

**BATCH-I****DATE:30.12.2023****Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.****Maximum Marks: 80****General Instructions:**

1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.
2. The Question Paper contains THREE sections READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
3. Attempt question based on specific instructions for each part.

Section- A
READING - 20 MARKS

(20 Marks)**1. Read the passage given below.****(10×1=10)**

As a high school student, studying poetry can be a rollercoaster ride. This journey is punctuated by moments of profound appreciation for simpler pieces and intermittent frustration with more complex works. Let's be real here -some poems are just plain confusing and no amount of re- reading seems to help decipher the intended meaning. The puzzlement that results from such instances can be both vexing and demotivating. If solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing Sudoku is a better option. One is led to ponder if obscurity was the goal.

Conversely, some pieces resonate with the reader's soul. stirring feelings of warmth, happiness, and connection to the world. Often, these compositions centre on themes that are universally understood, such as love, nature, or faith. Being able to actually understand what the poet is trying to say can feel like a little victory and is a welcome relief after grappling with more perplexing poetry.

Then there are poems that are emotionally charged; the ones that make the reader curl up in a ball and cry or jump up and down with joy. One is left in awe of the poet's ability to convey emotion through words. Let's not forget the downright weird poems. These are the ones that defy categorization and leave the reader to their own devices in attempting to interpret meaning. The author's use of figurative language and unconventional imagery can create a sense of bewilderment that is either intriguing or off-putting. Regardless, the reader can appreciate the uniqueness of the work.

Despite the wide range of emotions and reactions that come with studying poetry, it can be a rewarding pursuit. Not only does reading poetry allow one to appreciate the artistic beauty of the written word but also enables one to develop crucial critical thinking and analytical skills. The process of unlocking a poem's meaning can feel like cracking a code or solving a puzzle but the sense of accomplishment derived from mastering a challenging piece can be deeply gratifying. Finally, impressing an English teacher with a well-analysed poem can be a source of pride and validation.

Overall, studying poetry is like a box of mixed chocolates, you never know what you're going to get. But whether it's complex, emotional, simple, or just downright weird, there's always something to be gained from the experience. So, let's applaud all the poets out there, for making us laugh, cry, scratch our heads, and occasionally feel like a genius

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

1. Which of the following statements best describes the author's attitude towards studying poetry? (1)

- a. Finds poetry to be a frustrating and meaningless endeavor.
- b. Believes that the emotional rollercoaster of studying poetry is not worth the effort.
- c. Recognizes the challenges of studying poetry but also acknowledges the rewards it offers.
- d. Feels that poetry is too obscure and abstract for the average person to appreciate.

2. What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from paragraph? Rationalise your response in about 40 words. (2)

If solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing Sudoku is a better option.
One is led to ponder if obscurity was the goal

3. Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

The author's use of vivid imagery in the paragraph (3), such as "curl up in a ball and cry" and "jump up and down with joy", greatly affects the reader because _____

4. The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets (a)-(e) below, identify two sets of antonyms: (1)

- a. intriguing and off-putting
- b. deciphering and interpreting
- c. appreciate and applaud.
- d. simple and challenging
- e. emotions and feelings

5. Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

We can say that the author's tone becomes more neutral and objective when discussing weird poems, compared to other types of poetry because ____.

6. Based on the reading of the passage, examine, in about 40 words, how studying poetry can be like exploring a new city (2)

7. What is the message conveyed by Hina's experience, in the following case? (1)

Hina spends hours trying to analyze a poem for her assignment and finally feels a sense of accomplishment and pride, once she understands.

- a. Only those with natural talent for poetry should engage with it.
 - b. Persistence makes studying poetry a rewarding pursuit.
 - c. Studying poetry is guaranteed to impress others.
 - d. The effort of studying poetry is inversely proportional to the rewards gained.
- 8. State whether the following lines display an example of a simple / complex / emotionally charged / downright weird, poem.(1)**

The sun rises in the east,
A new day begins, a fresh start.
Birds chirp, nature wakes up,
A peaceful feeling in my heart

II. Read the passage given below. (10×1=10)

Reduction in green areas has caused various environmental problems. People squeezed between concrete structures are looking for various ways to meet their longing for green. One of the ways to do so, is vertical gardens and green walls. Vertical gardening is a unique method of gardening where plants are grown in a vertical position or upward, rather

than in the traditional method of planting them on the ground.

