

**Bhavan's Gangabux Kanoria Vidyamandir**  
**Pre - Board Examination (2024 - 25)**  
**Class - X**  
**Subject : English Language & Literature (Code No. 184)**

**F. M. : 80**

**Time : 3hrs**

Name & Roll No : \_\_\_\_\_

Class & Sec : \_\_\_\_\_

**Please do not write anything else on the question paper.**

**This question paper contains 10 Pages.**

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. This question paper comprises 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper contains THREE sections:

Section - A: Reading Skills

Section - B: Grammar and Creative Writing Skills

Section - C: Literature Textbook

3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each Part.

**SECTION A - READING SKILLS (20 marks)**

1. Read the following text.

10

- 1) Happiness is not something far away and unattainable. Happiness does not depend on circumstances or objects. It is an inseparable part of our consciousness, of our essence, but hidden and covered from sight by our thoughts, desires, and worries. We all seek happiness but few, very few, indeed, get it. We are unhappy partly because we desire much more than what we can hope to attain. Our countless desires are hard to be satisfied. And that is what makes us so sad in life. The secret of happiness lies in the simplification of life. Simple living encourages high thinking. It leads to contentment. Contentment gives us inner wealth, the wealth of the mind and the soul.
- 2) A contented man devotes himself to virtues; such a man can feel true happiness. It does not mean that for simplification of life, a man should become an ascetic. For a positive kind of happiness, one must live in the midst of life and faithfully carry out the responsibilities of home and country. But all this should be done in the spirit of selfless service.
- 3) A man, who wants to lead a happy life, should also make others happy. In making others happy he will taste real and lasting happiness. There is a kind of joy in serving others with virtuous motives, in sacrificing what one has for the good of others. An act of goodness is in itself an act of happiness. The secret of perfect happiness lies in renunciation.
- 4) Wealth may give one joy for a while and fame may provide one with fleeting excitement. But they cannot give permanent happiness. The rich may have everything to make them happy and yet they feel unhappy. It is because they do not practise renunciation. It is only by cultivating a spirit of renunciation, and self-sacrifice, that one can experience lasting contentment.

- 5) There is a sense of joy in doing one's work honestly and efficiently. A research worker feels joy in research and a journalist in writing. In doing one's duty sincerely, one feels peace of mind which is an important essence of happiness.
- 6) Happiness is like the sun, it is often hidden by the clouds of thoughts, worries, and desires. We have to scatter and dissolve them to experience happiness. One does not have to create happiness. All you have to do is calm your mind, because when there is a quiet mind and inner peace, there is happiness.

Created for academic usage/412 words

- I. Answer the following questions, based on the passage above
- I. According to the passage, what are the factors that trigger unhappiness? 2
- II. Which of the following statements is **not true** in the context of the passage? 1
- A. Happiness is not something unattainable and remote.
  - B. Renunciation is the result of perfect happiness..
  - C. Multiplicity of desires makes one unhappy.
  - D. Making others happy makes one happy.
- III. Why are the rich not happy despite possessing great wealth? 1
- IV. Find a phrase from paragraph 4 which means: "short-lived enthusiasm". 1
- V. Based on your reading of the text list two reasons why the writer says, "In making others happy he will taste real and lasting happiness"? 2
- VI. Complete the following with the correct option from the two given. 1
- Neha always completes her official assignments on time. She appears happy and contented because \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. She has simplified her life and is doing selfless service
  - B. She feels peace of mind by doing her work honestly and sincerely.
- VII. Choose the option that best captures the central idea of the passage from the given quotes. 1
- A. "Life is about creating and living experiences that are worth sharing." -Steve Jobs
- B. "Imagination is more important than knowledge." -Albert Einstein
- C. "Happiness is not something readymade; it comes from your own actions," - Dalai Lama
- D. "When you want something all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it." - Paulo Coelho
- VIII. How has the sun been associated with the concept of happiness? 1
2. Read the following text. 10
- 1) Tourism is a thriving business for earning valuable foreign exchange as well as providing an opportunity for cultural exchange and generating employment. India has a rich heritage of art, sculpture, music, dance, and drama. Many European countries have promoted tourism as a trade. In some countries, it is run like an industry. We, in India, are running it in a non-

professional or amateurish manner.

