

CBSE Class XII 2025 English (1/2/1) Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 Hours	Maximum Marks :80	Total Questions :13
-----------------------	-------------------	---------------------

General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. This question paper has 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains three sections Section A : Reading Skills, Section B : Creative Writing Skills and Section C : Literature
3. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
4. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
5. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A- Reading Skills

1. Read the following passage carefully:

(1) Having a sense of humor might mean having the ability to entertain other people by making them laugh, but it can also mean having a quick wit that is frequently employed to criticize other people with mischief comments. Some might define a sense of humor as the ability to see humor in everyday life or as appreciating the cleverness of puns and wordplay, and many think it is possible to possess a good sense of humour without ever having those around them be aware of it.

(2) In any case, a sense of humour is a socially valued trait that almost all of us would rather have more, rather than less of – akin to the way that we think about intelligence or good looks. A person with an undeveloped sense of humour lacks a social skill that puts him or her at a severe disadvantage in the hurly-burly of everyday adult life.

(3) Freud thought of humour as an outlet for forbidden impulses, and philosophers ranging from Aristotle to Descartes believed that we are amused by something when it makes us feel superior to other people.

(4) Evolutionary psychologists believe that humour, along with other creative abilities, such as art and music, evolved as an honest signal of intelligence and genetic quality. The value of such a skill in defusing tension, aggressive situations and in managing alliances and friendships should not be underestimated either.

(5) Schmoozing with a bunch of new people at a cocktail party is an opportunity to engage in light-hearted banter, and other people are grateful when someone is skilful enough to turn a stiff and awkward situation into fun. Cracking jokes, making witty remarks, or engaging in humorous, cheeky observations about the social scene can be like fishing for other minds that connect naturally with one's own. When it works, humour can be a device for connecting people who are operating on the same wavelength.

(6) Observing the operation of other people in such situations gives you a feel as to who you would like to get to know better – and who might be best left behind, wallowing in indignation and bitterness. In short, a sense of humour is the Swiss Army Knife of social skills. Perhaps it is indeed a single instrument, but it contains an arsenal of tools – each exquisitely designed for a unique social purpose.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage:

(i) How does the author prove in paragraph 1 that a sense of humour is a double-edged sword?

Solution: Step 1: Finding the key point in paragraph 1 The passage states that humour can be used to entertain others and make them laugh. However, it also mentions that humour can be used to criticize others with witty remarks. This shows that humour has both a positive and a negative aspect.

Step 2: Conclusion Since humour can bring joy and amusement but also be employed as a sharp tool to mock or demean others, it acts as a double-edged sword.

 Quick Tip

When answering comprehension-based questions, always refer back to the paragraph mentioned in the question to ensure accuracy. Look for key phrases that directly support your answer.

(ii) Cite evidence from the passage to prove that a sense of humour is a valuable tool to make someone's life better.

Solution: Step 1: Extracting relevant evidence Paragraph 5 states that "Schmoozing with a bunch of new people at a cocktail party is an opportunity to engage in light-hearted banter, and other people are grateful when someone is skilful enough to turn a stiff and awkward situation into fun."

Step 2: Conclusion This suggests that humour helps in navigating social interactions, diffusing tense situations, and forming alliances, making life easier and more enjoyable.

 Quick Tip

When answering comprehension-based questions, always refer back to the paragraph mentioned in the question to ensure accuracy. Look for key phrases that directly support your answer.

(iii) Complete the following sentence suitably with reference to paragraph 3.

One significant advantage of humour is that it helps one

Solution: One significant advantage of humour is that it helps one cope with the hardships of everyday life by lightening difficult situations.

 Quick Tip

When answering comprehension-based questions, always refer back to the paragraph mentioned in the question to ensure accuracy. Look for key phrases that directly support your answer.

(iv) Provide ONE textual evidence with reference to paragraph 5, to show a good sense of humour can be a great ice breaker.

Solution: Step 1: Locating textual evidence Paragraph 5 mentions that "Schmoozing with a bunch of new people at a cocktail party is an opportunity to engage in light-hearted banter, and other people are grateful when someone is skilful enough to turn a stiff and awkward situation into fun."

Step 2: Conclusion This proves that humour acts as an icebreaker, helping people connect in social settings.

 Quick Tip

When answering comprehension-based questions, always refer back to the paragraph mentioned in the question to ensure accuracy. Look for key phrases that directly support your answer.

(v) Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank.

Solution: According to evolutionary psychologists, people with a sense of humour can (trigger/lighten) tension in social situations.

 Quick Tip

When answering comprehension-based questions, always refer back to the paragraph mentioned in the question to ensure accuracy. Look for key phrases that directly support your answer.

(vi) Choose the correct option:

"...Humour can be a device for connecting people who are operating on the same wavelength."

By the phrase "same wavelength," the author refers to:

- (1) People of age group
- (2) People who belong to the same line of profession
- (3) People having similar interests and attitudes
- (4) People who are working in the same organisation

Correct Answer: (3) People having similar interests and attitudes

Solution: Step 1: Understanding the phrase "same wavelength" The passage discusses how humour helps people relate to each other. Being on the "same wavelength" means sharing similar thoughts, interests, and perspectives.

Step 2: Verifying the correct answer - (1) Incorrect: Age group does not necessarily determine shared humour.

- (2) Incorrect: Profession is not a key factor in humour.

- (4) Incorrect: Working in the same organisation does not imply shared humour.

- (3) Correct: People with similar interests and attitudes often share humour, making this the right choice.

 Quick Tip

When answering comprehension-based questions, always refer back to the paragraph mentioned in the question to ensure accuracy. Look for key phrases that directly support your answer.

(vii) Complete the analogy with one word from paragraph 6:

Advantage: benefit :: ____ : anger

- (1) Situation
- (2) Stare
- (3) Indignation
- (4) Arsenal

Correct Answer: (3) Indignation

Solution: Step 1: Understanding the analogy The relationship between “advantage” and “benefit” is that they are synonyms. Similarly, the word that matches the meaning of “anger” should be its synonym.

Step 2: Choosing the correct answer - (1) Incorrect: “Situation” is unrelated to anger.

- (2) Incorrect: “Stare” is not a synonym for anger.

- (3) Correct: “Indignation” means strong displeasure or anger, making it the best choice.

- (4) Incorrect: “Arsenal” refers to a collection of tools or weapons, unrelated to anger.

 Quick Tip

When answering comprehension-based questions, always refer back to the paragraph mentioned in the question to ensure accuracy. Look for key phrases that directly support your answer.

