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Sample Question Paper

BLUEPRINT

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 80

Sections	Objective (1 mark)	SA-I (2 marks)	SA-II (3 marks)	LA-I (5 marks)	LA-II (6 marks)	Total Marks
Reading Skills	14	3	–	–	–	20
Writing Skills and Grammar	10	–	–	2	–	20
Literature Textbooks	6	2	6	–	2	40
Total	1 x 30 = 30	2 x 5 = 10	3 x 6 = 18	5 x 2 = 10	6 x 2 = 12	80

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 Textbooks*
- 3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*

SECTION-A

READING SKILLS (20 MARKS)

- 1. Read the following text. (10)**
 - (1) Technology is making advancements at a rapid rate but at the cost of a valued tradition—the crafts industry. The traditional crafts industry is losing a lot of its trained and skilled craftsmen. With that, the art of embellishing brass and copper utensils with fine engravings is also disappearing. The government has identified around 35 crafts as languishing craft.
 - (2) The speciality of handcrafted items is its design, an association with long traditions belonging to a specific region. The word ‘handcrafted’ does not imply the involvement of dexterous human fingers or an agile mind with a moving spirit anymore. Lessening drudgery, increasing production and promoting efficiency have taken precedence. The labour-saving devices are taking the place of handcrafted tools and this has jeopardized the skills of these artisans.
 - (3) Mechanisation has made its way into everything - cutting, polishing, edging, designing etc. Ideally, the use of machinery should be negligible and the handicrafts should be made purely by hand with a distinguishable artistic appeal. However, with the exception of small-scale industries, the export units are mostly operated by machines. The heavily computerised designs contribute to a faster production at lower costs.
 - (4) Although mechanization of crafts poses a challenge to safeguarding traditional crafts, the artisans are lured with incentives in order to impart handicrafts training. Some makers do see machines as a time-saving blessing since they are now able to accomplish difficult and demanding tasks with relative ease. These machines might give a better finesse to these products but they don’t stand out as handcrafted. Quantity has overtaken quality in this industry.
 - (5) A need to highlight the importance of the handmade aspect is required by both the government and private sectors, in order to amplify awareness and also support the culture of making handicrafts. A few artisans are still trying their best to rejuvenate and revive their culture and heritage but it’s an uphill task competing with the machine-made goods. A multitude of artisans have changed their professions and are encouraging their progeny to follow suit. There are others who have stayed their ground but are clearly inclined towards buying machines.

- (6) Nearly two decades ago, there were around 65 lakh artisans in the country. Three years ago, when the government started the process of granting a unique number to the artisans based on the Aadhaar card, 25 lakhs were identified. Loss of traditional crafts is clearly a worrying issue, but it stands to reason that forcing any artisan to follow old ways when concerns of livelihood overrule other considerations, is unfair.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage.

- i. Why does the writer call handicrafts a 'valued tradition'? (1)
- ii. Replace the underlined phrase in the given sentence by choosing the correct option. (1)
If it continues, the workcation (work + vacation) trend will be a powerful boost to domestic tourism operators failing to make progress in the economic slump caused by the pandemic.
A. Agile B. Precedence C. Languishing D. Lessening
- iii. Complete the following sentence. (1)
Artisans are choosing to work via machines rather than handcrafted tools because _____.
- iv. Why do the artisans need to be 'lured with incentives' to impart handicrafts training? (2)
- v. List two likely impacts of the support of government and private sectors towards the culture of making handicrafts. (2)
- vi. With what argument does the writer justifies an artist's act of abandoning her/his traditional craft for a more lucrative option? (1)
A. That the artisans cannot be expected to continue their profession if it is not profitable.
B. That the labour-saving devices are taking the place of handcrafted tools and are doing a worse job.
C. That it is a stress-free task to rejuvenate and revive the old and traditional art
D. That mechanisation has been a great help to the artisans and are maxing up their profit.
- vii. The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets A – D below, identify a set of antonyms. (1)
A. Appreciate - Applaud B. Automated - Mechanical
C. Homemade - Machined D. Common - Simple
- viii. Choose what the following line displays regarding the writer's idea. (1)
Quantity has overtaken quality in this industry.
A. Simple B. Complex C. Outright D. Justified

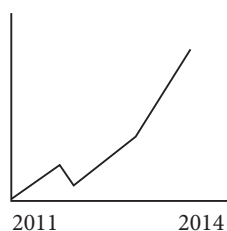
2. Read the following text.