- 2) Tourism in India is important for the country's economy and is growing rapidly. The World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) calculated that tourism generated 16.91 lakh crore rupees or 9.2% of India's GDP in 2018 and supported 42.67 million jobs. Over one crore foreign tourists arrived in India in 2019. Domestic tourists visiting different states and union territories numbered about 155 crores in 2019.
- 3) It is high time we regard travel and tourism as an industry and launch action plans to accelerate the growth of tourism. A nodal financial institution catering to the specific needs of the tourism industry should be established.
- 4) The main stumbling blocks in the development of tourism at present are lack of infrastructure, inadequate ways of reaching hotels, tourist sites, gateways, etc., paucity in the number of coaches and cars (especially air-conditioned ones), and ill-maintained roads. Conferences, cultural exchanges, tourism exchanges, leisure trips, education trips, holiday trips, or business trips should be segregated and the facilities available should be publicized as an attractive package.
- 5) The needs and aspirations of the various categories of tourists should be carefully analysed and adhered to in the sphere of accommodation, food, entertainment, and guided tours. Last, but not least, the hotel industry should adopt a business-like attitude in greeting and sending off the visitors with a smile. Giving them a pleasant experience, prepares them to undertake a repeat visit soon.

[Created for academic usage/299 words]

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above

- I. What makes tourism a thriving business? 1
- II. Complete the sentence suitably. 1
- India is an ideal place for the growth of tourism because \_\_\_\_\_.
- III. Identify a word through which the author states that tourism in India is managed in an incompetent way. 1
- IV. Give evidence from paragraph 2 to show that tourism does contribute in the growth of a nation. 2
- V. Based on your understanding of the passage, list any 2 difficulties that hinder the development of tourism. 2
- VI. Read the given prompt and select the correct option to answer the question.

*City A has many tourist sites; however, it suffers from poor accommodation facilities in its hotels.*

What is the city likely to experience in regards to tourism? 1

- A. Increase in the number of tourists visiting the city.
- B. Increase in the number of newly constructed hotels.
- C. A fall in the number of tourists visiting the city.
- D. A growth in revenue generated in the transport sector.

**VII.** Is it necessary to analyse the various categories of tourists? Why/Why not? 1

**VIII. Assertion -** The hotel industry should adopt a business-like attitude.

**Reason-** If visitors leave with a smile, they will undertake a repeat visit soon. 1

- A. Both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
- B. Both the assertion and reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
- C. The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
- D. The assertion is false, but the reason is true

#### **SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 marks)**

**GRAMMAR** 10

3. Complete any **ten** of twelve of the following tasks, as directed.

**I.** Fill in the blank with the correct option to complete the official request in the given letter:

I \_\_\_\_\_ you to address this at your earliest convenience and issue the letters of recommendation.

- A. have entreated
- B. are entreating
- C. entreat
- D. entreated

**II.** Identify the error on a medicine bottle label and write the correction

Take two spoons of syrup in the morning for quick relieve from joint pains.

ERROR	CORRECTION

**III.** Elisa asked the following question to her friend. Report her question by completing the sentence.

Did you watch the latest film?

Elisa asked her friend if \_\_\_\_\_

**IV.** Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the question.

I need to buy buns. Do you have \_\_\_\_\_ (few/any/some) left?

**V.** Read Jack's statement to his recruitment manager during the interview.

Jack: I believe in working hard to achieve success.

Report Jack's reply by completing the following sentence correctly.

Jack told his recruitment manager that \_\_\_\_\_

**VI.** Identify and correct the error in the given line below:

You may not go there personally; just send someone.

