



Focus Points

Since CBSE has brought in a major overhaul in the new objective-based paper pattern for Term-I, our experts at Educart decided to prepare a comprehensive guide to focus on what will be asked in the Term-I paper and how best to tackle the new categories of MCQs so that you don't lose out on some easy marks. These focus points will immensely help you practice and plan your paper and time as well.

Reading

I. Discursive Passage (400-450 words)

Discursive passages are composed of thoughts, views and opinions that will require the student to give answers based on his/her understanding of the core idea espoused by the passage. The first and foremost feature of this discursive passage is its tendency to move from one line of thought to another. This passage will test your capability to infer, evaluate and also test your vocabulary.

From this passage, a total of 10 questions i.e., Q1 – Q10, will come into the paper wherein the students will have to answer any eight of them.

II. Case Based Factual Passage (300-350 words)

Case Based factual passage is based on visual input such as: statistical data, chart, etc., and is used to test a student's ability to describe and compare the data, select and report the main features of the graph, table, etc., provided in order to test his/her analysis and interpretation skills.

From this passage, a total of 8 questions i.e., Q11 – Q18, will come into the paper wherein the students will have to answer any six of them.

Categories of MCQs to be Asked and the Techniques to Solve Them

Learn the types of MCQs and how to answer them:

(i) Context Based Question

To find the context of the passage, you need to understand the central idea of the passage as a whole and not any random one or two paragraphs. Read all the paragraphs and find words in each option that are very close to the central idea.

(ii) Inference/Reference Based Question

Observe all the given information given in the context of the passage or any data/chart/graph given thereof carefully and study the research provided therein. Make notes of the expressions/data of the subject. Carefully observe all the aspects and references made in the passage and then select the right answer.

(iii) Vocabulary Based Question

These are the questions that require your vocabulary knowledge and word skills to infer different meanings of the words in the passage. If you do not know the exact meaning of the word, read the referred paragraph again. Try to understand the word's meaning as given in the passage and not the dictionary meaning of it.

(iv) Statement-Combination Question

These questions will provide you with two sentences that will either have a relation between them or any identification to be made regarding them. You should read the sentences carefully and try to relate them if they have any reference to each other. Try re-reading the particular paragraphs to get to the conclusion.



(v) Multiple Choice/Statements Question

If the question has multiple statements or options out of which, more than one statements are to be selected, look for the options that have at least one correct statement at first glance. Then, focus on these options only to rule out the others.

E.g. If the options are (a). (1), (2), (7) (b). (2), (3), (8) (c). (1), (4), (6) (d). (1), (5), (7).

And we know that 1 is definitely correct then focus on (a), (c) & (d) options only. That's just 1 way of elimination but you get the idea!

SECTION – B - Grammar and Writing

Grammar

III. Grammar based Questions

This question requires students to provide answers for grammar exercises. Any five of the six questions , i.e., from Q18 – Q24, will have to be answered by the student. The questions in this section will be based on the following exercises:

- Gap filling
- Cloze passages
- Change of speech
- Comic strip
- Dialogue Writing/completion

These questions will be based on the following topics:

- (i) Tenses**
- (ii) Modals**
- (iii) Subject-verb concord**
- (iv) Reported speech:**
 - Commands and requests
 - Statements
 - Questions
- (v) Determiners**

A QUICK REVIEW OF GRAMMAR CONCEPTS

(i) Tenses:

After reading the passage, that has tense-based exercises, identify the tense and see whether it is appropriate to the context. Check the subject-verb agreement.

There are three main tenses:

- Present tense: expresses actions or state at the time of speaking.
- Past tense: expresses actions or state in the past.
- Future tense: expresses actions or state that will happen in the future.

(ii) Models:

• Helping Verbs:

A helping or auxiliary verb precedes the main verb in a sentence and words may or may not separate the helping verb from the main verb. A helping verb supports the main verb by giving it a clearer meaning by expressing the mood, tense or voice.



