

CBSE Class 12 2024 English Set 1S1 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 : Literatur
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) Often, people are getting their news online as the convenience and accessibility of online news is difficult to compete with.

(2) Physical newspapers are typically large, need to be folded and aren't always free, making them an overall hassle. With virtual media outlets being available to nearly everybody at the click of a button, it comes as no surprise that it's grown to be a dominant form of news consumption.

However, it's important for readers to consider exactly what they're consuming when getting their news through an app versus a paper, namely the influence of an algorithm.

(3) A search algorithm is a set of rules made to put forward content the reader is more likely to engage with and filter out what they will ignore. Based on one's viewing history, an app or service determines what kind of content the user enjoys, then recommends similar content from that point onwards. Algorithms give the viewer what they want, that's undeniable, but it's also the problem.

(4) Digital media experts warn readers to be cautious of how an algorithm processes content. These systems show a reader more of what they want, but in the process, they block out any pieces that aren't in sync with their observed beliefs for the sake of customer service. The result is a person who is always given the same type of content, rarely venturing outside of their own viewpoints.

(5) There is, fortunately, a way for readers to still get their news without risking the entrapment of an algorithm: classic print newspapers which are not limited by any ruleset constantly tailoring the words offered to the reader. News in print needs to satisfy every type of reader with only one copy, allowing it to offer a wide scope of topics. Printed news offers its viewership more freedom over what they choose to read.

(6) While an algorithm purposely chooses and narrows potential news, a physical paper's diversity grants its news a more exploratory nature. Taking the time to engage with every part of a physical paper puts a variety of subjects, views and information on display for readers.

(7) It'd be naive to believe that print newspapers are completely free from bias or a certain degree of filtering. Still, a physical newspaper will almost never be as narrow in scope as the suggestions of a digital media outlet will be.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above:

1(i). Online news is becoming popular because it's

- (A) economically affordable.
- (B) readily accessible.
- (C) less cumbersome.
- (D) more interesting.

Correct Answer: (B) readily accessible.

Solution:

The passage highlights that the growing popularity of online news can largely be attributed to its ease of access. Unlike traditional forms of media, online news is available on various digital platforms, making it accessible to a broader audience. People can easily stay informed and up-to-date with the latest events, regardless of their location, as long as they have an internet connection. This flexibility in accessing news on multiple devices, such as smartphones, tablets, and computers, adds to the convenience, making online news a preferred choice for many.

Quick Tip

The key advantage of online news is its accessibility, enabling users to read the news on various devices at any time, making it a highly convenient source of information.

1(ii). The phrase ‘venturing outside of their own viewpoints’ in para 4 most nearly means

- (A) stepping into someone's shoes.
- (B) challenging others' opinions.
- (C) combining traditional beliefs with modern ideology.
- (D) moving away from one's personal opinions.

Correct Answer: (D) moving away from one’s personal opinions.

Solution:

The phrase “venturing outside of their own viewpoints” refers to the process of challenging one’s own beliefs and being open to different ideas and perspectives. It encourages individuals to move beyond their personal opinions and embrace the possibility of seeing things from others’ points of view. This concept promotes intellectual flexibility, urging people to explore diverse perspectives, especially in situations where personal biases may limit understanding. By venturing outside one’s viewpoint, individuals can foster empathy, gain a broader understanding, and engage in more meaningful discussions.

Quick Tip

“Venturing outside one’s viewpoint” means consciously stepping away from personal biases and embracing the value of exploring alternative perspectives, which can lead to greater understanding and growth.

1(iii). Complete the sentence with evidence from the text. Online readers are unaware that the news they read on a digital platform is

Solution:

Many online readers are unaware that the news they consume on digital platforms is often personalized or filtered through algorithms. These algorithms analyze user behavior, preferences, and past interactions to curate content that aligns with their interests and tendencies. As a result, readers are often exposed to a narrow range of news that confirms their existing beliefs. This process, known as “filter bubbles,” limits the diversity of information available to users, preventing them from encountering perspectives or viewpoints that differ from their own. Over time, this reinforces their biases and can create a distorted view of reality, where only agreeable or familiar content is presented.

Quick Tip

The personalization of news through algorithms can restrict the variety of content readers are exposed to, reinforcing their biases and narrowing their understanding of broader issues.

1(iv). Share evidence from the text in about 40 words to support the view that though algorithms give the reader what they want to read, they are also the problem.

Solution:

The passage highlights that although algorithms are designed to filter and present content that aligns with individual preferences, they also inadvertently limit access to a variety of viewpoints. This selective exposure reinforces existing biases by only showing information that matches what readers are likely to agree with. As a result, readers are deprived of a broader range of news and ideas, which restricts their understanding of different perspectives and creates a more one-dimensional view of the world.

Quick Tip

While algorithms tailor content to individual tastes, they also narrow the scope of information, reinforcing biases and limiting exposure to alternative viewpoints.

1(v). Why according to the writer is reading news online becoming increasingly popular?

Solution:

The writer explains that the rising popularity of online news can be attributed to its easy accessibility and the convenience it offers. With the ability to read news instantly on digital devices like smartphones and tablets, readers can stay updated at any time and from any location, making it a preferred option for many.

Quick Tip
The growing preference for online news is largely due to its convenience, enabling readers to access information quickly and stay informed on the go.

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1(vi). State two reasons in support of why a newspaper is a better source of news than online apps.

Solution:

Firstly, newspapers are known for providing detailed coverage of events, offering a thorough and well-rounded perspective. They ensure accuracy and balance in reporting, which is vital for informed decision-making. Secondly, newspapers are typically more reliable as their content undergoes rigorous fact-checking and editing processes. In contrast, online apps may feature content that is either unverified or influenced by bias, potentially leading to misleading information.

Quick Tip
Newspapers are trusted sources of information, as they offer well-researched, fact-checked news, while online apps may focus on speed, sometimes sacrificing accuracy.

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1(vii). From the passage, we understand that the writer concedes that newspapers too are ...

Solution:

The passage explores the influence of both newspapers and online news on public perception. While newspapers are often seen as more reliable than online sources, the passage subtly suggests that they are not immune to bias and other limitations. This indicates that the writer acknowledges newspapers, like online platforms, can be subjective and influenced by external factors. Since the passage does not provide a single word to complete the sentence, a reasonable inferred word could be biased, subjective, or limited in perspective, reflecting a characteristic shared with online news media.

Quick Tip

Although newspapers are viewed as trustworthy, they can also carry biases or be shaped by external influences, just like online news sources.

1(viii). The passage suggests that the reader, while reading news online, must be:

- (A) focused
- (B) discerning
- (C) indifferent
- (D) attentive

Correct Answer: (B) discerning.

Solution:

The passage highlights the role of media, especially online news, in shaping public perceptions. It suggests that readers should approach news with a critical mindset rather than accepting everything at face value. The word "discerning" refers to the ability to make well-informed judgments, critically evaluate sources, and identify potential misinformation. Simply being attentive or focused does not guarantee analytical engagement, while "indifferent" would imply a lack of concern or interest. Thus, the most fitting choice is discerning, as it emphasizes the need for thoughtful analysis when interacting with online news.

Quick Tip

A discerning reader actively evaluates news sources, verifies facts, and remains aware of biases in online media to make informed judgments.

1(ix). Read the headlines A – E given below and Identify the option that displays the headline that does not correspond with occurrences in the passage.

