

CLASS : 12th (Sr. Secondary)

Code No. 1201

Series : HB/Sample paper- 2025- 2026

SET : A

Roll No.

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ENGLISH (Core)

[For all Groups I, II, III]

ACADEMIC/OPEN

(Only for Fresh/Re-appear/Improvement/ Additional Candidates)

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 80

- Please make sure that the printed pages in this question paper are 19 in number and it contains 14 questions.
- The Code No. and Set on the right side of the question paper should be written by the candidate on the front page of the answer book.
- Before beginning to answer a question, its Serial Number must be written.
- Don't leave blank page/pages in your answer-book.
- Except answer-book, no extra sheet will be given. Write to the point and do not strike the written answer.
- Candidates must write their Roll No. on the question paper. Except Roll No. do not write anything on question paper and do not make any mark on answers of objective type questions.
- Before answering the questions, ensure that you have been supplied the correct and complete question paper, no claim in this regard, will be entertained after examination.

General Instructions:

(I) This question paper is divided into four sections : A , B, C and D

(ii) All the sections are compulsory.

(iii) Attempt all the parts of a question together.

(iv) Stick to the word limit wherever prescribed.

Reading Skills

1 Attempt any one from (A) and (B) given below:

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow; 10x1 = 10

1. Doing housework, taking care of children and carrying out assorted jobs for husbands are work just as much as is performing paid employment in an office or factory. To ignore this is to do a disservice to women in the labour force. The reality of housework is that women's work in the home averages 56 hours per week for the full time home maker and 26 hours per week for the employed wife/mother. Husbands and children barely increase their contribution to housework and child care when the wife/mother is in the labour force. As a result, the employed woman gives up her most of leisure to carry out responsibilities of family life.

2. We realize that it may sound strange to hear women's activities in the home, called work. Since women, who do housework and take care of children receive no salary or wages; home-making is not considered 'work'. Economists have finally helped us to recognize the importance of women's work in the family by estimating the monetary value of home making. These estimates range from \$ 4705 (1968) through \$ 8200 (1972) to over \$ 13000 per year in 1973 depending on whether the work of the home maker is considered equivalent to an unskilled, skilled or a professional worker, respectively. For example, is child care comparable to baby-sitting at \$ 0.75 per hour, to a nursery school aid at \$ 3 per hour, or to the care of a child psychologist at \$ 30 per hour?

3. Some people have proposed that the solution to the problem of the employed housewife would be to pay women for being housewives. Hence, women with heavy family responsibilities would not have to enter the labour force in order to gain income for themselves and/or their families. This is not a solution for many reasons – wages provide income, but they do not remedy the isolating nature of the work itself nor the negative attitudes housewives themselves have towards housework (but not towards child care).

4. Wages for housework would reinforce occupational stereotyping by freezing women into their traditional roles. Unless women and men are paid equally in the

labour force and there is no division of labour based on sex, women's work in the home will have no value.

5. Since it is not clear what constitutes housework, and we know that housework standards vary greatly, it would be difficult to know how to reward it. Pay for housework might place home-makers(mainly wives) in the difficult position of having their work assessed by their husbands, while in the case of single home-makers , it is not clear who would do the assessing.

Based on the understanding of the passage, answer the questions that follow:

10x1 = 10 marks

(i) According to the passage ,_____ do not get salary for their work.

- (a) The women who do the work of baby- sitting
- (b) The women who are in labour force
- (c) The women who do housework
- (d) The women whose husbands are unemployed

(ii) Why is home-making not considered at par with paid work?

- (a) It is not very clear what constitutes housework.
- (b) House work varies from home to home
- (c) It is not known how to assess and reward housework.
- (d) All of the above.

(iii) On the basis of the passage, study the two statements, I and II given below:

(I) women's work in the home will acquire recognition when they will be paid equally in labour force.

(II) Most of the time husbands and children help housewives in their housework.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) I is true II is false
- (b) II is true I is false
- (c) Both I and II are true
- (d) Both I and II are false

(iv) Who made us recognize the significance of women's work?