The purpose of vertical gardens and green walls, which arises from the studies of different disciplines (landscape architects, architects, engineers, etc.), is to close the cold image of concrete and increase the visual value. In these systems, nature and structures are integrated, and thus, urban areas and the desired environment have become intertwined.

Vertical garden case studies often show that , though functionality should be in the foreground, when vertical gardens are planned, they are generally made as aesthetic elements in the city's underpasses and city squares, and decorative elements in residences, without seeking functionality.

Experts support that the visual quality and evaluation of landscape architecture is determined based on the satisfaction of the users. Hence, a survey questionnaire was prepared for residents of varied age groups from of a metropolitan city. The given **Table 1**, displays these responses:

Table 1 - Total number of participants: 400

Survey statements	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral
Vertical gardens-			
Improve quality of life of people in urban areas	191	138	43
Reduce noise pollution	128	164	77
Increase air quality -indoors and outdoors	172	147	51
Reduce energy and water consumption	58	47	125
Positively impact global warming	114	144	106
Have a relaxing and calming effect	161	177	44
Cost too much	86	107	152
Make plants look beautiful	195	139	44
Add naturalness to the environs	135	173	55
re among the determining factor to visiting a place	59	133	141
Are inconvenient indoors	9	84	123
Can be applied in every place	71	132	97
Have a functional feature	81	207	100
Distract drivers	34	101	106
Funds are best used for social issues	57	72	100

The study acknowledged that vertical gardening has the potential to transform urban spaces into green, sustainable areas, and further research should explore the impact of vertical gardening on the environment and human well-being.

Adapted for academic usage - 2019 case-study -Investigating the vertical garden applications in Turkey 225 words approx.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- 1. Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of first two paragraphs (1)**

We can say that the situation of people living in concrete structures is comparable with a fish living in a fishbowl, and the need for vertical gardens to the need for decorations in the fishbowl because _.

- 2. Fill the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of Second paragraph. (1)**

The statement that, urban spaces have become more closely connected with the desired natural surroundings through the incorporation of nature and structures in vertical gardens and green walls, is a ____ (fact/opinion) because it is a ____ (subjective judgement/ objective detail).

3. Justify the following, in about 40 words. (2)

While the survey results suggest that vertical gardens may be effective in improving the quality of life in urban areas, further research and evaluation may be necessary to fully understand their effectiveness and potential drawbacks.

4. Based on the survey results, which two concerns should a city government looking to install vertical gardens, address? (1)

5. In Table 1, the statement 3, "Vertical gardens increase air quality - indoors and outdoors," received the most neutral responses from participants, with 51 respondents indicating a neutral stance. State any one inference that can be drawn from this (1)

6. Select the option that correctly displays what 'intertwined' signifies. (Reference- Second Paragraph) (1)



- a. (i), (iv) and (v)
- b. Only (ii)
- c. Only (iii)
- d. (ii) and (v)

7. Infer one benefit and one drawback of vertical gardening, in comparison to other solutions, such as community gardens or parks. (Answer in about 40 words). (2)

8. Which of the following is the main takeaway from the study mentioned in the passage? (1)

- A. Vertical gardening has minimal impact on the environment or human well-being.
- B. Vertical gardening is a sustainable practice that can transform urban spaces into green areas.
- C. The impact of vertical gardening on the environment and human well-being has already been thoroughly explored.
- D. The study needs to include experts from horticultural firms to offer any recommendations for further research?

SECTION –GRAMMAR (10)

III. Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions:10

Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.

i. At one time, Mr. Nigel _____ this supermarket.

- (a) was owing
- (b) used to own
- (c) had owned
- (d) owned

ii. Read the conversation between Nisha and Anjali. Complete the narration by reporting Anjali's reply correctly.

Nisha : I want to improve my command over the English language.

