

CBSE Class 12 English Set 3(1/3/3) Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 Hour	Maximum Marks :80	Total Questions :13
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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) As a young adult, life can be stressful and overwhelming at times. Juggling among school, work, social life, and other responsibilities, it can be easy to feel alone and disconnected from the world around us. Dogs are the ultimate companions for anyone looking to alleviate stress and loneliness. We'll explore many reasons why dogs make the best companions for young adults.

(2) **Unconditional love:** Dogs are known for their loyalty and love for their owners, no matter what. They don't judge us, criticize us, or hold grudges against us. No matter how flawed or imperfect we may be, our dogs will always love us unconditionally. This kind of unwavering support and affection can be incredibly comforting for young adults struggling to find their place in the world.

(3) **Social connection:** Dogs are great ice-breakers and conversation starters. Whether you're walking them in the park, taking them to the dog beach, or simply hanging out at home, dogs have a way of bringing people together. For young adults who may feel isolated or disconnected from their peers, having a dog by their side can be a great way to connect with others and form new friendships.

(4) **Increase physical activity:** Dogs require regular exercise in order to stay healthy and happy. This means that young adults who own dogs are more likely to engage in physical

activity themselves. Whether it's going for a run, playing frisbee, or simply taking a leisurely stroll, getting out with your dog can be a great way to boost your mood and energy levels.

(5) Emotional support: Dogs are also great emotional support animals for those struggling with mental health issues such as anxiety and depression. Their presence alone can provide a sense of calm and comfort, and their ability to sense their owner's emotions can be incredibly comforting. For young adults dealing with mental health challenges, having a dog as a companion can be a life-changing experience.

(6) Improve responsibility and self-care: Owning a dog also comes with a great deal of responsibility and self-care. Dogs require regular feeding, grooming, exercise, and attention, which can be a great way for young adults to develop a sense of responsibility and self-discipline. Additionally, having a dog as a companion can encourage young adults to take better care of themselves, such as making sure they get enough sleep, eat healthy, and engage in regular exercise.

(7) For all these reasons and more, dogs make fantastic companions for young adults. Whether you're looking for emotional support, social connection, increased physical activity, or simply someone to love and be loved by, a dog can provide all these things and more. So the next time you're feeling stressed or overwhelmed, consider finding a furry friend to take on the world with you.

Answer the following question, based on the above passage:

(i) What is the significance of owning a dog for a young adult who is striving for acceptance in society?

- (A)** It means increased physical activity.
- (B)** It builds a sense of responsibility.
- (C)** It helps young adults get more sleep.
- (D)** It is a source of unconditional love.

Correct Answer: (D) It is a source of unconditional love.

Solution:

Owning a dog provides unconditional love and unwavering support, as highlighted in paragraph 2 of the passage. This kind of love helps young adults feel accepted and secure, which is especially comforting for those struggling to find their place in society.

💡 Quick Tip

Owning a dog can provide emotional support, responsibility, and a sense of purpose, which can help young adults navigate social challenges and feel accepted in society.

(ii) A dog can encourage its owner to lead a healthier life by -----.

Complete the above sentence appropriately, in about 40 words, with a characteristic or description.

Solution: A dog encourages its owner to lead a healthier life by requiring regular exercise, such as daily walks, runs, or playful activities. This promotes physical activity, improves mood, and boosts energy levels, benefiting the owner's overall health and well-being.

 Quick Tip

A dog encourages physical activity through regular walks, promotes mental well-being by providing companionship, and helps reduce stress, thereby contributing to overall health.

(iii) Share evidence from the text, in approximately 40 words, to support the view that dogs provide a sense of calm and comfort to those struggling with mental health issues.

Solution: Dogs are excellent emotional support animals. Their presence alone offers a calming influence, and their ability to sense their owner's emotions provides additional comfort. For those struggling with anxiety or depression, having a dog can be a life-changing experience.

 Quick Tip

Dogs offer consistent companionship, reduce feelings of loneliness, and have been shown to help alleviate anxiety and stress, providing comfort to those dealing with mental health issues.

(iv) Explain in about 40 words the statement that 'dogs are great ice-breakers'.

Solution: Dogs help initiate conversations and bring people together. Walking a dog in the park or attending social events with them often leads to interactions with others, enabling young adults to connect with peers and form new friendships more easily.

 Quick Tip

Dogs naturally spark conversations due to their friendly and approachable nature. As a result, they help individuals connect with others, fostering communication and making them excellent social ice-breakers.

(v) Which of the following activities help(s) young adults, owning a dog, build their sense of responsibility and self-discipline?

- (A) Walking the dog daily.
- (B) Feeding it regularly.
- (C) Engaging the services of a dog trainer.
- (D) Both (A) and (B).

Correct Answer: (D) Both (A) and (B).

Solution: Regularly walking and feeding the dog require consistent effort and routine, helping young adults develop a sense of responsibility and self-discipline. These activities ensure the dog's well-being while fostering personal growth in its owner.

 Quick Tip

Walking the dog daily and feeding it regularly can help young adults build a strong sense of responsibility, commitment, and self-discipline.

(vi) What does this article aim to do?

- (A) Explain the benefits of owning a dog.
- (B) Provide advice on how to get a dog.
- (C) Discuss how to take proper care of a dog.
- (D) Describe the experiences of dog owners.

Correct Answer: (A) Explain the benefits of owning a dog.

Solution: The article primarily highlights the numerous advantages of owning a dog, such as emotional support, increased physical activity, and improved social connections, making it a valuable companion for young adults.

 Quick Tip

The article aims to highlight the benefits of owning a dog, focusing on emotional, social, and physical advantages for young adults.

(vii) Select the option that is similar in meaning to the phrase 'take on the world'.