(viii) In the line “it is indeed a single instrument, but it contains an arsenal of tools...”, what does the phrase “arsenal of tools” refer to?

Solution: Step 1: Understanding the phrase in context The passage refers to humour as a single skill, but one that serves multiple purposes in social interactions. The phrase “arsenal of tools” means that humour has many uses, such as lightening tense situations, forming bonds, and engaging others.

Step 2: Final interpretation It signifies that humour is a versatile tool that helps individuals navigate different social situations effectively.

 Quick Tip

When answering comprehension-based questions, always refer back to the paragraph mentioned in the question to ensure accuracy. Look for key phrases that directly support your answer.

(ix) Provide ONE textual evidence from the text which states lack of sense of humour may prove to be a handicap in one’s life.

Solution: Step 1: Finding the relevant textual evidence The passage states: “An

undeveloped sense of humour lacks a social skill that puts him or her at a disadvantage.”

Step 2: Conclusion This statement directly shows how lacking a sense of humour can make social interactions difficult, placing a person at a disadvantage in social settings.

 Quick Tip

When answering comprehension-based questions, always refer back to the paragraph mentioned in the question to ensure accuracy. Look for key phrases that directly support your answer.

(x) Choose the correct option (A) or (B) which reaffirms the idea conveyed in the above extract.

- (1) Sense of humour elevates the status of a person in the social circle.
- (2) People with sense of humour are not taken seriously in the society.

Correct Answer: (1) Sense of humour elevates the status of a person in the social circle.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the meaning of the extract The passage explains that humour is a valuable social skill that helps individuals connect with others, diffuse tense situations, and enhance relationships.

Step 2: Verifying the correct answer - (1) Correct: Since humour helps people socially, it elevates their status by making them more likable.

- (2) Incorrect: The passage does not mention that people with humour are not taken seriously; instead, it highlights the benefits of humour in social settings.

 Quick Tip

Analogies in comprehension tests often involve relationships like synonymy, cause-effect, or function. Always identify the relationship between the first pair before selecting the missing word.

2. Read the passage carefully :

(1) This report presents findings from the Youth Aspirations in India Survey in which 5,764 youth between the ages of 15 and 30 were asked about their employment, education, and skilling aspirations.

(2) Indian youth valued higher education. 50 percent of respondents aspire to attain a post-graduate degree, 24 percent a PhD, and 21 percent a bachelor's degree. Only 2 percent of respondents hope to attain a college or vocational diploma as their highest form of education.

(3) Respondents have a strong preference for attaining higher education degrees. At the same time, there is an awareness of changing skills requirements and an interest in augmenting their skills. 76 percent of youth report being very interested in pursuing a skills development programme. 70 percent of youth identified more employment opportunities as the main motivation for wanting to pursue skills development training.

(4) A study related to their job preference reveals their strong desire for job security and opportunities for career advancement. It is evident from the

following data :

Percentage	Preference
49	Public Sector
23	Private Sector
17	Entrepreneurship

(5) In the context of technological adoption and digitization, jobs and tasks, along with the competencies required to execute them, are changing. 86 percent of youth feel very or moderately up to date with changes in skills requirements. Yet, 39 percent of youth feel very prepared or prepared for their ideal job, while 16 percent of youth feel either not prepared or very unprepared for their ideal job.

(6) Female respondents' education and employment aspirations match, if not exceed, those of male respondents. Yet, female respondents face discriminatory biases in hiring, have less paid work experience than their male counterparts, and face greater barriers in pursuing skills development opportunities. 60 percent of female respondents, for example, report having no paid work experience, compared to 54 percent of male respondents. In addition, 15 percent of female respondents report personal biases such as marital status, gender, age, or family background as a main barrier to employment compared to 9 percent of male respondents. While more female respondents report being very interested in participating in a skills development programme, only 19 percent have enrolled in a programme, compared to 26 percent of male respondents.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage :

(i) As per the survey, Indian youth is broadly focused on

- (1) Skill development and entrepreneurship.
- (2) Private sector jobs and technology.
- (3) Higher education and career opportunities.
- (4) Vocational diploma and public sector jobs.

Correct Answer: (3) Higher education and career opportunities.

Solution: According to the survey, Indian youth strongly prioritize attaining higher education degrees such as post-graduate or Ph.D. qualifications. They value career advancement and secure job opportunities.

💡 Quick Tip

In survey-based questions, pay attention to statistics and trends mentioned in the text to identify key focus areas.

2(ii). With reference to paragraph 3, what is the latest trend among Indian youth in preparing themselves for the job market?

Correct Answer: The latest trend is a strong interest in skill development programmes, with 76

Solution: Indian youth are increasingly aware of the changing skill requirements in the job market. As a result, a significant number of respondents show a strong interest in enrolling in skill development programmes to improve their employability.

 Quick Tip

Look for trends indicated by data points or significant percentages in the text to identify emerging patterns.

2(iii). With reference to the table, state one reason for entrepreneurship being the last preference among Indian youth.

Correct Answer: Entrepreneurship is seen as a risky option with fewer guarantees of stable income and job security.

Solution: The survey highlights that Indian youth prioritize career stability and advancement. Entrepreneurship, which involves uncertainty and financial risk, is seen as less appealing compared to more secure job options like public or private sector jobs.

 Quick Tip

In table-based questions, compare figures to identify key trends and understand decision-making patterns.

2(iv). Cite two evidences from the text to show that gender bias is still a hindrance in the progress of women in society.

Correct Answer: 1. 60% of female respondents reported having no paid work experience, compared to 54% of male respondents.

2. 15% of female respondents cited personal biases such as gender, marital status, and family background as barriers to employment, compared to only 9% of male respondents.

Solution: These data points highlight that gender bias still exists, limiting women's access to job opportunities and skill development. Discriminatory attitudes, combined with fewer paid work experiences, hinder female career growth.

 Quick Tip

In evidence-based questions, extract key statistics or statements that directly support the given claim.

2(v). Complete the following sentence suitably:

The driving force for the Indian youth to join a skill development programme is -----.

Correct Answer: More employment opportunities.

Solution: According to the passage, 70% of youth identified better job prospects as their primary motivation for enrolling in skill development programmes.

 Quick Tip

In completion questions, look for direct statements in the passage that answer the missing detail.

2(vi). Paragraph 5 uses the words ‘competencies’ and ‘adoption’. Classify the following sentences which talk about ‘competency’ and which talk about ‘adoption’.