- (A) NEWSPAPERS – FREEDOM OF SPEECH
- (B) INTERNET – THE NEWS ENTERTAINER
- (C) ONLINE NEWS – A LIMITED PERCEPTION

(D) NEWSPAPER VS ONLINE NEWS APPS

(E) NEWS – A BIASED PERSPECTIVE

Correct Answer: (E) NEWS – A BIASED PERSPECTIVE

Solution:

To determine which headline does not match the content of the passage, we need to analyze both the passage's context and the themes it covers. While the passage itself is not provided, here is a general approach for tackling such questions:

1. **Understand the Passage:** Begin by carefully reading the passage to grasp its main themes, key ideas, and topics discussed. Pay attention to specific points that are emphasized.
2. **Analyze the Headlines:** Review each headline (A–E) to see if it aligns with the content and themes of the passage. Look for keywords or phrases in the headlines that reflect the ideas discussed in the passage.
3. **Identify the Mismatch:** The correct answer will be the headline that does not correspond to the passage's content or themes. This headline will likely stand out as unrelated or irrelevant to the passage's focus.

Example Analysis: If the passage explores the pros and cons of newspapers versus online news platforms, we can analyze the headlines as follows:

Headline A (NEWSPAPERS – FREEDOM OF SPEECH): Relevant if the passage addresses the topic of freedom of speech in the context of newspapers.

Headline B (INTERNET – THE NEWS ENTERTAINER): Relevant if the passage discusses how the internet serves as a source of entertainment through news.

Headline C (ONLINE NEWS – A LIMITED PERCEPTION): Relevant if the passage critiques online news for providing a limited view.

Headline D (NEWSPAPER VS ONLINE NEWS APPS): Relevant if the passage compares traditional newspapers with online news apps.

Headline E (NEWS – A BIASED PERSPECTIVE): Relevant if the passage discusses bias in news reporting.

If the passage does not discuss bias in news reporting, Headline E would be the one that does not correspond.

Final Answer: Without the passage, it is not possible to definitively identify the mismatched headline. However, following the general approach, the likely answer is:

Quick Tip

Always ensure to refer back to the passage to cross-check the relevance of each headline, as distractor options are designed to mislead.

2. Read the following passage carefully :

(1) In a rapidly changing world, transition from school to work has become more complex and challenging for young people, as finding employment is difficult for the youth. If academic studies may be an excellent path to successful career and lives, other types of education like ‘Vocational Education and Training (VET) programmes are more than ever being emphasized by governments globally to support work-ready professionals with relevant on-the-job experience to match the needs of various industries.

(2) According to the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), India aims to skill 400 million people by 2025. Vocational training programmes, such as Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) provide training in fields such as engineering, health care, hospitality, construction and more. According to NSDC estimates, India is expected to witness significant job creation. With the help of this training, opportunities for self-employment have been enhanced. As of July 2021, over 1×5 million candidates have been placed in various jobs after acquiring vocational training.

(3) Vocational training programmes also encourage entrepreneurship by providing aspiring entrepreneurs with the knowledge and skills required to establish and operate their own businesses. The NSDC states that out of the 12 million people entering the workforce in India every year, only 4×5 million are skilled, highlighting the need for further vocational training initiatives. Vocational training plays a significant role in India by addressing the skill gap, improving employability, fostering entrepreneurship, and driving economic growth. This contributes to the nation’s overall development and individual prosperity.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above:

2(i). What are the problems faced by many young people when they shift from school to

work?

- (A) Finding employment
- (B) Transition
- (C) Loneliness
- (D) Social anxiety

Correct Answer: (A) Finding employment

Solution:

The shift from school to work comes with several challenges for young people, with one of the most pressing issues being the difficulty in securing employment. Many young individuals face obstacles in finding job opportunities because of their lack of experience, mismatched educational qualifications, and the competitive nature of the job market.

Although transitioning into the workforce (Option B) is part of the overall challenge, it is the struggle to find stable employment that stands out. The text highlights how the absence of relevant skills and professional experience makes it particularly hard for youth to break into the workforce.

Quick Tip
The lack of work experience is a significant barrier for young people entering the job market. Job-readiness programs and internships can provide valuable experience and help bridge this gap.

2(ii). Why are governments promoting Vocational Education and Training programmes?

Solution:

Governments are promoting Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs with the primary goal of preparing workers to meet the specific demands of the job market. These programs provide relevant on-the-job training, equipping individuals with the essential skills needed in various industries. As industries continuously evolve, the skillsets required for certain jobs also change, and vocational training ensures that workers stay aligned with the latest industry requirements. VET programs focus on delivering practical, job-specific

training that enhances workplace efficiency and makes individuals job-ready.

In addition to improving individual employability, governments recognize that vocational education also benefits the broader economy by producing a more skilled workforce capable of addressing the needs of businesses. As such, VET is seen as a strategic approach to tackle skills gaps and reduce unemployment rates, ultimately boosting economic growth and development.

Quick Tip

Vocational education is essential for providing individuals with the hands-on skills employers seek, which improves their job prospects and contributes to overall economic progress.

2(iii). Infer why the National Skill Development Corporation of India has increased its efforts to skill 400 million people in 2025? Answer in about 40 words.

Solution:

The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has intensified its efforts to skill 400 million people by 2025 to capitalize on the significant opportunities for job creation and enhance self-employment prospects throughout India. As the country experiences rapid industrialization and modernization, the demand for a skilled workforce is increasing to meet the needs of emerging industries. By providing the youth with the necessary skills, these initiatives help them secure better livelihoods while contributing to the nation's economic growth. Additionally, skilling programs play a vital role in reducing unemployment by ensuring that individuals are prepared for the evolving job market.

Quick Tip

Skill development programs are vital in preparing the workforce for future job markets, helping reduce unemployment, and supporting economic growth.

2(iv). Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words, to support the view that

vocational training improves self-employment.

Solution:

The passage highlights that vocational training has played a significant role in helping over 1.5 million individuals secure employment. This support extends beyond traditional jobs, as vocational training also provides the necessary skills for individuals to start their own businesses. By offering practical training in areas such as finance, marketing, and operations, vocational programs equip aspiring entrepreneurs with the tools needed to navigate the complexities of the business world. This approach helps address the skill gap in self-employment, enabling individuals to launch businesses that are both sustainable and successful. With practical skills, people are more confident in taking the step toward self-employment and entrepreneurial success.

Quick Tip

Vocational training provides aspiring entrepreneurs with the essential skills to build and run their own businesses, increasing their chances of success in the entrepreneurial world.

2(v). Identify the entrepreneur from the three people who has acquired vocational training.

(A) Ravi: I am working as a carpenter and getting very high wages.

(B) Narain: I have acquired the skill of cooking and will work for an established hotel.

(C) Bani: After doing a course in fashion designing, I have opened my own boutique.

Correct Answer: (C) Bani: After doing a course in fashion designing, I have opened my own boutique.

Solution: Bani utilized her vocational training in fashion design to launch her own boutique, showcasing how such training not only enhances employability but also equips individuals with entrepreneurial skills to build and manage a business. Unlike Ravi and Narain, who have applied their skills within existing businesses, Bani has taken the initiative to become an entrepreneur. This example underscores the role of vocational training in promoting self-sufficiency and business independence.

Quick Tip

Vocational training can pave the way for self-employment, as demonstrated by Bani's ability to establish her own boutique after completing her fashion design training.

2(vi). How does vocational training help in bridging the skill gap?

Solution:

Vocational training plays a pivotal role in bridging the skill gap by equipping individuals with specialized skills tailored to industry needs. It improves employability by preparing workers for the practical demands of the job market. Some of the key benefits of vocational training include:

Enhancing Employability: By offering hands-on experience and practical knowledge, vocational training makes individuals ready for the workforce, significantly increasing their chances of finding a job.

Encouraging Entrepreneurship: Vocational training also empowers individuals to become entrepreneurs, allowing them to create their own businesses and reduce reliance on traditional employment options.

Fostering Economic Growth: A well-trained workforce leads to higher productivity, innovation, and overall economic development, driving the growth of industries and businesses.

Therefore, vocational training is essential in tackling unemployment and ensuring that the workforce is aligned with industry needs.

Quick Tip

Vocational training helps individuals develop the practical skills needed for specific careers, making them more competitive in the job market and ready for employment.

2(vii). Complete the sentence appropriately.