- (a) Some people
 - (b) The home-makers
 - (c) The economists
 - (d) Employed housewives
- (v) A full time housewife works 56 hours per week and gets _____
- (a) \$ 4705
 - (b) \$ 8200
 - (c) \$ 13000
 - (d) None of the above
- (vi) Find the word from para 1 which means ' different'.
- (vii) Find the antonym of ' same'. (para 5)
- (viii) Complete the following sentence:
- The traditional role of woman is to _____
- (ix) Why is an employed woman deprived of the joys of leisure?
- (x) When will women's work in the home be valued?

OR

(B) Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow;

1. Money came into existence to answer a need of mankind, but this need did not arise until civilization had grown beyond its earliest stages. Primitive man lived by hunting, each hunting only for himself and his family or tribe. At such a stage when strangers were avoided or driven away, money and trade were unnecessary. Later, when he had learnt to domesticate wild animals , man lived a nomadic and pastoral life, constantly wandering as he drove his flocks and herds to new pastures. As the road to wealth was then the possession of beasts, money in its modern form was still not necessary, although the beasts themselves were a form of money. It would suit, what few

craftsmen there were to be paid for their wares in cattle and farmers and herdsmen to pay in that way.

2. When human communities began to settle down and cultivate the land, instead of wandering over it with their flocks and herds, the division of labour increased and people specialized in crafts and trades. Most men specialized in growing and producing something of which only a very small portion was necessary for their own wants. So they had to get rid of their surplus. In exchange for it, they wanted something which would give them the power to choose what they wanted from the surpluses of other people. A few transactions might take place in straightforward exchange or barter, but only certain things could be treated in this way. It was unlikely for instance, that a shoe-maker needing supplies of corn for his family from time to time would always find that the farmer would take shoes in exchange. It would be more convenient, if there were some other object that would always be useful to both the shoe-maker and the farmer.

3. Once the people have agreed what this other object is to be and once they are prepared always to accept it or offer it in payment, then we have money in its primitive form. It is the go-between in all business transactions or as the economists say, 'a medium of exchange'. We have seen that in the pastoral stage of human history, cattle themselves were this generally acceptable commodity; it is therefore not strange that the Latin word for money, 'pecunia' comes from a similar Latin word, 'pecus' meaning cattle.

4. The trouble about the cattle is that they may become diseased, are easily driven away while their owners are asleep, require a lot of land on which to graze and can not easily be subdivided without being killed and so losing their value. The precious metals such as gold and silver do not suffer from any of these disadvantages. It can be buried and hidden away easily, it does not rust or lose weight through storage; it can be weighed out into quite small quantities without loss of value. Even some modern communities have used the precious metals by weight as their standard money. For many years the standard money of China was the 'tael' which was not a coin, but a weight of silver.

5. There are, however, disadvantages in using weighed quantities of these metals. Dishonest person may mix them with less valuable metals of the same appearance and weight. The obvious way out of this difficulty is for the state to make coins of a standard shape, weight and fitness which are then called currency.

Based on the understanding of the passage, answer the questions that follow:
10x1 = 10 marks

- (i) _____ was China's standard money for many years.
(a) Pecunia (b) Pecus (c) Both 'a' and 'b' (d) tael
- (ii) On the basis of your reading of the passage, find the incorrect statement.
(a) Primitive man lived by hunting only for himself and family or tribe.
(b) Money and even trade were unnecessary in primitive time.
(c) Beasts were never used as a form of money.
(d) The primitive stage and the nomadic stage are the first two stages in the development of human society.
- (iii) On the basis of the passage, study the two statements, I and II given below:
(I) The passage mentions three stages in the development of human society.
(II) Man had learnt to domesticate wild animals in nomadic stage.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) I is true II is false
(b) II is true I is false
(c) Both I and II are true
(d) Both I and II are false
- (iv) Complete the following sentence by choosing the most appropriate option.
The word 'pecunia' originated from _____
(a) English language
(b) Latin language
(c) French language
(d) Sanskrit language
- (v) The only way to subdivide the cattle was to _____
(a) kill them (b) make them graze (c) drive them away (d) All of these
- (vi) Find the synonym of "early" from the para 1 of the text.
- (vii) How did money come into existence?