- **Primary Auxiliary:**

There are three specific primary helping verbs: "be," "have," and "do." These are called "primary" helping verbs because they either help the main verb, or function as one. Be, do, and have are both stand-alone verbs and auxiliary verbs. When these verbs are auxiliary, you will find them teamed with other verbs to complete the verb phrase.

(iii) Subject-verb Agreement:

This refers to the number of the subject (whom or what a sentence is about) and verb (what the subject is or does)

(iv) Reported Speech:

Direct and indirect speech, are used frequently, both in writing and in everyday speech. Everyone uses the odd quote when relating an interesting story. Reported speech can be found in business writing, journalistic writing, and again, in everyday speech.

- **Direct Speech:**

The exact words someone says, set within quotation marks.

e.g. "Will you run for President in the next election?" the reporter asked Hillary Clinton.

- **Indirect Speech:**

The reporting of what someone has said, not using his or her exact words.

e.g. The reporter asked Hillary Clinton if she would run for President in the next election.

(v) Determiners:

Determiners precede and modify the noun to make it clear what the noun refers to.

The different kinds of determiners are:

- Articles: a, an, the

Definite article: the

Indefinite article: a, an

- Possessive pronouns: his, yours, theirs, ours, whose etc. (show possession)
- Numbers: one, two, three etc. (answer the question how many)
- Indefinite pronouns: few, more, each, every, either, all, both, some, any etc.
- Demonstrative pronouns: this, that, these, those, such (answer the question which)
- Quantifiers: describe nouns and pronouns by answering the question how much
 - Can be used with countable nouns are: many, few, a few, several, a couple of, none
 - Can be used with non-countable nouns: much, little, a bit of, a good deal of, great deal of.
 - Can be used with both countable and uncountable nouns. Examples are: some, all, most, enough, a lot of, lots of, plenty of, a lack of

Writing

IV. Writing based Questions

In this section, the student will be asked to attempt any five out of the six questions , i.e., Q25 – Q30. These six questions will be based on a given situation and will require the student to choose the most appropriate option from the given choices. These questions will be based on:

- Letter to the editor
- Letter of Complaint (Official)
- Letter of Complaint (Business)



Letter Writing

Structure of a Letter:

(i) Letter Writing Type: Formal Letter

(Sender's Address)

(Date)

(Address of the addressee):

- (i) Receiver's Salutation
- (ii) Receiver's Address

(Subject): Subject Line to focus attention

(Salutation): Sir/Madam

(Body): Body of the Letter:

- (i) Introduction
- (ii) Main Content
- (iii) Conclusion

(Complimentary Close):

Thanking You,

Yours sincerely/faithfully/truly

(Sender's Name)

(Sender's Designation - If applicable)

A formal letter is written as a means to communicate in a semi-official manner to the concerned authorities to highlight an issue, express your views and voice your grievance.

Categories of MCQs to be Asked and the Techniques to Solve Them

(i) Multiple Choice/Statement based Questions

These questions have multiple statements or options related to the letter, out of which, more than one statements are to be selected. Look for the options that have at least one correct statement at first glance. Then, focus on these options only and rule out the others.

Eg. If the options are (a). (1), (2), (7) (b). (2), (3), (8) (c). (1), (4), (6) (d). (1), (5), (7).

And we know that 1 is definitely correct then focus on (a), (c) & (d) options only. That's just 1 way of elimination but you get the idea!

(ii) Statement-Combination Question

These questions will provide you with two sentences that will either have a relation between them or any identification to be made regarding them. You should read the sentences carefully with reference to the given situation. Try re-reading the statements or the given situation to get to the conclusion.

(iii) Opinion/Suggestion/Argument Based Question

In these types of questions, there will be a context related to the given situation of a letter. The students will be asked to choose the most appropriate option to fit in the given opinion/suggestion/argument.

SECTION – C - Literature

This section has sub-sections – V, VI, VII, VIII & IX. There are a total of 30 questions in this section , i.e., Q31 – Q60.