The NSDC states that less than half the people entering the workforce in India are skilled, so -----.

Solution:

The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) points out that a significant proportion of India's workforce lacks the necessary skills, highlighting the urgent need for enhanced vocational training programs. To address this, an appropriate way to complete the sentence would be:

”There is a need to prioritize further vocational training initiatives to ensure a skilled and competent workforce.”

This statement emphasizes the importance of investing in skill development programs, which are crucial for improving employability and fostering economic growth.

Quick Tip
A skilled workforce is fundamental for national growth; vocational training is an effective way to address skill shortages and boost employability.

2(viii). State True or False:

The title ‘Improve Your Skills, Gain Better Jobs’ is appropriate for this passage.

Correct Answer: True

Solution: The passage discusses the importance of vocational training and how skill development improves employment opportunities. The title “Improve Your Skills, Gain Better Jobs” accurately reflects this theme as it emphasizes the direct link between acquiring skills and securing better job opportunities. Given that the passage highlights the skill gap in the workforce and the importance of training programs, the title effectively conveys the central message.

Quick Tip
Acquiring new skills increases job prospects and helps individuals secure better career opportunities.

Section – B (18 Marks)

Creative Writing Skills

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

3(a). The Trips and Treks Club of Ravindra High School is organizing a trip for grade 11 students to take them all to Paninagar. As Ravi/Reena, the Club Senior School Prefect, draft a notice for your school notice board informing the students to be seated at 5 pm in the auditorium to listen to the instructions for the event. Invent necessary details.

Solution:

Ravindra High School

Notice

Date: [Insert Date]

The Trips and Treks Club is organizing a trip to Paninagar for Grade 11 students. All participants are requested to assemble in the auditorium at **5:00 PM sharp on [Insert Day]** for a briefing on essential trip guidelines. The bus will depart at **[Insert Time]**, and students must ensure they carry all required items for the journey.

For additional information, please reach out to the club representatives.

Ravi/Reena

Senior School Prefect

Quick Tip

A well-structured notice should clearly state the event details, timings, and necessary instructions to ensure smooth coordination.

OR

3(b). You are Pradeep/Pratibha Choube, Secretary of Arihant Housing Society, Dhol Nagar. Draft a notice for the society notice board informing the residents to send their children for swimming from 9 am to 1 pm in the society swimming pool, as the

swimming coach and life guard will be present during these hours. Invent necessary details.

Solution:

Arihant Housing Society

Notice

Date: [Insert Date]

This is to notify all residents of Arihant Housing Society that the swimming pool will be open for children from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM every day. During these hours, a qualified swimming coach and a certified lifeguard will be present to ensure the safety and supervision of all children.

Parents are kindly requested to send their children only within these specified hours.

Pradeep/Pratibha Choube

Secretary, Arihant Housing Society

Quick Tip
Ensure the notice clearly mentions the operational hours and the safety measures in place (coach and lifeguard) to provide reassurance to parents.

4(a). You are Tisha/Trilok Swami, Student Head, Morning Star High School, Hawapur. Your school is organizing a 4-day health camp for parents and students of your school. Create a formal invitation card inviting the parents for the health camp where renowned doctors, nutritionists, and fitness experts will address the gathering. Invent necessary details.

Solution:

Morning Star High School, Hawapur

Cordially Invites You to

A 4-Day Health Camp

for Parents and Students

Date: March 20 - March 23, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Daily

Venue: School Auditorium, Morning Star High School, Hawapur

Join us for an enriching and informative health camp aimed at promoting well-being and a healthier lifestyle! The camp will feature:

Sessions by **renowned doctors, nutritionists, and fitness experts.**

Free **health check-ups** for students and parents. Tips on **healthy living, stress management, and nutrition.**

Live **yoga and fitness demonstrations.**

We look forward to your presence at this event designed to benefit our school community.

RSVP: Tisha/Trilok Swami

(Student Head, Morning Star High School)

Contact: 9876543210

Email: healthcamp@morningstar.edu.in

Quick Tip
A formal invitation should include essential details such as the event name, date, time, venue, purpose, and RSVP contact.

OR

4(b). Your mother, Shagun Gupta, has received an invitation from a nearby Women Wellness Center in Vayu town to participate in a two-day Detox Programme at its center. Draft an appropriate reply accepting the invitation. You are Vanya/Vineet.

Invent necessary details.

Solution:

Vanya/Vineet Gupta

45, Green Avenue, Vayu Town

March 15, 2025

To,

The Director,

Women Wellness Center,

Vayu Town.

Subject: Confirmation of Acceptance for Detox Programme

Respected Sir/Madam,

I am writing to sincerely thank you for inviting my mother, Mrs. Shagun Gupta, to participate in the **two-day Detox Programme** at your esteemed center, scheduled for **March 18 - March 19, 2025**. She is thrilled to accept the invitation and is looking forward to benefiting from the wellness sessions you offer.

She is confident that this program will be a valuable experience, contributing positively to her health and well-being. Kindly inform us if there are any preparations or documents required prior to registration.

Thank you once again for providing this wonderful opportunity. We eagerly anticipate an enriching and revitalizing experience.

Yours sincerely,

Vanya/Vineet Gupta

(For Mrs. Shagun Gupta)

Quick Tip
When responding to an invitation, it's important to express gratitude, confirm participation, and inquire about any further steps or requirements.

5(a). You are Anil/Anu Lamba, a fresh graduate. You come across an advertisement for a part time job which will give you time to pursue higher education. You wish to apply for the position advertised. Write to Retail Sales Associate, AJ Retailers, Gulab Nagar along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

**WANTED INTERNS
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED**

Part Time Job :

To facilitate and support the company's mission of helping clients with the best of our services.

Position : H.R. Recruitment Intern

Key Requisites :

- Good Communication Skills
- Troubleshooting Attitude
- Sincere Worker

Qualification : Graduate

Interested candidates can share the biodata on
ajretailers@gmail.com

Solution:

Anil/Anu Lamba

sert Address

City, State, ZIP Code

Phone Number

ail Address

Date

To

The Retail Sales Associate

AJ Retailers, Gulab Nagar

Address of AJ Retailers

Subject: Application for Part-Time Job Opportunity

Dear Sir/Madam,

I recently came across your advertisement for a part-time job vacancy at AJ Retailers, and I would like to express my keen interest in applying for the position. Having recently completed my graduation, I am eager to gain practical work experience while simultaneously pursuing higher studies.

I believe that my strong communication skills, adaptability, and enthusiasm for learning will allow me to contribute effectively to your team. Additionally, I am available to work flexible hours and am confident in my ability to support the company's objectives.

Enclosed is my bio-data for your kind consideration. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss how I can be an asset to your organization.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Anil/Anu Lamba

Quick Tip

When applying for a part-time position, highlight your enthusiasm, relevant skills, and flexibility to enhance your chances of selection.

OR

5(b). You are Animesh/Anisha, a resident of Ambernath, Mompur. While walking you see a lot of construction debris dumped on the roadside claiming the footpaths and creating garbage dumps. As you are a concerned citizen, you decide to write a letter to the editor of a national daily, sharing your concern for the insensitive attitude of builders dumping their construction debris on roadsides endangering people's health and barring paths for walking.

Problem	• Construction material dumped on roadside
Causes	• No checks • Can get away with irregularities
Suggestions	• Action by Municipal Corporation • Stricter laws and their implementation • Create awareness

Solution:

Animesh/Anisha

Your Address

City, State, ZIP Code

Phone Number

ail Address

Date

To

The Editor

Newspaper Name

Newspaper Address

Subject: Concern Regarding Construction Debris on Roadsides

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the irresponsible dumping of construction debris on the roadsides near Ambernath, Mompur. The debris is obstructing footpaths and creating garbage dumps, which not only hinders pedestrians but also poses a serious health risk.

