



Competency Based Practice Questions

English - X

Co-created by
Board of School Education Haryana
and
Educational Initiatives

HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET

Dear Teachers and Students,

The **Board of School Education Haryana** is pleased to present the **Competency-Based Practice Questions** booklet. This resource has been thoughtfully designed to help you deepen your understanding of key concepts and enhance your problem-solving skills. It includes **50 exemplar questions** carefully aligned with the curriculum to familiarize students with the format of **Competency-Based Questions**. These questions are intended to support targeted practice and develop the skills necessary to confidently approach a variety of question types in assessments.

Best Ways for Teachers to Utilise This Resource

1. Integrate into Classroom Teaching

- Use these questions to demonstrate how theoretical concepts translate into practical applications.
- Encourage group discussions to explore reasoning and understanding of concepts taught.

2. Scaffold Student Learning

- Start with simpler questions and guide students through the thought process.
- Gradually introduce more complex questions to build confidence and familiarity.

3. Incorporate into Assessments

- Use these questions in classroom quizzes or homework to help students adapt to the format.
- Provide feedback that emphasises reasoning over correctness, encouraging students to refine their understanding.

4. Focus on Skill Development

- Highlight how these questions nurture understanding, analysis and critical thinking.
- Use student responses to identify and address misconceptions effectively.

Best Ways for Students and Parents to Utilise This Resource

1. Focus on Conceptual Understanding

- Approach each question as a way to understand *why* and *how* a concept works, rather than simply finding the correct answer.

2. Practice Purposefully

- Don't rush—break down the question, identify the concept it addresses, and plan your approach before solving it.

3. Use Feedback to Improve

- Treat mistakes as learning opportunities. Review incorrect answers to understand *what went wrong* and *how to improve*.
- Revisit similar questions to build confidence and mastery over the topic.

Best Ways for Parents to Utilise This Resource

1. Encourage Critical Thinking

- Spend time discussing questions and concepts, asking “Why?” and “How?”.

2. Create a Positive Environment

- Celebrate effort and curiosity, not just grades.
- Help your child view mistakes as opportunities to learn and grow.

3. Collaborate with Teachers

- Stay informed about competency-based assessments through school communications.
- Share observations and work with teachers to address any concerns or challenges.

Final Message

These practice questions are an excellent opportunity to strengthen your conceptual understanding and boost your confidence in solving competency-based questions. For students, each question builds skills that will help you tackle similar challenges with ease. For teachers, this is a chance to mentor students in developing their thinking and problem-solving skills.

Start today—every effort you invest will prepare you not only for exams but for a lifetime of meaningful learning and success. Let’s make this journey toward competency-based education a meaningful and successful one!

Board of School Education, Haryana

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English | Class X

Reading Comprehension

Q No.	Question	Marks
	Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.	
	<p>Digging for DNA</p> <p>Vasant Shinde is on a mission to find DNA—human DNA. He hopes to extract it from four human bones that he uncovered at Rakhigarhi village in Haryana’s Hisar district. These bones are nearly 4,500 years old. (1)</p> <p>He shows a quiet determination in search of <i>genetic</i>* material. His goal is to trace the ancestry of the people from the Harappan civilisation. (2)</p> <p>Rakhigarhi is the largest Harappan site found so far. It is spread across 350 <i>hectares</i>*. It is bigger than Mohenjo-daro, which is 300 hectares, and Harappa, which is 150 hectares, both located in Pakistan. His team has dug up human remains of a woman, two men and a child. The perfect specimens are what make Shinde excited. (3)</p> <p>So far, no one has been able to extract clean DNA from Harappan bones. (4)</p> <p>"Before us," Shinde says, "a team tried to get DNA in the early 2000s in Harappa but failed. The genetic material in the bones found earlier got spoiled when the media and other people came to see them." (5)</p> <p>Weather conditions in South Asia also make it difficult for scientists to find genetic material. Benjamin Valentine, a researcher explains: "In monsoon climates, the constant cycle of wet and dry at high temperatures degrades any <i>organic</i>* material. However, everyone remains hopeful because techniques for recovering DNA are improving." (6)</p> <p>The present also provides clues, says Shinde: "The villagers in Rakhigarhi believe that they are descendants of the Harappan people. Even after thousands of years, there are similarities between the two cultures. The houses in modern Rakhigarhi have the same design as the ones we’ve dug up." (7)</p> <p>Rakhigarhi is a goldmine of information that may change what we know about the Harappan civilisation. But first, Shinde needs to find that DNA. (8)</p> <p><u>Glossary:</u></p> <p><i>*genetic</i> - related to genes <i>*hectares</i> - a unit for measuring land area, equal to 10,000 square metres <i>*organic</i> - related to living matter</p>	
1	<p>Which of these made Shinde happy about his research at Rakhigarhi?</p> <p>(A) unearthing well-preserved human bones (B) experiencing suitable weather for excavation (C) learning that Rakhigarhi is the largest excavated Harappan site (D) finding connections between modern and ancient Rakhigarhi cultures</p>	1

	<i>[Skill: Mechanical]</i>	
2	<p>Based on the passage, which of these is the primary challenge in extracting DNA from Harappan bones?</p> <p>(A) remote location of the extraction sites (B) lack of modern DNA extraction techniques (C) poor preservation of DNA due to seasonal factors (D) slow progress due to insufficient funding for projects</p> <p><i>[Skill: Mechanical]</i></p>	1
3	<p>Find a line from the passage that shows the author is optimistic about the research at Rakhigarhi.</p> <p><i>[Skill: Application]</i></p>	1
4	<p>Based on the passage, why has it been difficult to extract DNA from ancient remains? State a reason in 20–30 words.</p> <p><i>[Skill: Understanding]</i></p>	1
	Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.	
	<p>How Does GPS Work?</p> <p>Humans have looked to the skies to find their way since ancient times. In the past, sailors used the stars in the night sky to find their location and destination. (1)</p> <p>Today, all we need is a simple hand-held GPS (Global Positioning System) to figure out exactly where we are anywhere in the world. Instead of stars, we use satellites to find our way and locate ourselves. (2)</p> <p>But how exactly does the GPS in your phone know where you are? (3)</p> <p>For the GPS to work, you need to have incredibly precise clocks on the satellites and receivers. The clocks on satellites are much more accurate than regular clocks. They measure the time it takes for signals to travel between the satellites and the receiver. This is important for calculating the distance and finding a location. When your phone tells you where you are, it is listening to signals from satellites high up in space. There are over 30 satellites used for GPS, orbiting over 26,000 km above the Earth! (4)</p> <p>Your phone just needs to figure out how far away you are from some of the satellites. It takes four GPS satellites to calculate a precise location on the Earth using the Global Positioning System: three to determine a position on the Earth, and one to fix the timing errors in the receiver's clock. If your phone knows how far away it is from four satellites, then there is only one place on Earth you can be. (5)</p> <p>Your phone, or any device with a GPS, is programmed to know where all the satellites are at any time. The phone uses that information and the amount of time the signal took to reach it to figure out how far away the satellites are. By doing that, it finds the location. From miles up in space, your location on the ground can be determined with incredible precision. A more advanced GPS can figure out where you are within a few seconds! (6)</p>	

