# VELAMMAL BODHI CAMPUS PRE BOARD EXAMINATION 2023-2024

CLASS : X
SUBJECT : ENGLISH
TIME : 3HRS
MARKS: 80

## **General Instructions:**

- 1. 15minutes 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 SKILLS (20 marks)**

1.	Read the following text. 10 m
(1)	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.
(2)	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.
(3)	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 bewildermentthat is either intriguing or off-putting. Regardless, the reader can appreciate the uniqueness of the work.
(4)	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 processof 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.
(5)	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.
Ansv	wer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i	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.	
ii	What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from paragraph (1)? 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.	
iii	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	
iv	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	
V	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	2
vi	Based on the reading of the passage, examine, in about 40 words, how studying poetry can be like exploring a new city.	2
vii	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. Study of poetry is guaranteed to impress others.	
	D. The efforts of studying poetry is inversely proportional to the rewards gained.	
viii	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.	
2.	Read the following text.	10 m
(1)	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 ways to do so, is vertical gardens and green walls. Vertical gardening is a unique method.	the
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	

gardening where plants are grown in a vertical position or upward, rather than in the traditional
method of planting them on the ground.

- (2) 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.
- (4) 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:

	le 1 - Total number of participants					
No.	Survey statements	Strongl yagree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongl y disagree
Vert	ical gardens-					
1	improve quality of life of people in urban areas	191	138	43	9	19
2	reduce noise pollution	128	164	77	25	6
3	increase air quality -indoors and outdoors	172	147	51	28	2
4	reduce energy and water consumption	58	47	125	68	2
5	positively impact global warming	114	144	106	30	6
6	have a relaxing and calming effect	161	177	44	7	11
7	cost too much	86	107	152	42	13
8	make plants look beautiful	195	139	44	6	16
9	add naturalness to the environs	135	173	55	25	12
10	are among the determining factor to visiting a place	59	133	141	54	13
11	are inconvenient indoors	9	84	123	126	48
12	can be applied in every place	71	132	97	77	23
13	have a functional feature	81	207	100	10	2
14	distract drivers	34	101	106	131	28
15	funds are best used for social issues	57	72	100	130	41

<sup>(5)</sup> 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.

Ansv	swer the following questions, based on the passage above	
i	Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of paragraph	s 1& 1
	2.	
	We can say that the situation of people living in concrete structures is comparable with a f	ish
	living in a fishbowl, and the need for vertical gardens to the need for decorations in	the
	fishbowl because	
ii	Fill the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on understanding of paragraph 2.  The statement that, urban spaces have become more closely connected with the desired na surroundings through the incorporation of nature and structures in vertical gardens and gwalls, is a	tural green
iii	Justify the following, in about 40 words.	2
	While the survey results suggest that vertical gardens may be effective in improving the qu	
	of life in urban areas, further research and evaluation may be necessary to fully unders	I
	their effectiveness and potential drawbacks.	
iv	Based on the survey results, which two concerns should a city government, looking to ins	stall 1
	vertical gardens, address?	
V	In Table 1, the statement 3, "Vertical gardens increase air quality - indoors and outdoor	
	received the most neutral responses from participants, with 51 respondents indicating a ne	utral
	stance. State any one inference that can be drawn from this.	
vi	Select the option that correctly displays what 'intertwined' signifies. (Reference-Paragrap	oh 2) 1
	(i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (v)	
	A. (i), (iv) and (v)	
	B. Only (ii)	
	C. Only (iii)	
	D. (ii) and (v)	
vii	Infer one benefit and one drawback of vertical gardening, in comparison to other solution	ns, 2
	such as community gardens or parks. (Answer in about 40 words)	
	such as community gardens of parks. (Answer in about 40 words)	

viii	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.		
	В.	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.		
1				

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

	GRAMMAR	10		
3	Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed.	1x10		
i.	Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter:  Dear Sir  This is with reference to committee's letter of recommendation that	1		
	This is with reference to committee's letter of recommendation that(highlight) the nominations for 'Safe Residential Area' award for this current year.			
ii.	Read the given sentence from a recipe review article. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.			
	error correction			
	This delightful recipe must keep your hunger pangs at bay with its balanced spices and oriental flavour.  Use the given format for your response.			
iii.	Abhilash and Neha had a conversation about the inauguration of Neha's Dance Academy.	1		
1111	Report Abhilash's question.			
	Is your best friend helping you in this venture?			
iv.	Read the dialogue between Shabnam and her mentor, Sara, regarding her summer internship programme.	1		
	Sara: Why did you choose to participate in this internship programme? Shabnam: Ah! I am convinced this programme has the potential to enhance my abilities.			
	Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.			
	Sara asked Shabnam in that internship programme. Shabnam sighed and exclaimed that she was convinced that programme had the potential to enhance her abilities.			
	A. why to choose to participate B. to choose participation C. why he had chosen to participate D. with her choice in participating			