(10)

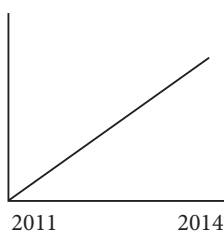
- (1) The North-East of India is a melting pot of variegated, cultural mosaic of people and races, an ethnic tapestry of many hues and shades. Yet, these states are lesser explored as compared to the rest of the country. The new generations of travellers who are 'money rich and time poor' are increasingly looking for unique experiences—a phenomenon being called the emergence of the 'experience economy'. For this new and growing breed of tourists, the North-East with its variety and uniqueness holds immense attraction.
- (2) A study conducted in 2020 by Dr. Sherap Bhutia, revealed that the foreign tourist arrival in the North-East increased from 37,380 persons in 2005 to 118,552 in 2014. The overall growth rate of tourist (both domestic and foreign) in the North-East was as high as 26.44% during 2005-06. A high and positive growth of 12.53% was registered in foreign tourist visits to North-East States of India during 2012 from 2011, which further rose to register a growth of 27.93% during 2013 from 2012. Foreign tourist arrivals in the North-East witnessed a growth of 39.77% during 2014 from 2013, according to data provided from the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.
- (3) The study recommendations for tourism planners included the need to concentrate on some key areas like enhancement of tourist facilities, tourism financing, focus on community involvement and others for the formulation of a sustainable tourism strategy in the North-East States of India.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage.

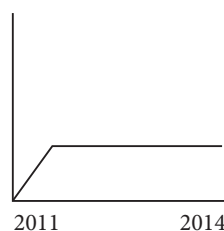
- i. Infer one reason for the following, based on the information given in paragraph 1. (1)
The rate of tourism in the North-East of India puzzles tourism officials.
- ii. Select the appropriate option to fill in the blanks. (1)
From paragraph 1, we can infer that the _____ and _____ of the North-Eastern states aid attracting the 'money rich and time poor' tourists.
1. distinctiveness 2. conventionality
3. uniqueness 4. uniformity
5. modernity
A. 1 and 3 B. 2 and 4
C. 2 and 5 D. 1 and 4
- iii. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from paragraph 1. (1)
aroma : cooking :: _____ : painting
(Clue: Just like aroma is integral to cooking, similarly _____ is/are integral to painting.)
- iv. Select the correct option to complete the following sentence. (1)
Travellers advocating the 'experience economy' seek a holiday package with _____. (Paragraph 1)
A. grand facilities, expensive hotels and excellent services to pamper them
B. a wholesome experience within the budget they have planned for
C. places and cities to buy things from and opportunities to spend money
D. cost-effective services, affordable accommodation and many days of touring
- v. Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below.
Assertion : The North-East of India are the lesser explored regions as compared to the rest of the country.
Reason : Tourism planners should concentrate on the need to focus on improving tourism amenities, tourism financing, etc. in order to formulate a sustainable tourism strategy.
A. Both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
B. Both the assertion and reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
C. The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
D. The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- vi. What do you understand by 'sustainable tourism'? (1)
- vii. List any 2 examples of 'tourist facilities' as referred to, in Paragraph 3. (2)
- viii. List one reason why the researchers recommend that the formulation of a tourism strategy in the North-Eastern States of India be sustainable. (1)
- ix. Select the chart that appropriately represents the trend of foreign tourist travels in the North-East, from 2011-2014, as per paragraph 2. (1)



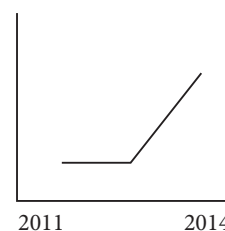
(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)

A. Option 1

B. Option 2

C. Option 3

D. Option 4

SECTION-B

WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)

GRAMMAR

(10)

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

i. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence. (1)

It's been years since I _____ pani puri.

- A. have ate B. had ate C. have eaten D. eat

ii. Read the conversation between parents and complete the sentence by reporting Kabir's reply. (1)

Mother : Do you think it will rain today?