It is disheartening to see that builders, who are responsible for maintaining cleanliness during construction, continue to disregard public safety. This careless attitude is causing inconvenience to the residents, as it limits access to footpaths and promotes the growth of unhealthy conditions such as dust and waste accumulation.

I urge the local authorities to take immediate action by imposing stricter regulations on builders and ensuring the proper disposal of construction materials. It is also important to create awareness among citizens about maintaining a clean and safe environment.

I hope my letter will draw attention to this issue and prompt necessary action.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Animesh/Anisha

Quick Tip
When writing a letter to the editor, make sure to state the problem clearly, provide supporting details, and suggest possible solutions.

6(a). You are Hitesh/Henna, a ‘blog’ writer. You are also a voracious reader and keep yourself abreast with the current topics of the day. Reading about the trends in Digital Marketing, you decide to write an article on “Digital Marketing has gained tremendous momentum in the past couple of years.” Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this article. Invent necessary details.

Digital Marketing	
Importance	• Connects with customers • Allows you to get creative
Benefits	• Hands-on experience • Easy to target right audience • Cost effective • Access to global markets

Solution:

Digital Marketing: Transforming the Business Landscape

By Hitesh/Henna

In recent years, digital marketing has experienced rapid growth, revolutionizing the way businesses engage with their audiences. As technology continues to influence consumer behavior, companies have recognized the immense potential of online platforms to reach their target markets.

One of the key **benefits** of digital marketing is its ability to **engage with customers** in a more direct and interactive manner. Unlike traditional marketing, digital strategies create a two-way communication channel, allowing businesses to connect with consumers on a more personal and effective level.

Additionally, digital marketing offers **endless creative possibilities**, empowering businesses to explore new advertising techniques like social media campaigns, influencer partnerships, and engaging content formats.

The advantages of digital marketing go beyond creativity. It provides businesses with **practical experience**, enabling them to quickly adapt to shifting market trends.

Furthermore, it allows companies to **precisely target their audience**, improving conversion rates. Its **affordability** makes it an attractive option even for small businesses, and its **global accessibility** breaks down geographical barriers, unlocking international market opportunities.

With advancements in artificial intelligence, automation, and data analytics, digital marketing is constantly evolving, providing businesses with endless opportunities to expand

and succeed in the digital era. Organizations that harness the power of digital marketing will be better positioned to thrive in a competitive environment.

Quick Tip

Digital marketing is a crucial tool for businesses, offering cost-effective, targeted, and expansive opportunities to reach global.

OR

6(b). You are Indrajeet/Indrani, Press Reporter of ‘Daily News’. You were invited by Hotel Grand to witness a ‘Foodie Women’ contest where 25 women participated in a cooking competition. Some of them were renowned chefs. Write a report for ‘Daily News’ covering the event. Invent necessary details.

- Objective**
- Showcase culinary skills and creativity
 - Participants
 - Venue
 - Participants provided with ingredients, equipment
 - Evaluation criteria – taste, flavor, texture, aroma and presentation
 - Results

Solution:

‘Foodie Women’ Contest Showcases Culinary Excellence

By Indrajeet/Indrani, Press Reporter, Daily News

Vayu Town, March 15, 2025: The prestigious Hotel Grand recently hosted the much-anticipated **‘Foodie Women’ Contest**, a vibrant celebration of culinary skills and creativity. The two-day event witnessed an enthusiastic participation of 25 talented women, including renowned chefs, home cooks, and food enthusiasts from across the region. The primary **objective** of the contest was to provide a platform for women to exhibit their expertise in cooking and innovative food presentation. Participants were provided with

premium-quality ingredients and professional-grade equipment to prepare their signature dishes.

The competition was judged based on a variety of **evaluation criteria**, including **taste, flavor, texture, aroma, and presentation**. Renowned chefs from leading restaurants served as jury members, meticulously assessing each dish. The event witnessed an exciting blend of traditional and modern culinary techniques, making the competition fierce and engaging.

After intense rounds of cooking, the top honor was awarded to **Mrs. Radhika Sharma**, who impressed the judges with her exquisite fusion dish combining Indian spices with European flavors. The runners-up, **Meera Nair** and **Sonia Mehta**, were also appreciated for their creativity and technique.

The event concluded with a felicitation ceremony, where participants were applauded for their dedication and passion for cooking. The 'Foodie Women' Contest not only celebrated the art of cooking but also empowered women by encouraging them to pursue their culinary dreams.

Quick Tip
A well-structured report should include details about the event, participants, venue, judging criteria, results, and the overall impact of the program.

Section – C (40 Marks)

Literature Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text

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

(a) “Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing A flowery band to bind us to the earth, Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth Of noble natures, of the gloomy days, Of all the unhealthy and o’er-darkened ways

The message in the above extract as per Keats is:

(A) For all earthly nuances, a thing of beauty is the cure.

(B) Beauty of the beloved lies in the eyes of the beholder.

(C) Nature provides ample objects to make us sad.

(D) There is beauty in death.

Correct Answer: (A) For all earthly nuances, a thing of beauty is the cure.

Solution:

In this extract, Keats emphasizes the powerful effect of beauty on human life, proposing that beauty serves as a remedy for the hardships and challenges people face. The beauty found in nature and other forms of loveliness has the ability to uplift the human spirit, offering relief from the suffering and negativity that often accompany daily existence.

Quick Tip
Keats highlights how beauty can provide comfort and healing, offering a respite from the trials and difficulties of life.

7(a)(ii). State whether ‘True’ or ‘False’: ‘Sweet memories bind us to this earth’.

Correct Answer: True

Solution:

The statement is true according to the extract. Keats underscores that, despite the sorrow and struggles of life, the beauty of nature and cherished memories serve as a unifying force, linking us to the earth and adding depth and meaning to our lives.

Quick Tip
The beauty of nature and cherished memories create a sense of connection, helping us navigate life’s difficulties and strengthening our bond with existence.

7(a)(iii). Complete the sentence appropriately: ‘Wreathing a flowery band...’

Solution:

‘Wreathing a flowery band...’

serves as a connection

keeps us grounded to the earth

reinforces the bond between humans and nature

The "flowery band" is a metaphor for the beauty of nature, which serves as a powerful reminder of our connection to the earth. This symbol reflects the spiritual grounding that nature provides, offering individuals a sense of peace and stability. It reminds us of the calming and nurturing role that nature plays in our lives, helping us feel connected to the world around us, especially during challenging times.

Through this imagery, the poet suggests that nature's beauty binds us to the earth, ensuring that we remain attuned to its rhythms and cycles, fostering a sense of harmony and belonging.

Quick Tip
The flowery band symbolizes the essential link between humans and nature, offering a sense of comfort and grounding that helps us endure life's struggles.

7(a)(iv). Why has Keats used the phrase, 'Spite of despondence'?

Solution:

Keats uses the phrase "Spite of despondence" to emphasize the stark contrast between the difficulties and negative experiences in life, such as despair, sorrow, and violence, and the redemptive power of beauty. The phrase suggests that even in the darkest times, when life seems filled with sadness and challenges, beauty—whether it be found in nature, art, or cherished memories—acts as a source of comfort and hope. Beauty has the power to uplift the human spirit, providing solace and offering a respite from the harshness of life. It allows individuals to endure suffering and find meaning, no matter how overwhelming the circumstances may seem.

Through this contrast, Keats portrays beauty not only as a source of joy but also as a source of resilience, helping individuals transcend the negativity that life often presents.

Quick Tip
Keats contrasts the hardships of life with the healing force of beauty, showing how it can offer hope and strength to overcome challenges and adversity.

7(a)(v). ‘Gloomy days’ – Which figure of speech is used here?

Solution:

The phrase "gloomy days" is an example of a transferred epithet, a figure of speech in which an adjective normally used to describe one noun is applied to another. In this case, the adjective "gloomy," which typically describes emotions or states of mind (such as a person feeling sad or melancholic), is transferred to "days." By doing so, it attributes a human-like quality of sadness or negativity to the days themselves. This shift creates a more vivid and emotional image, making the days feel weighed down or overshadowed by gloom, enhancing the overall emotional tone of the expression.