v.	Fill the blank by choosing circular by an Organisatio			iplete the cor	acluding line of an issued	1
	A copy of the plan is enclor Team Leaders for complia		(that/	then/this) ma	y be communicated to all	
vi.	Identify the error and supp current marketing strategy The company aimed at inc		_			1
		Use the given f	format for y	our response.	_	
		error	CC	orrection		
vii.	Select the option that ident analytical report.  In conclusion, this study e youngsters.	xplores the asso		ong short-slee	for the closing line, from an ep pattern and overweight	1
		Option No.	error	correction		
		A B	explores and	explore		
		С	among	or between		
		D	In	for		
			1		ı	
viii	Complete the given narrat			n the correct of	option.  grateful for knowing the	1
	importance of being kind a  A. feeling B. having felt C. felt D. feels	and compassion	ate to all cre			
ix.	Report the dialogue betwee	en a vendor and	his custom	er, by comple	ting the sentence:	1
	Vendor: It is nice to see yo Customer: Yes, indeed! Use The vendor greeted his cus The customer answered in	nlike last month tomer respectfu the affirmative	lly and men and explain	tioned that he	was pleased to see him.	
х.	Fill the blank by choosing channel.	the correct option	on to comp	lete the live fo	eed on a school news	1
	Congratulations Change M The regional competition the first prize	awards have	been anno	ounced and	our school music club	

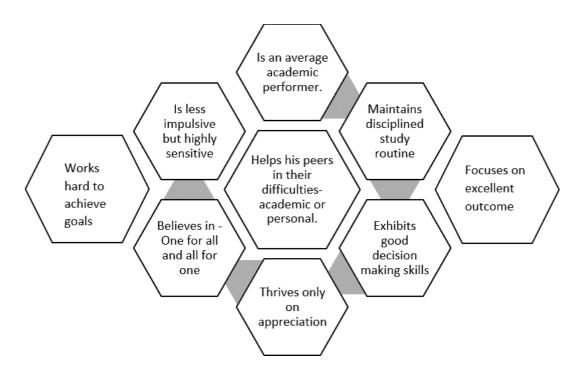
	A. had been won B. will win C. was winning D. has won	
xi.	Complete the line from a self- awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option.	1
	The river runs through your veins The trees and mountainsyour name The moon and stars watch over You're guiding your way back homeTo dream the night away.	
	A. will call B. call C. had called D. calls	
xii.	Identify the error and supply correction for the following note in a passengers' flight instruction manual:	1
	Note- Passengers will not reach the airport late in order to avoida fine equivalent to 5% of the basic fare.	
	Use the given format for your response.	
	error correction	

	WRITING	10
4.A	As Vaishali Nathani of 214, Indrayani Apartments, Vaishali Street, Daipur, you believe that forming Ecology clubs and appointing Eco-minders in your city can aid in the preservation and conservation of nature.  Write a letter to the MLA of your city area, in about 120 words, suggesting the need to form such clubs. Share their importance and implications. Recommend the involvement of resident	5
	volunteers for implementation of eco-club activities that nurture and protect the local ecosystem.  OR	
4.B	-	

credibility of such a programme and suggest a feasible way to execute it along with possible activities.

5.A Tsering, of class X, is contesting for the post of the Junior School Captain, in the upcoming student council elections. Given below is her character traits' graphic, shared in the public domain, by the school counsellor, for the awareness of student voters, at school.

5



All Tsering's peers have been asked to write a paragraph in about 120 words, analysing these traits, to either <u>support or oppose</u> her candidature. As one of her peers, write this analytical paragraph, by selecting some of the traits that support your analysis.

You may begin like this:

As a responsible student voter, I believe Tesring possesses / does not possess the necessary traits to be a School Captain.

You may end like this:

For these reasons, I believe she has / does not have the potential to be a good School Captain and I support / oppose her candidature.

OR

5.B As the Captain of the school's Cultural Club, you have been asked to study the given itinerary provided by a tour-organizing vendor.

### A 3N/2D Educational Tour for the Senior School Students:Jabalpur and Ranha National Park (Vandhya Pradesh)

- Tour Travel & sightseeing by bus.
- Accommodation on quad sharing basis.
- One staff complimentary for every 20 students.
- Bottled mineral water throughout the tour.