	The ancient sailors would be amazed by the speed and ease with which your location can be pinpointed today. (7)	
5	Which of these is a suitable alternative title for the passage? (A) The Science Behind Finding Your Location (B) Understanding Ancient Navigation Techniques (C) Why Satellites are Essential for Communication (D) The Everyday Applications of Navigation Systems <i>[Skill: Understanding]</i>	1
6	According to the passage, why is it necessary for phones to know the locations of all the satellites in space? (A) to send signals back to the satellites from the phone (B) to help us receive accurate directions on our phones (C) to determine how far the phone is from each satellite (D) to enable our phones to track people around the world <i>[Skill: Mechanical]</i>	1
7	Find a word from the passage which means the same as 'exact'. <i>[Skill: Application]</i>	1
8	Sameer is heavily dependent on modern GPS to find his way. Imagine he time-travels to the past and must navigate using ancient methods. In 20–30 words, state how this experience might make him feel. <i>[Skill: Application]</i>	1

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
1	Correct Answer: A This is the correct option. The passage states that Shinde is excited about the 'perfect specimens' of human remains—bones of a woman, two men, and a child—that his team uncovered.	1
	B: Students selecting this option might not have read the passage carefully. The passage mentions that weather conditions in South Asia make it difficult to recover DNA due to the wet and dry monsoon climate, not that it has been favourable. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	C: Students selecting this option might have overgeneralised the mention of Rakhigarhi being the largest Harappan site to mean that this is the reason for Shinde's excitement. However, the actual reason is the discovery of well-preserved bones. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	D: Students selecting this option might have comprehended Shinde's reference to the similarities between modern and ancient Rakhigarhi cultures to mean that he is excited	

	about this discovery. However, his primary focus is on extracting DNA from the bones. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
2	Correct Answer: C This is the correct option. The passage clearly states that monsoon climates and fluctuating wet and dry conditions degrade organic material, making it the main challenge.	1
	A: Students selecting this option might have relied on prior knowledge about the distance one has to travel to get to extraction sites. However, the passage does not mention it a challenge faced in the given context. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	B: Students selecting this option might have not read the passage carefully. The passage mentions improving techniques related to the extraction of DNA. This is not cited as an obstacle. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	D: Students selecting this option might have relied on prior knowledge about research projects not making progress due to lack of funding. However, this is not mentioned as a challenge in extracting DNA from Harappan bones. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
3	Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u> ◆ States the line that shows the author's optimism (Rakhigarhi is a goldmine of information that may change what we know about the Harappan civilisation.)	1
	Sample Answer: Rakhigarhi is a goldmine of information that may change what we know about the Harappan civilisation.	
4	Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u> ◆ States any one reason (people's crowding has contaminated the remains/the media and other people/the monsoon season/changes between the wet and dry season ruin organic material) <i>Accept any other valid response supported by the passage.</i>	1
	Sample Answer: Based on the passage, DNA material has been difficult to extract because the monsoon season degrades the ruins.	
5	Correct Answer: A This is the correct option. It aligns with the passage, which explains the technology and science behind how GPS works, focusing on signals, satellites, and location calculation.	1
	B: Students selecting this option might have overgeneralised the historical context mentioned in the first and last paragraphs. The passage briefly references ancient sailors but primarily focuses on modern GPS technology, so this title is misleading.	
	C: Students selecting this option might have relied on prior knowledge of the role of satellite signals in assisting devices with communication. The passage discusses satellites' role in GPS but does not focus on their use for communication, making this title unrelated. Hence, this option is incorrect.	

	D: Students selecting this option might not have read the passage carefully. The passage explains how GPS works rather than its practical, everyday applications, so this title does not reflect the main focus of the passage. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
6	Correct Answer: C This is the correct option. Phones need to know the locations of satellites to calculate the distance between the phone and each satellite. This distance information is crucial for accurate GPS positioning and determining the phone's location.	1
	A: Students selecting this option might have confused the function of the phone with that of the satellites. While phones do communicate with satellites, the main reason for knowing satellite locations is to determine distance for positioning, not for sending signals back to them. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	B: Students selecting this option might have overgeneralised the purpose of knowing the satellite locations. While the phone does use satellite data to provide directions, the primary need for knowing satellite locations is to calculate the distance between the phone and each satellite, not directly for receiving directions. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	D: Students selecting this option might have overgeneralised the role of satellites in global tracking. While satellites help track locations, the main purpose of knowing their locations is to calculate distances for accurate positioning, not for the broad goal of global tracking. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
7	Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u> ◆ Identifies the synonym of the given word (precise/accurate)	1
	Sample Answer: precise	
8	Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u> ◆ States how the experience might make Sameer feel (confused/overwhelmed/helpless/impatient/frustrated without the instant help of GPS;lost due to his dependence on modern technology;amazed by how people navigated without GPS;might admire the skill required to navigate using the stars) <i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the passage.</i>	1
	Sample Answer: Sameer might become frustrated due to the effort and time required to navigate using the stars, since he is used to the instant help of GPS.	

Grammar

Q No.	Question	Marks
9	<p>Choose the phrase that BEST completes the given sentence.</p> <p><i>Distractions can _____ your focus from studies.</i></p> <p>(A) burn out (B) bring out (C) take away (D) keep away</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1
10	<p>Fill in the blank with the correct form of the verb given in brackets.</p> <p><i>Aman wishes he _____ (cook) the rice longer because it was not ready to be served to the guests.</i></p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	1
11	<p>Change the following sentence into indirect speech.</p> <p><i>Kusum told her teacher, 'I am planning to submit my application today.'</i></p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	1
12	<p>Fill in the blank with the correct modal.</p> <p><i>Bring the clothes inside because it _____ rain today.</i></p> <p>(A) must (B) might (C) would (D) should</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	1
13	<p>Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using 'and', 'but' or 'so'.</p> <p><i>Shyam's parents want him to study medicine in college. He wants to study law.</i></p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	1
14	<p>Choose the correct form of the verb given in brackets to fill in the blank.</p> <p><i>Arjun is determined _____ (finish) his project before the deadline.</i></p> <p>(A) to finish (B) to finishing (C) to be finishing (D) to have finished</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
9	<p>Correct Answer: C This is the correct option. 'Take away' means to remove or reduce, which fits the context of distractions diminishing focus from studies.</p>	1
	A: Students selecting this option might not be aware that 'burn out' means to become exhausted or lose energy, which doesn't fit in the context of distractions affecting focus.	
	B: Students selecting this option might not be aware that 'bring out' means to highlight or make something noticeable, which is unrelated to losing focus.	
	D: Students selecting this option might have thought 'keep away' fits this context as it means 'to not go near.' However, it does not appropriately bring out the meaning of distractions reducing one's focus.	
10	<p>Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Applies the past perfect tense in the context [1 mark] (had cooked)</p>	1
11	<p>Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Changes the given sentence into indirect speech (Kusum told her teacher that she was planning to submit her application that day.)</p>	1
12	<p>Correct Answer: B This is the correct option. The sentence is expressing a possibility. When talking about something that could happen, like rain in this case, the modal 'might' is used to indicate uncertainty or a chance of something occurring.</p>	1
	A: Students selecting this option might have misunderstood the context of the sentence. The modal 'must' implies necessity or certainty, but in this case, the speaker is suggesting a possibility rather than stating something certain.	
	C: Students selecting this might have confused the modal 'would' with a conditional or future event. However, in this case, 'would' is not appropriate since the sentence refers to a possibility and not a hypothetical situation.	
	D: Students selecting this might have thought it indicates a recommendation, but 'should' suggests a suggestion or obligation. The sentence is indicating a possibility of rain, not a recommendation.	
13	<p>Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Joins the given sentences to make one complete sentence without using 'and', 'but' or 'so' (Shyam's parents want him to study medicine in college; however, he wants to study law./Although Shyam's parents want him to study medicine in college, he wants to study law./Even though Shyam's parents want him to study medicine in college, he</p>	1

	wants to study law./While Shyam's parents want him to study medicine in college, he wants to study law.)	
	Sample Answer: Although Shyam's parents want him to study medicine in college, he wants to study law.	
14	Correct Answer: A This is the correct option. It uses the infinitive form 'to finish', which is the proper structure in this context after 'determined'.	1
	B: Students selecting this option might have confused the infinitive form with the gerund. The verb 'to' should be followed by the base form of the verb, so 'to finish' is correct, not 'to finishing'.	
	C: Students selecting this option might have misunderstood the tense, as the continuous form 'to be finishing' is used for an ongoing action in the present or future.	
	D: Students selecting this option might have mistakenly used the perfect infinitive 'to have finished', which refers to an action completed before a particular moment.	