- (A) Travel the world.
- (B) Accept a responsibility.
- (C) To be pessimistic.
- (D) Have a global outlook.

Correct Answer: (B) Accept a responsibility.

Solution: The phrase 'take on the world' implies being ready to face challenges and accept responsibilities with confidence and determination.

 Quick Tip

The phrase 'take on the world' implies having a global outlook, embracing life with ambition and determination.

(viii) What does the underlined part in the sentence "consider finding a furry friend to take on the world with you" refer to?

Solution: The phrase “consider finding a furry friend” refers to getting a dog as a companion. The article emphasizes how having a dog can help young adults face life’s challenges with confidence and support, both emotionally and socially.

💡 Quick Tip

The phrase refers to finding a dog as a supportive companion who will join you in facing the challenges and experiences of life.

(ix) What is the tone of the article?

- (A) Critical but supportive.
- (B) Indifferent and bored.
- (C) Positive and informative.
- (D) Humorous and casual.

Correct Answer: (C) Positive and informative.

Solution: The article adopts a positive and informative tone, highlighting the numerous benefits of owning a dog for young adults. It provides practical insights and encouragement, making it both engaging and educational.

💡 Quick Tip

The tone of the article is positive and informative, focusing on the benefits and practical aspects of owning a dog.

2. Read the following passage carefully:

1. Without specialised equipment, humans would be lost in these deep-sea habitats, so how do fish make it seem so easy? Much of this is due to a biological phenomenon known as **electroreception**—the ability to perceive and act upon electrical stimuli as part of the overall senses. This ability is only found in aquatic and amphibious species because water is an efficient conductor of electricity.
2. One fascinating use of electroreception has been observed between the weakly electric fish. When two such electric fish meet in the ocean using the same frequency, each fish will then shift the frequency of its discharge so that they are transmitting on different frequencies. Doing so prevents their electroreception faculties from becoming jammed.
3. Electroreception can also play an important role in animal defences. Rays are one such example. Young ray embryos develop inside egg cases that are attached to the sea bed. The embryos keep their tails in constant motion to pump water and allow them to breathe through the egg’s casing. If the embryo’s electroreceptors detect the presence of a predatory fish in the vicinity, however, the embryo stops moving (and in doing so, ceases transmitting electric currents) until the predator has moved on.
4. Many people fear swimming in the ocean because of sharks. Sharks hunt with extraordinary precision. They initially lock on to their prey through a keen sense of smell. As

the shark reaches the proximity of its prey, it tunes into electrical signals that ensure a precise strike on its target. This sense is so strong that the shark even attacks blind by letting its eyes recede for protection. In areas where shark attacks on humans are likely to occur, scientists are exploring ways to create artificial electroreceptors. These would disorient the sharks and repel them from swimming beaches.

(i): Infer the advantage that aquatic or amphibious species have over human beings. Answer in about 40 words.

Correct Answer: Aquatic or amphibious species can perceive and act upon electrical stimuli using electroreception, which humans lack. This ability helps them navigate, defend themselves, and interact in deep-sea habitats efficiently.

Solution: Electroreception allows species like fish and rays to detect electrical currents, giving them an advantage in navigation, defense, and communication. Humans lack this sense, making them reliant on tools for survival in underwater habitats.

 Quick Tip

Aquatic and amphibious species have an advantage due to their ability to detect electrical signals in water, which helps them navigate, hunt, and avoid predators, while humans lack this ability in their natural environment.

(ii): A possible use for electroreception that will benefit humans is to:

- (A) Use water as it is an efficient conductor of electricity.
- (B) Act on electrical stimuli.
- (C) Change electrical frequency to prevent it from being jammed.
- (D) Jam electrical frequencies.

Correct Answer: (B) Act on electrical stimuli.

Solution: Electroreception enables humans to develop technologies that detect and react to electrical signals, which could aid in underwater navigation, surveillance, and preventing hazards in deep-sea environments.

 Quick Tip

Electroreception can benefit humans by allowing them to detect electrical stimuli, which can be used in technology to improve communications, sensing, and safety systems.

(iii) : Explain in about 40 words the use of electroreception between the weakly electric fish.

Correct Answer: Weakly electric fish use electroreception to avoid interference when meeting others using the same frequency. Each fish shifts its discharge frequency to transmit on unique channels, preventing jamming and maintaining effective communication.

Solution: Electroreception prevents confusion during interactions by enabling weakly electric fish to adjust their signal frequencies. This adjustment ensures smooth communication and

avoids overlap in the transmission of electrical signals.

💡 Quick Tip

Weakly electric fish use electroreception to navigate their environment, detect prey, and communicate with other fish by emitting electric fields and sensing disturbances in these fields.

(iv): Identify a young ray embryo from the following:

- (A) It fears electric signals.
- (B) It keeps its tail in constant motion.
- (C) It stations itself on land.
- (D) It disorients sharks.

Correct Answer: (B) It keeps its tail in constant motion.

Solution: Young ray embryos use constant tail movement to pump water and enable breathing inside their egg cases. This adaptation supports survival while allowing electroreception to detect predators and trigger a motionless response for defense.

💡 Quick Tip

The young ray embryo disorients sharks by emitting electrical signals, which helps protect it from predators.

(v): Complete the sentence appropriately: A shark hunts with accuracy because -----.

Correct Answer: A shark hunts with accuracy because it uses electrical signals to precisely locate and strike its prey even in challenging conditions.

Solution: Sharks utilize electroreception to detect prey's electrical signals. This sense, coupled with their acute sense of smell, allows them to hunt accurately, even without relying on vision.

💡 Quick Tip

A shark hunts with accuracy because it can detect electrical fields produced by the movements of potential prey, allowing it to track and hunt effectively.

