

**CBSE Sample Paper-03**  
**English Communicative**  
**Class – IX**

Time allowed: 3 hours, Maximum Marks: 70

**General Instructions:**

**(i)** The Question paper is divided into three sections:

Section A – Reading **20 marks**

Section B – Writing and Grammar **25 marks**

Section C – Literature **25 marks**

**(ii)** All questions are compulsory.

**(iii)** You may attempt any section at a time.

**(iv)** All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

**SECTION A**  
**(Reading 20 marks)**

**1. A. Read the passage given below: (5)**

Money is indispensable to make life's machine run smoothly. People who lack money are often deprived of even the basic necessities of life. But it must also be clearly understood that though important, money cannot be the-all and end-all of life. There are several things, like peace of mind, happiness and love, which are extremely important in our life but which cannot be bought with money.

A man inherited a palatial bungalow, a big fleet of luxury cars and a thriving business. He believed he was placed in such a situation where he could command anything in life. Hundreds of people flocked to him every day and fleeced him of some money. Since his "safes" were overflowing with money, the loss of a little did not pinch him. And, unfortunately, he remained blind to the real motive of those people's friendship and prided himself on his large following.

One day, bored with the inactive life he was leading, he invited some friends to his house. All of them pretended to be busy. They said they could not come because they had a previous engagement. Next day, he renewed the invitation but none of them responded positively.

Feeling desperate, he took his chauffeur to a big five-star hotel and spent over ten thousand rupees in a futile bid to 'buy' happiness. He returned home in the evening, utterly disgusted with life. It was then that he realised that one could not buy everything with money.

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- (i) How do people who are not “well-off” suffer in life?**
- (ii) What kind of life was the man in the story leading?**
- (iii) Why, in your view, did his friends decline his invitation?**
- (iv) How did the man try to overcome his frustration?**
- (v) Find a word from the above passage which means ‘to take away’?**

**1. B. Read the passage given below: (5)**

Like a firefighter, I always keep my gloves by my side. A firefighter's glove helps others; mine helps me to walk. I am disabled. True, but all that means is that I need to take a different path. I need to learn to walk with my hands. Placing one hand in front of the other, I move myself. Quiet early in life I learnt that if I need to reach heights. I need to depend on my own hands in every way!

Stricken by polio when I was one-year-old, my legs became weak like a wet rag. My biggest blessing was that my parents treated me like any other child. Books remained my attraction and distraction since playground or the stage was not reachable to me. My handicap gave me the opportunity to focus on studies and I was good at it. I somehow convinced my parents to admit me to a hospital which promised recovery for my condition. This exposure created a lot of self-confidence in me. My interaction with other inmates made me realise that the hardest thing to overcome is not the physical disability, but the mental condition, which it produces. I didn't allow the bamboo stick that was tied to my thin legs, medicinal paste and long time immobility to crush my spirits. While being in the hospital, through private coaching I secured first class in my tenth standard examination.

On completion of my engineering degree, I cleared the competitive exam for junior telecom officer. Today, I am an engineer in the BSNL with foundation of ideas in my head, enormous courage in my heart, white cotton gloves in my hand and God ever by my side, I am marching ahead.

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- (i) The narrator is a victim of which disease?**
- (ii) What lesson did the writer learn while being in the hospital?**

**(iii) What was the writer's main attraction?**

**(iv) What is the quality that helped the writer grow?**

**(v) Which word from the passage means the same as "physically challenged people"?**

**2. OTBA(10)**

**Ans. 1.** (i) They are deprived of the basic necessities of life.

(ii) He had been leading a luxurious life staying in a bungalow, enjoying cars and thriving on business.

(iii) Soaking in the luxuries of life, he was blind or indifferent to his friends and peers.

(iv) When none of his friends responded to his invitation, he took his Chauffeur to a big hotel and spent over Rs. 10,000 in a futile bid to buy happiness.

(v) Deprive.

**2.** (i) Polio.

(ii) One should overcome mental conditions rather than physical disability.

(iii) Books.

(iv) Self confidence/courage/will power/determination.

(v) Disabled.