Father : I think so.

Mother asked Father _____ .

iii. Choose the correct option to complete the given sentence. (1)

I _____ tell my tutor that I will not be coming today.

- A. need B. should C. shan't be D. should have been

iv. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies its correction for the following line. (1)

Boys who have never fight with one another in school are bitterly annoyed today.

Option No.	Error	Correction
A.	fight	fought
B.	one	each
C.	have	has
D.	Boys	Boy

v. Complete the sentence by choosing the correct option. (1)

I _____ spicy food for lunch and my stomach still hurts.

- A. have B. has C. have had D. having

vi. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. (1)

Mother goes to the grocery store _____ Sunday.

- A. all B. every C. each D. any

vii. Report the dialogue between mother and her daughter by completing the sentence. (1)

Daughter : Where did I keep my wallet?

Mother : Not again! Have you looked on your table?

In response to the question asked by the daughter, the mother asked _____.

viii. Identify the error and supply the correction for the given sentence. (1)

He throw caution to the wind and jumped off the roof to escaped the police.

Error	Correction

ix. Change the given direct speech in the reported form. (1)

Arnav : When will you start going to school, my friend?

x. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. (1)

_____ the rain stops, the game will not resume.

- A. Will B. Since C. Unless D. If

- xi. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogues between two.** (1)

Squeak : We wanted to thank Jon for letting us stay inside.

Garfield : So my wife knitted him a little something.

Squeak told Garfield _____ for letting them stay inside.

- A. that they had wanted to thank Jon B. if they had wanted to thank Jon
C. that has wanted to thank Jon D. that they have wanted to thank Jon

- xii. Identify the error and supply the correction for the given sentence.** (1)

If your feeling depressed, any chocolate can be a real tonic.

Error	Correction

WRITING

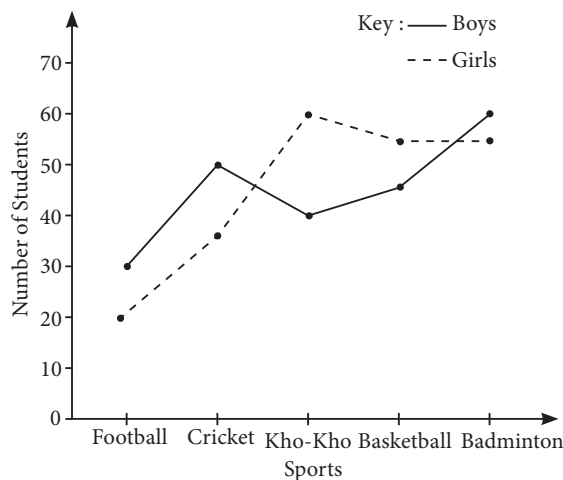
(10)

4. A. You are Ameeta living in 14/B, Ganga Villa, Vellore. Your family planned to go for a vacation to Udaipur this vacation. Write a letter to the Front Office Manager of a five-star hotel, in about 120 words seeking information about the types of rooms, tariffs, facilities, availability, etc. in their hotel. (5)

OR

4. B. You are Neelam from Gurugram, Haryana. Write a letter in about 100-120 words to the Dean of Indira Gandhi National Open University enquiring about the Mass Communication courses. (5)

5. A. The given double line graph shows the number of boys and girls who participated in different types of sports in a school. Write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words summarising the information and make comparisons wherever relevant. (5)



OR

5. B. The given information shows a variety of different electronic appliances used by average middle class families of old Gurugram. Write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words elaborating the given information. (5)

1. TV is the most preferred piece of technology.
2. Refrigerator comes second.
3. AC, laptop, and washing machine stands equally as each is a necessity.
4. Microwave is the least preferred choice.
5. Understand consumer preference of electronic devices based on usability.