(vi) Why does a shark recede its eyes when it attacks?

Correct Answer: (C) It protects its eyes from damage during the attack.

Solution: Sharks retract their eyes into their sockets as a defense mechanism to shield them from potential injury while attacking prey. This ensures the eyes remain unharmed when the shark's head makes contact with the prey or other obstacles during an aggressive attack.

 Quick Tip

A shark retracts its eyes to protect them from injury or damage when it attacks its prey, as the head may come into contact with the prey or obstacles.

(vii) In areas where shark attacks on humans are likely to occur, scientists:

- (A) suggest putting barriers.
- (B) are exploring ways to create artificial electroreceptors.
- (C) suggest blinding them.
- (D) are exploring ways to warn swimmers.

Correct Answer: (B) are exploring ways to create artificial electroreceptors.

Solution: Scientists are investigating the development of artificial electroreceptors that can detect the electrical signals emitted by sharks. These devices could help alert swimmers and humans to the presence of sharks, potentially reducing shark attacks by allowing for timely warnings.

 Quick Tip

Scientists are investigating the creation of artificial electroreceptors to detect the electrical fields emitted by sharks, helping to prevent attacks on humans by detecting shark movements.

(viii) State True or False.

The title – ‘Understanding Electoreception and its Uses is Significant for Human Beings’ is appropriate for this passage.

Correct Answer: True

Solution: The title of the passage accurately reflects the content, which discusses electoreception in aquatic animals and its potential applications for humans, such as improving safety and technology. This makes the title relevant and suitable for the subject matter.

 Quick Tip

The title accurately reflects the content of the passage, which explains the importance of electoreception in aquatic species and its potential applications for human beings.

SECTION B

Creative Writing Skills

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

(a) You are Geeta/Gautam, the Head Girl/Head Boy of Blossom Public School, Khushipur. Write a notice in about 50 words, informing the students of classes XI and XII about an inter-class debate competition to be held in the school in the first week of August. Invite applications for the same. Invent necessary details.

Solution (a): Notice for Debate Competition

Blossom Public School, Khushipur
NOTICE
1st July, 2024

Subject: Inter-Class Debate Competition

This is to inform students of Classes XI and XII that an inter-class debate competition will be held in the school auditorium during the first week of August. Interested students are requested to submit their names to their class teachers by 20th July, 2024. For more details, contact the undersigned.

Geeta/Gautam
Head Girl/Head Boy

Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Include essential details such as the event name, date, time, venue, eligibility criteria, and application procedure. Use a formal tone and maintain clarity and brevity.

OR

(b) You are the Secretary of Richi Van Society, Joynagar. Draft a notice for the society notice board, informing residents about a blood donation camp to be held in the society. Invent necessary details.

Solution (b): Notice for Blood Donation Camp

Richi Van Society, Joynagar
NOTICE
5th March, 2024

Subject: Blood Donation Camp

This is to inform all residents that a blood donation camp will be organized in our society on 15th March, 2024, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Community Hall. Residents are encouraged to participate and contribute to this noble cause. For further details, contact the undersigned.

Secretary

Richi Van Society

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Mention critical details like the purpose, date, time, venue, eligibility for donors, and contact information for queries. Maintain a polite and encouraging tone to motivate participation.

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

(a) You are the Student Head, Cultural Affairs at K.M Public School Roopshahar. Your school is organizing a two-week art and craft summer camp for the 10 – 14 year-olds. Create an invitation card, inviting renowned artist, Madhavan to inaugurate the exhibition-cum-sale of the products made during the camp. Invent necessary details.

Solution (a): Invitation Card

K.M Public School, Roopshahar INVITATION

The Cultural Affairs Committee of K.M Public School, Roopshahar,
cordially invites

Mr. Madhavan, Renowned Artist,
to inaugurate the

Exhibition-Cum-Sale

of art and craft products created during the

Two-Week Summer Camp for 10 – 14 Year-Olds

Date: 20th June, 2024 **Time:** 11:00 AM

Venue: School Auditorium

We would be delighted by your presence to inspire young minds.

Student Head

Cultural Affairs, K.M Public School

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Include key details like the purpose of the invitation, date, time, venue, and the role of the guest. Use a polite and formal tone, and structure the content clearly.

OR

(b) You have received an invitation from Lucky Club, Sham Nagar to be Chief Guest at a seminar on 'Fundamental Rights of Children'. You are unable to attend the same. Write a letter stating your inability to attend and cite your reason for the same. Remember to wish them success for the event. You are Rohini/Rohit.

Solution (b): Letter of Inability to Attend

Rohini/Rohit

B-12, Green Avenue,

Sham Nagar.

1st March, 2024

The President,

Lucky Club,

Sham Nagar.

Subject: Inability to Attend as Chief Guest

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am grateful for the invitation to be the Chief Guest at your seminar on 'Fundamental Rights of Children' on 10th March, 2024. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that I will be unable to attend due to a prior commitment.

I sincerely wish the event great success and hope it raises awareness about such an important topic. Thank you for considering me for this honour.

Yours sincerely,

Rohini/Rohit

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Begin by expressing gratitude for the invitation. Clearly state your reason for not attending, offer apologies, and end with best wishes for the event's success. Maintain a respectful and formal tone.

5(a): You are a fresh postgraduate in mathematics from a reputed university. You saw the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. You are Sonali/Sohan. Write an appropriate reply, along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

Solace Public School

Requires TGT MATH

- **Qualifications:** MA Math, B.Ed.
- **Experience:** Minimum 2 years experience.
- **Job Profile:**
 - Taking remedial classes.
 - Mentoring students for competitive exams.
 - Teaching classes 6–10.
 - Organizing co-curricular activities.
- **Salary:** As per merit and school policy.
- **Application Deadline:** Apply within a week to Principal, Solace Public School, 5 Mayaganj, Panipur.