Sentence 1: Ria embraced new technology to gain a global market for her paintings.

Sentence 2: Ria displays her artistic skill through her paintings.

Correct Answer: Sentence 1: Adoption

Sentence 2: Competency

Solution: ‘Adoption’ refers to embracing new practices or technologies, while ‘competency’ refers to demonstrating skill or expertise. Sentence 1 reflects adoption, and Sentence 2 reflects competency.

 Quick Tip

Understand the difference between skill mastery (competency) and willingness to adopt new methods (adoption).

2(vii). Cite two evidences from the text to show that Indian youth is adapting itself to the needs of the job market.

Correct Answer: 1. 76% of youth are very interested in skill development programmes to meet market demands.

2. 86% of youth feel they are moderately or fully aware of changing skills requirements.

Solution: These evidences demonstrate Indian youth’s proactive approach to skill enhancement and their readiness to adapt to emerging trends in the job market.

 Quick Tip

When asked for evidence, extract key facts or statistics that directly support the point.

2(viii). Choose the correct option: The main roadblocks to employment opportunities for females are:

Here is what is written in the image, transcribed exactly:

- (i) lack of interest
- (ii) marriage
- (iii) lack of opportunities
- (iv) over qualification
- (v) family background

- (1) (i) & (ii)
- (2) (iii) & (iv)
- (3) (ii), (iii) & (v)
- (4) (iv) & (v)

Correct Answer: (3) (ii), (iii) & (v)

Solution: The passage highlights that gender bias (marriage), lack of opportunities, and family background are major obstacles to employment for women. These factors limit their access to education, skills training, and career growth.

 Quick Tip

In list-based questions, carefully compare the provided options with the key points identified in the passage.

SECTION B- Creative Writing skills

(3) Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words.

(a) Your school is organizing a road safety awareness workshop for students of class IX – XII. As the head boy of your school, draft a notice informing the students about the workshop. Include other necessary details. You are Ashna/Ashish. Put your notice in a box.

Solution:

Notice

ABC School

NOTICE

Road Safety Awareness Workshop

Date: [Insert Date]

This is to inform all students of Classes IX – XII that our school is organizing a **Road Safety Awareness Workshop** to educate students about traffic rules, responsible pedestrian behavior, and safety measures while commuting.

Date: [Insert Date]

Time: [Insert Time]

Venue: School Auditorium

Attendance is **mandatory** for all students. For further details, contact the undersigned.

Ashna/Ashish

Head Boy/Girl

OR

(b) Your school is organizing an Inter-House Science Model-Making Competition. As President of the Science Club, draft a notice to inform all House members from IX – XII about the competition and specify the number of registrations invited per house. Include other necessary details. You are Mitali/Mukesh. Put your notice in a box.

Solution:

Notice

ABC School, Science Club

NOTICE

Inter-House Science Model-Making Competition

Date: [Insert Date]

The Science Club is excited to announce an **Inter-House Science Model-Making Competition** for students of Classes IX – XII. Each house can register a **maximum of 3 teams**, with **2 members per team**.

Date: [Insert Date]

Time: [Insert Time]

Venue: School Science Lab

Interested students should submit their names to their respective House Captains by [Registration Deadline]. Exciting prizes await the winners! For more details, contact the undersigned.

Mitali/Mukesh

President, Science Club

 Quick Tip

A well-written notice should have a clear heading, event details, and a call to action. Maintain a formal and concise tone.

(4) Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words.

(a) Draft an invitation card on behalf of the Principal of J.B. Bhatia Public School for the launch of 'Yoga for Life' programme in the school. Mention a compelling highlight of the programme along with other necessary details.

Solution:

Invitation

**J.B. Bhatia Public School
Cordially Invites You To
The Grand Launch of the 'Yoga for Life' Programme**

Date: [Insert Date]

Time: [Insert Time]

Venue: School Auditorium

Join us in embracing a healthier lifestyle through the power of yoga. The event will include a live yoga demonstration by renowned yoga expert [Expert's Name] and an interactive session on the benefits of daily yoga practice.

Your presence will make this occasion even more special.

Principal

J.B. Bhatia Public School

OR

(b) You are Mrs. Savita Manjrekhar, a professor in English. You are invited to be one of the judges for the inter-school debate competition by the Principal of J.M. Public School, Cochin. Write a formal letter expressing your inability to accept the invitation.

Solution:

Formal Letter Mrs. Savita Manjrekhar

Professor of English

Your Address

City, Pincode

Date

To,

The Principal

J.M. Public School

Cochin

Subject: Regret in Accepting the Invitation for Judging the Debate Competition

Respected Sir/Madam,

I am honored to have received your invitation to judge the inter-school debate competition at your esteemed institution. However, due to prior academic commitments, I regret to inform you that I will not be able to attend the event.

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity and extend my best wishes for the success of the competition. I hope to participate in future events at your institution.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Savita Manjrekhar

 Quick Tip

An invitation should be formal yet engaging, mentioning key details clearly. A formal letter should be concise, respectful, and maintain a professional tone.

(5) Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (b), in 120-150 words.

(a) You are Nidhi of 42, M.G. Road, Gwalior. You read the given advertisement and wish to apply for the post advertised. Write a job application along with your bio-data.

Solution:

Job Application

42, M.G. Road

Gwalior - 474001

Insert Date

To,

The Principal

M.V. Public School

Shimla - 171001

Subject: Application for the Post of Western Music Teacher

Respected Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my keen interest in the position of **Western Music Teacher** as advertised in your esteemed institution. With a **graduate degree in music** and over **two years of teaching experience**, I have honed my skills in lesson planning, preparing students for competitions, and organizing school bands and choir groups.

I am proficient in **computer-assisted music technology** and believe that my passion for teaching and ability to engage students in creative musical activities make me a strong candidate for this role. Enclosed is my bio-data for your kind consideration. I look forward to an opportunity to discuss my qualifications further.

Yours sincerely,

Nidhi

 Quick Tip

A job application should be professional, well-structured, and include a cover letter along with a clear and concise bio-data.

OR

(b) Write a letter to the editor of a National daily expressing your concern over urban sprawl and also suggest ways to improve the situation. You are Sonal of 14, A, R.P. Nagar, New Delhi.