Anjali : For that you need to do a lot of reading in English.

Nisha said she wanted to improve her command over the English language. Anjali said

that -----

- iii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line.

Principal to a student : You _____ with bad girls.

- (a) must not mix
- (b) cannot mix
- (c) may not mix
- (d) None of these

- iv. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line:

We, here in India have so many religions, we eat so many different foods, we wear so much different kinds of dresses.

Option No.	Error	Correction
(a)	much	many
(b)	eat	ate
(c)	have	has
(d)	wear	wears

- v. Complete the given sentence, by filling in the blank with the correct option : Two years have passed since he _____ here.

- (a) has come
- (b) come
- (c) came
- (d) had come

- vi. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket.

They _____ (wish) me on my birthday every year.

- vii. Report the dialogue between Parul and Nikhil, by completing the narration: Parul : Where did you spend your holidays?

Nikhil : I went to many hill stations.

Parul asked Nikhil----- Nikhil replied that he had gone to many hill stations.

- viii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

I like to drinking juice in the morning, and tea at lunchtime.

Use the given format for your answer:

Error	Correction

- ix. Transform the following direct speech into reported speech:

“Who now”, they had asked, “will listen to our troubles and protect us from the crocodiles ?”

- x. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the sentence.

The father divided his property among his three sons lest they ___quarrel afterwards.

- (a) should

- (b) shall
- (c) will
- (d) could

xi. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Arthur and Kevin.

Arthur : Kevin, are you going to the hospital again? Is your mother okay?

Kevin : My mother is now better. Thank God, she has been back to normal since Friday.

Arthur asked Kevin if he was going to the hospital again. He also asked him whether his mother was okay. Kevin replied that ___ and thanking God, the boy said that his mother had been back to normal since.

- (a) his mother was better now
- (b) his mother had been better now
- (c) his mother is better now
- (d) his mother has been better now

xii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

I walk 3 kilometres each day to reach my school.

Use the given format for your answer:

Error	Correction

SECTION B- CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS 10

All the names and addresses used in the questions are fictitious. Resemblance, if any, is purely coincidental.

IV. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

5

A. You are Arun Kumar in charge of the Physical Education Department, Amalagiri Giri Public School, Devanagari, Kottayam. Write a letter to Aryans Sports, Kacheripadi, Ernakulam, telling them that the sports items you have ordered have arrived, but some items were of inferior quality. Ask for a replacement.

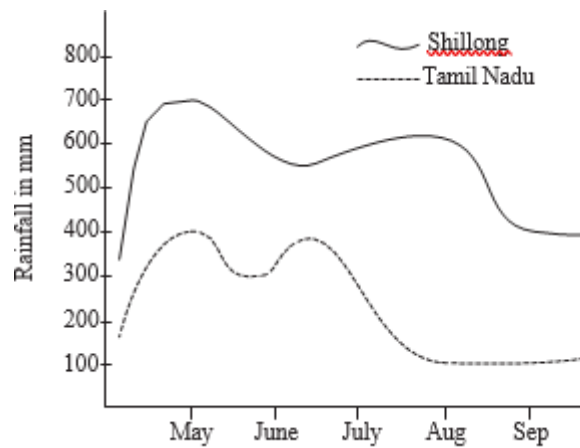
(or)

B. You are Apoorva/Ashin librarian of Wisdom Public School Bangalore. Write a letter to the SalesManager of Navneeth Publishers Ltd. Bangalore enquiring about undue delay concerning the delivery of books for your school library for which you placed an order two months ago. Also specify that you may have to cancel the order in case of further delay as the first term of the academic year has almost come to an end..

V. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

5

A. Line graph below shows the comparison of rainfall in two different states of India that is Tamil Nadu and Shillong between the month of May- September. Write an analytical paragraph studying the graph in 100-120 words.



- A. B. “The ban on single-use plastic is impractical. The purpose of articles like bags and packaging is ultimately to make human life easier. Plastic articles do this well, so they shouldn’t be banned.”

Write an analytical paragraph in 100-120 words to analyse the given argument. You could think about what alternative explanations might weaken the given conclusion and include rationale/evidence that would strengthen/counter the given argument.