Answer: The Principal

Solace Public School

5 Mayaganj, Panipur Subject: Application for the Post of TGT Mathematics

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my keen interest in the position of TGT Mathematics at Solace Public School, as advertised in your recent notification. I am a postgraduate in Mathematics from XYZ University and have recently completed my B.Ed. degree.

Although I am a fresher, I have actively participated in various teaching workshops and have a strong passion for mentoring students. My academic background, coupled with my enthusiasm for teaching, makes me a suitable candidate for this role.

Please find my bio-data attached for your reference. I assure you of my dedication and hard work if given an opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Sonali/Sohan

Bio-Data:

- **Name:** Sonali/Sohan
- **Address:** [Your Address Here]
- **Contact Number:** [Your Contact Number Here]
- **Email ID:** [Your Email ID Here]
- **Educational Qualifications:**
 - MA in Mathematics (XYZ University)
 - B.Ed. (ABC Institute)
- **Skills:**

- Strong communication and mentoring abilities.
- Expertise in organizing co-curricular activities.
- **Experience:** Fresher
- **Languages Known:** English, Hindi
- **Hobbies:** Reading, Teaching, Organizing activities.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Start with a polite introduction, mentioning the source of the advertisement and your qualifications. Highlight your relevant skills and experience as per the job requirements. Attach a concise bio-data and conclude with gratitude and a formal closing.

5(b): The RWA of your colony organized a garbage disposal scheme at a nominal payment. Residents were requested to separate the garbage before placing it for pickup. However, the residents continue to remain indifferent. As a concerned resident, write a letter to the editor of your neighborhood newsletter sharing your concern. You may use the given cues along with your ideas to compose the letter. You are Namita/Naman.

- Garbage disposal — a civic responsibility
- Ensure cleanliness in surroundings
- Segregate garbage
- Make community compost pits
- Spread awareness of green practices
- Educate residents about the importance of separating recyclables, biodegradable waste, and non-recyclables.

Answer:

The Editor

Neighborhood Newsletter

Your Colony Name

Subject: Concern Regarding Indifference Towards Garbage Disposal Scheme

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the indifference shown by residents towards the recently organized garbage disposal scheme in our colony. While the RWA has made commendable efforts to introduce this initiative at a nominal fee, the residents' lack of participation is undermining its purpose.

Garbage disposal is not only a civic responsibility but also essential to maintaining cleanliness in our surroundings. The segregation of garbage into biodegradable, recyclable, and non-

recyclable waste is crucial to reducing landfill burden and promoting sustainable practices. Despite repeated requests, many households are not following these guidelines. To address this issue, I suggest the following measures:

- Educate residents on the environmental benefits of garbage segregation through workshops and newsletters.
- Establish community compost pits for biodegradable waste.
- Spread awareness about green practices through campaigns and interactive sessions.
- Enforce stricter rules to ensure compliance with the scheme.

I urge the RWA and residents to work together to make this initiative a success. Clean surroundings reflect a responsible and progressive community.

Yours sincerely,
Namita/Naman

Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Start by introducing the issue and its impact on cleanliness. Highlight civic responsibilities, suggest actionable steps like segregation and compost pits, and emphasize community awareness for sustainable practices. Maintain a polite and formal tone.

6(a): Nowadays, most families travel during vacations. They forget that with pleasure comes responsibility. Write an article for a national daily on ‘Travel – A Civic Responsibility’. You are Bela/Bhushan. You may use the given cues with your own ideas to compose the article.

- Choose destination with care
- Respect local culture and customs
- Shop and eat locally
- Minimize your waste
- Do ethical photography

Answer:

Travel – A Civic Responsibility *By Bela/Bhushan*

Traveling is a wonderful way to explore the world, relax, and create lasting memories. However, as tourists, we must not forget our responsibilities toward the places we visit. With pleasure comes civic responsibility.

First, choose your travel destination with care to avoid overcrowding in popular areas. Respect the local culture and customs of the region you are visiting to foster harmony and mutual

respect. Supporting the local economy by shopping and eating locally not only benefits small businesses but also allows you to experience authentic culture.

While traveling, minimize your waste by avoiding single-use plastics and disposing of trash responsibly. Ethical photography is equally important—do not invade anyone’s privacy or disrupt wildlife for a perfect shot.

By adopting these practices, we can ensure that our travels leave a positive impact on the environment, the local community, and future generations of travelers. Traveling responsibly is the true hallmark of a conscientious tourist.

Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Emphasize responsible travel practices such as respecting local culture, reducing waste, and supporting local economies. Provide examples like ethical photography and minimizing environmental impact to make your article engaging and informative.

Question 6(b): The mushrooming of fast-food outlets is creating a health hazard for the youth. School-going children are adopting unhealthy eating habits. Your school organized a ‘Let’s Eat Healthy Week.’ As student editor of the school magazine, write a report on the event. You are Tripti/Tushar. You may use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose the report. Invent necessary details.

- Workshop on healthy eating by a renowned nutritionist
- Poster making competition
- Growing microgreens workshop
- Healthy cooking – simple recipes
- Curating school canteen menu competition
- One act plays on effects of fast food

Answer:

Let’s Eat Healthy Week: A Step Towards Better Health *By Tripti/Tushar*

In response to the growing health concerns caused by the prevalence of fast-food outlets and unhealthy eating habits among children, our school recently organized a ‘Let’s Eat Healthy Week’ from 1st to 7th January. The event aimed to promote healthy eating practices and raise awareness about the benefits of a nutritious diet.