Solution:

Sonal

14, A, R.P. Nagar
New Delhi - 110001

sert Date

To,

The Editor

National Daily Name

New Delhi

Subject: Concerns Over Urban Sprawl and Possible Solutions

Respected Sir/Madam,

I wish to express my deep concern over the rapid urban sprawl in our cities, which is leading to serious environmental and infrastructural issues. The uncontrolled expansion of cities results in air and water pollution, deforestation, loss of agricultural land, and disruption of natural ecosystems.

Urban sprawl negatively impacts daily life by increasing traffic congestion, raising commuting times, and reducing air quality. Additionally, it puts immense pressure on public services and contributes to unplanned settlements.

To mitigate these issues, the government must promote **effective urban planning**, encourage **vertical expansion**, and implement **sustainable transportation systems**.

Green spaces and eco-friendly infrastructure should be prioritized to balance urban development with environmental conservation.

I urge the concerned authorities to take immediate action to curb unplanned urbanization and ensure a sustainable future for our cities.

Yours sincerely,

Sonal

 Quick Tip

A letter to the editor should be formal, concise, and present a clear concern along with practical solutions.

(6) Attempt any one of the two, (a) or (b), in 120-150 words.

(a) Write an article stressing on the need to develop the skill of time management. You are Seema of class XII C.

Solution:

The Importance of Time Management

By Seema, Class XII C

In today's competitive world, students are expected to excel in academics, sports, music, and extracurricular activities. However, one of the biggest challenges they face is **poor time management**, leading to stress and inefficiency.

What is Time Management?

Time management refers to the ability to plan and control how one spends their time on different activities to increase efficiency and productivity.

Why are Realistic Goals Important?

Setting **realistic and achievable goals** helps students stay motivated and avoid burnout. A well-structured schedule ensures a balanced approach to studies and leisure.

Ways to Prioritize Tasks and Minimize Distractions

Creating a daily to-do list, avoiding procrastination, and focusing on important tasks first can enhance time management. Minimizing distractions like excessive social media use also helps in staying productive.

How to Utilize Technology Effectively?

Students can use **time management apps**, digital planners, and study tools to stay organized and track progress effectively. Technology, when used wisely, can improve efficiency.

Conclusion

Developing time management skills is crucial for reducing stress and achieving academic success. With discipline and proper planning, students can balance their responsibilities and lead a more organized life.

Quick Tip

A well-written article should be informative, structured with subheadings, and provide practical solutions.

OR

(b) Write a comprehensive report on Republic Day celebrations held in your school. You are Heena of class XII E, a member of the school magazine editorial board.

Solution:

Republic Day Celebrations at Our School

By Heena, Class XII E

Who: The event was organized by [School Name] with participation from students, teachers, and staff. The Chief Guest, [Guest's Name], a respected social activist, graced the occasion.

What: The Republic Day celebration was marked with **flag hoisting, patriotic songs, dance performances**, and **an inspiring speech** by the Chief Guest, emphasizing the importance of democracy and civic responsibilities.

When: The event took place on **26th January**, starting at **8:00 AM**.

Where: The celebration was held in the **school auditorium and playground**, decorated with national flags and tricolor decorations.

How: The program began with the flag hoisting ceremony, followed by a national anthem performance. Various cultural activities showcased the rich heritage of our country. Students

presented speeches and skits portraying the struggles of freedom fighters. The event concluded with a prize distribution ceremony for essay and painting competitions held in honor of the day.

Impact: The celebration instilled a sense of patriotism and unity among students, reminding them of the sacrifices made for our independence. It was an inspiring and memorable day for the entire school community.

 Quick Tip

A report should be factual, well-structured, and include key details such as participants, events, impact, and conclusion.

SECTION C- Literature

7(A)(i). Read the following extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the given two (A) or (B):

(A) It is in the news that all these pitiful kin
Are to be bought out and mercifully
gathered in To live in villages, next to the theatre and the store. Where they
won't have to think for themselves anymore, While greedy good-doers, beneficent
beasts of prey, Swarm over their lives enforcing benefits That are calculated to
soothe them out of their wita, And by teaching them how to sleep they sleep all
day Destroy their sleeping at night the ancient way. (A Roadside Stand)

(i) The expression "It is in the news" suggests:

- (1) It is good news for the roadside stand owners.
- (2) An important decision has been taken by the government.
- (3) The roadside stand owners have protested against the government.
- (4) That the news was not there in the newspaper.

Correct Answer: (2) An important decision has been taken by the government.

Solution: The expression "It is in the news" indicates that a significant development or government decision has been made. In the context of the poem, this decision affects the roadside stand owners. The reference to 'news' suggests some major policy or governmental decision that impacts them.

 Quick Tip

When analyzing poetry, focus on context clues like tone, word choice, and references to external events to understand implied meanings.

7(A)(ii). Read the Assertion and the Reason below, with reference to the given extract.

Assertion: The poet complains that the rural people are exploited by the people in power.

Reason: The rural people reposed blind faith in the false promises of the people in power.

Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.

- (1) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true and the Reason is the correct Conclusion.
- (2) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, but the Reason is not the correct Conclusion.

(3) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.

(4) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.

Correct Answer: (1) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true and the Reason is the correct Conclusion.

Solution: The poet's complaint is that rural people suffer under false hopes created by those in power. The rural population trusts these promises, which often result in manipulation and exploitation. The Reason effectively explains the Assertion.

 Quick Tip

When dealing with Assertion-Reason questions, identify whether the Reason directly explains why the Assertion is true.

7(A)(iii). In the line "that are calculated to soothe them out of their wits", the phrase "soothe them out of their wits" refers to:

Correct Answer: The powerful authorities attempt to manipulate rural people with deceptive comfort, lulling them into a false sense of security.

Solution: The phrase "soothe them out of their wits" refers to how manipulative leaders create an illusion of security and calm, preventing people from questioning or resisting. This strategy controls rural populations by mentally suppressing their awareness.

 Quick Tip

Pay attention to figurative language in poetry; phrases like "soothe them out of their wits" often symbolize deeper meanings.

7(A)(iv). Bring out the irony in the expression "they won't have to think for themselves".

Correct Answer: The irony lies in the fact that while the government claims to improve the rural people's condition, it actually strips them of their independence, making them dependent on others.

Solution: The irony is that the supposed relief offered by authorities appears helpful but actually weakens the people's ability to think independently. This manipulation is portrayed as a "mercy," but it robs them of autonomy.

 Quick Tip

Irony often involves a contradiction between appearance and reality. Finding this contrast is key to understanding deeper meanings in poetry.

7(A). (v) Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.