OPTION	ERROR	CORRECTION
A	just	now
B	may	need
C	someone	somebody
D	there	their

VII. Complete the given sentence by selecting the correct option to fill in the blank.

By next Monday he \_\_\_\_\_ staying at my uncle's house for three weeks.

- A. will
- B. has been
- C. will have been
- D. shall have been

VIII. Detect the error and supply the correction for the given news report.

Education play an important role in building an individual's identity and personality.

ERROR	CORRECTION

IX. Report the dialogue between the headmaster and a student, by completing the sentence.

Student: Sir, I have come to collect my transfer certificate.

Headmaster: It is with the head clerk.

The student said that he had come to collect his transfer certificate to which the headmaster replied \_\_\_\_\_.

X. Fill in the blank by choosing the <sup>correct</sup> option to complete a line from an inspirational story.

Never deprive someone of hope, it just \_\_\_\_\_ be all they have.

- A. can
- B. must
- C. will
- D. might

XI. Complete the given sentence about a conference held on Biomedical Engineering.

Every engineer and every doctor present at the conference \_\_\_\_\_ given a copy of proceedings.

- A. was
- B. have been
- C. are
- D. were

XII. Read the conversation and complete the sentence by reporting the reply correctly.

Anne: I want to order a big pineapple cake for my birthday

Confectioner: When is your birthday?

Anne told the confectioner that \_\_\_\_\_ for her birthday. The confectioner asked when her birthday was.

### WRITING

NOTE: All details presented in the questions in writing section are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

- 4A. Software engineers from India have acquired the reputation of being the best in the world. However, most of them migrate to other countries, even though their own country needs them the most. Write a letter to the editor of a popular newspaper expressing concern over the issue of brain drain, suggesting solutions. (100-120 words) 5

You may use the following inputs - brain drain matter of serious concern - loss of human resource - tax revenue - causes shortage of skilled workers and experts. Must be tackled - quality of education should be improved - more job opportunities should be created - better resources and facilities should be provided.

### OR

- 4B. You are interested in taking membership at the British Council Library in New Delhi. Write a letter to the head librarian enquiring about the procedure for the same, asking for all the relevant details. (100-120 words) 5

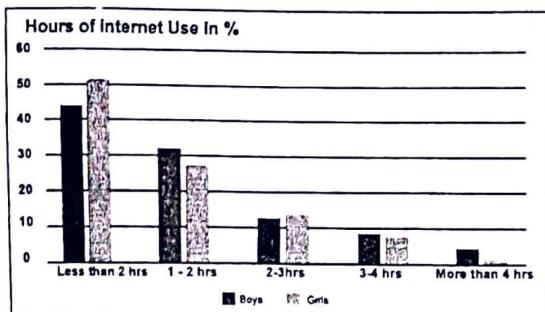
5. A. Paramjit Singh is aspiring for a film acting career. He belongs to a poor family. He possesses theatrical and acting skills but has no wide exposure in this field. He is after name and fame but is venturing into an uncharted field. Write a paragraph in about 100 - 120 words, analysing his SWOT notes to support your stand on whether he should aspire for such a career or not. 5

STRENGTH	WEAKNESS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Literary taste</li><li>Theatrical/acting skills</li><li>Rich and vibrant voice</li><li>Well built physique and impressive looks</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Poor family</li><li>Parents want safe and certain career</li><li>Needs regular income</li><li>No exposure or experience in the field.</li></ul>
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Entry into world of glamour</li><li>Easy recognition</li><li>Can earn name and fame</li><li>Lot of money</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Unaware of its pitfalls</li><li>A lot of competition</li><li>Element of luck and chance</li><li>Too many risks and uncertainty</li></ul>