This use of transferred epithet not only intensifies the description but also deepens the reader's emotional response by associating the period of time (days) with a negative feeling, suggesting that the days themselves are imbued with sadness.

Quick Tip
A transferred epithet shifts an adjective from the subject it typically describes to another noun, often creating a more emotionally charged or vivid image in writing.

7(a)(vi). The poet attributes the trials and tribulations one encounters in the journey of life to:

(A) unhealthy and o'er darkened ways.

(B) a flowery band.

(C) we wreathing.

(D) on every morrow.

Correct Answer: (A) unhealthy and o'er darkened ways.

Solution:

Keats uses the phrase "unhealthy and o'er darkened ways" to symbolize the difficulties and negative experiences that people inevitably encounter in life. The terms "unhealthy" and "darkened" suggest that these challenges—whether they involve physical, emotional, or societal struggles—can feel overwhelming and oppressive. The phrase conveys the harsh

realities of life, marked by sorrow, despair, and adversity. This stark imagery contrasts sharply with the beauty that Keats describes as offering relief, highlighting the role of beauty in helping people endure hardships. The beauty of nature or positive memories provides solace, acting as a counterbalance to life's difficulties and offering hope in dark times.

Quick Tip

The phrase "unhealthy and o'er darkened ways" conveys life's unavoidable challenges, which are contrasted with the sustaining and uplifting power of beauty.

OR

7(b)(i). ... 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 ...

What does the use of the word 'and' at the beginning of the line, 'and realised with pain...' suggest?

Solution:

The conjunction '**and**' at the start of the line highlights the poetess's sudden and profound awareness of her mother's advancing age and vulnerability. It marks a poignant moment when the poetess is struck by the reality of her mother's frailty, triggering feelings of emotional distress. This moment is filled with the fear of inevitable separation and the looming loss of her mother. The realization overwhelms her, yet she quickly tries to suppress her emotions, signaling an internal struggle between confronting her feelings and trying to control them.

Quick Tip

The conjunction 'and' at the beginning of a line can reflect a build-up of emotions or thoughts, particularly in poetry, indicating a shift or a deepening of the speaker's emotional state.

7(b)(ii). Why was the poetess's heart in pain?

- (A) She saw her enfeebled mother.
- (B) The poetess herself was unwell.
- (C) She did not want to go back to Cochin.
- (D) The jerks of the car caused the pain.

Correct Answer: (A) She saw her enfeebled mother.

Solution: The poetess deliberately looks out of the car window to escape the painful thoughts about her mother's aging. This act of distraction allows her to momentarily shift her focus from sorrow to the passing scenery outside.

Quick Tip

Distraction is a common psychological response to overwhelming emotions.
--

7(b)(iii). What does the line 'but soon she put that thought away' mean?

Solution: This line reflects the poetess's attempt to **divert her mind** from the painful realization of her mother's aging. She consciously tries to push away negative thoughts and suppress her sorrow, choosing instead to focus on external surroundings as a means of distraction.

Quick Tip

People often use distractions to cope with painful emotions or difficult realizations.
--

7(b)(iv). She started 'looking out' because:

- (A) She wanted to distract herself.
- (B) She found interesting visuals.
- (C) The colourful flowers caught her attention.
- (D) She was feeling impatient.

Correct Answer: (A) She wanted to distract herself.

Solution:

The poetess intentionally gazes out of the car window, seeking a temporary escape from the

painful thoughts surrounding her mother’s aging. This act of distraction provides a brief reprieve, allowing her to shift her attention away from the sorrowful reality of her mother’s fragility to the passing scenery outside. By focusing on the external world, she tries to distance herself from the emotional weight of her feelings.

Quick Tip
Distraction is a natural psychological coping mechanism that people often use to manage overwhelming emotions and avoid confronting difficult feelings.

Distraction is a natural psychological coping mechanism that people often use to manage overwhelming emotions and avoid confronting difficult feelings.

7(b)(v). Which poetic device is used in ‘Trees sprinting’?

Correct Answer: Personification

Solution: The phrase ‘**Trees sprinting**’ is an example of **personification**, where inanimate objects (trees) are given human-like qualities (sprinting). This imagery reflects the movement of trees as seen from a moving vehicle, symbolizing the passage of time and the fast-paced nature of life.

Quick Tip
Personification is a literary device that attributes human qualities to non-human objects or elements.

Personification is a literary device that attributes human qualities to non-human objects or elements.
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7(b)(vi). There is a contrast between the images within the car and outside. What does the image of ‘Young Trees’ signify?

Solution: The ‘**Young Trees**’ symbolize **youth, energy, growth, and the passage of time**. While the poetess’s mother represents old age and fragility, the outside world is full of life and movement. This stark contrast highlights the inevitable cycle of life—where the young continue to grow while the old age. The image of ‘sprinting trees’ also suggests the fast-moving nature of time, reinforcing the poetess’s fear of separation and loss.

Quick Tip

Symbolism in poetry helps convey deeper meanings, often linking emotions to visual imagery.

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

(a) “Antarctica, because of her simple ecosystem and lack of biodiversity, is the perfect place to study how little changes in the environment can have big repercussions. Take the microscopic phytoplankton — those grasses of the sea that nourish and sustain the entire Southern Ocean’s food chain. These single-celled plants use the sun’s energy to assimilate carbon and synthesise organic compounds in that wondrous and most important of processes called photosynthesis. Scientists warn that a further depletion in the ozone layer will affect the activities of phytoplankton, which in turn will affect the lives of all marine animals.”

Antarctica is a perfect place to study ecological evolution because

Solution: Antarctica, with its simple ecosystem and lack of biodiversity, serves as an ideal environment for studying how even small changes in the environment can cause significant effects. The absence of complex ecological interactions makes it easier to study the impact of various environmental factors.

Quick Tip

Antarctica’s simplicity and lack of biodiversity make it a unique location to observe the impact of environmental changes on ecosystems.

8(a)(ii). Phytoplanktons can be defined as:

- (A) microscopic grasses of the sea.
- (B) plants at the bottom of the sea.
- (C) multi-celled plants.
- (D) small viruses in the ice-covered areas.

Correct Answer: (A) microscopic grasses of the sea.

Solution: Phytoplankton is the term used for microscopic plant-like organisms that live in the sea. They are essential to the marine food chain as they provide nourishment to various marine species. They utilize the sun's energy for photosynthesis.

Quick Tip

Phytoplankton are the base of the oceanic food web and are vital for sustaining marine life, as they convert sunlight into energy.

8(a)(iii). According to the scientists, will increased depletion in the ozone layer affect the activities of phytoplankton?

Solution: Yes, scientists warn that further depletion of the ozone layer will affect the activities of phytoplankton. Since phytoplankton play a critical role in photosynthesis and the marine food chain, any disruption in their activities would impact the entire marine ecosystem.

Quick Tip

The depletion of the ozone layer can have far-reaching effects on marine life, as it disturbs the functioning of phytoplankton, which are essential to the food chain.

8(a)(iv). What is the meaning of the word 'wonder' in the given extract?

Solution: The word "wonder" in this context refers to amazement or a feeling of awe. Keats uses this term to describe the fascinating and extraordinary processes that take place in nature, particularly how tiny phytoplankton perform photosynthesis.

Quick Tip

Wonder in literature often conveys a sense of amazement or admiration, particularly in the context of natural phenomena.

OR

8(b)(i). (b) “At midnight when the town slept in peace, the dewan and his aged wife dragged the tiger to the car and shoved it into the seat. The dewan himself drove the car straight to the forest where the Maharaja was hunting. When they reached the forest the tiger launched its satyagraha and refused to get out of the car. The dewan was thoroughly exhausted in his efforts to haul the beast out of the car and push it down to the ground.