SECTION-C

LITERATURE TEXTBOOKS (40 MARKS)

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (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. State any one inference about Nelson from the given context. (1)
"I began to learn that my boyhood freedom was an illusion".
- ii. Choose the option that best fits the usage of the word 'illusion' as used in the extract. (1)
A. He was never able to get past the illusion.
B. The illusion I experienced was quite intriguing.
C. A large mirror in the room creates an illusion.
D. I was living under the illusion that this is possible.
- iii. Why do you think the speaker mentions some freedoms as 'transitory'? (1)
- iv. The speaker says, "at first as a student I wanted freedom only for myself." Why do you think he only thought about himself? (2)

OR

- B. At birth, the child was very fair and pretty. But when she was two years old, she had an attack of small-pox. Only the eyes were saved, but the entire body was permanently disfigured by deep black pock-marks. Little Sulekha could not speak till she was five, and when at last she learnt to speak, she stammered. The other children often made fun of her and mimicked her. As a result, she talked very little.
Ramlal had seven children - three sons and four daughters, and the youngest of them was Bholi. It was a prosperous farmer's household and there was plenty to eat and drink. All the children except Bholi were healthy and strong. The sons had been sent to the city to study in schools and later in colleges. Of the daughter, Radha, the eldest, had already been married.
- i. Who is the author of this extract and how does the author describe Little Sulekha's illness? (2)
- ii. The word 'disfigured' refers to _____. (1)
- iii. Why did Sulekha talk very little? (1)
- iv. Select the option that is true for the assertion and the reason given below. (1)
Assertion (A) : The sons had been sent to the city to study in school and later in colleges.
Reason (R) : The education of girls was not considered important.
A. Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
B. Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
C. A is true but R is false.
D. R is true but A is false.

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (5)
- A. The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree
- i. Who is 'me' in the given extract? (1)
A. Poet B. Snow C. Crow D. Tree

- ii. What did the crow do to the hemlock tree? (1)
- iii. What is a 'dust of snow'? (1)
- iv. Do you think a crow is often mentioned in poems? What images come to your mind when you think of a crow? (2)

OR

- B.** He is learning, well behind his desperate eyes,
The epistemology of loss, how to stand up
Knowing what every man must one day know
And most know many days, how to stand up.
- i. What kind of a person has the boy become in losing the ball? (1)
A. Responsible B. Mature C. Caring D. All of these
 - ii. Is the loss of the ball important for the boy? Why? (2)
 - iii. A word from the stanza that means 'nature or knowledge' is _____. (1)
A. epistemology B. desperate C. learn D. know
 - iv. Which word in the extract means same as 'serious'? (1)
- 8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words. (4 × 3 = 12)**
- i. What made Mr. Keesing allow Anne to talk in class? (3)
 - ii. Why was Lencho angry when he received the letter? (3)
 - iii. What does Mr. Mandela pledge to have for the newly liberated South Africa? (3)
 - iv. Why did Prince Siddhartha leave the palace and became a beggar? (3)
 - v. Describe the sky when Dakota took off from Paris. (3)
- 9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. (2 × 3 = 6)**
- i. Validate the importance of small, fun learning tasks towards successful careers, in the context of Richard Ebright in the making of a scientist? (3)
 - ii. Why did Sulekha start stammering? (3)
 - iii. Why did Matilda not like to visit her rich friend? (3)
- 10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (1 × 6 = 6)**
- A. "I wish I had the faith of the man who wrote this letter." In light of this statement, describe Lencho's character.

OR

- B.** Valli is not a selfish person, nor is she insensitive to the sufferings of others. She grieves over the accidental death of a young cow. Discuss the values of Valli's character on the basis of 'Madam Rides the Bus'.
- 11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (1 × 6 = 6)**
- A. The story, 'Bholi' throws light on some social evils being practised in our society. Bholi took a stand and succeeded in overcoming social barriers. What can you contribute to change the social attitudes illustrated in the story?

OR

- B.** Matilda suffered in life because she was not content in her life. Her desires led to her disaster. What do you learn from her mistake in life?

Self Evaluation Sheet

Once you complete **SQP-10**, check your answers with the given solutions and fill your marks in the marks obtained column according to the marking scheme. Performance Analysis Table given at the bottom will help you to check your readiness.



