

CLASS : 12th (Sr. Secondary Open)
1201

Code No.

SET : A

Series : HB/Sample paper- 2026- 2027

Roll No.

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ENGLISH (Core)
[For all Groups I, II, III]
OPEN

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 80

- Please make sure that the printed pages in this question paper are __ in number and it contains ____ 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.

SECTION A

15 marks

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. Our Earth is like a greenhouse, with one difference. A greenhouse is encased in glass, while the Earth is encased in a thin blanket of carbon dioxide (CO₂) . this carbon dioxide serves the same function for the Earth as does glass for a greenhouse. It helps to keep the Earth warm. Scientists call it 'greenhouse effect'.

2. The amount of carbon dioxide in the air is only .03 percent, yet all plants and animal life depend on it. The percentage of carbon dioxide in the air is kept almost constant by a series of natural process. We call it the carbon cycle.

3. Carbon dioxide is added to the atmosphere by two main processes- breathing and burning. All living things breathe out carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The air breathed in contains only .03 percent carbon dioxide, whereas the breathed out contains 4 percent. Thus breathing leads to an increase in the amount of carbon dioxide in the air. Also large quantities of carbon dioxide are produced by the burning of wood, coal , and oil.

4. The main way in which carbon dioxide is removed from the atmosphere is by 'Photosynthesis'. It is the process by which green plants, with the help of sunlight, break up carbon dioxide into carbon and oxygen. Carbon is retained by the plants as their food, and they set free oxygen for the use of animals. All animals depend, directly or indirectly, on plants for their food. And all plants, in turn, depend on carbon dioxide breathed out by animals.

5. Carbon dioxide is removed from the atmosphere by water also. This gas is moderately soluble in water. Thus our rivers, lakes and seas also take up a lot of carbon dioxide from the air. Water animals use this dissolved carbon dioxide to

make their shells. When these animals breathe or die and decay, carbon dioxide is released back into the atmosphere. Thus the cycle is completed.

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

10x1 = 10 marks

- (i) The Earth is compared to _____
 - (a) Carbon dioxide
 - (b) Greenhouse
 - (c) Photosynthesis
 - (d) Water animals
- (ii) According to the passage the amount of carbon dioxide in the air is -----
 - (a) .03 percent
 - (b) 4 percent
 - (c) .05 percent
 - (d) 5 percent
- (iii) On the basis of the passage, study the two statements, I and II given below:
 - (I) Plant and animal are interdependent.
 - (II) Burning of coal produces carbon dioxide

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) Carbon dioxide is removed from atmosphere by _____
- (a) Plants
 - (b) water

- (c) Both 'a' and 'b'
- (d) None of the above
- (v) Which gas is moderately soluble in water?
- (a) carbon dioxide
- (b) oxygen
- (c) nitrogen
- (d) all of the above
- (vi) Find the word from para 3 which means ' exhale'.
- (vii) Find the synonym of ' fairly'. (para 5)
- (viii) Complete the following sentence:
- The process by which the plants make their food is called_____
- (ix) What is the full form of CO₂?
- (x) What do water animals use carbon dioxide for?

OR

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

1. A World Bank Group report found that globally, women earn just 77 cents for every dollar paid to men. This difference has been cited in the past as an example of the ' gender pay gap'- women earning less than men on average. Different figures have also been given over the years across various reports, with some critics even disputing the existence of such a gap. The International Labour Organisation terms the gender pay gap as a 'measurable indicator' of inequality between women and men.
2. According to the ILO, the gender pay gap is defined as the gap between the average wage level of all women and all men working in the labour market for a monthly salary,

hourly or daily wages. This gap is not the wage gap between a man and a woman with same observable characteristics, doing the same work; it is the difference between the average wage levels of all working women and men. Therefore, it is distinct from the concept of 'equal pay for equal work'.

3. What explains this gender gap? First is the simple fact that women are not involved in paying jobs as much as men are, owing to the notion about gender roles. The labour force participation rate gives an idea about this. It is the number of people looking for work or working already and above 15 years of age, divided by the total population. According to the ILO, the current global labour force participation rate for women is just under 47%. For men it is 72%. In India, as per the 2011 census, the workforce participation rate for women is 25.51% against 53.26% for men

4. The second factor is the type of jobs the women are employed in, once they join the workforce. ILO's Women in Business and Management report found that "Far fewer women than men are in management and leadership positions, especially at higher levels. When women are managers, they tend to be more concentrated in management support function such as human resources and financial administration than in more strategic roles. This brings down the average salary of female managers compared to that of male managers.