- Dance Party on 22 November.
- Insurance policy of ₹ 20,000/- per head.
- Provision of Tour Manager's assistance to all places.

Day	Estimated time of departure from	Estimate d time of arrival	Sight-seeing Destination/ Activity	Time spent at the destination
22 Nov. 2023	8:49 am (Nagpur Junction)-8 hrs. 30 min	5:23 pm	Reporting at the hotel	
23 Nov. 2023	9:00am (hotel)	10:00am	Bhawartal Garden	1 hr.
	11:00am (garden)	11:40am	Bhedaghat Dhuandhar Falls	1hr.
	12:40pm (falls)	1:00pm	Lunch (nearby restaurant)	1 hr.
	2:00pm (restaurant)	2:15pm	Marble Rocks Cable car tour	1hr. 30 mins
	3:45pm (Marble Rocks)	4:45 pm	Rani Durgavati Museum	1 hr. 30 mins
	6:15pm (museum)	7:00pm	Back to the hotel	
24 Nov. 2023	5:30am (hotel)- 170 kms- 4 hrs. drive	9:30am	Ranha Tiger Reserve	7hrs.
	4:30pm (Tiger Reserve)	9:00pm	Back to the hotel	
25 Nov. 2023	7:54 am (Jabalpur Railway station)- 8 hrs. 45 min	4:21 pm	Nagpur Railway Junction	

Analyze this itinerary to either <u>approve or reject</u> the tour proposal, while focusing on the students' safety, interest, and physical wellness. Write this analytical paragraph in about 120 words, by selecting features that support your analysis.

40

5

#### SECTION D: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT

- 6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two, given.
- A. The question he tried to answer was simple: What is the purpose of the twelve tiny gold spots on a monarch pupa?
  - "Everyone assumed the spots were just ornamental," Ebright said. "But Dr Urquhart didn't believe it."

	To find the answer, Ebright and another excellent science student first had to build a device that that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly's full development. This profession that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly's full development. This profession that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly's full development. This profession that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly's full development. This profession that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly's full development. This profession that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly's full development. This profession that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly's full development. This profession that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly's full development. This profession that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly is full development. This profession that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly is full development. This profession that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly is full development. This profession that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly is full development. This profession that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly is full development. The spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly is full development. The spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly is full development. The spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly is full development. The spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly is full development. The spots were produced and the spots were pro	oject won ring Fair. er at the
i	State any one inference about Dr Urquhart from the given context:  Everyone assumed the spots were just ornamental," Ebright said.  "But Dr Urquhart didn't believe it."	1
ii	State TRUE or FALSE.  None of the terms (a) -(d) below, can be applied to the question - What is the purpose of the twelve tiny gold spots on a monarch pupa?  (a) A hypothesis - a proposed explanation for a phenomenon  (b) An assumption - something that is taken for granted or assumed to be true without proof  (c) A premise - a proposition that forms the basis of an argument  (d) A theory - a well-substantiated explanation for a natural phenomenon	1
iii	Ebright's approach towards finding the purpose of the gold spots on a monarch pupa was highly effective. Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract.	2
iv	Which phrase would correctly substitute 'a chance', in the given sentence from the extract.  He also got <u>a chance</u> to work during the summer at the entomology laboratory of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.	1
	OR	
В.	LOMOV: It's cold I'm trembling all over, just as if I'd got an examination before me. The go is, I must have my mind made up. If I give myself time to think, to hesitate, to talk a lot, to an ideal, or for real love, then I'll never get married. BrrIt's cold! Natalya Stepanovna is an housekeeper, not bad-looking, well-educated. What more do I want? But I'm getting a noise in from excitement. (Drinks) And it's impossible for me not to marry. In the first place, I'm alrea a critical age, so to speak. In the second place, I ought to lead a quiet and regular life. I surpalpitations, I'm excitable and always getting awfully upset; at this very moment my lips are trand there's a twitch in my right eyebrow. ( <i>The Proposal</i> )	look for excellent my ears eady35— ffer from rembling.
i	Which of the following is NOT a reason why Lomov thinks he must marry?  A. He is already 35 years old.  B. He suffers from palpitations.  C. He is excitable and easily upset.  D. He is in love with Natalya.	1
ii	Why is it fair to say that Lomov's tone, when he says "What more do I want?", is uncertain and questioning? Answer in about 40 words.	2
iii	Read the following descriptions (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract.  (a) A debate is a formal discussion on a particular topic, usually with two or more people presenting different viewpoints and arguments.	1

