



ENGLISH

Class 10 - English Language and Literature

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

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 Text Book
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section A - Reading Skills

1. **Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

[10]

The newspaper is one of the significant signs of modern civilization. It is the most popular form of reading in the present time because it interests all sorts of people. It is full of political news, sports, and commercial news, as well as articles by well-known writers. A newspaper keeps us both entertained and informed.

In these days of democracy, public opinion rules everywhere. No government can long withstand the pressure of a strong public opinion. It is, therefore, quite clear that the press controls public opinion, and public opinion, in turn, controls the government and ultimately the press controls the government. It acts as an interpreter between the government and the people and brings the rulers and the ruled together.

The press also acts as a public court. All evils, corruptions, vices, scandals, etc. are given publicity and brought forth to the public through the medium of newspapers. The pressure of public opinion can be brought to bear upon the doors of evil and injustice. The oppressed and the downtrodden may easily demand justice at the bar of public opinion.

Again, to build a nation, it becomes necessary to spread ideas of liberty and independence among the masses. The real freedom of a country is never possible without raising the thoughts of the people living in its nooks and corners. Politicians, as well as economists, can circulate their ideas through newspapers, as they reach the most distant corners in the shortest possible time. Newspapers also tell people what their rights are and teach them how they can protect and exercise them. By placing new viewpoints before the readers every day, newspapers stimulate thoughts and ideas and increase the power of independent thinking. Thus, newspapers contribute to the development of knowledge and their educative influence is indeed immense.

The advantages of having a strong, independent and honest press outweigh the faraway evils practised by a few cheap, irresponsible newspapers. The newspaper is one of the greatest blessings of civilization and journalism and therefore, it should be allowed to have the maximum amount of freedom possible.

Restrictions on newspapers should be at least as possible in order to ensure the healthy growth of a nation. In

the present stage of developing civilization, newspapers are an absolute necessity and if are given freedom of expression, they can do immense good to society, the country and the world. Thus, the freedom of the Press is the requisite for the freedom of the people.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

(I) In paragraph 1, what does the phrase "*The newspaper is one of the significant signs of modern civilization*" emphasise? (1)

(II) Complete the following with the correct option from the two given:

A newspaper helps bring the rulers and the ruled together because _____.

(a) it creates an open line of communication between the government and the people.

(b) it supports government policies to ensure stability. (paragraph 2)

(III) Support the writer's idea that the press acts as a "public court" by providing evidence from the passage. (paragraph 3) (2)

(IV) Select the option that best reflects how newspapers contribute to the education of citizens. (paragraph 4)

(1)

(a) They teach people about their rights and duties.

(b) They focus on entertaining content to keep people happy.

(c) They reach distant places faster than any other form of media.

(d) They prevent the growth of independent thought and ideas.

(V) State whether the following statement is True or False:

The real freedom of a country depends on raising awareness among its masses. (paragraph 4) (1)

(VI) The writer mentions that the disadvantages of a dishonest press are far outweighed by its advantages.

Which of the following is a key advantage mentioned? (paragraph 5) (1)

(a) It helps governments suppress dissent.

(b) It stimulates independent thought and contributes to knowledge.

(c) It ensures only one-sided opinions reach the public.

(d) It promotes scandals and vices for the sake of publicity.

(VII) List any two ways in which newspapers contribute to the development of a nation. (paragraph 4) (2)

(VIII) Fill in the blank with the correct option from those given:

In the phrase "*freedom of the press is the requisite for the freedom of the people*", the word "*requisite*" refers to _____ . (1)

(a) A necessary condition or requirement.

(b) A voluntary choice made by individuals.

(c) A regulation imposed by governments.

(d) An obstacle to progress and innovation.

2. **Read the passage given below:**

[10]

1. Starting Monday, the country's low-cost Mars mission with the red planet for an extended period will enter the "blackout" phase snapping communication with the satellite. From June 8 to 22 the Sun will block Mars from the Earth snapping communication with the satellite.

2. A senior Indian Space Research Organisation official said. "This will be for the first time that there will be a communication break for such a long period of about 15 days. During this period, there will be no communication with the satellite", he added.