(viii) Complete the following sentence

In nomadic stage man wandered in search of _____

(ix) Find the synonym of “ clear” from para 5.

(x) Why is it necessary for the state to mint coins?

2. Read the passage given below

5 marks

The kingdom of books is as vast as the universe, for there is no corner of it which they have left unexplored. There is no dearth of books on any topic, be it as simple as the composition of sodium nitrate or as intricate as the mechanism of a spacecraft rocketing towards Mars. We make use of books for the dissemination of useful ideas, for popularizing the fruits of our research in various fields of knowledge, and for spreading our progressive views on matters which are of vital concern to our fellow beings. In fact, no single product of human labour has been as helpful to the advancement of civilization as books which are written in all languages of the world and which are decoratively placed in bookshelves in our homes and tastefully displayed in bookstalls and libraries. If to Keats, works of ancient poets like Homer were realms of gold from which he derived much joy as well as inspiration, to the modern lover of books, the labour of all geniuses, including those of Keats, are mines of inestimable intellectual wealth which he goes on exploring for the sake of his mental and spiritual advancement.

There was a time some five centuries back when books, as we know them today, did not exist, and when there were few people who could read things written on stuff that certainly was not paper. At that time our ancestors used rocks, pillars and parchments

With a view to recording and perpetuating their most important thoughts and achievements in the language they then understood.

Now-a-days, the book producing machinery gives to the work of every great scientific thinker, poet or philosopher, the character of permanence reproduces in attractive forms old and rare manuscripts and caters to the differing taste of millions of people for whom book reading is an extremely pleasant, intellectual exercise. Moreover, the high percentage of literacy, the growth of libraries in towns and villages and the tendency of intellectuals to have their own private collection of useful books, have given birth to a number of big publishing houses with branches in many parts of the world and publication numbering thousands. In recent years paperbacks have begun to

reveal their attraction for the reading public, and although they have not completely thrown into neglect the hard cover market, they have appeared to people who would not thought of buying books not so very long ago. These paperbacks are generally reprints of popular fiction or of established classics or translations from foreign works which are in constant demand at all bookstalls.

Based on the understanding of the passage, make notes using headings and sub headings or in points. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary, minimum four). Also supply an appropriate title to it.

SECTION –B

10 marks

GRAMMAR

3 Attempt any two from each sub- part :

3.1 Fill in the blanks with appropriate modals/auxiliaries 2x1= 2

(I) What _____ you prefer coffee or tea?

(ii) The child is serious. He _____ be taken to hospital immediately.

(iii) Choose the correct option:

_____ I use your mobile phone to call my brother?

(a) Would (b) may (c) ought to (d) must

3.2 Change the narration

2x1 =2

(I) Geeta said to Ravi, “How can we find a solution to this problem?”

(ii) Keats says, “ A thing of beauty is joy forever.”

(iii) Choose the correct option

The doctor said to the patient, "Drink a lot of water to avoid dehydration."

- (a) The doctor advised the patient to drink a lot of water to avoid dehydration.
- (b) The doctor advised the patient not to drink water to avoid dehydration.
- (c) The doctor advised the patient to drank a lot of water to avoid dehydration.
- (d) The doctor told the patient that he drink water to avoiding dehydration.

3.3 Fill in the blank with suitable articles wherever necessary 2x1=2

- (I) _____ sooner _____ better.
 - (ii) _____ English is spoken worldwide.
 - (iii) He did his _____ best to win the match.
- (a) a (b) an (c) the (d) x

3.4 Change the voice

2x1= 2

- (I) She made me cry.
- (ii) You are requested to sit down.
- (iii) Choose the correct option.