On the following day, the same old tiger wandered into the Maharaja’s presence and stood as if in humble supplication, “Master, what do you command of me ?” It was with boundless joy that the Maharaja took careful aim at the beast. The tiger fell in a crumpled heap.

Complete the sentence appropriately:

The reason for the dewan and his aged wife to drag the tiger to the car was

Solution:

The dewan and his wife resorted to dragging the tiger to the car because they were compelled to deliver the hundredth tiger to the Tiger King. The Maharaja had made it clear that he expected exactly one hundred tigers to be hunted, and failure to meet this demand would have had dire consequences. Driven by fear for both his position and his life, the dewan felt forced to take drastic action. The tiger, being old and frail, was unable to escape or put up any resistance, making it easier for the dewan and his wife to transport it without much struggle.

Quick Tip
The dewan’s actions were a result of fear and pressure, demonstrating how authority and the threat of punishment can push individuals to take extreme and unethical actions.

8(b)(ii). The author described the tiger’s action as ‘satyagraha’ because:

- (A) He was poor in health, old, and weak.
- (B) He had become a man-eater, and only ate humans.
- (C) He did not like the dewan and his wife’s ways of handling him.

(D) He refused to comply with what the dewan wanted.

Correct Answer: (D) He refused to comply with what the dewan wanted.

Solution:

The term ‘satyagraha’ refers to a form of non-violent resistance or passive protest, most notably associated with Mahatma Gandhi. In a humorous twist, the author compares the tiger’s defiance and refusal to move or comply with the dewan’s instructions to an act of protest. Despite being captured and placed in the car, the tiger stubbornly refused to exit, embodying a form of symbolic resistance. This resistance humorously parallels the idea of satyagraha, making it an ironic but apt comparison.

Quick Tip
Satyagraha is a form of peaceful protest where individuals refuse to obey unjust demands, standing firm in their non-compliance as a method of resistance.

8(b)(iii). What is the role of the dewan?

Solution: The dewan plays a crucial role in **arranging the hundredth tiger** for the Tiger King. His actions are driven by the need to **please the king** and avoid his wrath. Since the real hundredth tiger could not be found, the dewan resorted to desperate measures by bringing in an old, weak tiger to complete the count. His role highlights themes of **loyalty, fear, and servitude** in a monarchy, where officials are forced to obey irrational demands to maintain their positions.

Quick Tip
The dewan’s role reflects the influence of absolute power and the lengths subordinates go to in order to fulfill a ruler’s wishes.

8(b)(iv). Explain the phrase ‘in humble supplication’.

Solution: The phrase ‘**in humble supplication**’ means to act in a manner that conveys submission, obedience, or request for mercy. In the passage, the tiger is described as

standing before the king as if seeking his command, which humorously suggests that the animal accepted its fate. The use of this phrase is ironic because the tiger, instead of resisting or attacking, appears to be **agreeing with the king's wishes**, reinforcing the idea that even nature conforms to his authority.

Quick Tip

The phrase 'in humble supplication' is often used to describe someone pleading or submitting to a higher authority.

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

(a) While I was thinking of all this, I heard my name called. It was my turn to recite. What would I not have given to be able to say that dreadful rule for the participle all through, very loud and clear, and without one mistake ? But I got mixed up on the first words and stood there, holding on to my desk, my heart beating, and not daring to look up.

I heard M. Hamel say to me, 'I won't scold you, little Franz; you must feel bad enough. See how it is ! Every day we have said to ourselves, "Bah! I've plenty of time. I'll learn it tomorrow." And now you see where we've come out. Ah, that's the great trouble with Alsace; she puts off learning till tomorrow. Now those fellows out there will have the right to say to you, 'How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language ?' But you are not the worst; poor little Franz. We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with.'

What was the mental state of Franz when his name was called out?

Solution: When Franz's name was called, he felt nervous and guilty. His heart was beating fast, and he got mixed up in his thoughts. He was scared and did not dare to look up, showing his fear of the consequences of his actions, such as not being prepared for the lesson.

Quick Tip

Franz's nervousness stems from his guilt about not being prepared for the lesson, which made him feel fearful and unsure of himself.

9(a)(ii). 'My heart beating and not daring to look up.' The reason for this state of Franz was:

- (A) The news that it was the last French lesson shocked him.
- (B) He made a big mistake of coming late.
- (C) He had not learned participles.
- (D) He was guilty of standing in front of the billboard listening to his teacher.

Correct Answer: (C) He had not learned participles.

Solution: Franz's fear and anxiety arose from the fact that he had not learned the participles and was unprepared for the recitation. His nervousness was a result of his lack of preparation, which made him feel guilty and inadequate.

Quick Tip

Being unprepared for something important can cause nervousness and anxiety, as it makes individuals feel vulnerable and guilty.

9(a)(iii). What made Hamel say to Franz: "You must feel bad enough"?

Solution: M. Hamel's remark stemmed from a sense of guilt that Franz must have felt. The reason was that Franz had procrastinated in learning French, repeatedly telling himself that he would learn tomorrow. The sense of regret stemmed from putting off the responsibility of learning until it was too late, which was emphasized by the urgency of the situation—Franz had missed out on learning his mother tongue.

Quick Tip

Procrastination and lack of seriousness in learning can lead to feelings of regret and guilt when one faces the consequences of not having studied.

9(a)(iv). Give one word for, ‘Every day we have said to ourselves, “Bah! I’ve plenty of time. I’ll learn it tomorrow.”’

Solution: The one word that can summarize this attitude is ”procrastination.” It refers to the act of delaying or postponing tasks, especially tasks that need immediate attention.

Quick Tip
Procrastination is often a result of not taking tasks seriously, which can lead to unnecessary stress when deadlines approach.

Procrastination is often a result of not taking tasks seriously, which can lead to unnecessary stress when deadlines approach.
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9(a)(v). What makes M. Hamel say, “You pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language?”

Solution: M. Hamel’s comment was driven by his disappointment with the lack of effort shown by the students, including Franz, in learning their own language. By ignoring the importance of learning French, the students were disrespecting their cultural heritage and identity, and this neglect was what M. Hamel found unforgivable.

Quick Tip
Language is an essential part of one’s identity, and neglecting to learn and preserve it can lead to feelings of shame and regret.

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9(a)(vi). M. Hamel says, “We’ve all a great deal to reproach ourselves with” as:

(A) he was reproachful because he made them do his personal work, and went fishing when he felt like.

(B) he was dissatisfied with their lack of interest in studies.

(C) he was unhappy with their lack of attendance.

(D) he was unhappy with their lackadaisical attitude.

Correct Answer: (D) he was unhappy with their lackadaisical attitude.

Solution: M. Hamel was reflecting on the fact that he, too, was complicit in the students’

failure to take their studies seriously. The students had adopted a lackadaisical attitude towards their education, putting off learning and neglecting their responsibilities. This lack of commitment was not only a problem for the students but also a collective failure, including M. Hamel himself.

Quick Tip

Lackadaisical attitudes toward responsibilities can lead to a loss of opportunities and regret, which can be deeply frustrating for both students and teachers.

OR

9(b)(i). “I sometimes find a rupee, even a ten-rupee note,” Saheb says, his eyes lighting up. When you can find a silver coin in a heap of garbage, you don’t stop scrounging, for there is hope for finding more. It seems that for children, garbage has a meaning different from what it means to their parents. For the children it is wrapped in wonder, for the elders it is a means of survival.

One winter morning I see Saheb standing by the fenced gate of the neighborhood club, watching two young men dressed in white, playing tennis. “I like the game,” he hums, content to watch it standing behind the fence. “I go inside when no one is around,” he admits. “The gatekeeper lets me use the swing.”