V & VI. Reference to Prose (First Flight) Extract based Questions

These questions are based on an extract from the prose section of the textbook First Flight to assess interpretation, inference, extrapolation beyond the text and across the texts.

Extract based Prose question is also known as 'Reference to the context'. You will be provided with an extract from the Literature textbook, with few MCQs based on that extract. Remember, the answer is not necessarily provided in the extract.

These sub-sections has questions from Q31- Q40.

VII. Reference to Poetry (First Flight) Extract based Questions

These questions are based on an extract from the poems of the textbook First Flight assess interpretation, inference, extrapolation beyond the text and across the texts.

You will be provided with an extract from the poetry section of First Flight with few MCQs based on that extract. Remember, the answer is not necessarily provided in the extract.

This sub-section has questions from Q41- Q45.

VIII. Reference to Prose (Footprint Without Feet) Extract based Questions

These questions are based on an extract from prose of the textbook Footprints Without Feet to assess interpretation, inference, extrapolation beyond the text and across the texts.

Extract based Prose question is also known as 'Reference to the context'. You will be provided with an extract from the Literature textbook, with few MCQs based on that extract. Remember, the answer is not necessarily provided in the extract.

This sub-section has questions from Q46- Q50.

IX. MCQs based on Literature (First Flight and Footprints Without Feet)

These questions are based text/context of the chapters from the literature textbooks i.e., First Flight and Footprints Without Feet to assess interpretation, inference, extrapolation beyond the text and across the texts.

This sub-section has questions from Q51- Q60.

Categories of MCQs to be Asked and the Techniques to Solve Them

(i) Multiple Choice/statements Question

These questions have multiple statements or options related to the extract or the story, out of which, more than one statements are to be selected. Look for the options that have at least one correct statement at first glance. Then, focus on these options only and rule out the others.

Eg. If the options are (a). (1), (2), (7) (b). (2), (3), (8) (c). (1), (4), (6) (d). (1), (5), (7).

And we know that 1 is definitely correct then focus on (a), (c) & (d) options only. That's just 1 way of elimination but you get the idea!

(ii) Statement-Combination Question

These questions will provide you with two sentences that will either have a relation between them or any identification to be made regarding them. You should read the sentences carefully with reference to the extract or the story. Try re-reading extract or sentences to get to the conclusion. You should always be prepared with the complete knowledge of the whole chapter and the story therein.

(iii) Opinion Based Question

In these types of questions, there will be a context related to the extract. The students will be asked to choose the most appropriate option regarding the opinion.

(iv) Assertion-Reasoning Based Question

In these types of questions, there will be given arguments related to the extract. The students will be asked to choose the most appropriate option regarding the choices given to assert and reason the given argument or statement.

(v) Context Based Question

In these questions, you will be asked to choose the most appropriate option that gives the meaning to the given context and relates to the story. Try, recalling the events or the storyline to get the answer correct.

(vi) Reference Based Question

In these types of questions, the students will be asked to choose the correct answer based on the reference of any character's emotions or traits. It can also be based on the events happening in the story. Hence, always read the complete chapter and understand the story and its characters.

(vii) Vocabulary Based Question

These are the questions that require your vocabulary knowledge and word skills to infer different meanings of the words in the context or extracts. If you do not know the exact meaning of the word, read the referred text again. Try to understand the word's meaning as given in the extract or text and not the dictionary meaning of it.

A QUICK REVIEW OF THE LESSONS

FIRST FLIGHT

PROSE

• **Letter to God**

'Letter to God' is a story of a poor farmer named Lencho, who has an unbreakable faith in God. He writes a letter to God requesting him to send 100 pesos as he lost crops to the devastating hailstorm. He is helped by the postmaster and his fellow workers. However, Lencho's strong faith in God makes him accuse them as 'a bunch of crooks' because he feels that they have stolen the money that God sent him.