Birds fly in the sky.

- (a) Birds are flown in the sky.
- (b) The sky is flown in by birds
- (c) Both 'a' and 'b'.
- (d) None of the above.

3.5 Fill in the blank with correct form of verb.

2x1=2

- (I) I wish I _____ that match. (to watch)
- (ii) Police _____ into the matter for two days (to look)
- (iii) Choose the correct option.

He along with his family members _____ Madhogarh Fort every year.

- (a) visit (b) visits (c) are visiting (d) visited

SECTION C

Creative Writing Skills

(15 marks)

4 Attempt any one from (A) , (B) and (C) given below: 5

(A) You are the secretary, Science Club of Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Kothal Kalan, Mahendergarh. Write a notice for your school notice-board encouraging the bright science students of classes XI and XII to participate in the Inter- School Science Exhibition to be held next week in a neighbouring school. Sign yourself as Mohit/Priya. (Word Limit 50 words)

OR

(B) Draft a matrimonial advertisement for publication in a newspaper for a suitable match for your brother. (word limit 50 words)

OR

(C) You are making an effort to spread the message of communal harmony. Prepare a poster with catchy slogans to be displayed in the school premises. (Word limit- 50)

5 Attempt any one from (A) and (B) given below: 5

(A) You are Sumit/ Priti of Narnaul. Of late, chain snatching incidents are increasing in the city. Write a letter to the Editor of The Hindu drawing the attention of the concerned authorities. Also give suggestions. (word limit 120-150)

OR

You are Ansul/ Manisha. You saw the given advertisement in the newspaper and want to apply for the position advertised.

M. S. Public School

Requires PGT ENGLISH

Young Male or Female

Qualifications

- MA English, B.Ed
- Good communication skills
- Experience 2 years

Job Profile: Taking remedial classes

Teaching classes 9- 12

Organize co- curricular activities

Salary : As per merit and school policy

Apply within 10 days to Principal, M.S Public School, Rewari

Write an application to the Principal, M.S. Public School, Rewari, along with your bio- data in 120-150 words applying for the post advertised.

6 Attempt any one from (A) and (B) given below: 5

(A) The mushrooming of fast food outlets is creating a health hazard for the youth. School going children are adopting unhealthy eating habits. Your school organized a ‘ Let’s Eat Healthy Week’. As student editor of the school magazine, write a report on the event. You are Sonu/Sunita.

OR

(B) You are Nishant/ Palak studying in Delhi Public School, Ambala. While commuting for your school everyday you find many of your school boys and girls taking free lift from the passing cars, which you do not like. Write an article in about 120 to 150 words on “ The Evil of Hitch- hiking” for publication in your school magazine.

Literature

7 Attempt any one of the two extracts (A) and (B) given below: 5 marks

(A) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

What I want should not be confused

With total inactivity.

Life is what it is about;

I want no truck with death.

If we were not so single-minded

About keeping our lives moving

(i) “Total inactivity’ refers to _____.

- (a) Life
- (b) Death
- (c) Introspection
- (d) Counting

(ii) The figure of speech used in “ I want no truck with death” is

- (a) Simile
- (b) Metaphor
- (c) Alliteration
- (d) Personification

(iii) Read the statements given below and choose the correct option

1 The poet values an active and meaning life

2 inactivity is equated with leisure, which the poet rejects

- (a) Statement 1 is true but 2 is false
- (b) Statement 2 is true but 1 is false
- (c) Both the statements 1 and 2 are true
- (d) Both the statements 1 and 2 are false

(iv) The tone of the extract is

- (a) Explanatory
- (b) Humorous
- (c) Cheerful
- (d) mournful

(v) Name the poet of the above extract.

- (a) John Keats
- (b) Robert Frost
- (c) Kamla Das
- (d) Pablo Neruda

OR

(B) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

Therefore on every morrow, are we wreathing
A flowery band to bind us to the earth,
Spite of despondence, of inhuman dearth
Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,
Of all unhealthy and o’ver-darkened ways
Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all’
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall
From our dark spirits.