---

**SECTION B**

**(Writing and Grammar 25 marks)**

**3. Trees are being cut daily. Forests are being destroyed to provide space for houses, industries and roads. All this is greatly harming the environment. In an article for your school magazine, describe in 100- 120 words, the harms caused by deforestation and the steps to be taken to check it. (5)**

**Ans. The Harms of Deforestation**

Deforestation means clearing the forests by cutting down or burning trees in a large number. This is done to build homes, roads, bridges, etc. for the comforts and needs of rising population. It has certainly harmful effects on the environment as well as our lives. In the absence of trees which breathe out oxygen, the atmosphere gets more polluted and hotter than before, leading to global warming. Global warming results in freak droughts, floods and storms that cause heavy damage to crops, property and life in general. Trees provide much-needed wood and medicinal material. When they are cut down, the poor people are badly

hit. Trees also check soil erosion. When there is no check on soil erosion fertile lands go barren and food production is badly hit.

Therefore, we must take immediate steps to check deforestation. If we need to cut trees in some areas, we should plant more in others. Plants around fields should be grown. People should be encouraged not to use wood for cooking. Alternative fuels should be provided. Some sorts of legal bans on cutting trees should be introduced and implemented strictly.

#### **4. Complete the following story in about 150-200 words. (10)**

**A man came to cut a tree – the tree which obstructed his view of the valley – found the tree fell down last night in storm – the man sat beside the tree pondering on unexpected twists and turns – he picked up an account – gently pushed it into the earth – realised the importance of trees in human live.**

**Ans.** Within the trunk of the trees, there are growth rings, markers of the good and bad years. Moss clings to the bark. Leaves are banked up, on one side, the sheltered side.

A man sits beside the fallen tree he is resting, leaning against a large rock, which has not moved in years.

The tree though, fell last night in the storm.

The man is pondering, on life's unexpected twists and turns.

He had come here today to cut down the tree, this tree, the one that had obstructed his view of the valley. This tree that had hid from him the glory of the sunset and the joy of waking to see the new dawn breaking on the horizon each and every day.

Yet now he is sad and does not know if he would have had the heart to lift the axe, to strike down the tree, to fell the tree, the tree that had blocked out the view and caused him so many missed opportunities.

Now he feels as if he has lost an old friend and he realises that each time he watches the sun rise and sunset across the valley, he will think of the tree, as he stares at the space that it once occupied. The tree that he has been planning to cut down for the last five years, if only he had the time, is no more, he is shocked for what he feels is sadness and not relief.

He looks at the grain of the wood that had been hidden away inside the tree, he stares at the swirls, the knits and its growth rings. In its own way the tree has been making time, as steadily as the sun rising and setting and carefully as the pocket watch that he carries. He stretches out his hand and picks up an account and then gently pushes it into the soft earth next to the fallen tree.

“For your son” he whispers although he is by himself, so that you may have a tree to climb, so that you can see beyond the horizon together-one day they will plant a forest of oak trees.

**5. Complete the following passage by choosing the correct word from the given options.**

**(3)**

The Gurupurab celebrations (i) \_\_\_\_ are held in the month of November attract a large number of devotees. The Golden Temple (ii) \_\_\_\_ is the hub of Sikhism is visited by many people (iii) \_\_\_\_ pay homage to Guru Nanak Dev, the first Guru of the Sikhs. It is Guru Nanak Dev (iv) \_\_\_\_ birthday is celebrated in this way. The Guru was born at a time (v) \_\_\_\_ there was no one to show the path of truth to the people (vi) \_\_\_\_ had become superstitious and unbelievers.

(i) (a) which (b) that (c) who (d) whom

(ii) (a) which (b) that (c) who (d) what

(iii) (a) which (b) whom (c) who (d) what

(iv) (a) whose (b) whom (c) who (d) which

(v) (a) that (b) when (c) what (d) which

(vi) (a) that (b) who (c) whom (d) which

**Ans.** (i) which

(ii) which

(iii) what

(iv) whose

(v) when

(vi) who

**6. The following passages have not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction as shown in the example against the correct blank number. Remember to underline the correct word. The first one has been done for you as an example.(4)**

**Ans.** (a) are – is

(b) around – over

(c) a – the

(d) for – towards

**Incorrect / Correct**

The behaviour of young boys are(a) \_\_\_\_\_  
the subject of comment the world around,(b) \_\_\_\_\_  
particularly a manifestation of insulting around, (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
conduct for schools and colleges going girls in (d) \_\_\_\_\_  
University towns.