Writing Skills

Q No.	Question	Marks
15	<p>You are Karan/Kirti, a student of Green Valley School, Hisar, Haryana. You recently noticed that students in your school have started falling sick. A major reason for this is the school canteen that is not very hygienic. Write an application to the principal in 120–150 words, highlighting the issues and requesting him/her to take action.</p> <p><i>[Skill: Application]</i></p>	5
16	<p>Describe a sports event that was organised by your school in 80–100 words. In your description, include details about the games, the venue, and the participants.</p> <p><i>[Skill: Application]</i></p>	5
17	<p>You are Rohan/Ritika, a student of class XI-B. Recently, your class attended the Science and Technology Fair at Kurukshetra University. The students learnt about various topics in the field of technology and science through hands-on activities and exhibits. Write a report for your school magazine describing the event in 120–150 words.</p> <p><i>[Skill: Application]</i></p>	5
18	<p>You are Rohini, the editor-in-chief of your school magazine. You are interviewing Ms. Priya Kapoor, an alumna of your school who started an eco-friendly business after graduating. Write an interview in 120–150 words asking about her journey and her passion for environmental conservation.</p> <p><i>[Skill: Application]</i></p>	5

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
15	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Expresses the intent of the application with a strong sense of purpose [0.50 marks] ◆ Covers all the points as stated in the prompt [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses a formal tone [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses vocabulary that is relevant to the context and fulfils the word count requirement [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks for each criteria that meets the stated expectations. Award half of the allotted marks for each criteria that needs improvement. Award 0 marks for each criteria that does not meet the stated expectations</i></p>	2
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p>	2

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Includes all the components of an application (date, sender and receiver addresses, subject line, opening and closing salutations, signature) [0.50 marks] ◆ Follows the correct format of an application (date in expanded form, alignment of content, paragraph breaks) [0.50 marks] ◆ Provides a clear sense of a beginning, middle and end [0.50 marks] ◆ Presents a smooth transition of ideas [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks for each criteria that meets the stated expectations. Award half of the allotted marks for each criteria that needs improvement. Award 0 marks for each criteria that does not meet the stated expectations.</i></p>	
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are one to three minor errors or one major error. Award half of the allotted marks if there are four to six minor errors or two to three major errors. Award 0 marks if there are more than six minor errors or more than three major errors.</i></p>	1
16	<p>Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Gives a detailed description of the event [1 mark] ◆ Supports the description with details about the event's purpose, aspects, and the participants [1 mark] ◆ Uses vocabulary that is relevant to the context [0.50 marks] ◆ Fulfils the word count requirement [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks for each criteria that meets the stated expectations. Award half of the allotted marks for each criteria that needs improvement. Award 0 marks for each criteria that does not meet the stated expectations.</i></p>	3
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents well-developed ideas in complete sentences [0.50 marks] ◆ Ensures a smooth, logical flow between sentences [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks for each criteria that meets the stated expectations. Award half of the allotted marks for each criteria that needs improvement. Award 0 marks for each criteria that does not meet the stated expectations.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error. Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors.</i></p>	1

	<i>Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i>	
17	<p>Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Captures the reader’s attention with an interesting title [0.50 marks] ◆ Expresses the main topic with a strong sense of purpose [0.50 marks] ◆ Answers the questions 'what', 'why', 'when', 'who' and 'where' for the information required [1 mark] ◆ Uses a formal tone and vocabulary that is relevant to the context [0.50 marks] ◆ Fulfils the word count requirement [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks for each criteria that meets the stated expectations. Award half of the allotted marks for each criteria that needs improvement. Award 0 marks for each criteria that does not meet the stated expectations.</i></p>	3
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Follows the correct format for a report (title, byline, reporting place and date, introductory paragraph, descriptive paragraph and concluding paragraph) [0.50 marks] ◆ Presents information with the most important details appearing first [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks for each criteria that meets the stated expectations. Award half of the allotted marks for each criteria that needs improvement. Award 0 marks for each criteria that does not meet the stated expectations.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are one to three minor errors or one major error. Award half of the allotted marks if there are four to six minor errors or two to three major errors. Award 0 marks if there are more than six minor errors or more than three major errors.</i></p>	1
18	<p>Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Expresses the purpose of the interview clearly [0.50 marks] ◆ Includes relevant and thoughtful questions [1 mark] ◆ Provides appropriate answers in a professional, conversational tone [1 mark] ◆ Fulfils the word count requirement [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks for each criteria that meets the stated expectations. Award half of the allotted marks for each criteria that needs improvement. Award 0 marks for each criteria that does not meet the stated expectations.</i></p>	3

	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Follows the format of an interview (clear question-and-answer pairs with the interviewer’s questions and the interviewee’s responses distinctly separated) [0.50 marks] ◆ Provides a clear structure with a beginning, middle and end [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks for each criteria that meets the stated expectations. Award half of the allotted marks for each criteria that needs improvement. Award 0 marks for each criteria that does not meet the stated expectations.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are one to three minor errors or one major error. Award half of the allotted marks if there are more than four to six minor errors or two to three major errors. Award 0 marks if there are more than six minor errors or more than three major errors.</i></p>	1

Literature

Q No.	Question	Marks
19	<p><i>On pads of velvet quiet, In his quiet rage.</i></p> <p>Which of these can be concluded from the lines above from 'A Tiger in the Zoo'?</p> <p>(A) The tiger is walking slowly because of boredom. (B) The tiger is walking softly despite its inner anger. (C) The tiger is trying to remain unnoticed by the visitors. (D) The tiger is moving silently because it has grown old.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1
20	<p><i>The memory of the dead cow haunted her, dampening her enthusiasm.</i></p> <p>Why did the sight of the dead cow have such a strong impact on Valli in 'Madam Rides the Bus'? What does this reveal about her character? State your response in 40–50 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	3
21	<p><i>I felt that day, as I have on so many other days, that I was simply the sum of all those African patriots who had gone before me.</i></p> <p>Which of these qualities of Nelson Mandela is revealed through the statement above from 'Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom'?</p> <p>(A) humility (B) courage (C) ambition (D) determination</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	1
22	<p>Describe two ways in which the author has portrayed the people of Coorg as a martial race. Answer in 40–50 words with reference to the text 'Glimpses of India: Coorg'.</p> <p>[Skill: Mechanical]</p>	3
23	<p>Why does the narrator in 'The Thief's Story' feel that it is less satisfying to steal from Anil?</p> <p>(A) because Anil pays the narrator well (B) because Anil does not trust the narrator (C) because Anil is too careless to notice the theft (D) because Anil spends most of his money on others</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1
24	<p>In the text 'A Letter to God', describe the postmaster's initial reaction to Lencho's letter. How did his feelings change later? Why was he surprised by Lencho's response? Answer in 100–120 words with evidence from the text.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	5