Section – C (Total-40) Literature Reference to the Context 10

VI. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

5 (5x1=5)

A..... “It was only when I began to learn that my boyhood freedom was an illusion, when I discovered as a young man that my freedom had already been taken from me, that I began to hunger for it. At first as a student I wanted freedom only for myself, the transitory freedoms of being able to stay out at night, read what I pleased and go where I chose. Later, as a young man in Johannesburg, I yearned for the basic and honourable freedoms”

i. The title that best suits this extract is

- Freedom for everything
- Knowledge about Freedom
- Significance of Freedom
- Realisation of Freedom

ii Why do you think the speaker mentions some freedoms as ‘transitory’?

- The freedoms are momentary and keep changing with time.
- The definition of freedom is constant but perspectives differ.
- Freedom means different things to different people.
- Freedom is not that important after a certain age.

iii Choose the option that best fits the usage of the word ‘illusion’ as used in the extract.

- He was never able to get past the illusion.
- The illusion I experienced was quite intriguing.
- A large mirror in the room creates an illusion.
- I was living under the illusion that this is possible. I feel...

iv. Give a suitable quote to exemplify freedom in the above extract.

(2)

I. B. LOMOV: Never mind about my people! The Lomovs have all been honourable people, and not one has ever been tried for embezzlement, like your grandfather!

CHUBUKOV: You Lomovs have had lunacy in your family, all of you! NATALYA: All, all, all!

CHUBUKOV: Your grandfather was a drunkard, and your younger aunt, Nastasya Mihailovna, ran away with an architect, and so on...

LOMOV: And your mother was hump-backed. [Clutches at his heart] Something pulling in my side... My head. Help! Water!

CHUBUKOV: Your father was a guzzling gambler!

i. Choose the option that correctly identifies the tone of the characters in the given extract.

- 1) antagonism 2) humour 3) contempt 4) irony
- a) (1) and (2)
b) (2) and (4)
c) (1) and (3)
d) (3) and (4)

ii. The playwright's intention in the given extract is to

- a) throw light upon the weaknesses of the rich in any society.
b) emphasize that family history is important in a marriage proposal.
c) satirise the superficiality of the upper class in Russian society.
d) send a message that ego is not healthy in any relationship.

iii. If according to Chubukov and Natalya, Lomovs are not "honourable people", why do they still consider Lomov's proposal?

- a) Natalya can take care of her father if she marries close by.
b) They were exaggerating in the argument and didn't mean it.
c) They understand that honour is superficial and overrated.
d) Lomov's status in society supersedes everything.

iv. Find a word from the extract which means theft of funds (2)

VII. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

5

B. He should be lurking in shadow, Sliding through long grass Near the water hole Where plump deer pass.

i) According to the extract, the poet wishes for the tiger to be 'sliding' through the foliage as this would

- a) assist in keeping the prey unsuspecting of the predator's sound.
b) aid in camouflaging the presence of the predator before it rushes in.
c) help the predator pounce on the prey comfortably without getting tired.
d) Support the predator's vision as it eyes its prey.

ii. Which fact DOES NOT connect with the significance of the water hole for the tiger?

- a) Many tigers chase prey into the water and holds the victim's head under water until it drowns.
b) Prey feed in the water on water-lilies, and often wander into the middle of the water hole, where they are vulnerable and easy for the tiger to kill.
c) Prey that has quenched its thirst ensures consumption of hydrated meat for the

tiger.

d) Chasing the panicked prey from shallow to deep water where the tiger grabs it.

iii. Pick the option that DOES NOT use 'lurking' correctly to fill in the blank.

- a) The thug was _____ in the alley late evening, for unsuspecting passers-by.
- b) The hyena was _____ in its den after a good meal.
- c) The detective cautioned her team about the dangers likely to impact the case.
- d) The prejudices _____ beneath the surface create misunderstandings.

iv. Explain the phrase lurking in the shadow. (2)

Or

B. Belinda giggled till she shook the house,

And Blink said Weeck! which is giggling for a mouse,

Ink and Mustard rudely asked his age, When Custard cried for a nice

safe cage. Suddenly, suddenly they heard a nasty sound,

And Mustard growled, and they all looked around.

i. What can you infer from the repetition 'suddenly, suddenly' in the above extract?