5. A 2013 survey from Georgetown University found that the 10 most remunerative professions- mostly in engineering and computer science- were dominated by men, while the 10 least remunerative professions- in the fields of art and education- were dominated by women. Other institutional and socio economic issues- the view that men should be breadwinners, lower investments in women's education, and issues of safety in commute and at the workplace- also play a significant role.

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

10x1 = 10 marks

- (i) According to the passage who gets more salary?
(a) women (b) men (c) children (d) pensioners

(ii) Who dominates in the fields of art and education?

- (a) The rich people
- (b) The poor people
- (c) Men .
- (d) Women .

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

(I) The International Labour Organisation terms the gender pay gap as measurable indicator for inequality.

(II) Women are paid equal to men.

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 global labour force participation rate for women is _____

- (a) Just under 25.51%
- (b) Just under 72%
- (c) Just under 53.26%
- (d) Just under 47%

(v) 'The ILO' stands for _____

- (a) The Indian Labour Organisation
- (b) The International Labour Organisation
- (c) The Indian Legislative Organisation
- (d) The International Law organisation

(vi) Find the synonym of "focused" from the paragraph 4 of the text.

(vii) Who dominates the top 10 most remunerative professions mostly in engineering and computer science?

(viii) Complete the following sentence

According to 2011 Census the workforce participation for women in India is

(ix) Find the antonym of “ similar” from para 1.

(x) What does ‘A World Bank Group’ report state?

2. Read the passage given below

5 marks

1. Effective speaking depends on effective listening. It takes energy to concentrate on hearing and concentrate on understanding what has been heard. Incompetent listeners fail in a number of ways. First they may drift. Their attention may drift from what the speaker is saying. Second, they may counter. They find counter arguments to whatever speaker may be saying. Third, they compete. Then , they filter. They exclude from their understanding those parts of the message which do not readily fit with their own frame of reference. Finally , they react. They let personal feeling about the speaker or the subject override the significance of the message which is being sent.

2. What can a listener do to be more effective? The first key to effective listening is the art of concentration. If a listener positively wishes to concentrate on receiving a message, his chances of success are high. It may need determination. Some speakers are difficult to follow, either because of voice problems , or because of the form in which they send the message. There is then a particular need for the determination of a listener to concentrate on what is being said.

3. Concentration is helped by alertness. Mental alertness is helped by physical alertness. It is not simply physical fitness, but also positioning of the body, the limbs and the head. Some people also find it helpful to their concentration if they hold the head slightly to one side. One useful way for achieving this is intensive note taking, by trying to capture the critical headings and sub- headings the speaker is referring to.

4. Note-taking has been recommended as an aid to the listener. It also helps the speaker. It gives him confidence when he sees the listeners are sufficiently interested to take notes; the patterns of eye contact when the note-taker looks up can be very positive; and the speaker's timing is added – he can see a note-taker is writing hard and then can make effective use of pauses.

5. Posture too is important. Consider the impact made by a less competent listener who pushes his chair backwards and slouches. An upright posture helps a listener's concentration. At the same time, it is seen by the speaker to be a positive figure among his listeners. Effective listening skills have an impact on both the listener and the speaker.

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) one _____ do one's duty.

(ii) He _____ climb up the ladder when he was young.

(iii) Choose the correct option:

She _____ serve her old parents.

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

3.2 Change the narration

2x1 =2

(I) He said to me,” Where do you live?”

(ii) The mother said to her son,” Fetch me a glass of water.”

(iii) Choose the correct option

Neetu said to Pinkey, “ I was doing the dishes.”

(a) Neetu asked Pinkey that she was doing the dishes.

(b) Neetu told Pinkey that she had been doing the dishes.

(c) Neetu told Pinkey that she has been doing the dishes.

(d) Neetu requested Pinkey to do the dishes.

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

(I) He is _____ honest man.

(ii) _____ boy in the red shirt is my cousin.

(iii) I went to _____ hospital to see my sick friend.

(a) a (b) an (c) the (d) x

3.4 Change the voice

2x1= 2

(I) This box contains sweets.

(ii) We elected him president of our club.

(iii) Choose the correct option.

I am writing a letter.

(a) A letter is being written by me.

(b) A letter is written by me.

- (c) A letter has been written by me.
- (d) None of the above.