25	<p>In the story 'His First Flight', which of these helped the young seagull take his first flight?</p> <p>(A) his fear of missing out on the excitement of flying (B) his family's cruel and mocking words towards him (C) his desire to prove himself and make his family proud (D) his unbearable hunger that made him act without thinking</p> <p>[Skill: Mechanical]</p>	1
26	<p>Why did the narrator of the text 'The Black Aeroplane' consider returning to Paris? What made him continue his journey towards England? Answer in 40–50 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Mechanical]</p>	3
27	<p>Based on 'From the Diary of Anne Frank', which of these makes Anne Frank's diary engaging?</p> <p>(A) the personal and conversational style (B) the focus on describing historical events (C) the clear and structured format of her entries (D) the use of imagery to describe her everyday life</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	1
28	<p>With reference to 'A Baker from Goa', state any two characteristics of Goan lifestyle which show Portuguese influence. In 100–120 words, support each characteristic with evidence from the text.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	5
29	<p>Describe one incident from the text 'Glimpses of India: Tea from Assam' that reflects Rajvir's excitement about his visit to Assam. Why did Pranjol not share Rajvir's excitement about the tea gardens? Answer in 40–50 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Mechanical]</p>	3
30	<p><i>...while out hunting, chanced upon a sick man, then an aged man, then a funeral procession, and finally a monk begging for alms.</i></p> <p>In 'The Sermon at Benares', how did Siddhartha Gautama's upbringing shape his reaction to the above sights? What did he aim to achieve after this experience? Answer in 40–50 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Mechanical]</p>	3
31	<p>In the text 'Mijbil the Otter', how does Mijbil's change in behaviour reflect the narrator's character? What does this change reveal about Mijbil's personality? Answer in 100–120 words with evidence from the text.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	5
32	<p>Describe two conclusions about marriage that can be drawn from the play 'The Proposal'. Support your answer, in 100–120 words, using evidence from the text.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	5
33	<p>Which option best captures the main theme of the poem 'A Dust of Snow'?</p> <p>(A) the beauty of winter</p>	1

	<p>(B) the role of birds in nature (C) the healing power of nature (D) the need for seasonal change</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	
34	<p>In the poem 'A Tiger in the Zoo', how does the speaker expect the tiger to behave? State one reason for this expectation. What does the tiger's inability to behave this way tell us about its condition? Answer in 100–120 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	5
35	<p>What is the speaker's tone in the title of the poem 'Amanda!'?</p> <p>(A) confused (B) admiring (C) commanding (D) enthusiastic</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	1
36	<p>In the poem 'The Fog', how does the poet create a sense of mystery by comparing the fog to a cat? Answer in 40–50 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	3
37	<p>Why does the poet of 'Fire and Ice' believe both the elements are capable of destroying the world? Answer in 40–50 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	3
38	<p>Describe one quality each of the bear and the leopard as highlighted in the poem 'How to Tell Wild Animals'. Answer in 40–50 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Mechanical]</p>	3
39	<p>Explain any one message that the poet hopes to convey through the actions of the trees in the poem 'The Trees'? Support your answer, in 40–50 words, with an example from the poem.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	3
40	<p><i>"That young men in despair May love me for myself alone..."</i></p> <p>In the above lines from 'For Anne Gregory', why do you think the young men are described as being in 'despair'? Based on the second line, why is their despair not justified? Answer in 40–50 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	3
41	<p>State one reason for Horace Danby's success in the lock-making business. How does the story 'A Question of Trust' highlight this talent? Answer in 40–50 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	3
42	<p>The narrator of 'The Necklace' states that Matilda was 'an error of destiny'. Explain how this idea led to her tragic fate. Support your response with an example from the text. What lesson did she learn from this experience? Answer in 100–120 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	5

43	<p><i>...Historian: Books taught people how to, and when to, and where to, and why to.</i></p> <p>Explain why the line above from 'The Book that Saved the Earth' does NOT apply to the book that prevented the Martian invasion? Answer in 100–120 words using examples from the text.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	3
44	<p>Describe two qualities of Ausable from 'The Midnight Visitor' that make him an effective secret agent. Support your answer with examples from the text 'The Midnight Visitor' in 40–50 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	3
45	<p>In 'The Ball Poem', describe any two things that the boy learns from losing his ball. How does this experience prepare him to face challenges in life? Answer in 100–120 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	5
46	<p>Was Belinda from 'The Tale of Custard the Dragon' a good pet owner? Justify your answer, in 40–50 words, with two examples from the text.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	3
47	<p>Irony is a literary device used to present a situation in which events happen in an unexpected manner. Justify the 'irony' in the title of the story 'A Triumph of Surgery'. How does the title reflect Mrs Pumphrey's view of her dog's health? State your response in 40–50 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	3
48	<p>The proverb 'jack of all trades, master of none' means someone who is skilled at many things but does not excel in any particular one. Does this proverb accurately describe Richard Ebright in 'The Making of a Scientist'? Justify your response with two examples from the text in 100–120 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	5
49	<p>Why did Mrs Hall confront Griffin in the story 'Footprints without Feet'? How did Griffin respond to the situation? Answer in 40–50 words.</p> <p>[Skill: Mechanical]</p>	3
50	<p>In the text 'Bholi', what role does education play in transforming Bholi's life? How can her story inspire someone facing similar challenges? Answer in 100–120 words with evidence from the text.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	5

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
19	<p>Correct Answer: B This is the correct option. The lines convey the contrast between the tiger’s calm exterior as it walks silently and the inner turmoil of anger and frustration it feels due to captivity.</p>	1
	A: Students selecting this option might have comprehended the tiger's 'quiet rage' and connected it to inactivity or dullness, misunderstanding the intensity of its suppressed anger. The poem, however, focuses on the tiger’s frustration, not boredom. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	C: Students choosing this option might not have read the poem closely and assumed that the tiger is trying to avoid attention, but the 'quiet rage' reflects its suppressed anger, not an attempt to stay hidden. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	D: Students selecting this option might have relied on prior knowledge and thought that the tiger's quiet movements are a sign of weakness or old age. However, the poem describes the tiger's frustration, not its physical decline. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
20	<p>Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ States why the sight of the dead cow had such a strong impact on Valli [1 mark] (it made her realise the reality of death/she was disturbed to see how quickly life could come to an end/it opened her eyes to one of life's harsh truths/it made her aware of how quickly happiness could turn into sadness) ◆ States what Valli's reaction to the dead cow reveals about her character [1 mark] (it highlights her emotional sensitivity/it shows her ability to empathise with the sad situation/it shows that she is sensitive and thoughtful) <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p>	2
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met. Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met. Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer: The sight of the dead cow had a strong impact on Valli as it made her realise the reality of death and how quickly happiness could turn into sadness. This reveals her ability to empathise deeply with a serious and harsh truth about life.</p>	
21	<p>Correct Answer: A This is the correct option. The statement reveals Nelson Mandela's humility as he acknowledges the sacrifices and contributions of others in the fight for freedom. By</p>	1