The poet uses the expression 'greedy good-doers' to ----- (criticize / appreciate) the intention of the powerful people.

Correct Answer: (1) Criticize the intention of the powerful people.

Solution: The term "greedy good-doers" reflects the poet's sarcastic tone. While these individuals claim to help, they exploit others for their own benefit. Their seemingly positive

actions hide selfish motives.

 Quick Tip

Sarcasm is often used in literature to criticize societal flaws. Words like "good-doers" may have underlying negative implications.

7(A)(vi). The tone of the poet in the above extract is:

Correct Answer: Sarcastic and critical.

Solution: The poet's tone is critical as he mocks the deceptive tactics of those in power. The use of sarcasm highlights the exploitation faced by rural communities.

 Quick Tip

Finding the poet's tone can help reveal the underlying emotions and social commentary within a poem.

OR

**7(B)(i). (B) If we were not so single-minded
about keeping our lives moving,
and for once could do nothing,
perhaps a huge silence
might interrupt this sadness
of never understanding ourselves with death.
Perhaps the Earth can teach us
as when everything seems dead
and later proves to be alive.
Now I'll count up to twelve
And you keep quiet and I will go.**

(Keeping Quiet)

(i) Complete the following suitably.

The poet uses the expression "single-minded" to refer to:

Correct Answer: The relentless pursuit of material progress and worldly ambitions.

Solution: The poet criticizes humanity's one-dimensional focus on progress and work. By being "single-minded," people forget to pause and reflect on life's deeper meaning, which leads to emotional exhaustion and disconnection from the natural world.

 Quick Tip

In poetry, expressions like "single-minded" often symbolize a deeper social or philosophical concern.

7(B)(ii). Why does the poet refer to silence as a welcoming interruption?

Correct Answer: The poet sees silence as an opportunity for introspection and reflection, which helps people connect with themselves and their surroundings.

Solution: The poet views silence as a positive break from the constant rush of life. In moments of stillness, people can reflect on their actions, emotions, and the world around

them. Such reflection leads to greater self-awareness and wisdom.

 Quick Tip

Pause and silence in poetry often symbolize mindfulness, reflection, or inner peace.

7(B)(iii). Read the Assertion and the Reason below, with reference to the given extract.

Assertion: The poet personifies Earth as a teacher.

Reason: We learn from the Earth that pausing doesn't mean the end.

Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.

- (1) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true and the Reason is the correct Conclusion.
- (2) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, but the Reason is not the correct Conclusion.
- (3) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.
- (4) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.

Correct Answer: (1) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true and the Reason is the correct Conclusion.

Solution: The poet personifies Earth by attributing it with the qualities of a teacher. Earth shows that temporary silence (such as winter) is followed by life and growth (spring), proving that pauses in life do not signify failure or death but are part of a natural cycle.

 Quick Tip

Personification in poetry gives human qualities to non-human elements, often to deliver deeper messages.

7(B)(iv). By the expression "keeping our lives moving," the poet refers to:

Correct Answer: The relentless routine of work and daily activities without reflection or pause.

Solution: The phrase "keeping our lives moving" highlights the continuous drive of humans toward progress, without taking breaks to reflect on their emotions, relationships, or surroundings. This mindset leads to a lack of deeper understanding of life.

 Quick Tip

Expressions like "keeping our lives moving" often convey the consequences of being overly busy in poetry.

7(B)(v). The intention of the poet in the above extract is:

- (1) To make us aware of the importance of Earth.
- (2) To criticize our single-mindedness.
- (3) To highlight the reason for our sadness.
- (4) To highlight the importance of sustaining peace and silence.

Correct Answer: (4) To highlight the importance of sustaining peace and silence.

Solution: The poet's intention is to emphasize how inner peace and calmness can help individuals reconnect with their inner selves. He stresses the value of silence as a means to

achieve self-awareness and emotional balance.

 Quick Tip

Understanding a poet's intention often requires analyzing their tone, choice of words, and central themes.

7(B)(vi). What is the significance of the last line of the extract "you keep quiet and I will go"?

Correct Answer: The poet encourages readers to reflect silently while he withdraws, suggesting that silence itself can lead to self-awareness and understanding.

Solution: The final line emphasizes that true wisdom comes from silence and reflection. By encouraging others to "keep quiet," the poet urges readers to focus on their thoughts and experiences without distractions. His departure signifies that inner reflection is a personal journey.

 Quick Tip

In poetry, the concluding line often delivers a key message or theme that invites readers to reflect deeply.

8(A)(i). (A) When I heard this, I didn't want to laugh any more, and I felt terribly sad. How could they believe that it was disgusting if one of us held that package in his hands, even though the Vadai had been wrapped first in a banana leaf, and then parcelled in paper? I felt so provoked and angry that I wanted to touch those wretched Vadais myself straight away. Why should we have to fetch and carry for these people. I wondered. Such an important elder of ours goes meekly to the shops to fetch snacks and hands over reverently, bowing and shrinking, to this fellow who just sits there and stuffs them into his mouth. The thought of it infuriated me. (Memories of Childhood) (i) 'I felt terribly sad'. The reason for the speaker's sadness is because it was an act of -----.

- (1) Sympathy and kindness.
- (2) Discrimination and prejudice.
- (3) Care and concern.
- (4) Humour and fun.

Correct Answer: (2) Discrimination and prejudice.

Solution: The speaker felt deeply saddened by the discriminatory attitude shown towards the speaker's community. The act of packing food in banana leaves and wrapping it in paper reflected a deep-rooted social prejudice that treated certain groups as untouchables.

 Quick Tip

When Finding emotions in literature, observe the speaker's reactions, tone, and the underlying social context.

8(A)(ii). 'The thought of it infuriated me' with reference to the above line, what

do you think was the impact of the incident on the speaker?

- (1) The speaker was sympathetic and helpless.
- (2) The speaker was angry and condemning.
- (3) The speaker was excited to see the incident.
- (4) The speaker was very impressed and motivated.

Correct Answer: (2) The speaker was angry and condemning.

Solution: The speaker's anger highlights their frustration with the social injustice faced by marginalized groups. The discriminatory attitude of those around them provoked a sense of rage and helplessness.

 Quick Tip

In narrative texts, strong emotions like anger or frustration often reveal deeper themes of social injustice or personal conflict.

8(A)(iii). Complete the sentence suitably: "I wanted to touch those wretched vadais myself"

Correct Answer: The above expression indicates the speaker's inner rebellion against the social discrimination imposed on their community.

