharp teeth,
And spikes on top of him and scales underneath,
Mouth like a fireplace, chimney for a nose,
And realio, trulio daggers on his toes.

(i) Name the poem and its poet.

(ii) Who is Custard?

(iii) Which features of the dragon are described here? Mention any one.

(iv) Which poetic device is used in the phrase 'mouth like a fireplace'?

(v) What does Custard have on his toes?

Q10. Answer any two of the following in about 30-40 words.

3 X 2=6

(i) What message does the poem 'Fire and Ice' convey?

(ii) Describe the behaviour of a bear based on the poem 'How to Tell Wild Animals'?

(iii) How are the trees described in the last stanza of the poem 'The Trees'?

(iv) Why does the poet mention God in the poem 'For Anne Gregory'?

Q11. Answer any two of the following questions in about 30-40 words.

3 X 2=6

(i) How does James Herriot treat the dog? (A Triumph of Surgery)

(ii) Why does Horace Danby steal every year? (A Question of Trust)

(iii) Why does Mrs Hall find the scientist eccentric? (Footprints without Feet)

(iv) Why was Matilda shocked at the end of the story? (The Necklace)

Q12. Answer any one of the following in about 100-150 words.

6

(i) Justify the title of the story 'The Midnight Visitor'.

(ii) How can you say that Bholi's teacher plays a crucial role in her transformation from a timid girl to the bold one.