Q. No.	Section	Chapter / Topic	Marks Per Question	Marks Obtained
1.	Reading	Comprehension	10	
2.		Comprehension	10	
3.	Writing and Grammar	Fill in the Blanks Reported Speech Dialogue Writing Error Correction	10	
4.		Letter Letter	5	
5.		Analytical Paragraph Analytical Paragraph	5	
6.	Literature Textbooks	Nelson Mandela : Long Walk to Freedom Bholi	5	
7.		Dust of Snow The Ball Poem	5	
8.		From the Diary of Anne Frank A Letter to God Nelson Mandela : Long Walk to Freedom The Sermon at Benares Two Stories about Flying	12	
9.		The Making of a Scientist Bholi The Necklace	6	
10.		A Letter to God Madam Rides the Bus	6	
11.		Bholi The Necklace	6	
Total			80	
			Percentage	 %

Performance Analysis Table

If your marks are



> 90% TREMENDOUS!

➤ You are done! Keep on revising to maintain the position.



81-90% EXCELLENT!

➤ You have to take only one more step to reach the top of the ladder. Practise more.



71-80% VERY GOOD!

➤ A little bit of more effort is required to reach the 'Excellent' bench mark.



61-70% GOOD!

➤ Revise thoroughly and strengthen your concepts.



51-60% FAIR PERFORMANCE!

➤ Need to work hard to get through this stage.



40-50% AVERAGE!

➤ Try hard to boost your average score.

1. i. Because it showcases talents that are associated with artisans' lifestyle and history and it also represents our rich and artistic culture.

ii. C. Languishing

iii. it saves labour and reduces drudgery

iv. The artisans need to be 'lured with incentives' because if they impart training to bulk producers, they run the risk of losing their traditional livelihood to them and hence need to be tempted to do so via benefits or rewards.

v. The support of the government and private sectors towards the culture of making handicrafts impacts the creation of awareness and public support for the artisans and their work. Moreover, more artisans would be incentivised to continue their tradition, and artisans wouldn't change their professions to seek a better livelihood.

vi. A. That the artisans cannot be expected to continue their profession if it is not profitable.

vii. C. Homemade-Machined

viii. C. Outright

2. i. This is so because these states are lesser explored as compared to the rest of the country, in spite of having lots to offer.

ii. A. 1 and 3

iii. hues/shades

iv. B. a wholesome experience within the budget they have planned for

v. A. Both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.

vi. Sustainable tourism refers to protecting natural environments, wildlife and natural resources. It means to

protect the beauty of the earth while developing tourism activities.

vii. Accommodation-hotels, camps

Essential - eating outlets, water points, toilets, certified travel guide availability

viii. The researchers recommend the formulation of a tourism strategy to create socio-economic benefits for the local community to reduce the negative impacts caused on the destination and to protect natural wildlife and resources.

ix. B. Option 2

3. i. C. have eaten

ii. Mother asked father if he thought it would rain that day.

iii. B. should

Option No.	Error	Correction
A.	fight	fought

v. C. have had

vi. B. every

vii. if she had looked on her table

Error	Correction
throw	threw
escaped	escape

ix. Arnav asked his friend when he would start going to school.

x. C. Unless

xi. A. that they had wanted to thank Jon

Error	Correction
your	you're

4. A.

14/B, Ganga Villa

Pragati Colony, Vellore, Karnataka

9th December, 20××

The Manager

Front Office

The Shangria Hotel

Udaipur, Rajasthan

Subject : Enquiry about Tariffs and Availability of Rooms

Sir/Ma'am

My family planned to visit Udaipur for sight-seeing in the month of June this year. We may stay at your esteemed hotel which is located at the most beautiful part of the city; provided your tariff plans suit our budget. We are four persons including two adults and two children, and will be staying from the 2nd of June to the 6th of June 20××. We will prefer 'premier rooms' and will be requiring two such rooms.

Kindly let me know your tariff plans for the above mentioned room type, and also give details of the facilities provided by your hotel. Also, let me know about the availability on the mentioned dates and whether you provide pick and drop and sight-seeing facilities.

I would request you to mention any special concession offers, if going on.

Awaiting your reply.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

Ameeta

OR

4. B.

H.No. 453, Sector 15
Gurugram
Haryana-122001
17th December, 20xx
The Dean

Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110030

Subject : Enquiry about the Courses in Mass Communication

Dear Sir/Ma'am

Through your advertisement in the Indian Express, I have come to know that your university offers courses in Mass Communication.

I have completed my graduation in English with 55% and am interested in joining the Masters Programme in Mass Communication. I would like to know the eligibility criteria for the same and also request you to send me the details regarding cost, hostel facilities and other relevant information.