(i) In difficult times who/what helps us to overcome the difficulties?

- (A) Our relatives
- (B) Our best friends
- (C) Our local Society
- (D) Some shape of beauty

(ii) Complete the following analogy with a word from the given options:

despondence : dejection :: dearth : _____

- (a) scarcity
- (b) beneficent
- (c) comfort
- (d) none

(iii) On the basis of the extract, study the two statements, I and II given below:

(I) Despondency, depression, unhealthy and wrong ways taken up by humans cause suffering and pain.

(II) The imagery 'flowery band' represents earthly ties.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) I is true II is false
- (b) II is true I is false
- (c) Both I and II are true
- (d) Both I and II are false

(iv) Which of the following word rhymes with the word 'all'

- (a) days (b) pall (c) earth (d) ways

(v) Identify the figure of speech used in 'noble nature'.

- (a) Simile
- (b) Alliteration
- (c) Transferred epithet
- (d) Antithesis

8 Attempt any one of the two extracts (A) and (B) given below: 5 marks

(A) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

For a moment I thought of running away and spending the day out of doors. It was so warm, so bright! The birds were chirping at the edge of woods; and in the open field back of the sawmill the Prussian soldiers were drilling. It was all much more tempting than the rule for the participles, but I had the strength to resist, and hurried off to school.

(i) Complete the following sentence by choosing the appropriate option.

He hurried off to school resisting _____

- (a) Temptation
- (b) The rules for participles
- (c) Aversion
- (d) Both 'a' and 'b'

(ii) On the basis of the extract, study the two statements, I and II given below:

(I) The bright day, birds' chirping, Prussian soldier drilling all tempted Franz.

(II) Franz bunked the school and spent the day out of doors.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) I is true II is false
- (b) II is true I is false
- (c) Both I and II are true
- (d) Both I and II are false

(iii) _____ is the narrator of this extract.

- (a) M. Hamel
- (b) Franz
- (c) Alphonse Daudet
- (d) The Mayor

(iv) Find the correct pair

- (a) sawmill --- onomatopoeia
- (b) participles ---- onomatopoeia
- (c) chirping ---- onomatopoeia
- (d) Woods ----- onomatopoeia

- (v) The narrator wants to bunk the school because _____
- (a) He wanted to seek bird's eggs
 - (b) He did not like M.Hamel
 - (c) He was not prepared for the test on participles
 - (d) He wanted to spend some time with his friends

OR

(B) Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions that follow:

When I first visited Gandhi in 1942 at his ashram in Sevagram, in central India, he said, "I will tell you how it happened that I decided to urge the departure of the British. It was in 1917." He had gone to the December 1916 annual convention of the Indian National Congress party in Lucknow. There were 2301 delegates and many visitors. During the proceedings, Gandhi recounted, "a peasant came up to me looking like any other peasant in India, poor and emaciated, and said, " I am Rajkumar Shukla. I am from Champaran, and I want you to come to my district!

(i) Rajkumar Shukla belonged to _____

- (a) Sevagram
- (b) Champaran
- (c) Lucknow
- (d) Chandigarh

(ii) Complete the following analogy:

Departure : Arrival :: _____ : chubby

- (a) Emaciated
- (b) delegate
- (c) Convention
- (d) Proceeding

(iii) "When I first visited Gandhi." Who is "I" here?

- (a) Rajkumar Shukla
- (b) Dr. Rajender Prasad
- (c) Louis Fischer
- (d) Charles Andrews

(iv) When did Gandhi Ji decide to start his mission for independence?