	(b) A soliloquy is a speech given by a character alone on stage, which reveals their innermost						
	thoughts and feelings to the audience.						
	(c) An aside is a brief comment or remark made by a character directly to the audience, which is not intended to be heard by other characters on stage.						
	which is not interest to be notified by contractions on single						
iv	If an actor were to enact this extract, what would he be required to focus on, while	1					
	modulating his voice?						
7.	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for <b>ANY ONE</b> of the two, given.	5					
A.	But if it had to perish twice,						
	I think I know enough of hate						
	To say that for destruction ice						
	Is also great						
	And would suffice.  (Fire and Ice)						
		1					
i	Fill the blank with one word.  When the speaker says that ice could also bring about the and of the world, he refers to	1					
	When the speaker says that ice could also bring about the end of the world, he refers to, as the means for destruction.						
ii	What does the speaker's alignment with those who favour ice, suggest?	1					
iii	Which of the following best describes the speaker's attitude towards destruction caused by	1					
1111	ice?	1					
	A. Indifferent						
	B. Fearful						
	C. Dismissive						
	D. Respectful						
iv	Comment on the poet's use of language in these lines.	2					
	OR						
B.	The fog comes						
	on little cat feet.						
	It sits looking						
	over harbour and city on silent haunches						
	and then moves on.						
	(Fog)						
i	In what way does the language used in this poem challenge traditional ideas of what poetry	1					
	should be?						
ii	What is the significance of the use of the word "little" to describe the fog in the poem and	2					
	how does this word choice contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem? Answer						
	in about 40 words.						
iii	Complete the sentence with the appropriate option.	1					
	The lines from the poem tell us that the city is						
	A 1.311						
	A. hilly						
	B. coastal						
Ī	[ industrial						
	C. industrial D. under-developed						

iv	Identify the type of imagery used in the lines of the poem.	1 4x3=12			
8	Answer <b>ANY FOUR</b> of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words.				
i	Justify the opinion that the traditional baker and his bread play a significant role in the cultural and social fabric of Goan society. ( <i>Glimpses of India-I</i> )				
ii					
	Zoo, to effectively depict the confinement and oppression, experienced by the captive tiger.				
iii	Explain how the description of the devastation caused by the hailstorm reflects the sadness	3			
	within Lencho, in A Letter to God?				
	Refer to the given lines, from the text -				
	Not a leaf remained on the trees. The corn was totally destroyed. The flowers were gone				
	from the plants. Lencho's soul was filled with sadness.				
iv	Kitty was a trusted friend to Anne. Elaborate.	3			
	(From the Diary of Anne Frank)				
V	How does Ogden Nash's The Tale of Custard the Dragon, challenge the notion that	3			
	individuals should conform to societal expectations?	2x3=6			
9	Answer <b>ANY TWO</b> of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.				
i	The story, A Triumph of Surgery is a powerful example of the importance of saying "no".	3			
	Explain.				
ii	How does education play a transformative role in Bholi's life?	3			
<b></b>	(Bholi)				
iii	The various elements of Robert Arthur's writing style work together to create a sense of	3			
	tension, uncertainty, and suspense, well-suited to the mystery and suspense genre of the				
	story, <i>The Midnight Visitor</i> . Comment, with reference to any one element.				
10	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.				
A	You have been asked to present an evaluation of the approaches of the mothers of both, the baby				
	seagull and Amanda, towards helping their children. Write this presentation draft includ	ing your			
	insights, in about 120 words, comparing the approaches of both parents.				
	OR				
(B)	You have been chosen to address a student gathering from the neighbourhood schools, to speak on the				
	resilience of human spirit required to transcend discrimination. Prepare the speech draft in not more				
	than 120 words, with reference to the commonality of themes in <i>Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to</i>				
	Freedom and The Trees by Adrienne Rich.				
11	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 100 120 words	1v6-6			
11	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.	1x6=6			

A	Imagine that M. Loisel, from <i>The Necklace</i> by Guy de Maupassant, writes a diary entry, exploring the theme of class and social status, and the nature of social mobility, in the context of his own experience. Write this diary entry, as M. Loisel, in about 120 words.					
OR						
В	A character Hari Singh is the transformation or development of a character throughout a story and refers to the changes a character undergoes as a result of their experiences, challenges, and interactions with other characters.  In the light of the above information, trace the character Hari Singh as thief in Ruskin Bond's <i>The Thief's</i>					

Story, in about 120 words.