- a) There was an immediate change in the scene.
- b) It focuses on the hasty attack and the loud noise.
- c) It emphasises that an unexpected noise was heard.
- d) It draws our attention to the loud cry that occurred.

ii. A cage means captivity. Why is Custard inclined to remain in a cage despite what it symbolises? This is so because he viewed it as a

1) sanctuary 2) guardhouse 3) cubicle 4) refuge 5) booth

- a) 1, 2 & 5
- b) 1 & 4
- c) 3, 4 & 5
- d) 3 & 5

III. Pick the option with the correct matches for columns A and B.

A	B
Word	Meaning
1. chuckle	A. to smile in a half-suppressed mocking way
2. snigger	B. to smile in an irritating, conceited manner.
3. smirk	C. to let out a quiet and suppressed laugh.
	D. to let out a laugh heartily and loudly

- a) 1- D, 2-A, 3-C
- b) 1-C, 2-A, 3-B
- c) 1-B, 2-D, 3-C
- d) 1-A, 2-C, 3-D

IV. Explain onomatopoeia with reference to the extract. (1)

VIII. Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following in about 40-50 words each. (4 x 3 = 12)

(i) Anne bid a 'heartbreaking farewell' to Mrs. Kuperus. As Anne, write a brief farewell note to Mr. Keesing after being promoted to the next class.

Dear Mr. Keesing

It has been

(ii) Grief is often seen as a measure of love. Do you think the Buddha's sermon undermines a mother's love?

Justify your response

- (iii) Read the statements given below: Statement 1 - 'Lomov is looking to marry.'
Statement 2 - 'Lomov is looking to marry Natalya.' Bring out the difference between the two statements and explain what it tells you about Lomov.
- (iv) Is the fog portrayed as a resident of the city or as an outsider? Support your answer with two such references from the poem "Fog".
- (v) The poet could have included a burglar or an intruder in the poem, but chose to include a pirate. Explain this choice.

IX. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each.

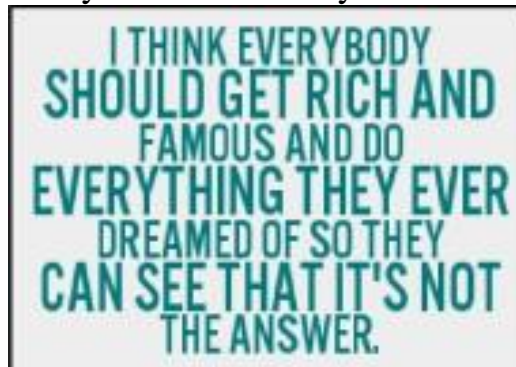
2 x 3 = 6

- (vi) "Stereotypes are often misleading". Elaborate on the given quote in the context of "The Midnight Visitor".
- (vii) Scientists contribute to make the world a better place. Griffin is an antithesis to this statement. Justify.
- (viii) Do you think Bholi could have confidently refused to marry Bishamber if she weren't educated? Give reason/s.

X. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100-120 words.

(1x6=6)

- (ix) .Read the given quote by actor Jim Carrey.



Can you relate this to the Buddha's life before and after he attained enlightenment? Provide examples from the text to support your answer.

(or)

- (x) Imagine the poem were written for Anne Gregory's brother, Miller Gregory. a) Would that poem be different from the original poem? If so, highlight the differences it would have. b) Pen down the advice, you think the poet persona would have given to Miller Gregory.

XI. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100-120 words.

(1x6=6)

I Read the following quote. "We are too involved in materialistic things, and they don't satisfy us. The loving relationships we have, the universe around us, we take these things for granted." - Matilda was never satisfied with her life and desired more. The given quote reflects her character. Justify

(or)

- v. Albert Einstein said, 'The important thing is to never stop questioning.' Richard was a genius who proved this quote true. Justify.