	describing himself as 'the sum of all those African patriots', Mandela highlights that his success is not his alone but built on the efforts of those who came before him.	
	B: Students selecting this option might have relied on prior knowledge about Nelson Mandela's role in the anti-apartheid movement and his many courageous acts. While Mandela was undoubtedly courageous, this particular statement focuses more on his humility and recognition of others' contributions rather than on his bravery. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	C: Students selecting this option might have overgeneralised Mandela's significant achievements to assume ambition was being emphasised. However, the statement does not highlight any personal goals or aspirations. Instead, it reflects Mandela's humility and his belief that he was continuing the work of others. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	D: Students selecting this option might have not read the text carefully. Although determination was a key quality of Mandela, the statement focuses on his acknowledgment of others' sacrifices and his role as part of a larger movement. It does not directly address his resolve or persistence. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
22	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Describe two ways in which the author has portrayed the people of Coorg as a martial race</p> <p>(the people of Coorg, particularly the Coorg Regiment, have a significant history, being one of the most decorated regiments in the Indian Army/General Cariappa, the first Chief of the Indian Army, was a Coorgi, highlighting their contributions to India's military/the people of Coorg take pride in recounting stories of bravery related to their ancestors/the people of Coorg are the only ones in India allowed to carry firearms without a license, highlighting their status as a martial race)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p>	2
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i> <i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i> <i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>The author portrays the people of Coorg as a martial race by mentioning their significant role in the India Army, stating that the Coorg Regiment is highly honoured. He also tells us that the people of Coorg take pride in telling tales of bravery about their ancestors, which reflects their strong martial traditions.</p>	
23	<p>Correct Answer: C</p> <p>This is the correct option. The narrator feels that stealing from Anil is less enjoyable because Anil's careless attitude toward money means he wouldn't feel the impact of the theft, making it unfulfilling for the narrator.</p>	1
	A: Students might have overgeneralised to think that the narrator feels guilty because of monetary compensation. However, the story focuses on the emotional connection and trust Anil shows, not the payments. Hence, this option is incorrect.	

	B: Students might have not read the text carefully and thought that Anil’s mistrust makes theft difficult. However, Anil is actually very trusting, which makes the narrator hesitate. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	D: Students might have relied on prior knowledge and thought that Anil’s generosity leaves little money to steal. However, the story mentions Anil’s carefree nature about money as the primary reason why it is less enjoyable to steal from him, rather than overspending. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
24	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Describes the postmaster's initial reaction to Lencho's letter [1 mark] (the postmaster is amused/starts laughing/finds Lencho’s letter funny)</p> <p>◆ Describes how the postmaster's feelings changed later [1 mark] (the postmaster's reaction later changed to empathy and action/he admired Lencho’s strong faith and decided to help/he was moved by Lencho's faith in god/he gathered money from his colleagues and even contributed part of his salary to fulfill Lencho’s request)</p> <p>◆ States why the postmaster is surprised by Lencho's response [1 mark] (Lencho angrily accused the post office employees of stealing some of the money in his second letter/the postmaster expected Lencho to be grateful for the help but was shocked by his distrust and lack of appreciation/Lencho wrote a second letter to God asking for the remaining amount to be sent to him through mail)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p>	3
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met. Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement. Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error. Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors. Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>Initially, the postmaster laughs at Lencho’s letter, finding it amusing that someone would write to God. However, his reaction changed when he admires Lencho’s strong faith. Touched by this, he decided to help by gathering money from his colleagues and adding a portion of his salary to send to Lencho as an act of kindness. Later, the postmaster was shocked when Lencho accused the post office employees of stealing</p>	

	part of the money. Instead of gratitude, Lencho wrote another letter to God asking for the rest of the money to be sent directly, leaving the postmaster surprised.	
25	<p>Correct Answer: D</p> <p>This is the correct option. The young seagull's hunger drove him to dive at the fish his mother dangled in front of him. In that moment, he acted instinctively without thinking about his fear, and this led him to discover that he could fly.</p>	1
	A: Students selecting this option might have relied on prior knowledge about doing an activity because of the fear of missing out on joy. While the seagull did see his siblings flying and felt left behind, it was not his fear of missing out that pushed him to act. The text clearly shows that hunger was the driving force behind his first flight. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	B: Students selecting this option might have overgeneralised the family's teasing and mocking. The family did mock and tease him, but this alone did not cause the young seagull to fly. It was his unbearable hunger and the sight of food that ultimately pushed him to jump. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	C: Students selecting this option might have not read the text carefully. Although the seagull's family was proud after he flew, there is no evidence in the story that his desire to impress them motivated him to take his first flight. His actions were driven purely by hunger and desperation. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
26	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ States why the narrator considered returning to Paris [1 mark]</p> <p>(the massive storm clouds and the realisation that he couldn't fly over or around the clouds/the narrator didn't have enough fuel to fly around the storm clouds/he felt that the storm was too dangerous to continue flying into/the weather conditions posed a serious hurdle)</p> <p>◆ States what made the narrator to continue his journey towards England [1 mark]</p> <p>(he was eager to get home for a big English breakfast)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p>	2
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i> <i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i> <i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>The narrator considered returning to Paris because the storm clouds were massive, and he didn't have enough fuel to fly around them. However, he decided to continue his journey as he wanted to reach England on time and enjoy a big breakfast.</p>	
27	<p>Correct Answer: A</p> <p>This is the correct option. The personal and conversational style makes Anne's diary</p>	1

	feel like a genuine conversation with a friend, allowing readers to connect emotionally with her thoughts and experiences.	
	B: Students selecting this option might have not read the text carefully. Although Anne’s diary is set during a significant historical period, she does not focus on providing a historical account. Instead, she writes about her personal experiences and feelings, which is what truly engages the reader. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	C: Students selecting this option might have overgeneralised the importance of organisation. While the diary is somewhat structured, it is Anne’s candid and personal tone, rather than the format of her writing, that makes it so engaging. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
	D: Students selecting this option might have relied on prior knowledge that vivid imagery often adds interest. While Anne does use descriptive language, it is her personal, intimate style that captivates readers, not just the imagery. Hence, this option is incorrect.	
28	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ States any two characteristics that show Portuguese influence [1 mark]</p> <p>(baking practices/baked goods during festivals, marriages and celebrations/clothes of the bakers/use of Portuguese terms related to baking)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p> <p>◆ States two pieces of textual evidence supporting each of the points [2 marks]</p> <p>(the tradition of baking bread was introduced by the Portuguese and continues to thrive in Goan villages/age-old furnaces are still used by bakers/sweet bread like bol is an essential part of celebrations like Goan weddings/cakes and traditional sweets (bolinhas) are necessary for Christmas as well as other festivals/sandwiches and baked items are mandatory for engagement ceremonies/the Goan bakers are referred to as pader, a term with Portuguese origins/local terms, such as bol, reflect the Portuguese influence on Goan language and culture/the baker traditionally wore a unique frock-like garment called the kabai/even today, anyone wearing knee-length pants is humorously compared to a pader, showing the connection of this attire to the bakers’ profession introduced during Portuguese times)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the text.</i></p>	3
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met.</i> <i>Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement.</i> <i>Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error.</i></p>	1

	<p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i></p>	
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>Portuguese influence is deeply rooted in various characteristics of Goan life, particularly in baking practices and cultural traditions. The narrator highlights how the practice of bread-making, introduced by the Portuguese, continues to this day. Bakers, known as the Portuguese term pader, still use traditional furnaces to bake bread and go door-to-door selling their loaves with the familiar sound of their bamboo staff. This connection to bread extends beyond daily life into important ceremonies. Sweet bread like bol holds special significance during weddings, where it is exchanged as a meaningful gift, showcasing the lasting impact of Portuguese customs on Goan culture.</p>	
29	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Describes one incident that shows that Rajvir's excitement [1 mark] <p>(Rajvir enthusiastically read about tea before his visit/he shared various legends about the discovery of tea, showing his curiosity/Rajvir eagerly pointed out the second-flush period of the tea and its significance, displaying his knowledge)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ States why Pranjol did not share Rajvir's excitement about the tea gardens [1 mark] <p>(Pranjol had grown up on a tea plantation and was used to the sight/he found tea gardens a common and everyday feature, unlike Rajvir/he believed Assam had enough tea gardens to last one a lifetime)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p>	2
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>Rajvir enthusiastically shared various legends about the discovery of tea with Pranjol. This showed his excitement about visiting Assam and his interest in the history of tea. However, Pranjol was not as excited because he had grown up on a tea plantation and was already familiar with tea gardens.</p>	
30	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ States how Siddhartha Gautama's royal upbringing influenced his reaction [1 mark] <p>(Siddhartha Gautama's royal upbringing had shielded him from the realities of life, leaving him unfamiliar with suffering/having lived in luxury and comfort, he had never come across illness, aging, or death before/the prince's reaction to seeing the pain and</p>	2