3. Expressing confidence about regaining control over the satellite once the blackout phase is over, he said, "the scenario has been tested and the line of communication will be established." The spacecraft's life has been extended for another six months in March due to surplus fuel.
4. Stating that the spacecraft has been "configured" for the blackout, the ISRO official said, "we are not sending any commands to the spacecraft now, till 8th June few hours of signals will be sent by the spacecraft that will be for about two to three hours per day". In May next year, the mission will have to go through a similar phase once again, if there is another extension of mission life when the Earth will come between the Sun and Mars.
5. Scripting space history, India on September 24 last successfully placed its low-cost Mars spacecraft in orbit around the red planet in its very first attempt, breaking into an elite club of three countries.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below: (10)

- i. What is the "blackout" phase in the context of the Mars mission, and how long will it last? **(2)**
- ii. Choose the appropriate option to fill in the blank. **(1)**
From paragraph 1 & 2, we can infer that there will be _____.
 1. no communication with the people.
 2. blackout phase.
 3. satellite will get no communication.
 4. moon will block the earth.
 5. the communication break will be for 15 days.
 - a. 1, 2 & 3
 - b. 1, 3 & 4
 - c. 2, 3 & 5
 - d. 3, 4 & 5
- iii. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phase from paragraph 2: **(1)**
aroma: cooking:: _____: space research
(Clue - just like aroma is integral to cooking, similarly _____ is/are integral to Space Research.)
- iv. According to ISRO official till 8th July, when Sun will block Mars, _____ signal/signals per day will be sent to the spacecraft. **(1)**
 - a. no
 - b. considerable
 - c. indefinite
 - d. only for few
- v. Select the correct option to complete the following sentence: **(1)**
The ISRO officials are _____ about their control over the spacecraft after the blackout phase.
 - a. doubtful
 - b. apprehensive
 - c. confident
 - d. jittery
- vi. How has the spacecraft's mission been managed to handle the blackout phase and what is planned for communication during this period? **(2)**
- vii. Read the following sentences: **(1)**

- A. The blackout was a sudden development.
- B. Because of this, the officials are very nervous about the success of the spacecraft.
 - a. Both (A) & (B) are true.
 - b. Both (A) & (B) are false.
 - c. (A) is true and (B) is false.
 - d. (A) is false and (B) is true.

viii. Substitute the word 'nonpareil' with one word similar in meaning in the following sentence from paragraph

5. (1)

India managed to get into the nonpareil club of Mars spacecraft in orbit.

SECTION B GRAMMAR

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed [10]

(a) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter: [1]

This selfless initiative _____ (carry) out with dedication and responsibility, deserves due recognition.

(b) Identify the error in the given sentence, from a school magazine report and supply the correction. [1]

While much needs to be done to transforming our education system to meet the needs of all types of students, it is equally important to teach our children the art of taking stress in their strides.

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

(c) Read the conversation given below between a receptionist and a guest. Complete the sentence by filling in the blank: [1]

Receptionist: Good to see you again, sir!

Guest: Indeed, it's always nice to be back here.

The guest replied that _____.

(d) Read the dialogue between Sameer, a passenger and the flight attendant regarding delay in flight landing. [1]

Sameer: At what time are we landing in Mumbai?

Flight Attendant: Sorry for the inconvenience, sir. The flight will be delayed by a few hours due to heavy rain.

Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.

Sameer asked the flight attendant about the time they would be landing in Mumbai. The flight attendant apologized for the inconvenience and replied that _____ due to heavy rains.

- a) the flight could be delayed by a few hours
- b) there will be a delay by a few hours
- c) the flight would be delayed by a few hours
- d) there would be a delay in flight landing

(e) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. [1]

The teacher gave _____ (every / each / either) of the students a piece of paper.

(f) Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction: [1]

The teacher had run after the boy to catch him before he fell into the ditch.

Use the given format for your response.