The week commenced with a workshop on healthy eating conducted by a renowned nutritionist, who enlightened students on the importance of balanced meals and the dangers of junk food. A poster-making competition saw enthusiastic participation from students, showcasing creative ideas to encourage healthy eating.

Workshops on growing microgreens and healthy cooking with simple recipes were organized to teach students practical and sustainable ways to incorporate nutritious food into their diets.

A highlight of the week was a competition to curate a healthier school canteen menu, ensuring that students had access to wholesome meals.

To conclude the week, a series of one-act plays on the effects of fast food captivated the audience and left a lasting impression on the importance of mindful eating. The event was a resounding success, instilling the values of health and nutrition among the students.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Start with an engaging introduction about the purpose of the event. Include highlights such as workshops, competitions, and activities like poster making and cooking demos. Emphasize the message of healthy eating and its relevance. Conclude with the impact of the event on students and staff.

SECTION C

Literature

7: Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (a) or (b):

(a)

I saw my mother,
beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face
ashen like that of a corpse and realized with
pain
that she was as old as she
looked but soon
put that thought away, and
looked out at Young
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes.

(My Mother at Sixty-six)

(i) The phrase ‘ashen like that of a corpse’ gives the impression that the mother is: (A) frustrated (B) depressed

(C) dead (D) weak

Answer: (D) weak.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Focus on the imagery created by the phrase. It conveys frailty, weakness, or the closeness to death. Look for emotional undertones in the description.

(ii) State whether the following statement is True or False, with reference to the extract.

“The mother was suffering from some fatal disease.”

Answer: False. The poem does not indicate that the mother was suffering from a fatal disease; it simply highlights her old age and frailty.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Verify the statement by directly referencing the extract. Avoid assumptions and rely only on information explicitly provided.

(iii) Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?

- (A) Life is short and one must enjoy it
- (B) Ageing and Mortality
- (C) Sleeping and Playing
- (D) Art of Parenting

Answer: (B) Ageing and Mortality.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Identify the core idea conveyed in the poem. Focus on contrasts like youth and ageing or life and mortality to determine the theme.

(iv) Pick the option in which the word ‘spilling’ is used in the same sense as in the extract.

- (A) Rahul was responsible for spilling the beans by telling everyone the secret.
- (B) He opened the bag, spilling all its contents on the table.
- (C) Try to keep that crowd from spilling onto the main street.
- (D) The cat spilled all the milk.

Answer: (C) Try to keep that crowd from spilling onto the main street.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Consider the context in which ‘spilling’ is used in the poem. It suggests overflowing or rushing out, often metaphorical rather than literal.

(v) The phrases ‘Young Trees sprinting’ and ‘merry children spilling’ represent:

- (A) Youth
- (B) Old age

(C) Disease (D) Travel

Answer: (A) Youth.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Look for the symbolic meaning of the phrases. They contrast vitality and movement with the stillness of the mother's condition.

(vi) Complete the sentence appropriately.

'She was as old as she looked.'

The repetition of the word 'as' suggests that

Answer: The repetition of the word 'as' suggests that the poet is emphasizing the undeniable reality of her mother's ageing process.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Analyze the repetition of the word 'as.' It emphasizes the inevitability and reality of ageing, showing the poet's acceptance of her mother's condition.

(b):

What I want should not be confused
with total inactivity.
Life is what it is about;
I want no truck with death.
If we were not so single-minded
about keeping our lives moving,
and for once could do nothing,
perhaps a huge silence
might interrupt this sadness
of never understanding ourselves
and of threatening ourselves with death.

(Keeping Quiet)

(i) Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?

- (A) Silence alleviates sadness of our life.
- (B) Life and death are part of our existence.
- (C) We must keep our lives moving.
- (D) Life is stressful and monotonous.

Answer: (A) Silence alleviates sadness of our life.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Identify the central idea discussed in the extract. Focus on contrasting elements like life and death or the poet's perspective on existence to select the most appropriate theme.

(ii) State whether the following statement is True or False, with reference to the extract.

The poet feels that quiet productivity in place of all activities is desirable.

Answer: True. The poet emphasizes a moment of complete silence and introspection, not quiet productivity.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Cross-check the statement with specific lines in the extract. Look for explicit mentions or implications about productivity and its value.

(iii) The sadness being referred to (line 9) is due to:

- (A) Failure to understand ourselves.
- (B) Failure to understand others.
- (C) Loss of peers in life.
- (D) Inability to achieve what we desire.

Answer: (A) Failure to understand ourselves.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Focus on the context of the sadness in the extract. Look for clues that indicate whether it stems from personal loss, self-reflection, or external factors.

(iv) The poem has been written from the point of view of a/an:

- (A) Environmentalist.
- (B) Feminist.
- (C) Social activist.
- (D) Linguist.

Answer: (A) Environmentalist.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Analyze the tone and content of the poem. Determine whether it reflects a societal, personal, or philosophical viewpoint to identify the narrator's role.

(v) Based on the rhyme scheme, which of the following does not rhyme with line 1?

- (A) Cruised
- (B) Complaint
- (C) Mused
- (D) Bruised

Answer: (B) Complaint.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Compare the sound of each option with line 1. Focus on the ending syllables and eliminate options that match the rhyme pattern.

(vi) Complete the sentence appropriately.

In 'Life is what it is about,' the poet is talking about

Answer: In 'Life is what it is about,' the poet is talking about cherishing life and its natural flow, without focusing on death or inactivity.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Look for broader ideas or themes expressed in the poem. Consider concepts like acceptance, reality, or the meaning of existence to complete the sentence meaningfully.