	<p>suffering was shocking and deeply impactful, as he had not witnessed such hardships before/his royal upbringing made him unfamiliar with hardships in the world, which is why he had an emotional reaction to the sights)</p> <p>◆ States what he aimed to achieve by leaving his royal life [1 mark]</p> <p>(he aimed to seek enlightenment regarding the sorrows of the world/he wanted to understand the cause of human suffering/he wanted to discover a path to overcome sorrow and achieve peace)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p>	
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met. Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met. Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>Siddhartha Gautama’s royal upbringing shielded him from the realities of suffering, so the sights he witnessed during the hunting trip had a deep impact on him. In response, he aimed to understand the cause of human sorrow and find a way to overcome it.</p>	
31	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Explains how Mijbil's change in behaviour reflects the narrator's character [1 mark]</p> <p>(shows the narrator’s patience and compassion/reflects the narrator’s ability to create a safe and nurturing environment/highlights the narrator’s understanding and empathy)</p> <p>◆ Explains what this change reveals about Mijbil's personality [1 mark]</p> <p>(shows Mijbil’s affectionate and curious nature/reveals his ability to form strong emotional bonds/demonstrates his adaptability and willingness to trust when shown love)</p> <p>◆ Supports the answer with examples from the text [1 mark]</p> <p>(Mijbil was initially nervous and hid under the narrator’s bed upon arrival/he began playing with objects, such as marbles and a rubber ball, once he felt comfortable/he enjoyed splashing in water and exploring his surroundings as his confidence grew)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the text.</i></p>	3
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met. Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement. Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p>	1

	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error. Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors. Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>Mijbil's change in behaviour reflects the narrator's patient and compassionate character. Initially nervous and withdrawn, Mijbil only starts to come out of his shell when the narrator shows him love and care. The narrator's ability to create a safe and nurturing environment demonstrates his understanding and empathy. This change in Mijbil also reveals his affectionate and curious personality. As Mijbil begins to trust the narrator, he transforms into a playful and lively companion, exploring his surroundings and playing with objects such as marbles. This shows that Mijbil thrives when treated with kindness, highlighting his capacity for forming strong emotional bonds and his adaptable nature. This transformation reflects both the narrator's nurturing qualities and Mijbil's loving temperament.</p>	
32	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Describes two conclusions about marriage that can be drawn from the play [1 mark]</p> <p>(marriage is seen as a way to gain financial or social benefits/arguments and personal conflicts are a part of marriage/practical needs, like land and status, are more important than love)</p> <p>◆ Provides examples supporting the conclusions [2 marks]</p> <p>(Lomov's reasons for marrying Natalya are based on her skills as a housekeeper and the benefit of combining their lands/Chubukov is excited about the proposal because it will improve their family's status/the quarrels between Lomov and Natalya about Oxen Meadows and their dogs, show conflicts in marriage discussions)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the text.</i></p>	3
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met. Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement. Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error.</i></p>	1

	<p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i></p>	
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>The play 'The Proposal' highlights two conclusions about marriage. First, marriage is often seen as a social and economic arrangement rather than an emotional bond. This is evident when Lomov focuses on practical benefits, like increasing land ownership through marriage to Natalya. Second, marriage can bring out trivial disputes, reflecting human nature. Throughout the play, Lomov and Natalya quarrel over petty issues like ownership of land and whose dog is better, despite their intention to marry. These arguments show how personal pride and minor disagreements can overshadow the purpose of marriage.</p>	
33	<p>Correct Answer: C</p> <p>This is the correct option. The poem describes how a small moment in nature—snow falling from a tree—brings a change in the speaker's mood, highlighting nature's healing power.</p>	1
	<p>A: Students might have overgeneralised and focused on the winter setting described in the poem. However, the poem doesn't just highlight the beauty of winter, but rather how nature can have a more profound emotional effect. Hence, this option is incorrect.</p>	
	<p>B: Students might have relied on prior knowledge of birds being important in nature, but the poem doesn't focus on the role of birds. The bird in the poem is just a part of the moment, not the central theme. Hence, this option is incorrect.</p>	
	<p>D: Students might have misinterpreted the change in seasons as the main theme. However, the poem doesn't focus on the necessity of change, but rather on the immediate emotional impact of nature in the present moment. Hence, this option is incorrect.</p>	
34	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Describes how the speaker expects the tiger to behave [1 mark]</p> <p>(the tiger is expected to be free/lurking in shadows/sliding through long grass/near waterholes/hunting prey like deer/terrorising villages/baring its white fangs and claws)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p> <p>◆ States one reason for this expectation [1 mark]</p> <p>(the speaker's expectations are based on the tiger's natural instincts as a predator/its role in the jungle ecosystem/the imagery of the tiger as a fierce and powerful hunter/the contrast between captivity and its free life in the wild)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p> <p>◆ Explains what the tiger's inability to behave this way reveals about its condition [1 mark]</p> <p>(the tiger's failure to act according to its instincts reveals its suppressed strength and frustration/its 'quiet rage' shows its unhappiness in captivity/its indifference to visitors)</p>	3

	<p>symbolises its loss of purpose and identity/staring at the stars indicates its longing for freedom and life outside of captivity)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the text.</i></p>	
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met. Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement. Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error. Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors. Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>In the poem, the speaker expects the tiger to roam freely in the wild, sliding through the tall grass and hunting prey like deer near waterholes. This expectation arises from the tiger’s natural instincts as a predator in the wild. However, in captivity, the tiger’s inability to behave this way reveals its suppressed power and frustration. Its ‘quiet rage’ symbolises the unhappiness of being confined and unable to live as it would in the wild. This highlights how captivity limits the tiger’s true nature, preventing it from fulfilling its wish to live as a free creature.</p>	
35	<p>Correct Answer: C</p> <p>This is the correct option. The exclamation mark in the title highlights the speaker's firm and commanding tone. The repeated instructions and authoritative language show that the speaker is scolding Amanda, giving her strict commands to correct her behaviour.</p>	1
	<p>A: Students selecting this option might have done a surface-level read and concluded that the speaker is ‘confused’ based on the exclamation mark and the question mark appearing together in the question.</p>	
	<p>B: Students selecting this option might have not read the text carefully. The speaker is critical and corrective, not admiring or encouraging. The repeated instructions and exclamations show dissatisfaction rather than praise. Hence, this option is incorrect.</p>	
	<p>D: Students selecting this option might have relied on prior knowledge that exclamation marks often indicate excitement. However, in this poem, the speaker uses exclamations to reinforce commands, not to convey excitement or enthusiasm. Hence, this option is incorrect.</p>	
36	<p><u>Evaluation Criteria:</u></p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Explains how the comparison of the fog to a cat creates a sense of mystery</p> <p>(the poet emphasises the stealthy and quiet nature of a cat and the fog/like a cat, the fog moves silently, adding mystery to its arrival and departure/both the fog and a cat appear unexpectedly and vanish quickly, emphasising their temporary nature/the fog is</p>	2