**Ans.** (a) have – has  
(b) the – a  
(c) occupy – occupied  
(d) became – become

**7. Read the conversation and complete the paragraph given below: (3)**

**Arati:** What do you think of the question paper?

**Saurabh:** It was a lengthy paper. I left questions worth 15 marks.

**Arati:** On the whole the paper was easy. But I'm afraid. I'll lose marks because of my poor handwriting.

**Aarti asked Saurabh (a) \_\_\_\_ Saurabh told that (b) \_\_\_\_ and he had left questions worth 15 marks. Arati then said that on the whole the paper was easy but she was afraid she (c) \_\_\_\_.**

**Ans.** (a) What he thought of the question paper.  
(b) it was a lengthy paper.  
(c) would lose marks because of her poor handwriting.

---

## SECTION C

(Literature 25 marks)

**8. Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow:(3)**

“Well, I've made a study of it since I was a kid, so I jolly well ought to. All the fellows at our place are frightfully keen on it. One chap's got a snapshot of Jimmy Wilde. At least, he says it's Jimmy Wilde, but I believe it's just some ordinary fellow.”

- (i) What has Harold studied since he was a kid?
- (ii) What do you mean by 'Keen'?
- (iii) What does Harold ask his father to give him?

- Ans.** (i) Since Harold was kid, he studied everything about boxing.  
(ii) Keen means intense.  
(iii) Harold asks his father to give him his autograph, i.e., 'Young Porky'.

**9. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each. (8)**

- (i) What did the Professor mean by "intelligent reading"? What were his ambitions in the army?**  
**(ii) Harold was a model child but for one thing that marred his 'perfection'. What was it?**  
**(iii) How do characters in a 'best seller' differ from people in real life?**  
**(iv) Explain in short the last scene in 'The Seven Ages'.**

- Ans.** (i) Professor's aim was to get a commission or to be an army officer. By intelligent reading, he meant thorough and deep reading.  
(ii) Harold was a perfect child. He was devoted to his books and was extremely well behaved. He was a model of goodness and intellect. He was altogether admirable. But one thing that marred his 'perfection' was that his father was a boxer, which is considered as a sport of wrath.  
(iii) In a bestseller, the hero or the heroine can marry or choose the spouse. In a bestseller, the hero or the heroine can marry or choose the spouse  
(iv) In the last scene, according to the poet, the man is about to reach his grave. He has no sight, no taste and no teeth, a frail and fragile body staring into oblivion. It is the second childhood of man.

- 10. The dramatic irony in the story is that the Brambles tried to hide the fact that could have been a matter of pride and swanking for Harold. Give a reason for your answer. (4)**

**Or**

**How does the poem point out a great similarity between the world and the stage? Elaborate with the reference of the poem 'Seven Ages'.**

**Ans.** Harold's parents and Major Percy tried a lot to hide the fact from Harold that Bill was a boxer. Harold was told that his father was a commercial traveller. Ironically, the studious Harold had deep interest in boxing. He had betted two shillings that Murphy would not last



even ten rounds against 'Young Porky'. Little did he know that he was the son of 'Young Porky'. It would be a matter of pride and honour for him if he had known the true identity of his father earlier.

Or

All the world's stage is an extended metaphor for the life of a man that comes to an end. The poet calls the world, a stage of a theatre. Several actors are needed to stage a play. Each actor is assigned a particular part. Each actor stays on the stage for a limited time. He enters the stage when he is needed to act his role. He leaves the stage as soon as his role is finished. Thus, his entrance and exit points are fixed. The world too is very similar to a stage. People are born in the world and birth is the entry point. Every one lives in the world for a fixed period of time. Then comes death which is the exit point. No one is on the stage forever and no one is in the world forever. All the above are points of similarity. There is only one dissimilarity and that is on the stage an actor has to play a single role while in the world, the same person has to play several roles.