A self-addressed envelope is being enclosed herewith. Looking forward to an early response.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully

Neelam

5. A. The linear graph illustrates the number of boys and girls who participated in different types of sports in a school. The data given in the graph shows that football is least preferable with both boys and girls as only 20 girls and 30 boys have participated in football. Although there are 10 boys more in comparison to girls but it has the least male participants in comparison to other sports. Badminton is the most popular sports with boys and the second most popular is cricket.

Boys participated more than girls in badminton with around 60 boys as compared to 55 girls. Girls also preferred basketball, equal to badminton with participation levels of over 55 as opposed to boys who numbered around 45. There is a huge difference in Kho-Kho in which around 60 girls participated, which has the highest number of girl participants in comparison to other sports. On the contrary, only 40 boys participated in Kho-Kho.

On the other hand, girls are less interested in playing cricket, where there are only 35 participants, 15 less than boys. Boys have been shown to be more active in badminton and than in cricket.

Subsequently, the figures demonstrate that boys preferred playing badminton even more than the girls and spent slightly more time in playing cricket and than basketball.

However, girls preferred Kho-Kho the most, and were equally interested in playing basketball and badminton, the least they preferred was cricket but also did not participate significantly in football.

OR

5. B. The given data shows the type of various electronic appliances used by average middle class families in old Gurugram.

The given data shows that an average middle class family in old Gurugram preferred to have a TV the most. Second

preference happened to be refrigerator. AC, washing machine and laptop fell into almost the same category. And the least preferred appliance is microwave.

The data shows comparison in the product preferred and it is mainly due to their usage and utility, based on the usefulness in lessening the human workload. Laptop stands equal to washing machine and AC, as it has become a necessity aid in children's education.

To conclude the data, it clearly shows TV as the most preferred choice and microwave as the least preferred one. This has helped us in understanding the consumer preferences in case of electronic appliances based on their usability.

6. A. i. As a boy, he was free to think and to do what he wanted to, but now, as a young man, he realised that his freedom had been taken away from him. He was a thoughtful person.

ii. D. I was living under the illusion that this is possible.

iii. Because the freedoms are momentary and keep changing with time.

iv. When Mandela was a child, freedom had a completely different meaning for him. He was too young to realise that freedom was denied to others, but as a student, he wanted the freedom to be able to stay out at night, to read what he wanted to and to go where he chose to. He thought only about his freedom when he was a boy.

OR

B. i. The author of the extract is K.A. Abbas. The author describes Sulekha as very fair and pretty at birth but after she had small pox at the age of 2, her entire body was permanently disfigured by deep black pock-marks. They were only able to save her eyes. She also could not speak till she was 5 years old.

- ii. the spoiled appearance of a person/thing
- iii. Because she stammered and others made fun of her.
- iv. A. Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

7. A. i. A. Poet

ii. It shook the hemlock tree.

iii. Small particles of snow

iv. Crow is rarely mentioned in poems and is generally associated with harsh voice and bad omens. When one thinks of crow, images of tragedy and sadness comes to mind.

OR

B. i. D. All of these

ii. Yes, the loss of the ball is important for the boy because through this loss he got the real knowledge of the world. Now he will be able to face the difficulties of life courageously.

iii. A. epistemology

iv. Desperate

8. i. Mr Keesing thrice gave Anne a writing job on her talkative nature. On all the three occasions she came out successful. In the third attempt the ball fell on the teacher and he became her victim. Finding himself unsuccessful, he allowed Anne to talk in the class.

ii. The postmaster could raise only 70 pesos which he sent to Lencho, supposedly from God. Lencho was angry to find 30 pesos less than the amount he asked for. He was angry because he thought the post office employees had kept 30 pesos sent to him by God.

iii. Mr. Mandela pledged to liberate the people of South Africa from the perpetual bondage of poverty, deprivation, suffering, gender and other forms of discrimination. He pledged to bring equality in South Africa and set an example for the entire world.

iv. Before he had come across the sick man, the aged man, the funeral procession and the monk begging for alms, during his hunting expedition, Prince Siddhartha Gautama lived a life of comfort, unaware of the sufferings of the world. After he chanced upon those sufferings, Siddhartha Gautama left his comfortable life at the palace and wandered off into the world seeking enlightenment, concerning the sorrows he had witnessed.

v. The sky was clear. The stars were shining. The moon was coming up in the East. There wasn't a cloud in the sky when the narrator took off in his Dakota from Paris back to the England. It was 1:30 in the morning. It was a clear sky absolutely perfect for a delightful flight.