	<p>described as sitting 'on silent haunches', evoking an image of quiet elegance and mystery/comparing the fog to a cat gives the fog a sense of life, making it feel as though the fog has a mind of its own/the poet's comparison of the fog to a cat turns a simple occurrence into something more complex, full of unseen movement and silent action)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the poem.</i></p>	
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met. Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met. Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>The poet compares the fog to a cat by portraying the fog as silent and stealthy to create a sense of mystery. Like a cat, the fog sits 'on silent haunches' and then disappears, creating a sense of intrigue and making nature seem alive and full of secrets.</p>	
37	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Explains why the poet believes fire is capable of destroying the world [1 mark] <p>(symbolises intense and uncontrolled desire/leads to chaos and destruction/consumes everything like a wildfire)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Explains why the poet believes ice is capable of destroying the world [1 mark] <p>(symbolises hatred and indifference/creates division and isolation/freezes relationships, weakening human connections)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the poem.</i></p>	2
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met. Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met. Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>The poet of 'Fire and Ice' believes that both fire and ice can destroy the world because fire represents uncontrolled desire, which can consume everything, while ice symbolises hatred, which can lead to destruction through indifference. Both emotions are powerful enough to bring about the end of the world.</p>	
38	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p>	2

	<p>◆ Describes one quality of the bear [1 mark]</p> <p>(bears are powerful and can crush us as they attack/bears are strong and capable of crushing their victims with a hug/bears show aggression while appearing gentle, as suggested by their ‘caress’)</p> <p>◆ Describes one quality of the leopard [1 mark]</p> <p>(leopards are fast and agile, leaping repeatedly on their prey/leopards attack constantly and do not stop even when the victim cries out in pain/leopards are fierce and dangerous, with spotted hides that make them recognisable)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the poem.</i></p>	
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met. Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met. Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>The poet highlights the bear’s strength, describing how it attacks by crushing one with a ‘caress’. The leopard is described as unstoppable, leaping repeatedly on its prey. It shows no signs of stopping even when the victim cries out.</p>	
39	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Explains any one message conveyed by the actions of the trees [1 mark]</p> <p>(nature seeks freedom from human confinement/nature cannot survive in artificial spaces/nature reclaims its rightful space/nature is resilient and strives to heal itself/nature is incomplete without its natural environment)</p> <p>◆ Supports the message with an example from the poem [1 mark]</p> <p>(the trees move out of the house to the forest, which was empty and lifeless/the roots disengage from the veranda floor, symbolising their struggle for freedom/‘the leaves strain toward the glass’, showing their yearning for freedom and their desire to reconnect with the natural world outside/the boughs shuffle under the roof to break free/the forest becomes full of trees by morning, showing renewal and restoration)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the poem.</i></p>	2
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met. Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met. Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1

	<p>Sample Answer: The poet conveys that nature seeks freedom from human confinement and cannot survive well in artificial spaces. This is shown when ‘the leaves strain toward the glass’, symbolising their strong desire to escape confinement and reconnect with the natural world outside.</p>	
40	<p>Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ States why the young men are described as being in 'despair' [1 mark] <p>(the young woman probably does not feel the same way about the young men, which makes them sad/the young men like the young woman so much that they feel helpless/the young men are drawn to her beauty and feel upset because they cannot help their feelings)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Explains why the despair of the young men is not justified [1 mark] <p>(the young woman can change her hair colour, proving their admiration is based only on her appearance/their despair focuses on superficial beauty rather than her true self/Anne highlights that external beauty is temporary and not a reason for true love)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the poem.</i></p>	2
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met. Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met. Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer: The young men are in despair because they are captivated by the young woman’s beauty and feel helpless about their feelings. Their despair is not justified because their admiration focuses on superficial qualities, such as her appearance, rather than loving her for who she truly is.</p>	
41	<p>Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ States one reason for Horace Danby's success in the lock-making business [1 mark] <p>(Horace had a keen understanding of locks/he was skilled and meticulous in handling locks/his attention to detail made him excel in the lock-making business/he was careful and thorough in his work)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Explains how the story highlights this talent with an example [1 mark] <p>(Horace successfully broke into Shotover Grange, proving his expertise with locks/he opened the safe carefully and effortlessly, showing his deep knowledge of lock mechanisms/his skill was so precise that he could open even complex locks without causing any damage or noise.)</p>	2

	<i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i>	
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met. Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met. Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>Horace Danby's success in the lock-making business came from his keen understanding of locks. This talent is highlighted in the story when he effortlessly opened the safe at Shotover Grange without causing any damage or noise, showcasing his skill and precision in handling complex locks.</p>	
42	<p><u>Evaluation Criteria:</u></p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Explains how the idea led to Matilda's tragic fate [1 Mark] <p>(Matilda's dissatisfaction with her modest life made her unhappy and ungrateful/her desire for wealth and social status made her discontented with her circumstances/she was fixated on appearing wealthy and had unrealistic aspirations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Supports the explanation with an example from the text [1 Mark] <p>(she borrowed a necklace from her friend to appear wealthy at the ball/her refusal to admit losing the necklace caused her and her husband to endure years of financial hardship/she spent ten years repaying the debt for replacing the lost necklace, which turned out to be fake)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Explains the lesson Matilda learned [1 Mark] <p>(the importance of honesty/being truthful could have saved her from years of hardship/being satisfied with what she had instead of chasing luxury could have led to peace and happiness in her life/material wealth and outward appearances are less important than living a sincere and honest life)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the text.</i></p>	3
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met. Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement. Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error.</i></p>	1

	<p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i></p>	
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>The narrator’s statement that Matilda was 'an error of destiny' shows how she believed she was meant for a life of luxury but was stuck in poverty. This made her unhappy and led her to borrow a necklace to fit in at the ball. When she lost the necklace, she didn’t tell Mme Forestier the truth and worked for ten years with her husband to replace it. Later, she found out the necklace was fake, and all their struggles had been for nothing. This taught Matilda an important lesson about being honest and appreciating what she had, rather than focusing on appearances and material things.</p>	
43	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Explains why the line does not apply to the book that prevented the invasion [1.50 marks]</p> <p>(the book was not informative or instructional/it was imaginative, creative, and entertaining/it contained playful nursery rhymes rather than practical knowledge/it was meant for entertainment rather than instruction)</p> <p>◆ Supports the explanation with examples from the text [1.50 marks]</p> <p>(the Martians thought that the nursery rhymes are codes for Earth’s advanced technology/the Martians misinterpreted the book’s rhymes literally, such as believing 'Mistress Mary' meant Earthlings grow silver and explosives/they thought 'Hey Diddle Diddle' reflected advanced animal technology/'Humpty Dumpty' made Think-Tank believe Earthlings were planning an invasion)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the text.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>The given line does not apply to the 'Mother Goose Book' that prevented Earth's invasion because unlike books that teach practical knowledge, this book was imaginative and entertaining. It contained playful nursery rhymes. It was not meant to instruct but to entertain. The Martians misinterpreted its content, believing it to contain</p>	