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- Heaps of garbage everywhere
- Boundary wall is broken
- Very dirty animals resting there

OR

You are Anita/Ashok. You came across the following advertisement:

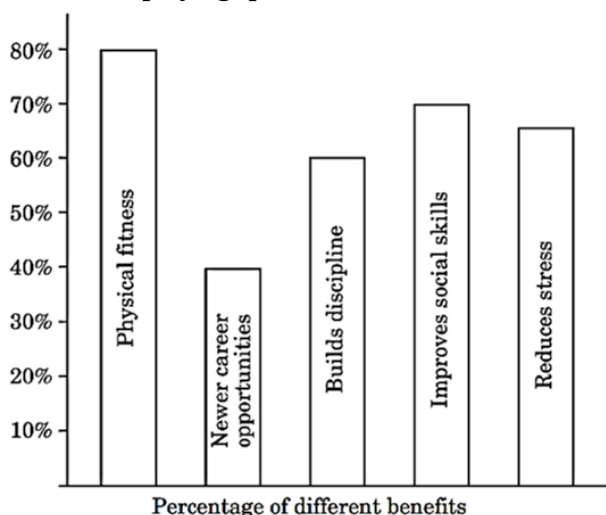
Manthan: We Lead the Future Leaders

Web designing is not only about creating the best pages and displaying content. It is about converting the idea and turning it into a beautiful website.

Write a letter in 100-120 words to the Director, Manthan, inquiring about their short-term courses and asking for all necessary details such as eligibility, duration, fees and placement services.

5. School authorities and parents have realized the benefits of encouraging their children to play and participate in sports. The age-old myth that academics is the only foundation for a successful career has been replaced. Write a paragraph in not more than 120 words analyzing the given information: [5]

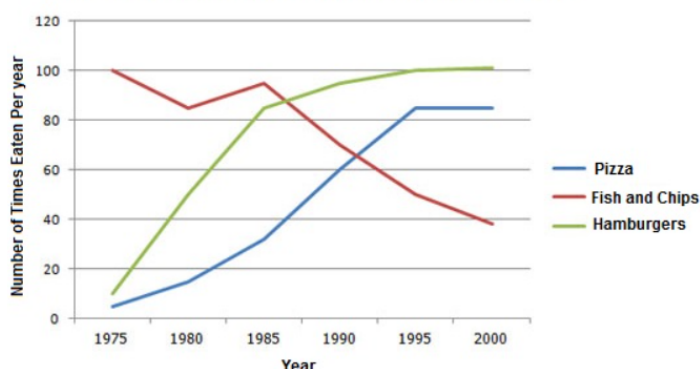
Benefits of playing sports



OR

The line graph below shows changes in the amount and type of fast food consumed by Indian teenagers from 1975 to 2000. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons.

Consumption of Fast Food by Indian Teenagers



SECTION C - LITERATURE

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [5]

- (a) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

Max bit his lip nervously. The knocking was repeated.

"What will you do now, Max ?" Ausable asked. "If I do not answer the door, they will enter anyway.

The door is unlocked. And they will not hesitate to shoot".

- i. Who is Max? (1)
 - a. a spy
 - b. a tourist
 - c. a businessman
 - d. a waiter
- ii. Max was unprepared for his mission. Elaborate with reference to the extract. (2)
- iii. Actually the door was knocked at by _____. (1)
- iv. Which word in the extract is opposite in meaning to the word 'confidently'? (1)

(b) Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

In the north-east huge mountains of clouds could be seen approaching. The air was fresh and sweet. The man went out for no other reason than to have the pleasure of feeling the rain on his body and when he returned he exclaimed, "These aren't raindrops falling from the sky, they are new coins. The big drops are ten cent pieces and the little ones are fives."

- i. Why did Lencho go out in the rain? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- ii. State TRUE or FALSE. None of the terms (a)-(d) below, can be a true reference to the following statement 'Lencho compared the rain drops to new coins.' (1)
 - a. Lencho enjoys rainfall as it provides a pleasant weather to his family.
 - b. The raindrops help him to grow and harvest the crops, which results in more prosperity.
 - c. They reflect light and have a shiny appearance, especially when they are freshly fallen.
 - d. Lencho depends on rain for farming.
- iii. Which phrase/word would correctly substitute 'huge' in the given sentence from the extract. 'In the north-east huge mountains of clouds could be seen approaching.' (1)
- iv. State any one inference about Lencho from the given context: (1)

"The man went out for no other reason than to have the pleasure of feeling the rain on his body and when he returned he exclaimed, "These aren't raindrops falling from the sky, they are new coins."