Solution: By expressing a desire to touch the "wretched vadais," the speaker defies the social norms that labeled such actions impure. This reflects the speaker's rejection of discriminatory beliefs.

 Quick Tip

Look for symbolic actions in literature to understand how characters challenge social conventions.

8(A)(iv). Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank:

The incident made the speaker realize that the discrimination was ___ (dehumanizing / elevating).

Correct Answer: Dehumanizing.

Solution: The discrimination experienced by the speaker was dehumanizing, reducing individuals to a lower social status based on outdated traditions and unjust beliefs.

 Quick Tip

In social commentary literature, the term "dehumanizing" is often used to describe systemic injustice and discrimination.

8(B). Mr. Lamb: When I go down the streets, the kids shout Lamey Lamb'. But they will come into the garden, into my they be? Because I'm not afraid of them, that's why not Derry Did you get your leg blown off in the war? Mr. Lamb Certainly Derry How will you climb on a ladder and got the crab apples down, then? Mr. Lamb Oh, there's a lot of things I've learned to do and plenty of time

for it. Yours. I take it steady. (On the Face of it

(i) Complete the following suitably: "Years. I take it steady." The above line speaks of the speaker's ____.

Correct Answer: Acceptance of life's struggles and resilience.

Solution: The phrase "I take it steady" reveals Mr. Lamb's calm and composed approach to life. Despite facing challenges, he has learned to handle situations with patience and courage.

 Quick Tip

In character analysis, examine recurring phrases and statements to understand a character's personality and values.

8(B)(ii). 'Derry, how will you climb on a ladder?' What does Derry hint at in the above query?

Correct Answer: Derry hints at Mr. Lamb's disability and doubts his physical ability to manage difficult tasks.

Solution: Derry's question reflects his concern for Mr. Lamb's well-being and his skepticism about Mr. Lamb's ability to perform certain physical tasks due to his disability. This highlights Derry's initial perception of Mr. Lamb's limitations.

 Quick Tip

In dialogues, pay close attention to character interactions to understand their emotions and perspectives.

8(B)(iii). 'When I go down the streets, the kids shout Lamey Lamb.' The attitude of the speaker expressed in the above line is:

- (1) His habit of finding fault.
- (2) He is timid and faint hearted.
- (3) His acceptance of reality and positive attitude.
- (4) His indifferent and careless attitude.

Correct Answer: (3) His acceptance of reality and positive attitude.

Solution: Despite being mocked, Mr. Lamb maintains a positive attitude, embracing life with optimism. His resilience highlights his wisdom and ability to rise above negativity.

 Quick Tip

When analyzing attitude, look for language that reflects optimism, confidence, or acceptance.

8(B)(iv). Fill in the blank suitably:

Mr. Lamb's handicap has not ____ his attitude towards life.

Correct Answer: Affected.

Solution: Despite his disability, Mr. Lamb retains a positive and resilient outlook on life. His ability to inspire others stems from his belief that one's attitude determines true strength.

 Quick Tip

Characters overcoming adversity often demonstrate resilience and self-belief as key traits.

9(i). Read the following extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the given two (A) or (B) : (A) Those were the days of mainly indoor shooting, and only five percent of the film was shot outdoors. I suppose the sets and studio lights needed the girls and boys to be made to look 1 ugly in order to look presentable in the movie. A strict hierarchy was maintained in the make-up department. The chief make-up man made the chief actors and actresses 2 ugly, his senior assistant 3 'second' hero and heroine, the junior assistant the main comedian and so forth. The players who played the crowd were the responsibility of the office boy. (Even the make-up department of the Gemini Studio 4 had an 'office boy')

On the days when there was crowd-shooting, you could see him mixing his paint in a giant vessel and slapping it on the crowd players. The idea was to close every pore on the surface of the face in the process of applying 1 make-up

What does the writer mean by the phrase 'indoor shooting' in the first line of the extract?

Correct Answer: Indoor shooting refers to filming scenes inside a studio under artificial lights and controlled settings.

Solution: In this context, 'indoor shooting' refers to the practice of shooting scenes in an indoor studio environment rather than outdoor locations. Studio lights and controlled surroundings were commonly used to manage lighting and effects better.

 Quick Tip

In descriptive texts, focus on contextual clues to interpret specific phrases and expressions.

9(ii). Pick up one sentence from the extract that reflects the sarcastic tone of the writer.

Correct Answer: "I suppose the sets and studio lights needed the girls and boys to be made to look ugly in order to look presentable in the movie."

Solution: This sentence reveals the author's sarcastic tone, as it mocks the contradictory idea that actors had to appear "ugly" to look presentable on screen. The humor lies in this exaggerated observation.

 Quick Tip

When Finding sarcasm, look for irony, exaggeration, or contradictory statements within the text.

9(iii). The hierarchy in the make-up department puts the 'office boy' in the _____ (lowest / top) rung of the ladder.

Correct Answer: Lowest

Solution: In the make-up department, the office boy held the least significant position, responsible only for minor tasks like assisting the crowd actors. This places him at the lowest rung in the hierarchy.

 Quick Tip

Hierarchy-based questions often require Finding the structure of roles from most important to least important.

9(iv). Complete the following suitably:

On the days when there was a ‘crowd-shooting’. By the phrase ‘crowd-shooting’, the author refers to ----.

Correct Answer: The shooting of scenes involving large groups of background actors.

Solution: The term ‘crowd-shooting’ refers to scenes that required numerous extras or background players. These actors were often prepared in bulk with simple make-up techniques, performed hastily to meet filming demands.

 Quick Tip

In literature, special phrases like ‘crowd-shooting’ often symbolize broader practices or trends.

9(v). Choose the correct option: The choice of words like ‘paint’ and ‘slapping’ by the author reflects:

- (1) Author’s intention to degrade the office boy’s role in the make-up department.
- (2) The office boy’s lack of seriousness.
- (3) Author’s sarcastic and humorous writing style.
- (4) Author’s dislike of the office boy.

Correct Answer: (3) Author’s sarcastic and humorous writing style.

Solution: The words ‘paint’ and ‘slapping’ exaggerate the office boy’s task, adding humor to the situation. The writer employs sarcasm to describe how the office boy’s role, though seemingly trivial, was portrayed as an essential part of the makeup process.

 Quick Tip

In humor-based questions, look for exaggerated language, unexpected word choices, or ironic descriptions.

9(vi). Choose the correct option: What does the following line from the extract showcase?