8: Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (a) or (b):

(a)

To make sure, I walked over to a newsboy and glanced at the stack of papers at his feet. It was *The World*; and *The World* hasn't been published for years. The lead story said something about President Cleveland. I've found that front page since, in the Public Library files, and it was printed June 11, 1894.

I turned toward the ticket window knowing that here — on the third level at Grand Central — I could buy tickets that would take Louisa and me anywhere in the United States we wanted to go.

(*The Third Level*)

(i) Why does the narrator resort to wishful day-dreaming and want to travel back in time?

Answer: The narrator wishes to escape the stress and insecurities of the modern world, particularly the aftermath of the two World Wars. He fantasizes about a simpler, peaceful era in 1894, free from conflict and anxiety.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Analyze the emotional state of the narrator and their dissatisfaction with the present. Look for hints of escapism or nostalgia in the text to explain their longing for a simpler, idealized past.

(ii) **The year 1894 holds so much importance because _____.**

Answer: The year 1894 represents a peaceful, simpler time before the chaos of the two World Wars, offering the narrator an idyllic escape from the harsh realities of the modern world.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Pay attention to historical references in the text. Consider what 1894 symbolizes in the story, such as peace, pre-war times, or personal significance for the narrator.

(iii) ***The World*, the news about President Cleveland — what do they hint at?**

- (A) The narrator used to like reading the newspaper.
- (B) The narrator fantasises about past events.
- (C) The narrator wants to escape to a world that was unaffected by the two World Wars.
- (D) The narrator tends to forget things.

Answer: (C) The narrator wants to escape to a world that was unaffected by the two World Wars.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Focus on the symbolic representation of the newspaper and the historical figure mentioned. Relate it to the narrator's desire to escape or connect with a different era.

(iv) **Give one reason why the writing style of the extract can be called autobiographical.**

Answer: The extract can be called autobiographical as it reflects the narrator's personal feelings, experiences, and desire to escape from the anxieties of modern life into a more tranquil, idealized past.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Look for elements in the extract that reflect the narrator's personal thoughts, experiences, or emotions. Check if the story's tone or details hint at the author's life or perspective.

(b):

But at this moment the door opened and she looked out, a dark-blue woollen haori over her kimono. ... He had met Hana in America, but he had waited to fall in love with her until he was sure she was Japanese. His father would never have received her unless she had been pure in her race.

(The Enemy)

(i) Complete the sentence appropriately.

Hana was attired in

Answer: Hana was attired in a dark-blue woollen haori over her kimono.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Focus on the description provided in the extract. Look for specific details about clothing or appearance mentioned explicitly.

(ii) With reference to the above, how will you describe Dr. Sadao as a son?

- (A) Indifferent (B) Obedient
(C) Defiant (D) Practical

Answer: (B) Obedient. Dr. Sadao respected his father's wishes and ensured that Hana was of pure Japanese race before he allowed himself to fall in love with her.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Pay attention to Dr. Sadao's actions and thoughts about his father in the text. Analyze whether he follows his father's expectations or defies them.

(iii) What is 'this moment' all about?

It is a moment of:

- (A) Emotional turmoil. (B) Tranquility.
(C) Agitation. (D) Conflict.

Answer: (B) Tranquility. The moment reflects Sadao's internal conflict as he balances his feelings for Hana with his father's expectations and societal norms.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Consider the emotions and tensions described in the extract. Identify whether the tone suggests turmoil, conflict, or tranquility.

(iv) From the extract, what can you infer about Dr. Sadao and Hana's relationship?

Answer: Dr. Sadao and Hana share a relationship rooted in mutual respect and understanding. Despite meeting in America, Sadao ensured their union adhered to cultural expectations, reflecting their dedication to familial and societal norms.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Look for phrases or actions that reveal mutual respect, understanding, or cultural considerations in their relationship. Infer their bond from these clues.

9: Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (a) or (b):

(a)

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

(The Last Lesson)

(i) List two sensory details present in the extract.

Answer: 1. The chirping of birds at the edge of the woods (auditory detail).
2. The brightness and warmth of the outdoors (visual and tactile details).

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Look for descriptions that appeal to the senses, such as sight, sound, smell, taste, or touch. Focus on specific phrases like "birds chirping" (sound) or "warm, so bright" (sight).

(ii) Why is the narrator tempted to spend the day out of doors?

Answer: The narrator is tempted by the pleasant weather, the chirping birds, and the sight of Prussian soldiers drilling, which seem far more appealing than attending school.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Identify the external factors mentioned in the extract that describe the outdoors as appealing. Consider sensory and emotional elements that attract the narrator.

(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately.

I hurried off to school resisting -----.

Answer: I hurried off to school resisting the temptation of the warm, bright outdoors and the activities outside.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Focus on the conflicting emotions or distractions described in the extract that the narrator overcomes to attend school.

(iv) Why does the narrator want to bunk school?

- (A) He doesn't like the teachers.
- (B) He doesn't like his classmates.
- (C) He wasn't prepared for the test on participles.
- (D) He had forgotten to complete his homework.

Answer: (C) He wasn't prepared for the test on participles.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Look for specific reasons in the text that highlight the narrator's reluctance or hesitation about attending school, such as fear, unpreparedness, or external attractions.

(v) Which trait of the protagonist is revealed in the sentence 'I had the strength to resist'?

- (A) Sincerity
- (B) Determination
- (C) Bravery
- (D) Kindness

Answer: (B) Determination.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Focus on the narrator's internal qualities, such as determination, bravery, or sincerity, as they overcome temptation or difficulty to make the right choice.

(vi) Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract?

- (A) The Drilling of Prussian Soldiers
- (B) The Rule of Participles
- (C) Strength to Resist
- (D) Out of Doors

Answer: (C) Strength to Resist.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Identify the main conflict or resolution in the passage. The headline should reflect the narrator's struggle and the importance of their decision to attend school despite distractions.