 **Dictionary**

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Crest | top of a hill/mountain | peak, ridge | bottom, nadir, base |
| Downpour | heavy rain | rainstorm, torrential rain | shower, sprinkle |
| Solitary | singular | lonely, aloof, unaccompanied | together, combined |
| Resolution | strong will to do something | determination, settlement | indecision, irresolution |
| Amiable | to be friendly, cordial, amicable | hostile, unfriendly | immoral |
| Contentment | sense of satisfaction | gratification, complacency | disappointment, agitation |
| Affixed | attached | append, fasten, tack | detach, unfasten, withdraw |
| Blow | to hit hard | jab, punch, whack | embrace, caress |
| Crook | a thief | robber, criminal, cheater | loyal, simpleton, law-abiding |

• **Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom**

'Nelson Mandela: Long walk to Freedom' is an excerpt of Nelson Mandela's autobiography. He is the first ever black president of South Africa. In the chapter, Mandela shares his horrible experiences of the harsh atrocities carried out by the unsympathetic white rulers on the innocent black natives of South Africa under 'apartheid'. He also shares his overwhelming emotions at the time of victory against it.



Ab Dictionary

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|----------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Autobiography</i> | real life story of a person written by the person himself | journal, memoir | fiction, reel |
| <i>Dignitaries</i> | eminent personalities | leaders, officials | commoners |
| <i>Oppression</i> | the act of suppressing by cruelty | suppression, repression | aid, freedom |
| <i>Besieged</i> | surrounded by | blockade, to capture | freedom, release, uphold |
| <i>Confer</i> | to give | bestow, grant | deprive, disallow |
| <i>Emancipation</i> | to free | liberation, release | captivity, bondage |
| <i>Bedecked</i> | decorated | adorned, embellished | simple, austere |
| <i>Despised</i> | to be hated | disliked, loathed, detested | loved, desired, admired |
| <i>Profound</i> | of the greatest intensity | intense, penetrating, hard | mild, shallow, weak |
| <i>Comrade</i> | a fellow member of the Communist Party | companion, colleague | enemy, foes |
| <i>Illusion</i> | an unreal image formed in mind | fantasy, mirage, delusion | reality, truth, fact |
| <i>Curtailed</i> | to reduce | to decrease, to diminish | extended, detailed, increased |

- **His First Flight**

'His First Flight' is a narrative that describes the maiden flight of a young seagull. The young seagull is scared of taking the first flight of his life down the cliff. When all his parents' efforts fail to make him fly, his mother tricks him successfully in taking the plunge by making him crave for food which he has to grab himself. After a lot of efforts, the young seagull successfully makes his first flight.

- **The Black Aeroplane**

'The Black Aeroplane' is a story of a pilot who flies the old Dakota DS 088. Once, he took a normal flight from Paris to England. He began his flight in the morning when the weather seemed favorable. However, the deadly storm brought him close to death. Luckily, a mysterious black aeroplane came out of nowhere and guided the pilot out of the storm. After rescuing the pilot, the black aeroplane disappeared again.

Ab Dictionary

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Ledge</i> | a projecting edge on a mountain | cliff, ridge | centre, trough |
| <i>Muster up</i> | to gather or bring together | collect, assemble | separate, disperse |
| <i>Plunge</i> | to dive | sink, immerse | rise, soar |
| <i>Upbraiding</i> | a severe scolding, reprimand | rebuked | praising, buttering up |
| <i>Scraped</i> | scratched | nicked, rubbed | restored, smoothened |
| <i>Beckoning</i> | signaling | inviting, waving | dismissing, repelling |
| <i>Countryside</i> | rural region | village, pastoral | mega city, downtown |
| <i>Glad</i> | happy | merry, delighted | gloomy, depressed, sad |

- **From the Diary of Anne Frank**

'From the Diary of Anne Frank' is an excerpt from the personal diary of a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl named Anne Frank. She writes this diary while hiding in an attic with her family and four other members in Amsterdam during the German occupation of Netherlands by the horrified Nazis at the time of World War II. Her diary 'kitty' is full of secrets, funny incidents and her creative descriptions of people and war.