3.5 Fill in the blank with correct form of verb. 2x1=2

- (I) Rome _____ not built in a day. (be)
- (ii) I _____ my homework daily. (do)
- (iii) Choose the correct option.

These-days, the prices of edible items _____ rapidly.

- (a) Is rising (b) are rising (c) have risen (d) has risen

SECTION C

Creative Writing Skills (13 marks)

4 Attempt any one from (A) , (B) and (C) given below: 3

- (A) The Literacy Club of your school has decided to organize a 'Rangoli Making Competition' . Draft a notice in about 50 words to be put up on the school's notice board inviting the students to take part in it. Invent necessary details. Sign yourself as Somesh/ Shilpa.

OR

- (B) You want to sell your Tata Punch car . Draft an advertisement to be published in a local daily under classified columns. (word limit 50 words)

OR

- (C) Design an attractive and effective poster against the use of Alcohol. (Word limit- 50)

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

(A) You are Somendre/ Shakshi living at 15/32, Sector 8, Gurugram. Write a letter to the editor of a local daily about the 'Frequent breakdown of electricity in your area'.

OR

(B) You are Vihan/ Vaishali. You saw the given advertisement in the newspaper and want to apply for the position advertised.

The Heritage Hotel

REQUIRED - Receptionist

Young Male or Female

Preferred Skills and Qualifications

- 10+2 or equivalent
- Computer savvy
- Good communication skills
- Pleasing personality
- Experience 2 years

Apply within 10 days to the Manager, The Heritage Hotel, Jaipur.

Write a letter to the Manager, The Heritage Hotel, Jaipur 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) Your school has recently organized ‘ A Blood Donation Camp’ in aid of the flood affected people of Punjab. As a member of the school magazine editorial board, write a report in 120-150 words.

OR

(B) Write an article in 120-150 words on the topic ‘ Skill Development is the Need of the Hour ‘ to be published in your school magazine.

SECTION D

42 marks

Literature

7. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words: 5

- I. How did Franz’s attitude towards school and M. Hamel change by the end of the story? Explain in about 120–150 words.

OR

- II. Why is Sophie fascinated by Danny Casey, and what does her fascination reveal about her character?

8. Answer any four of the following questions in about 40-50 words each : 3×4=12

- I. Why does Saheb look for gold in the garbage dumps? What does this tell us about his life?
- II. How did Douglas overcome his fear of water?
- III. Why did the peddler sign himself as “Captain von Stahle”?
- IV. How did Gandhiji help the peasants of Champaran?
- V. Why does the author call Gemini Studios a “very national integration”?

VI. Why does Umberto Eco call himself a university professor who writes novels on Sundays?

9. Answer any five of the following questions in about 30-40 words each: $2 \times 5 = 10$

- I. What fear did the poet experience while looking at her mother?
- II. What does Pablo Neruda mean by "Keeping Quiet"?
- III. Why is a thing of beauty called a "joy forever"?
- IV. What do the roadside stand owners hope for from the city people?
- V. How are Aunt Jennifer's tigers different from her?
- VI. Why does the poet say, "Perhaps the Earth can teach us"?
- VII. Why did the poet smile while bidding goodbye to her mother?

10. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words: 5

- I. How did the prediction made at the birth of the Tiger King come true?

OR

- II. What social inequalities are highlighted in "Memories of Childhood"?

11. Answer any three of the following questions in about 30-40 words each : $2 \times 3 = 6$

- I. Why did Charley want to visit Galesburg of 1894?
- II. Why is Antarctica important for the study of Earth's past?
- III. Why did Dr. Sadao decide to treat the wounded American soldier?
- IV. How was Geoff different from Sophie?
- V. What is the significance of Mr. Lamb's attitude towards life in the play?

12. Give answer to the following MCQs: $1 \times 4 = 4$

I. Why did the Maharaja start killing tigers?

- A. For sport only
- B. To protect villagers
- C. Because of a prophecy that a tiger would cause his death
- D. To sell tiger skins

II. What does Sophie dream of becoming?

- A. A doctor
- B. A shopkeeper
- C. A boutique owner or actress
- D. A teacher

III. Why did Dr. Sadao help the American prisoner?

- A. He was forced by soldiers
- B. He was afraid of punishment
- C. He followed his duty as a doctor and humanity
- D. He wanted reward money

IV. What makes Derry avoid people?

- A. He is shy by nature
- B. He is afraid of strangers
- C. He feels insecure about his burned face
- D. He dislikes talking