	codes about Earth's advanced technology. For instance, they thought 'Mistress Mary' indicated Earthlings could grow silver and explosives. Similarly, they believed 'Hey Diddle Diddle' revealed advanced animal technology and space travel, and 'Humpty Dumpty' made Think-Tank fear a planned invasion. This confusion caused the Martians to abandon their invasion, showing that creativity can have unexpected effects.	
44	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Identifies any two of Ausable's qualities that make him an effective secret agent [1 mark]</p> <p>(quick-thinking/brave/resourceful/courageous/adaptable/imaginative/clever)</p> <p>◆ Justifies how Ausable was an effective secret agent using two examples from the text [1 mark]</p> <p>(he calmly handled the situation with Max, a dangerous intruder, without using a weapon/he quickly came up with a convincing story about the police arriving, which caused Max to jump out of the window in order to flee/he did not panic and instead used his mind to defuse the threat posed by the intruder/when Max threatened him, he used the situation to his advantage, making the intruder believe that he was trapped/he cooked up a believable lie about the police at the door and a non-existent balcony)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p>	2
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i> <i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i> <i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>Ausable was quick-thinking and resourceful. He calmly handled the situation with Max, a dangerous intruder, without using a weapon. He cleverly created a believable story about the police arriving, which caused Max to panic and jump out of the window, thus showcasing his qualities as an effective secret agent.</p>	
45	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Describes two things that the boy learns from losing his ball [2 marks]</p> <p>(loss is an unavoidable part of life/some things, like the ball, cannot be replaced/material possessions are temporary even if they are things you cherish/life involves letting go of irreplaceable things/no amount of effort or resources can retrieve what is lost once it's gone; he learns responsibility as he realises that he must take care of his belongings/the value of things in a world where possessions can be lost)</p> <p>◆ Describes how the experience prepares him to face challenges in life [1 mark]</p>	3

	<p>(the experience teaches the boy to build resilience and accept loss/it is a step towards growing up, as he learns to stand up and move forward despite emotional pain/the poet suggests that this loss is a universal lesson everyone must learn to cope with)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the poem.</i></p>	
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met. Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement. Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error. Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors. Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>The boy learns two important things from losing his ball. Firstly, he realises that loss is unavoidable, and some things, like the ball, cannot be replaced. This teaches him that material possessions, no matter how cherished, are temporary. Secondly, he learns the value of responsibility, understanding that possessions can be lost and he must take care of what he values. This experience might help him face challenges in life by teaching him to accept loss and move forward, building resilience for future difficulties. The poem suggests that loss is a universal part of growing up, preparing the boy for life's hardships.</p>	
46	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ States whether Belinda was a good pet owner [0.50 marks]</p> <p>(no, Belinda was not a good pet owner)</p> <p>◆ Provides two valid examples from the text [1.50 marks]</p> <p>(tickled Custard unmercifully/called him Percival to mock him/laughed when he cried for a safe cage/only praised him after he defeated the pirate)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the poem.</i></p>	2
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met. Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met. Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1

	<p>Sample Answer: No, Belinda was not a good pet owner. She tickled Custard unmercifully to mock his fear and laughed loudly when he cried for a nice safe cage. Instead of comforting him, she joined others in mocking him, showing a lack of care and understanding.</p>	
47	<p>Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Justifies the irony in the title [1 mark]</p> <p>(the title makes the use of irony to refer to Tricki's recovery where the 'triumph' is a simple regimen of diet and exercise rather than surgery/the title highlights the narrator's straightforward treatment which contrasts with Mrs Pumphrey's exaggerated idea of a medical miracle needed to cure her dog's poor health/the title highlights the humour and irony in Mrs Pumphrey's blissful ignorance, as she is unaware of the actual treatment given to Tricki by the narrator)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the text.</i></p> <p>◆ Explains how the title reflects Mrs Pumphrey's view of her dog's health [1 mark]</p> <p>(the title reflects Mrs Pumphrey's belief that Tricki needed surgery due to her overindulgence and ignorance of his actual needs/the title shows how Mrs Pumphrey's excessive pampering led to Tricki's health issues, making her view his recovery as miraculous)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the text.</i></p>	2
	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met. Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met. Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer: The irony in the title 'A Triumph of Surgery' lies in Tricki's recovery through simple diet and exercise, not surgery as Mrs Pumphrey imagined. The title reflects Mrs Pumphrey's view that Tricki's recovery was miraculous, ignoring that her overindulgence caused his poor health in the first place.</p>	
48	<p>Evaluation Criteria: <u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ States the stance on the given prompt as 'no' and explains why the proverb does not describe him [1 mark]</p> <p>(no, it does not describe him; Ebright was skilled in multiple activities and excelled in all of them/he was a master in science while excelling in other pursuits like debate and photography)</p> <p>◆ Identifies two pieces of evidence from the text to support the stance [2 marks]</p>	3

	<p>(he was a straight-A student and excelled in all his subjects in high school/he published groundbreaking scientific research and became one of the best in his field/he spent hours collecting butterflies, rocks, fossils, and coins, showing dedication to every interest/he became a champion debater, confident public speaker, and active participant in the Model United Nations/he excelled as a canoeist and was described as an 'all-around outdoors-person')</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the text.</i></p>	
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met. Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement. Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error. Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors. Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>The proverb 'jack-of-all-trades, master of none' does not describe Richard Ebright. Unlike the proverb, Ebright excelled in various fields, demonstrating mastery rather than mere skill. First, he was a top student who won numerous accolades for his scientific research, including national recognition for his work on butterflies and cell theory. Second, he excelled beyond academics, showing leadership skills as a debater and public speaker, winning prizes for his exceptional performance. Ebright's ability to combine diverse talents with focus and dedication proves that he was not just a 'jack of all trades' but a master in multiple areas, particularly science, driven by his curiosity and determination.</p>	
49	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ States why Mrs Hall confronted Griffin [1 mark]</p> <p>(she confronted Griffin because she was suspicious of his strange behaviour and appearances/she wanted to know what he had been doing to the chair and how he managed to appear from a locked and supposedly empty room/Mrs Hall suspected something unnatural or mysterious about Griffin's actions)</p> <p>◆ Describes how Griffin responded to the situation [1 mark]</p> <p>(Griffin responded angrily and revealed his invisibility by removing his bandages, whiskers, spectacles, and nose/shouted at Mrs Hall, claiming she didn't understand who or what he was/shocked everyone by showing that he was a headless and invisible man)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p>	2

	<p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met. Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met. Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>Mrs Hall confronted Griffin because she was suspicious of his strange behaviour and wanted to know how he had managed to appear from a seemingly locked, empty room. Griffin responded angrily to the situation, shocking everyone by removing his bandages.</p>	
50	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Explains the role of education in transforming Bholi's life [1.50 marks] <p>(Bholi's teacher patiently encouraged her to say her full name and read books which helped her gain confidence/going to school allowed Bholi to realise that she was capable of learning and being respected/education helped Bholi gain the confidence to stand up for her rights, like rejecting a greedy and unfair groom/Bholi's teacher inspired her to believe that education could make her respected and valued/Bholi's teacher encouraged her to believe in herself, turning her from a shy, ignored child into a confident and independent woman.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Analyses how Bholi's story can inspire someone facing similar challenges [1.50 marks] <p>(Bholi's journey highlights how the support of a good teacher or mentor can help someone overcome challenges in life/it shows how guidance can empower individuals to stand up for themselves, even in difficult situations/it inspires us to help others realise their potential by encouraging them to believe in their abilities/her actions show that with the right support, anyone can challenge unfair treatment and grow stronger.)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation supported by the text.</i></p>	3
	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met. Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement. Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p>	1
	<p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error. Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors. Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i></p>	1

Sample Answer:

Education played a key role in transforming Bholi's life. Her teacher's patient encouragement helped her gain confidence, starting with saying her name and learning to read. Education empowered Bholi to believe in herself, reject an unfair marriage proposal, and choose dignity over societal expectations. Bholi's story shows how the support of a good mentor can guide someone through challenges, helping them recognise their potential. It inspires us to believe in our abilities and stand up for what is right, even in difficult situations. Her journey motivates us to offer guidance and support to people who might be struggling with self-confidence. It shows that with the right help, anyone can overcome unfair treatment.



Board of School Education Haryana, Bhiwani