Ab Dictionary

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Musings</i> | thoughts | contemplation, reflection | disinterest, thoughtlessness |
| <i>Brooding</i> | thinking seriously | being pensive, pondering | carefree, unfocused |
| <i>Solemn</i> | serious | grave, sad | funny, playful |
| <i>Fogey</i> | old-fashioned | antique, conservative | modern, new blood |
| <i>Incorrigible</i> | incapable of being corrected | incurable | promising |

- **The Hundred Dresses-I**

'The Hundred Dresses-I' is a story of a poor Polish girl named Wanda Petronski, who is an immigrant in America. She is mocked by her classmates at school for always wearing the same old faded blue dress. When she says that she has a hundred dresses, she gets bullied by Peggy and Maddie. But after looking at her amazing designs of dresses in the school competition, everybody gets impressed by Wanda's talent.

Ab Dictionary

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Enduring</i> | lasting over a period of time | long-lasting, durable, steadfast | short-lived, transient |
| <i>Nudge</i> | to touch or push gently | poke, jog | pull, quiet |
| <i>Incredulously</i> | in a manner indicating disbelief | distrustful, suspiciously | trustful, believing |
| <i>Stolidly</i> | showing no emotion | apathetic, heartlessly | emotional, lively |
| <i>Shuddered</i> | shivered | quaver, tremble | still, calm |
| <i>Lavish</i> | rich and luxurious | lush, opulent | meager, minimal, poor |
| <i>Exquisite</i> | extremely beautiful | magnificent, elegant | crude, ugly |

- **The Hundred Dresses-II**

'The Hundred Dresses-II' is a sequel to the story 'The Hundred Dresses-I'. In this part, Wanda leaves the school without giving any prior information to anyone. Miss Mason receives a letter from Wanda's father, Mr. Petronski. Maddie and Peggy feel sorry for making fun of Wanda and decide to write letters to her. Wanda replies to their letters to show her forgiveness.

Ab Dictionary

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Deliberately</i> | on purpose | intentionally, knowingly | by mistake, accidentally |
| <i>Indicated</i> | showed | designate, specify | concealed, contradict |
| <i>Holler</i> | shout | scream, yell | mumble, whisper |
| <i>Forbidding</i> | threatening | sinister, baleful | friendly, inviting |
| <i>Gruffly</i> | in a low, unfriendly manner | harshly, abruptly | carefully, amiably |
| <i>Shabby</i> | dirty | filthy, scruffy | clean, new |



FIRST FLIGHT

POETRY

- **Dust of Snow**

'Dust of Snow' is based on the idea that nature is a great source of joy. The poet explains through the poem that when a human feels depressed, melancholy or dejected, Mother Nature provides him with selfless love. It removes all the negativity and gloom from the person's mind. The poem conveys a message that nothing in the nature is ugly, inauspicious or negative.

Dictionary

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|-------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Shook | to move | trembled, tottered | still, steady |
| Rued | bitterly regret something | bemoan, lament | delight, contentment |

- **Fire and Ice**

The poem 'Fire and Ice' conveys the idea that the world will encounter two different possibilities of destruction. It may either be destroyed by 'Fire' or 'Ice'. The poet has used the terms 'fire' and 'ice' in both the literal as well as symbolic meanings. The world may end by any of the destructive forces of 'fire' and 'ice' as they have intense power to suppress human values and alienate people from one another.

Dictionary

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|---------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Desire | want something badly | wish, longing | satisfaction, content |
| Perish | expire | die, spoil | survive, grow |
| Suffice | sufficient | adequate, enough | Insufficient, less |

- **A Tiger in the Zoo**

'A Tiger in the Zoo' conveys a deep idea about the enslavement of animals by the selfish humans. It is totally unfair and unjustifiable on the part of man to cage the animals into the zoo and deprive them of their natural habitats. The tiger in the zoo is a pathetic sight of the wildlife entrapped in the confines of the zoo. The poem shows a striking contrast between the life of a tiger in the zoo and his life in the forest.