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [5]

(a) Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

I sit inside, doors open to the verandah
 Writing long letters
 In which I scarcely mention the departure
 of the forest from the house.
 The night is fresh, the whole moon shines
 in a sky still open
 the smell of leaves and lichen
 still reaches like a voice into the rooms.

- i. Fill in the blank with one word: (1)

The poet talks about the house as a place of _____.
- ii. Find the figure of speech used in the lines above. (2)
- iii. The extract uses 'open' twice, suggesting different meanings. Write the correct meaning with reference to the extract. (1)

iv. Choose the option that DOES NOT state the meaning of the underlined word. (1)

'I scarcely mention...'

- A. tactfully
- B. hardly
- C. barely
- D. only just

(b) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

Belinda is as brave as a barrel full of bears
And Ink and Blink chase lions down the stairs,
Mustard is as brave as a tiger in a rage,
But Custard keeps crying for a nice safe cage.

i. Pick the option that does not display a simile from the extract. (1)

- a. ...as brave as a barrel full of bears
- b. ...chase lions down the stairs
- c. ...brave as a tiger in a rage
- d. none of the above

ii. Fill in the blank with one word. The coward behaviour of _____ animal is described here in these lines. (1)

iii. How does the poet describe the pets of Belinda in this extract? (2)

iv. A hyperbole is a poetic device where the poet purposely and obviously exaggerates to an extreme.

Comment on the hyperbole from the extract. (1)

8. **Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words** [12]

- (a) The most laid back individuals become converts to the life of high energy adventure. Elaborate with reference to Coorg. (Glimpses of India) [3]
- (b) What message do you get from the poem, 'A Tiger in the Zoo'? [3]
- (c) Why do you think Natalya Stepanova asked her father to call Lomov back when she heard that he had come with a proposal? [3]
- (d) How did Mr. Keesing's attitude towards Anne change? [3]
- (e) How has Frost brought out the contrasting ideas in the poem Fire and Ice? [3]

9. **Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.** [6]

- (a) Explain this statement: 'Mrs. Pumphrey is a very loving and caring mistress.' [3]
- (b) What were the reasons that Bholi's parents accepted Bishamber's proposal although it was not a proper match? [3]
- (c) What did the Halls see in the scientist's room? [3]

10. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words** [6]

- (a) Imagine that the narrator shared his story with friends and family once he got home. One of them, a spiritual leader, decided to incorporate the story as part of his weekly sermon to the congregation. Another friend, a psychologist, worked the story into his next lecture on survival instinct and crisis management.

Do you think the two interpretations of the story would be different? If so, how?

What insights might the narrator get about his mysterious experience, if he were to attend both the sessions? Answer in the context of the lesson **Two Stories about Flying**.

- (b) After having read the lesson on the oppression that communities faced in South Africa, you were deeply hurt. You could also relate to the struggles and hardships of millions of Indians who fought against the oppressive British rule. [6]

Write a diary entry expressing your feelings about oppression faced by people in their homeland. You may begin like this:

24 August 20XX,

Monday 9:00 pm My heart is filled with sadness as I think of the oppressed who had to tolerate the inhuman attitude of the oppressors in their own land ...

11. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.** [6]

- (a) Matilda goes home after meeting Madam Forestier after ten years and shares the fact with M Loisel that the necklace was a false one. Write the dialogue between Matilda and M Loisel. [6]

Matilda: I don't know how to tell you this but I met Madam Forestier today and she told me that her necklace was

M Loisel: What! I can't believe my ears. That huge debt was for nothing!

Matilda: ...

M Loisel: ...

- (b) Hari Singh says- **He knew it but neither his lips nor his eyes showed anything.** Anil successfully addressed the situation by not addressing it at all. Elaborate based on your reading of The Thief's Story. [6]

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