(b)

My introduction to the Y.M.C.A. swimming pool revived unpleasant memories and stirred childish fears. But in a little while I gathered confidence. I paddled with my new water wings, watching the other boys and trying to learn by aping them. I did this two or three times on different days.

(Deep Water)

(i) Identify the phrase from the given extract that bears evidence to the fact that the narrator's association with 'childish fears' was not a recent one.

Answer: The phrase "revived unpleasant memories and stirred childish fears" indicates that the narrator's association with such fears was not recent.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Look for phrases that hint at past experiences or lingering emotions. Focus on words like "revived unpleasant memories" to identify the evidence.

(ii) How does the writer try to learn it? Mention any two ways.

Answer: 1. The writer used new water wings to gain confidence.
2. The writer observed and imitated other boys to learn swimming.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Focus on the actions described in the extract. Look for methods like "paddling with new water wings" or "aping other boys" as examples of the narrator's learning attempts.

(iii) What did the Y.M.C.A. pool bring back to Douglas?

- (A) Unpleasant memories
- (B) Memory of a boat
- (C) Meeting a bruiser of a boy
- (D) Memory of his visit to the Yakima River

Answer: (A) Unpleasant memories.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Identify the emotions or memories triggered by the pool. Look for direct mentions of past experiences or feelings in the text.

(iv) The two emotions of Douglas mentioned in the given extract are _____ and _____.

Answer: The two emotions of Douglas are fear and confidence.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Pay attention to contrasting emotions in the extract, such as fear and confidence, and how they evolve through the narrative.

(v) Why did Douglas ape the other boys?

Answer: Douglas imitated the other boys because he wanted to learn swimming by observing and following their actions.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Focus on the narrator's intent to learn and overcome fear. Look for reasons like observing and imitating others as a way to gain confidence.

(vi) The writing style of the extract is autobiographical because _____.

Answer: The writing style is autobiographical because it describes the narrator's personal experiences and emotions in learning to overcome his fear of water.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Identify elements in the text that reflect personal experiences or emotions. Autobiographical writing often includes first-person narration and vivid recounting of past events.

10: Answer any five of the following six questions in 40 – 50 words each: 5×2=10

(i) In spite of the conditions prevailing in Seemapuri, children like Saheb and Mukesh are not devoid of hope. How far do you agree ? (Lost Spring)

Answer: Mukesh's dream of becoming a motor mechanic is compared to a mirage because it seems unrealistic in the context of his family's poverty and the socio-economic conditions of Firozabad. Despite his determination, societal constraints make his aspirations appear unattainable.

 **Quick Tip**

Quick Tip: Highlight Mukesh's dreams and aspirations. Contrast his desire to become a motor mechanic with the lack of ambition among other boys who passively accept their fate.

(ii) Why did Gandhi say: 'Freedom from fear is more important than legal justice for the poor'? (Indigo)

Answer: Gandhi believed that unless the poor overcome their fear of the oppressors, they cannot stand up for their rights. For Gandhi, instilling courage and self-reliance among the peasants was more critical than mere legal victories, as it empowered them to fight systemic exploitation.

 **Quick Tip**

Quick Tip: Focus on Gandhi's belief in self-reliance and empowerment. Explain how overcoming fear enables the poor to fight injustice and demand their rights.

(iii) Stephen Spender's visit to the Gemini Studios was viewed as an unexplained mystery by the Gemini family. How did Asokamitran solve this mystery years later? (Poets and Pancakes)

Answer: Asokamitran discovered years later that Stephen Spender, a poet and editor of a political magazine, had visited Gemini Studios as part of a cultural exchange program. His visit was to promote his magazine, not for filmmaking, solving the mystery surrounding his presence.

 **Quick Tip**

Quick Tip: Mention the misunderstanding about Stephen Spender's identity and Ashokamitran's later discovery about his role as a poet and editor, clearing the confusion.

(iv) What do you understand by "interstices"? How does Umberto Eco utilize his

interstices? (The Interview)

Answer: “Interstices” refer to the small gaps or spaces in one’s schedule. Umberto Eco utilized these gaps efficiently to work on his projects, such as writing books and essays. His ability to manage time productively allowed him to accomplish much in his academic and literary career.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Define “interstices” as gaps or intervals of time. Highlight how Eco used his free moments productively for creative and intellectual pursuits.

(v) Explain how ‘The tigers in the panel ... Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.’ (Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers)

Answer: The tigers in Aunt Jennifer’s embroidery symbolize her unfulfilled desires for freedom and strength. While Aunt Jennifer lives a life of oppression, the tigers will continue to represent her inner spirit of courage and resilience, unaffected by societal constraints.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Focus on the symbolism of the tigers representing strength, fearlessness, and freedom, in contrast to Aunt Jennifer’s constrained life.

(vi) ‘Resignation was no sudden thing.’ What is the implication of this remark in the context of Sophie’s character? (Going Places)

Answer: The remark reflects Sophie’s gradual acceptance of the disparity between her dreams and reality. Although she dreams of escaping her mundane life, she subconsciously knows the limitations of her circumstances and eventually resigns herself to them without rebellion.

💡 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Explain how Sophie’s unrealistic dreams often led to disappointment. The remark shows her gradual acceptance of reality after repeated letdowns.

11: Answer any two of the following three questions in 40 – 50 words each: $2 \times 2 = 4$

(i) What were the two ‘amazing’ things of the royal infant? (The Tiger King)

Answer: The two ‘amazing’ things about the royal infant were:

1. He spoke his first words, which were a prophecy about his own death being caused by a tiger.
2. He grew up to challenge his fate and declared war on all tigers, symbolizing his bold and defiant nature.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Focus on the context of the story and the satire surrounding the royal infant's predictions. Identify how these 'amazing' things symbolize irony in the narrative.