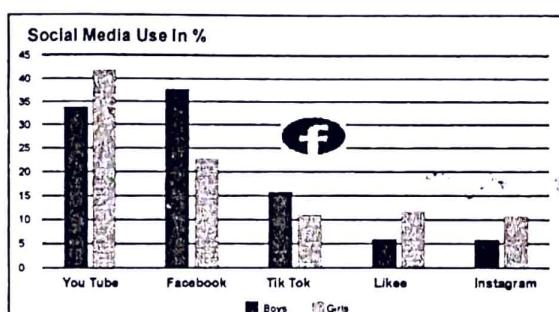
**OR**

5B. A CRY survey about Online Safety and Internet Addiction involving 630 students from 8 school illustrates the number of hours teens, both boys and girls, spend on the internet and their liking for social media. Another issue highlighted by the report is that of Cyber bullying. Write an analytical paragraph in 100-120 words presenting the general trends and details of the given report. Compare where relevant. 5

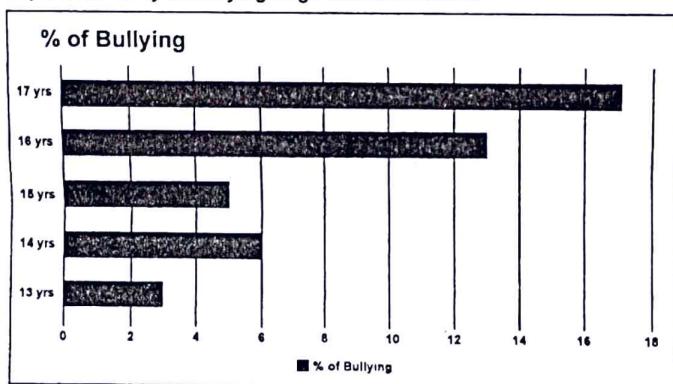
97% of teens claim to be spending not more than 4 hours a day on the Internet.



You Tube and Facebook are the most popular platforms.



Experience of Cyberbullying : Age wise distribution



About the Study : 680 students surveyed from 8 schools.  
 Boys : 409  
 Girls : 221  
 Age Group : 13 to 17 yrs

## SECTION - C

### LITERATURE TEXTBOOK (40 Marks)

6. Read the given extracts and answer any one of the two questions given below: 5

A. 'I'll be in time for breakfast,' I thought. A good big English breakfast! Everything was going well — it was an easy flight.

Paris was about 150 kilometres behind me when I saw the clouds. Storm clouds. They were huge. They looked like black mountains standing in front of me across the sky. I knew I could not fly up and over them, and I did not have enough fuel to fly around them to the north or south.

"I ought to go back to Paris," I thought, but I wanted to get home. I wanted that breakfast.  
 (The Black Aeroplane)

- A. 'It was an easy flight.' This statement is \_\_\_\_\_ (sarcastic/ ironical) in the light of what follows. 1
- B. What quality of the author's character can we infer from the extract? 1
- Daring
  - Indecisive
  - Responsible
  - Confident
- C. From the given extract, pick out a phrase or sentence that the author has used to convey a sense of danger and dread. 1
- D. Why was going back to Paris the only sensible option for the author? 2
- B. THINK-TANK: What? Does somebody suggest the Mighty Think-Tank has made a mistake?
- OMEGA: Oh, no, sir; no, sir. We'll keep listening.
- NOODLE: Please excuse me, your Brilliance, but a cloudy piece of information is twirling around in my head.
- THINK-TANK: Well, twirl it out, Noodle, and I will clarify it for you.
- NOODLE: I seem to recall that the Earthlings did not listen to the sandwiches; they opened them and watched them.
- THINK-TANK: Yes, that is quite correct, I will clarify that for you. Captain Omega. Those sandwiches are not for ear communication, they are for eye communication. Now, Captain Omega, take that large, colourful sandwich over there. It appears to be important. Tell me what you observe.
- (The Book that Saved the Earth)
- E. Based on the extract, who would you consider the most valuable team member? 2
- F. Give reasons to justify your answer. 2
- G. What was the perception of the Martians about sandwiches? 1
- H. From Noodle's responses to Think-Tank, we can say that he was \_\_\_\_\_. (Proud/ tactful) 1
- I. Based on your understanding of the given passage, which among the following statements is suitable for the great and mighty Think-Tank? 1
- The function of leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers,
  - Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself.
  - No man will make a great leader who wants to do it all himself, or to get all the credit for doing it.
  - A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way.