- (a) In 1916
- (b) In 1917
- (c) In 1942
- (d) In 1947

(v) Rajkumar Shukla met Gandhi ji in _____

- (a) In 1916 at Lucknow
- (b) In 1917 at Champaran
- (c) In 1942 in Delhi
- (d) In 1916 at Kanpur

9. Attempt any one of the two extract (A) and (B) given below 1X4

(A) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow;

Anyway , here is what happened at Grand Central. One night last summer I worked late at the office. I was in a hurry to get uptown to my apartment so I decided to take the subway from the Grand central because it is faster than the bus. Now I do not know why this should have happened to me. I am just an ordinary guy named Charley, thirty one years old and was wearing a tan gabardine suit and a straw hat with a fancy band; I passed a dozen men who looked just like me.

- (i) State whether the following statement is 'True' or 'False'
Charley used the subway because it was quicker than the bus.
- (ii) How old was Charley?
- (iii) Which time frame is represented through the kind of outfit mentioned in the extract?
- (iv) Complete the following sentence;
Grand central is a/an _____

Or

(B) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow;

Derry : I'd not come to steal anything
 Mr. Lamb : No, no. the young lads steal.... Scrump the apples.
 You are not so young.
 Derry : I just...just wanted to come in. into the garden.
 Mr. Lamb: so you did. Here we are ,then.
 Derry : you don't know who I am.
 Mr. Lamb : A boy. Thirteen or so
 Derry : Fourteen.(Pause) But I've got to go now. Good-bye.
 Mr. Lamb : Nothing to be afraid of. Just a garden. Just me.
 Derry : But I am not.... I'm not afraid. (Pause) People are afraid of me.

- (i) State whether the following statement is 'True' or 'False'.
 Derry entered the garden as he wanted to meet Mr. Lamb.
- (ii) How old was Derry?
- (iii) According to Mr. Lamb who comes to steal apples from the Garden?
- (iv) Complete the following sentence;
 People are afraid of Derry because_____

10 Answer any three questions in about 30- 40 words 2x3 = 6 marks

- (a) What forces conspire to keep the workers in bangle industry of Firozabad in poverty? (Lost Spring)
- (b) "All we have to fear is fear itself" says Roosevelt. Explain the importance of the statement. (Deep Water)
- (c) What work was assigned to Asokamitran in the Gemini Studio?
 (Poets and Pancake)
- (d) Why was Gandhi Ji not allowed to draw water from the well? (Indigo)
- (e) What do you understand by " interstices"? How does Umberto Eco utilize his interstices? (The Interview)

11 Answer any two questions in about 40-50 words 2x3= 6 marks

- (a) Describe the poetic devices used by Kamala Das in ' My Mother at Sixty Six. (My Mother at Sixty Six)
- (b) What is the 'childish longing' that the poet refers to? Why is it 'vain'? (A Roadside Stand)

- (c) After reading the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', what opinion do you form about Aunt Jennifer's husband? (Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

12 Answer any two questions in about 30-40 words: 2x2= 4 marks

- (a) What was Gondwana? (Journey to the End of the Earth)
(b) What were the two 'amazing' things of the royal infant? (The Tiger King)
(c) State any two qualities of Hana. (The Enemy)
(d) Who was Mr. Lamb? How does Derry get into his garden? (On the Face of It)

13 Answer any one of the following in about 120-150 words: 5

- (a) What is 'linguistic chauvinism'? Analyse the order from Berlin in this light. How do you justify M. Hamel's views about French and the new found love of the people towards their language?

OR

- (b) "The whole world... was nothing but a big rattrap". How does the author use the metaphor of the rattrap in the story? How does the peddler save himself to be trapped in the rattrap? (The Rattrap)

14 Answer any one of the following in about 120-150 words: 5

- (a) Kalki's 'The Tiger King' is a satire on the pride and unbridled power and rule of the stubborn Maharaja of Pratibandapuram. Describe the use of dramatic irony leading to the death of the Tiger King. (The Tiger King)

or

- (b) Why is Antarctica the place to go to, to understand the earth's present, past and future? Elaborate your answer with reference to the lesson 'Journey to the end of the Earth'. (Journey to the end of the Earth)