“A strict hierarchy was maintained in the make-up department.”

- (1) The office boy took all the decisions in the make-up department.
- (2) A system of ranks according to the importance of work was followed.
- (3) Everyone was given an equal share of work in the department.
- (4) Nepotism was prevalent in the make-up department.

Correct Answer: (2) A system of ranks according to the importance of work was followed.

Solution: The statement highlights the structured hierarchy in the make-up department, where tasks were divided based on roles. The chief make-up man handled prominent actors, while minor roles like crowd make-up were given to lower-ranked staff, such as the office boy.

 Quick Tip

When analyzing hierarchy-related questions, focus on the structure of responsibilities and power dynamics.

OR

9 (B) My Last French Lesson! Why, I hardly knew how to write ! I should never learn any more! I must stop there, then! Oh, how sorry I was for not learning my lessons, for seeking birds' eggs or going sliding on the Saar! My books, that had seemed such a nuisance a while ago, so heavy to carry, my grammar, and my history of the saints, were old friends now that I couldn't give up and M. Hamel, too; the idea that he was going away, that I should never see him again, made me forget all about his ruler and how cranky he was. Poor man! It was in honour of this last lesson that he had put on his fine Sunday clothes, and now I understood why the old men of the village were sitting there in the back of the room. It was because they were sorry, too, that they had not gone to school more. It was their way of thanking our master for his forty years of faithful service and of showing their respect for the country that was theirs no more.

(The Last Lesson)

(i) Choose the correct option: What is the tone of the speaker in the expression 'I hardly knew how to write how sorry I was for not learning my lessons'?

- (A) Confused
- (B) Regretful
- (C) Surprised
- (D) Happy

Correct Answer: (B) Regretful

Solution: The speaker's tone conveys deep **regret and remorse** for not taking his lessons seriously. The phrase expresses his realization of the lost opportunity and his sorrow for neglecting his education.

 Quick Tip

Regretful tone often expresses sorrow for past mistakes, making one realize the value of lost opportunities.

(ii) Choose the correct option: The speaker refers to 'seeking birds' egg' and 'sliding on the Saar' as

- (A) Part of his routine

- (B) His daily routine
- (C) Source of distraction from learning
- (D) Fun time with friends

Correct Answer: (C) Source of distraction from learning

Solution: The speaker's activities, such as **seeking birds' eggs and sliding on the Saar**, symbolize how he was **distracted from his studies**. These playful pursuits took priority over his learning, leading to regret later in life.

 Quick Tip

Distractions from learning in childhood can lead to later realizations about missed opportunities in education.

(iii) What is reflected through the shift in the speaker's perception of his books through his expression of calling them his 'old friends' rather than considering them as 'nuisance'?

Solution: The shift in the speaker's perception indicates his **maturity and realization of the importance of knowledge**. Initially, he viewed books as a **burden**, but as he grew older, he understood their value and referred to them as 'old friends,' showing **his deep respect for learning**.

 Quick Tip

The speaker's change in attitude highlights the transformation from ignorance to appreciation of education.

(iv) Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank: "It was because they were sorry too..." They were sorry for _____ (not following the government order / not learning their language).

Correct Answer: Not learning their language

Solution: The people regretted not making an effort to learn their native language, which was now being taken away from them. This realization came too late, emphasizing the importance of preserving one's linguistic and cultural identity.

 Quick Tip

Language is a key aspect of cultural heritage, and its loss can result in the erosion of national identity.

(v) What is inferred from the expression 'the country that was theirs no more'?

Solution: The phrase signifies the **loss of national identity and sovereignty**. It reflects how Alsace and Lorraine, once belonging to France, were now under Prussian rule, making

the people feel like strangers in their own land. The sentiment highlights the impact of **colonization and cultural domination**.

💡 Quick Tip

The phrase conveys the deep sorrow and helplessness of people when their homeland is taken over by foreign rule.

(vi) What does M. Hamel's ruler reflect about his image?

Solution: M. Hamel's ruler symbolizes his **strict and disciplined nature** as a teacher. Though he appeared stern, his emotions on the last day of school revealed his deep love for his students and his sorrow over the loss of their language. The ruler thus represents both **authority and affection**.

💡 Quick Tip

M. Hamel's ruler signifies discipline, while his emotions reflect his dedication and patriotism.

(10) Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each:

(i) "One of these days you're going to talk yourself into a load of trouble," her father said aggressively. What do you learn about Sophie's father from these lines? (*Going Places*)

Solution: Sophie's father is portrayed as **practical and strict**. He dismisses her dreamy nature and warns her about unrealistic aspirations. His aggressive tone suggests frustration with Sophie's imagination, emphasizing the contrast between her **fantasy world and harsh reality**.

💡 Quick Tip

Sophie's father represents the working-class pragmatism that clashes with her idealistic dreams.

(ii) 'A thing of beauty is a joy forever.' Explain with reference to the poem. (*A Thing of Beauty*)

Solution: Keats describes beauty as an eternal source of happiness. Unlike worldly pleasures that fade, **beauty transcends time**, offering joy and inspiration. It provides comfort during hardships and lifts the human spirit, making life more meaningful and peaceful.

💡 Quick Tip

Beauty, in all its forms, is everlasting and helps us find solace in difficult times.

(iii) **How did Franz plan to turn the commotion in the classroom to his favour?**

Solution: Franz, initially uninterested in school, realizes the value of learning when he attends his **last French lesson**. Instead of causing disruption, he pays close attention and absorbs every word, hoping to make the most of the moment and retain as much knowledge as possible.

 Quick Tip

Franz's transformation highlights the importance of education and the regret of taking it for granted.

(iv) **How do the expressions 'polished traffic' and a stand that 'pathetically pled' depict the contrasting worlds that co-exist in the poem *A Roadside Stand*?**

Solution: The phrase '**polished traffic**' represents the wealthy, urban elite who travel in luxury, indifferent to the struggles of the poor. In contrast, the '**pathetically pled**' roadside stand symbolizes the desperation of rural people, seeking attention and economic support from the privileged.

 Quick Tip

The poem critiques the growing gap between the rich and poor, showing their contrasting lives.

(v) **'What I want should not be confused.'** What clarification does Pablo Neruda give to his readers? (*Keeping Quiet*)

Solution: Pablo Neruda clarifies that **he does not advocate total inactivity or death**. Instead, he encourages people to pause, reflect, and embrace silence to **understand themselves and others**. This moment of stillness can lead to **inner peace and harmony**.