(ii) What are Geoff Green's reasons for including high school students in the 'Students on Ice' expedition? (Journey to the End of the Earth)

Answer: Geoff Green includes high school students in the 'Students on Ice' expedition to instill in them a sense of responsibility towards the planet. He believes that young minds, being more impressionable, can better understand the impact of climate change and work towards creating a sustainable future.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Highlight the educational benefits and environmental awareness goals of the expedition. Focus on the importance of exposing young minds to ecological realities.

(iii) Why does Derry not like being with people? (On The Face Of It)

Answer: Derry dislikes being with people because they pity him for his facial scar caused by an acid burn. He feels judged and alienated, as most people fail to look beyond his physical appearance and acknowledge his individuality and capabilities.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Reflect on Derry's insecurities and the prejudice he faces due to his physical appearance. Focus on his internal struggles and the societal rejection he experiences.

12: Answer any one of the following two questions in 120–150 words:

(a) How do imagery and symbolism in the poems "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers" and "My Mother at Sixty-six" offer insights into relationships? Write a diary entry expressing your thoughts.

You may begin this way:

I read the two poems today and ...

Answer for (a): Diary Entry

Diary Entry Date: *[Insert Date]*

I read the two poems today and was deeply moved by the powerful imagery and symbolism they use to portray relationships. "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers" reflects a suppressed relationship where Aunt Jennifer's domestic struggles are contrasted with the fearless tigers she embroiders, symbolizing her unfulfilled desires for freedom and strength.

On the other hand, “My Mother at Sixty-six” captures the poignant bond between a daughter and her aging mother. The poet uses imagery of fading life—like the pale face of her mother and the young trees sprinting outside the car—to depict the inevitable separation brought by time.

These poems remind me of the complexities and fragility of relationships. They emphasize that while relationships can be confining or bittersweet, they carry emotions and memories that shape our lives.

[Your Name]

Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Reflect on how the tigers symbolize strength and fearlessness in contrast to Aunt Jennifer’s suppressed life, and how the imagery in “My Mother at Sixty-six” portrays the emotional depth of the mother-daughter bond. Express your personal insights in a reflective tone.

OR

(b) Contrast the theme of nature in the poems “A Thing of Beauty” and “A Roadside Stand.” Write down your views by analyzing the poems.

You may begin this way:

As I have analyzed the two texts ...

You may conclude:

I’d like to say that ...

Answer for (b): Analytical View

The Theme of Nature in “A Thing of Beauty” and “A Roadside Stand”

As I have analyzed the two texts, I observed that both poems explore nature, but in contrasting ways. “A Thing of Beauty” by John Keats celebrates the eternal beauty of nature. Keats uses vivid imagery to describe how nature’s wonders provide solace and joy, acting as a source of inspiration and hope.

In contrast, “A Roadside Stand” by Robert Frost focuses on the human impact on nature and the rural landscape. It highlights the struggles of villagers whose livelihoods depend on roadside stalls, overshadowed by the progress of urbanization. The poem evokes a sense of loss and the neglect of natural harmony.

I’d like to say that while Keats portrays nature as a timeless refuge, Frost emphasizes its exploitation and the socio-economic disparities tied to its transformation. Both poems, however, remind us of nature’s pivotal role in human life.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Analyze the positive portrayal of nature in “A Thing of Beauty” as a source of eternal joy and contrast it with the realistic depiction of rural life in “A Roadside Stand.” Highlight the poets’ differing perspectives and conclude with your interpretation.

13: Answer any one of the following two questions in 120 – 150 words:

(a) Physically impaired people have to suffer pain and a sense of alienation due to the behaviour of the people around them. It’s ironical that people who should be treated with empathy are either avoided or pitied. Discuss. (On The Face Of It)

Answer: Physically impaired individuals often experience pain, not only because of their condition but due to the insensitive behaviour of others. Society tends to either pity or avoid them, emphasizing their differences rather than their capabilities. In *On The Face Of It*, Derry’s disfigurement leads to him being judged and alienated, which causes emotional turmoil. Instead of receiving empathy, he faces prejudice and is made to feel inferior. This reflects the need for a societal shift in attitude where people focus on inclusivity and respect for the dignity of the impaired. Empathy and understanding can foster an environment where they feel valued and empowered, rather than excluded or defined by their disabilities.

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Focus on how societal attitudes, such as pity or avoidance, contribute to the alienation of physically impaired individuals. Emphasize the need for empathy, inclusion, and respect in transforming these attitudes.

(b) In the two stories of Bama and Zitkala-Sa in the lesson of “Memories of Childhood,” there are certain similarities of strength in the face of social challenges. Write a diary entry sharing your observations.

Answer:

Diary Entry

_____st Date

Today, I reflected on the stories of Bama and Zitkala-Sa in “Memories of Childhood.” Both of them displayed immense strength while facing social discrimination. Bama, as a Dalit, dealt with caste-based prejudice but transformed her anger into determination to excel in education. Zitkala-Sa faced racial discrimination and cultural suppression as a Native American but resisted attempts to erase her identity. Their stories highlight resilience and the power of self-awareness in overcoming injustice. Despite the challenges, both stood up for their rights, inspiring others to confront societal inequalities. Their courage reminds me that strength lies in acknowledging one’s worth and fighting for equality, regardless of the odds. – [Your Name]

 Quick Tip

Quick Tip: Highlight how both Bama and Zitkala-Sa confronted societal injustices with resilience. Discuss the importance of their courage and determination in overcoming discrimination and inspiring change.