Saheb too is wearing tennis shoes that look strange over his discoloured shirt and shorts. “Someone gave them to me,” he says in the manner of an explanation

What reasons does Saheb give for children like him indulging in scrounging?

Solution: Saheb explains that scrounging through garbage is not just a means of survival but also a source of hope. For children like him, the chance of finding something valuable, such as a rupee or even a ten-rupee note, keeps them engaged in the activity. Unlike their parents, who see garbage as a means of livelihood, children find excitement and curiosity in it.

Quick Tip

For children in poverty, scavenging offers both a way to survive and small moments of joy when they discover something unexpected.

9(b)(ii). “When you can find a silver coin in a heap of garbage, you don’t stop scrounging.” The expression ‘don’t stop scrounging’ in the context denotes:

- (A) hope
- (B) experimentation
- (C) impossibility
- (D) illusion

Correct Answer: (A) hope.

Solution: In the passage, the phrase ‘don’t stop scrounging’ suggests that the children continue scavenging because of the possibility of finding something valuable. It represents their hope that amidst the trash, they might stumble upon something useful or even money. This hope keeps them engaged in an otherwise demeaning and tiring activity.

Quick Tip
Hope is a powerful force that can drive people to continue in difficult circumstances, even when the chances of success are small.

9(b)(iii). Explain the expression: ‘For the children, it is wrapped in wonder.’

Solution: The phrase ‘**wrapped in wonder**’ indicates that for the children, garbage is not just waste but a place of discovery and excitement. Unlike their parents, who see garbage as a source of income, children find thrill in exploring it. Their innocent perspective allows them to view scavenging as a game rather than a struggle for survival.

Quick Tip
Children often see the world with curiosity and excitement, even in situations of hardship.

9(b)(iv). Why does Saheb stand and watch the two men playing tennis?

Solution:

Saheb stands on the sidelines, watching the two men play tennis, captivated by the game. He enjoys observing the match but, due to his social and economic circumstances, he is unable to participate himself. As he watches from behind the fence, a sense of longing fills him. He is an outsider, separated from a world of privilege and leisure that is beyond his reach. His fascination with the game highlights not only his desire for a better life but also the stark contrast between his own reality and the world he yearns to be a part of.

Quick Tip

For many underprivileged children, watching others engage in comfortable and leisurely activities emphasizes the vast socioeconomic divide they face.

9(b)(v). The gatekeeper, in allowing Saheb to use the swing, shows:

- (A) empathy
- (B) greed
- (C) cynicism
- (D) indifference

Correct Answer: (A) empathy.

Solution: The gatekeeper allows Saheb to use the swing when no one else is around, showing **empathy**. Though he does not have the authority to let Saheb play tennis, he makes a small gesture of kindness by allowing him access to the swing. This shows a moment of compassion toward someone less fortunate.

Quick Tip

Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of others, even in small everyday actions.

9(b)(vi). Saheb explained that someone had given the shoes to him because

Solution: Saheb explains that someone gave him the shoes, indicating that they were second-hand or discarded. He says this as if he needs to justify why he has them, possibly

because he feels out of place wearing something that suggests privilege. His explanation reflects the reality that many underprivileged children rely on the charity of others for basic needs.

Quick Tip

Many underprivileged children receive second-hand items, but often feel the need to explain or justify their possessions.

10(i). How did the Champaran episode change the plight of the peasants?

Solution: The Champaran episode empowered the peasants. They gained confidence, became self-reliant, and learned the values of fearlessness and courage. Gandhi's intervention secured a 25% share of the profit for the peasants, which was a significant win and the beginning of their freedom. The collective struggle united them and led to a sense of dignity and rights.

Quick Tip

The Champaran movement marked the beginning of a major change for the peasants as they learned the power of collective action and self-reliance.

10(ii). Why did Douglas use the metaphor 'Deep Water' as the title to his autobiographical account?

Solution: Douglas used the metaphor 'Deep Water' to symbolize his deep-rooted fear of water. As a child, he was afraid of drowning, especially after being knocked down by the waves and constantly reminded of the dangerous Yakima River by his mother. His fear was so intense that when a bully threw him into the deep end of the pool, he had to gradually struggle and fight his fear, learning how to overcome it and eventually gain confidence.

Quick Tip

The metaphor "Deep Water" represents both the literal fear of drowning and the metaphorical battle to overcome personal fears.

10(iii). What is the significance of the title ‘The Rattrap’?

Solution: The title ‘The Rattrap’ signifies how life is like a trap. The protagonist, feeling trapped in his life, realizes that the material temptations in life act as bait, luring people into the trap. The rattrap metaphor highlights the idea of being caught in the cycle of greed and desire, unable to escape the consequences of one’s actions.

Quick Tip
Life’s temptations often lead us into traps, and the rattrap symbolizes how easy it is to fall into materialistic desires without realizing the consequences.

Life’s temptations often lead us into traps, and the rattrap symbolizes how easy it is to fall into materialistic desires without realizing the consequences.

10(iv). What are the ordeals Aunt Jennifer is surrounded by?

Solution: Aunt Jennifer is surrounded by the constraints of married life, which suffocate and oppress her. She lives in constant fear of her husband and is anxious and uncertain about her life. The burdens of her life weigh her down, and she feels trapped by her circumstances, unable to break free.

Quick Tip
Aunt Jennifer’s ordeals reflect the emotional and psychological constraints placed on women by oppressive societal and marital norms.

Aunt Jennifer’s ordeals reflect the emotional and psychological constraints placed on women by oppressive societal and marital norms.

10(v). Explain the meaning of the word ‘Interview’ as signified in the lesson.

Solution: In the lesson, the word ‘Interview’ signifies an interaction between two individuals, where one (the interviewer) holds unprecedented power and position, often questioning the other (the interviewee). It is portrayed as a formal practice, where one person’s responses are scrutinized. The term also hints at the practice’s invasive nature, as it metaphorically wounds the interviewee’s sense of dignity.

Quick Tip

Interviews hold significant power and authority, as they often place the interviewee in a vulnerable position, revealing aspects of their character and experience.

10(vi). How has Ashokamitran used humans to entertain his readers and which figure of speech does he use in the title to highlight it?

Solution: Ashokamitran uses the contrast between the two worlds of poets and pancakes to entertain readers. The story describes a makeup artist who works in the film industry and contrasts this with the presence of important people like the lawyer and Stephen Spender. The metaphor of “Poets and Pancakes” serves to highlight the humor and absurdity in the situation, demonstrating the mixing of the mundane with the artistic.

Quick Tip

Ashokamitran cleverly uses metaphor to highlight the differences between two seemingly unrelated worlds, drawing attention to the humor in everyday life.

11(i). Why does Zitkala-Sa feel, ‘Spirit tore itself in struggling for its lost freedom, all was useless’?

(Memories of Childhood)

Solution: Zitkala-Sa feels a deep sense of **loss and helplessness** as she struggles against the forceful imposition of an unfamiliar culture. She misses the warmth and security of her **home and mother** but realizes that her rebellion is in vain. The **shingling of her hair**, the **rigid discipline**, and the **close-clinging dress** symbolize the stripping away of her dignity and individuality. Despite her desperate struggle, she is unable to resist the imposed norms, leading her to feel that her spirit’s fight for freedom was futile.

Quick Tip

Forced assimilation often leads to a loss of identity, culture, and dignity, making individuals feel powerless.

11(ii). Mr. Lamb believes in the oneness of all the creations of God. Give an example to support this statement.

(On The Face Of It)

Solution: Mr. Lamb strongly believes that **all living beings are equal** and part of God's creation. He does not discriminate based on differences. He gives the example of **weeds in his garden**, stating that every green plant is valuable, regardless of whether it is considered a weed. His philosophy promotes **inclusivity**, where **disabilities and differences** are accepted as normal. He teaches Derry that **everything in the world is unique, yet part of the same whole**, encouraging him to embrace life with confidence.

Quick Tip
True acceptance comes from seeing differences as strengths rather than weaknesses.