Dictionary

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|----------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Stalks | to move silently in a threatening way | follow, chase | run, rush |
| Vivid | deep or bright | radiant, vibrant | dull, washed out |
| Rage | anger | temper, rampage | serene, calm |
| Lurking | hidden | sneak, skulk | rise, emerge |
| Plump | fat | chubby, bulky | lean, slender |
| Snarling | to make an aggressive grumble | growl, gnarl | whisper, murmur |
| Barring | showing | revealing, unveiling | hiding, protecting |

- **The Ball Poem**

'The Ball Poem' conveys the inevitable loss of possessions in the life of a human over time. The poet describes an incident of a little boy whose ball has been lost somewhere and couldn't be retrieved. He gets utterly grief-stricken due to the loss of his lovely possession. The poet, who witnesses this incident, leaves the boy alone instead of consoling him as he wants the boy to accept the truth of his loss bravely and move on.

Ab Dictionary

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Merrily</i> | in a cheerful way | gleefully, mirthfully | sullenly, sadly |
| <i>Ultimate</i> | final | end, conclusive | primary, immediate, initial |
| <i>Rigid</i> | unable to be changed | firm, stiff | flexible, soft |
| <i>Intrude</i> | to enter unwanted | violate, infringe | ask, permitted |
| <i>Desperate</i> | having a great desire | eager, crave | satisfy, calm, content |

Footprints Without Feet

PROSE

- **A Triumph of Surgery**

'A Triumph of Surgery' is a humorous story of an obese dog named Tricki, who is overfed by his over-concerned owner Mrs. Pumphrey. Tricki is turned into a lazy fat dog due to excessive eating and no physical activity. The vet, James Herriot, tells Mrs. Pumphrey to admit Tricki to his hospital for a 'surgery'. However, Tricki just requires a limited diet and lots of physical activities to get back into his shape.

Ab Dictionary

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Hastened</i> | to do things quickly | hurry, rush | crawl, slowed, delayed |
| <i>Tottering</i> | to walk weakly | shaking, trembling | strongly, steadily |
| <i>Distraught</i> | worried | fraught, distressed | unconcerned, cool-headed |
| <i>Jostling</i> | to bump against someone in a crowd | thrust, push | walk, ease |
| <i>Convalescing</i> | to recover from an illness | get well, improve | deteriorate, worsen |

- **The Thief's Story**

'The Thief's Story' is a chapter that deals with the relation of trust between a thief and a person who helps him. Anil is a twenty-five year old struggling writer who helps Hari Singh, who is a fifteen-year-old boy that survives on thievery. Anil's kind gestures and generosity has a great impact on the young thief's conscience and he dismisses his plan of robbing Anil.

Ab Dictionary

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|------------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Flattery</i> | excessive praise to fulfil hidden intentions | simpering, fawning | criticism, rebuke |
| <i>Modesty</i> | being humble | humility, shyness | boastful, proud |
| <i>Fits and starts</i> | irregular | temporary, irregular | permanent, continuous |
| <i>Deserted</i> | abandoned | lonely, vacant | full, crowded |
| <i>Crept</i> | to move slowly | crawling, slithering | walking, running |



- **Footprints without Feet**

'Footprints without Feet' is an excerpt from the famous novel "An Invisible Man" by H.G. Wells. The excerpt narrates multiple episodes of how a brilliant scientist named Griffin, discovers a way to get invisible. After his unique discovery of getting invisible, Griffin misuses his ability and troubles innocent people. The excerpt describes the numerous misdeeds carried out by Griffin to his own benefits.

Ab Dictionary

| Word | Meaning | Synonyms | Antonyms |
|------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Bewildered | confused | perplexed, baffled | clear, focused |
| Eject | to take out | emit, send out | take in, enter |
| Callously | in a cruel manner | uncaring, cold | compassionate, kind |
| Eccentric | weird | odd, strange | stable, normal |
| Hysterics | irrational | wild, frenzy | calm, composed |