**11. A. What truth does Gulliver seek from the spirits? (10)**

Or

**The Grand Academy of Lagado is not beyond human comprehension, but quite plausible if we compare it with our own laboratories and experiments. Give a comparative study.**

**Ans. A.** When Gulliver visited Glubbubdrib which was an island of magicians, he found that the Governor was served by spirits. The Governor told Gulliver that he had the power of calling up any spirit and ask him to serve him for 24 hours, but the same spirit could not be called up again within three months. The Governor offered Gulliver to ask him to call any spirit and he chose to call upon the spirit of Alexander the Great, who assured him that he died not from poison but from excessive drinking. He also saw the Cathaginian General Hannibal's ghost who clarified that the account of his crossing the Alps was wrong. The ghost of Aristotle confessed that he had made numerous mistakes in natural philosophy because he had anticipated many things based on his conjecture. Gulliver had the occasion to talk to the modern king of Europe. He learnt to his surprise that some so-called illustrious families had characteristics of cruelty, falsehood and cowardice masked under the coat of arms. He



also learnt that some of these kings had a barber, two fiddlers and a low-ranking clergyman as their ancestors.

**Or**

Gulliver visited the Grand Academy of Lagado situated in a series of houses on both sides of a street. There were about five hundred rooms in which scientists were working on several projects. Gulliver met an unkempt scientist who had been working on extracting sunbeams from cucumber for eight years. He was yet to succeed in this strange experiment. There was a room in which an architect was working on designing a fantastic way of constructing a house- beginning at the roof and working downwards just as the bee and spider do. Then there was a silk maker and a physician who were working on equally strange projects. There was a mathematician who wrote the preposition and demonstration on a thin wafer and made his students swallow it.

Such experiments were beyond human comprehension, but quite plausible if we compare them with those going on in our own laboratories. The scientists working on building colonies on the Mars or on resurrecting extinct animals like dinosaurs or mammoths seem to be equally absurd and incomprehensible. But looking in the retrospect, many absurd-seeming ideas and theories had come to be true.

**Or**

**11. B. Give a character sketch of Harris (10)**

**Or**

**What do you learn about the characters of Jerome and Harris from the incident of preparing Irish stew?**

**Ans. B.** Harris appeared to be a practical young man, who could not see much romanticism in the world around him. He was fond of drinking and was not too fond of working hard. He did not seem to have much imagination and was more aggressive than the other two. He was also very fond of eating. He had a strange fascination for cemeteries and tombs and would like to visit graveyards, unlike the narrator.

He did not have much aesthetic sense and dressed in loud colours like orange and yellow, which did not suit him. He was a terrible singer and could never remember the words to a song. He did think he was a great comic singer, though, and often sang comic songs, which

ended up being not very funny. He similarly thought he could cook well, but as the incident with the eggs showed, he was not a good cook either. In addition, he was a frank and outspoken young man, which was evident when he ensured that George did not play his Banjo within his hearing.

### Or

The incident of preparing Irish stew is quite humorous. It also sheds light on certain aspects of the characters of Harris and the narrator (Jerome). Both Harris and Jerome were bad at cooking. They were also not consistent. They got bored soon with a task in hand. For instance, they started peeling potatoes. At first, the task looked very easy and entertaining to them. But soon they got tired. The more they peeled the potatoes the more they were dissatisfied with their performance. They reduced the potatoes to the size of peas. George saw them make a mess of the whole thing. He was horrified and asked them to stop peeling the potatoes. He asked to scrape the potatoes instead. Harris and the narrator started scrapping the potatoes, which was quite a tedious job for them. They continued their job for about twenty-five minutes. They could scrape only four potatoes. They were totally exhausted.

George washed half a dozen potatoes and without peeling them put them into the frying pan. Harris wanted to make the stew in a novel way. He put everything they had in the pan. He even put a rat into the frying pan. It was Montmorency's contribution. Thus, the incident shows that Harris and the narrator were bad cooks. They were inconsistent and impatient. Harris was also an innovator who was least bothered about what he invented.