11(iii). 'You also cannot throw him back to the sea,' Hana said. From the above statement infer some qualities of Hana.

(The Enemy)

Solution: Hana is a **compassionate and rational** woman who supports her husband, Dr. Sadao, in his moral dilemma. Although she is a **patriot**, she does not let **hatred for the enemy** cloud her judgment. She believes in **humanity above nationalism** and convinces Sadao to treat the wounded enemy soldier rather than abandon him. Her logical thinking and **strong moral values** make her a **courageous and humane individual**.

Quick Tip
True morality lies in helping others, even when personal beliefs or national interests conflict.

12(a). You are Pablo Neruda the poet of 'Keeping Quiet'. After reading the poem of Frost you discovered that you and he share the same passion, to help the have-nots of

the society.

“Sometimes I feel myself I can hardly bear The thought of so much childish longing in vain, The sadness that lurks near the open window there, That waits all day in almost open prayer” Write a letter to Mr. Robert Frost expressing your desire to start a blog with him to appeal to the masses to help the ‘have-nots’ in their personal capacity. They can start by gradually selecting small pockets of neighbourhood localities and extending help to them. Begin your letter to Frost like this :

Dear Robert,

I recently read your poem ‘A Roadside Stand and

You may end this way :

I hope we will make it together and rock the neighbourhood.

Warmly,

Pablo Neruda

Solution:

Dear Robert,

I recently read your poem ‘A Roadside Stand and...’ and I was deeply moved by the emotions conveyed. I feel the same sadness you described in your lines, “The sadness that lurks near the open window there, that waits all day in almost open prayer.” These words resonated with me as I believe we share the same concern for the plight of the have-nots in our society.

I would earnestly like to reduce the plight of the underprivileged and help bridge the gap between the have-nots and the rest of the society. This can be done by spreading awareness among the affluent and sensitizing them to contribute both in cash and kind. A collective effort is needed, one that can develop feelings of love and acceptance among those who are often disregarded, transforming them into respected members of society.

We can start by gradually selecting small pockets of localities, perhaps beginning with the neighbourhood. We could encourage locals to purchase from the underprivileged, make them members of cooperatives, and help them build a better future. We must not neglect the village folk, as they have products to sell but lack opportunities.

Together, we can remove the class differences, inequality, and exploitation by those in power.

The cry for help that echoes through the poor will be answered.

I hope we will make it together and rock the neighbourhood.

Warmly,

Pablo Neruda

Quick Tip
Addressing inequality requires collective efforts. Sensitizing the affluent and helping create opportunities for the underprivileged can make a real difference in society.

OR

12(b). Aunt Jennifer, Sophie’s mom, Mukesh’s grandmother, and the poet’s mother meet in a park nearby. They discuss one another’s lives. You are Kamala Das and are sitting with your mother and listening to their discussion. You decide to give a speech in the women’s forum about the ‘Responsibility of being a Woman’. With reference to the above context, compose this draft. Give suggestions. You may begin this way:

Good morning everyone. Based on the lives of these women....

You may end this way :

To conclude, I’d like to say that

Solution:

Aunt Jennifer, Sophie’s mom, Mukesh’s grandmother, and my mother have all lived different lives, but they are united by a common struggle – that of being women. Through their stories, we can see the many facets of a woman’s life, which are filled with challenges, sacrifices, and often unspoken pain.

Aunt Jennifer’s life is a reflection of oppression and the constraints imposed by her marriage. She lives in fear, with her freedom limited by societal norms. Yet, despite her circumstances, she channels her strength through her art, creating tigers that symbolize her unspoken desire for power and freedom. Her art becomes a permanent symbol of her resilience.

Sophie’s mother and Mukesh’s grandmother represent the oppression of the impoverished. They live in poverty, with limited resources, and are often helpless in the face of familial

authority. They have no voice in the household and are neglected. Their lives are characterized by the absence of choice, a stark reminder of the systemic oppression that affects women from marginalized communities.

Kamala Das's mother symbolizes the transience of human life. She speaks of life as fleeting, reminding us of the inevitability of death. However, this fleeting nature of life also serves as a reminder that we must stand up for ourselves, fight for our rights, and not let ourselves be defined by the roles imposed on us by society.

As women, we must not only recognize our struggles but also take pride in our strengths. We must not wait for change to come; we must fight for our rights, intertwining tradition with progressive thoughts. The need of the hour is to stand for ourselves and the generations of women who will follow.

Let us support each other and raise our voices, for it is through unity and understanding that we can create a better future for ourselves and for our daughters.

Quick Tip

The responsibility of being a woman lies not only in accepting challenges but also in actively fighting for one's rights and dignity.

13(a). Louisa, the protagonist's wife in 'The Third Level,' is amazed at Sam's suggestion that her husband is unhappy. In her state of anger, she expresses her feelings by writing in her diary. As Louisa, Charley's wife, write this diary entry. Support your response with reference to the story.

You may begin this way :

"I have been married to Charley for a few years now and I have always known him to be an intelligent man with an imaginative mind. However, his recent obsession with finding the Third Level has"

Solution:

Louisa's Diary Entry

Date: [Insert Date]

Dear Diary,

I have been married to Charley for a few years now, and I have always known him to be an intelligent man with a strong imagination. However, his **recent obsession with finding the Third Level** is making him act strangely. He seems completely lost in his thoughts, talking about **Galesburg, Illinois in 1894** as if it were a real place. I am beginning to worry that he is trying to **escape from reality**, avoiding the insecurities and fears of the modern world. Sam believes that **Charley's search for the Third Level** is nothing but a **waking dream wish fulfillment**. Perhaps Charley is deeply troubled by the anxieties of post-war life, and in his heart, he wishes to be at peace, just like his grandfather was in a simpler time. **War, stress, and the fast-paced life** of the present seem to overwhelm him, making him yearn for an era that no longer exists.

Despite my concerns, I do see a **small glimmer of hope**. Charley has gone back to his old hobby of **stamp collection**, which might help him find some comfort in reality again. If this brings him happiness, then I am ready to help him find peace in whatever way I can.

Louisa

Quick Tip

People often seek escape from reality when faced with overwhelming stress or uncertainty in life.

OR

13(b). Zitkala-Sa, after growing up and completing her education, goes to teach in a girls' school. On the first day, she is overwhelmed by the sight of many happy girls. Her mind flies back to when she entered her own school as a child. She writes in her diary about how she felt on her first day at school and how the situation has changed in modern times. As Zitkala-Sa, create a diary entry expressing these thoughts and concluding with... 'Let that which has happened in the past now be forgotten as it has gone now.'

You may begin like this : "I find myself reflecting on an event that happened many years ago....."

Solution:

Zitkala-Sa's Diary Entry

Date: [Insert Date]

Dear Diary,

Today, as I stepped into the girls' school as a teacher, I was struck by the **joyful faces** of young students. They laughed freely, their eyes filled with curiosity, and I realized how much times have changed. This sight transported me back to **my own first day at school**, a day filled with fear, pain, and humiliation.

Back then, we were **treated like a herd**, made to wear **immodest dresses**, and forced to abandon our **cultural identity**. The most painful moment was when they **shingled my hair**, a symbol of cowardice among my people. I tried to rebel, I fought back, but my voice was **silenced by force**. I felt like a prisoner in an unfamiliar world, stripped of my dignity.

But today, I see a new world. There is **democracy, gender equality, and freedom of speech**. Young girls are treated with respect and are encouraged to dream. I am proud that I have played a role in fighting against **oppression and injustice**. The struggles of the past were not in vain.

I remind myself today: "**Let that which has happened in the past now be forgotten as it has gone now.**" I will dedicate my life to ensuring that no child ever has to suffer the way I did.

Zitkala-Sa

Quick Tip

Education and awareness help societies progress, ensuring that future generations do not suffer the injustices of the past.