**7. Read the given extracts and answer any one of the two questions given below:** 5

A. Belinda tickled him, she tickled him unmerciful,

Ink, Blink and Mustard, they rudely called him Percival,

They all sat laughing in the little red wagon

At the realio, trulio, cowardly dragon.

I With reference to the extract, do you think Custard was happy at Belinda's place? Give reasons for your answer. 2

II. The poetic device used in the second line of the extract is \_\_\_\_\_ 1

III. The author uses certain words in the poem which are not there in the dictionary. Why does he use these words? 1

IV. Select the option that applies the same rhyme scheme as the lines of the given extract. 1

a. The tree that never had to fight

For sun and sky and air and light,

But stood out in the open plain

And always got its share of rain,

b. How good to lie a little while

And look up through the tree!

The Sky is like a kind big smile

Bent sweetly over me.

c. Now the flowers are all folded,

And the dark is going by.

The evening is arising ..,

It is time to rest.

d. Rain on the green grass,

And rain on the tree,

And rain on the house top,

But not upon me.

B. The trees inside are moving out into the forest,

the forest that was empty all these days

where no bird could sit

no insect hide

no sun bury its feet in shadow

the forest that was empty all these nights

will be full of trees by morning.

(The Trees)

I Why was the forest empty? How did this impact the inhabitants of the forest ? 2

II. What does the movement of the trees signify? (Select the correct option) 1

- a. The desire for freedom -
- b. Widespread deforestation by humans
- c. Hopelessness and despair
- d. Human dependence on nature

III. Which figure of speech has been used in the expression - 'the sun bury its feet in shadow'? 1

IV. The poet tries to convey a sense of \_\_\_\_\_ through the last two lines of the extract. 1

**8. Answer any four of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words.  $4 \times 3 = 12$**

- I. Why does Anne Gregory want to get her hair dyed? Do you think she will achieve her purpose by changing the colour of her hair?
- II. While going from house to house in search of mustard seeds, what did Kisa Gotami finally realise about the lives of men?
- III. Explain what Nelson Mandela means in this sentence -'I knew that the oppressor must be liberated just as surely as the oppressed.'
- IV. According to the poem 'How to Tell Wild Animals' why are the jungles of the east dangerous for any traveller?
- V. If you were a Coorgi, you would certainly feel a sense of pride for being a part of such a valiant race. How would you explain this to someone who is unaware of this quality of your people?

**9. Answer any two of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.  $2 \times 3 = 6$**

- I. A single mistake of Horace Danby led to his arrest for burglary at Shotover Grange. What was this mistake and how could he have avoided his arrest?
- II. Invisibility was more a curse than a blessing for Griffin. Discuss this in the context of any one of his adventures in London.
- III. If you were Tricki, which life would you have chosen for yourself- the one with Mrs. Pumphrey or with Dr. Herriot at the infirmary? Give reasons for your answer.

**10. Answer any one of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words: 6**

- I. Both the protagonists of 'Madam Rides the Bus' and 'From the Diary of Anne Frank' demonstrate boldness in their quest for freedom and self-expression. How do they challenge conventional beliefs through their actions and expressions?
- II. In the poem 'Fire and Ice' Robert Frost has referred to the destruction of the world which will be brought about by either fire or ice symbolising uncontrolled emotions. In the context of the play 'The Proposal' do you think that Frost was accurate in his judgement? Elucidate.

**11. Answer any one of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words: 6**

- I. The story 'The Necklace' deals with the theme of appearance versus reality. Discuss this statement with reference to the ending of the story.
- II. Bholi's character development throughout the story reflects the themes of self-worth and societal perception. Discuss the factors that contribute to her transformation and the implications it has for her future.

.....X.....

( 10 )