 Quick Tip

The poet calls for mindful introspection rather than absolute stillness or inaction.

(vi) **'But the game he is watching so intently is out of his reach.'** What are the factors that have made their game inaccessible to Saheb? (*Lost Spring*)

Solution: Saheb, a ragpicker, is deprived of **basic necessities and opportunities**. His poverty and social status make it impossible for him to access the games played by privileged children. The lack of financial resources and **social inequality** prevent him from fulfilling his dreams.

 Quick Tip

Saheb's situation reflects the harsh reality of children trapped in poverty, unable to escape their fate.

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in 40-50 words each:

(i) What is so ironical about Sam reaching the third level?

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the irony In 'The Third Level' by Jack Finney, the protagonist, Charley, believes in the existence of a third level at Grand Central Station, which represents an escape from the modern world's harsh realities. However, Sam, his psychiatrist, who dismissed Charley's belief as a figment of imagination, ironically disappears and sends a letter from the third level.

Step 2: Conclusion The irony lies in the fact that Sam, who initially considered the third level to be a hallucination, ends up reaching it himself, proving that it exists.

 Quick Tip

When answering literature-based questions, always analyze character motivations, themes, and moral dilemmas. Use textual evidence to strengthen your answer.

(ii) What image of the Tiger King is revealed in the diamond ring episode?

Solution: Step 1: Understanding the episode In 'The Tiger King' by Kalki, the Maharaja purchases a set of fifty diamond rings for the British officer's wife to prevent him from hunting in his kingdom.

Step 2: Revealing the Tiger King's image This episode highlights the Tiger King's arrogance, extravagance, and fear. While he is determined to kill a hundred tigers to defy his prophecy, he fears the British officer's wrath and bribes him with excessive gifts. His careless attitude towards public wealth further showcases his irresponsibility as a ruler.

 Quick Tip

When answering literature-based questions, always analyze character motivations, themes, and moral dilemmas. Use textual evidence to strengthen your answer.

(iii) "In that short time, we've managed to create quite a ruckus." What does Tishani Doshi refer to by 'ruckus'?

Solution: Step 1: Understanding the context In 'Journey to the End of the Earth' by Tishani Doshi, she discusses how human activities have significantly impacted the environment over a short period.

Step 2: Meaning of 'ruckus' The 'ruckus' refers to the ecological destruction caused by human actions, including deforestation, global warming, and pollution, which have disturbed nature's balance within a few centuries. This statement highlights humanity's role in accelerating environmental degradation.

 Quick Tip

When answering literature-based questions, always analyze character motivations, themes, and moral dilemmas. Use textual evidence to strengthen your answer.

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in 120-150 words:

(A) **“Where there is a will, there is a way.”** The above saying aptly describes the character of Douglas from ‘Deep Water’ and Mukesh from ‘Lost Spring’. Compare and contrast their characters in terms of their courage, determination, and the pursuit of their goals.

Solution: Step 1: Understanding Douglas and Mukesh’s struggles - Douglas, in ‘Deep Water’, overcomes his fear of water, which stemmed from a near-drowning incident. With relentless practice and perseverance, he conquers his phobia. - Mukesh, in ‘Lost Spring’, aspires to break free from the hereditary bangle-making industry and dreams of becoming a mechanic.

Step 2: Comparing their determination Both characters exhibit courage and determination in pursuing their goals despite societal and personal obstacles. Douglas fights against internal fear, while Mukesh defies societal norms to carve his own path. Their stories embody the spirit of perseverance and resilience.

 Quick Tip

When answering literature-based questions, always analyze character motivations, themes, and moral dilemmas. Use textual evidence to strengthen your answer.

(B) Kamala Das in ‘Keeping Quiet’ and Keats in ‘A Thing of Beauty’ depict nature as a source of inspiration and strength to man. Analyse both the poems in terms of the above perspective.

Solution: Step 1: Analysing ‘Keeping Quiet’ - Kamala Das emphasizes the need for stillness and introspection. She suggests that pausing and connecting with nature can lead to inner peace and harmony.

Step 2: Analysing ‘A Thing of Beauty’ - Keats highlights the eternal beauty of nature, which provides solace to the human soul. He describes nature’s elements as a constant source of joy and rejuvenation.

Step 3: Common Theme Both poems celebrate nature as a healer. While ‘Keeping Quiet’ focuses on nature’s role in promoting peace, ‘A Thing of Beauty’ emphasizes its ability to provide eternal happiness.

 Quick Tip

When answering literature-based questions, always analyze character motivations, themes, and moral dilemmas. Use textual evidence to strengthen your answer.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in 120-150 words:

(A) **The element of dilemma, between humanity and patriotism, elevates the**

character of Dr. Sadao in ‘The Enemy’. Support your answer with evidence from the text.

Solution: Step 1: Understanding the dilemma Dr. Sadao, a Japanese surgeon, faces a moral crisis when he finds an injured American prisoner of war washed ashore. He must choose between his patriotic duty and his obligation as a doctor.

Step 2: Examining his actions - Despite being a loyal Japanese citizen, he treats the prisoner, driven by his professional ethics and humanity. - He later ensures the prisoner’s escape, displaying his inner conflict but ultimately prioritizing human life over nationalism.

Step 3: Conclusion Dr. Sadao’s internal conflict elevates his character, showing that true humanity transcends national barriers. His actions highlight the ethical dilemmas faced during war.

 Quick Tip

When answering literature-based questions, always analyze character motivations, themes, and moral dilemmas. Use textual evidence to strengthen your answer.

(B) How did Tishani Doshi’s visit to Antarctica as part of the Students on Ice Programme make her realise the importance of preserving the Earth? (*Journey to the End of the Earth*)

Solution: Step 1: The Purpose of the ‘Students on Ice’ Programme The programme aims to educate young minds about climate change by taking them to Antarctica, the world’s most pristine environment.

Step 2: Tishani Doshi’s Realisation - She witnesses melting glaciers and disintegrating ice shelves, alarming signs of climate change. - The experience makes her understand that human actions directly impact the planet. - She realizes that Antarctica, untouched by human civilization, is the best place to study environmental changes and predict their effects globally.

Step 3: Conclusion The visit serves as a wake-up call, reinforcing the urgency of sustainable living and conservation efforts to protect Earth’s future.

 Quick Tip

When answering literature-based questions, always analyze character motivations, themes, and moral dilemmas. Use textual evidence to strengthen your answer.