9. i. When Ebright was in second grade, he collected all the twenty-five species of butterflies as a fun activity. He got excited about the gold spots and started tagging the butterflies. When he was in the eight grade, he tried to find the cause of the disease that used to kill nearly all the

monarch butterflies. Later on, he proved that the cells of a monarch would develop into a normal butterfly wing only if they were fed the hormone from gold spots. As a result of it, he discovered how the cell could read the blueprint of its DNA. This led him to the path of a scientist.

ii. Sulekha was a baby when she fell down from a cot. Her brain was damaged. She could not speak till the age of five years. She was mentally slow and lacked confidence. That is why she started stammering.

iii. Matilda had inferiority complex. Whenever she visited her rich friend, she felt dejected and disappointed because of her poverty. She used to compare her lodgings to that of her friend's. She did not have attractive dresses and jewellery to adorn herself with. That is why, she did not like to visit her rich friends.

10. A. As soon as the postmaster received and read the letter written by Lencho to God, he expressed his feelings in the words by referring Lencho's faith in God. Lencho, the writer of the letter was a simple farmer. He had a firm belief in God. Once, when his crop was destroyed by hailstones, he turned to God for help. He wrote a letter believing that God would not leave them to die of hunger and starvation. When he received a packet full of money, he was not the least surprised. Being simple in mind and generous by soul, he never knew that some generous soul had sent him the money in the name of God.

The postmaster read the letter addressed to 'God' and to preserve the man's faith in God, he raised 70 pesos and sent them to Lencho. Lencho could not believe that God had made a mistake. He wrote again asking God to send the rest of the money, but not through mail. He believed that the post office employees were 'a bunch of crooks'.

OR

B. In the modern era, people are selfish and insensitive to the sufferings of their neighbours. But Valli is not one of them. On her way to the town, while she was in the bus, she came across a young cow running in the middle of the road, in front of the bus. Watching the young creature running about spiritedly, filled little Valli with joy and excitement, and she clapped with glee. However, the joy and excitement was shortlived as while coming back from the town, she saw the same young cow lying by the roadside, quite dead. Valli had been enthusiastic throughout the journey and would have never imagined of witnessing death so closely. But on being faced with such a tragic and dismal truth of life, the readers come across a sensitive Valli as she grieved the accidental demise of the young cow. She became sombre thinking about what had been a beautiful creature a while ago, alive and free spirited, was not so anymore. It seemed to have lost its charm, now that it lay lifeless in a pool of blood. Eight year old Valli neither feels frightened nor does she lose her confidence, only her enthusiasm dampens. Instead,

she processes the information like a grown up. She feels sympathy for the dead young cow.

11. A. Social discrimination against women has been highlighted in the narrative of 'Bholi' where women are considered a liability, a burden to be borne till they are eventually disposed off in marriage.

The family in particular and the society at large have no faith in their capabilities and hence, do not consider it essential to educate girls. But Bholi's incidence proves that daughters are capable and responsible in supporting the family same as the men folk and can be the bread winners, if the family invests in their education.

A significant change in the social attitudes can be brought about by creating awareness and counseling. Mass media, such as television is very influential and significant work is already being done to initiate a change in attitude towards the girls. Women in our Indian culture are the 'Ghar ki Lakshmi' and deserve to be honoured.

OR

B. Life is a great mystery. For every individual, this mystery of life comes wrapped in a unique package. For some, it is all riches, comfort, name and fame. For some it is nothing but sheer hunger, poverty, anguish and an everyday quest for bare survival. One, however, must learn to live within one's means and be content with what one has. Contentment in one's life is very important to lead a happy and peaceful life. In the light of the story 'The Necklace', we find that Matilda suffered a lot in her life as she was not content. She is of a humble background but dreams of riches and comforts. She is proud of her beauty and wants to be admired. She lost the necklace, worn in the ball, that was borrowed from her old friend. She had to buy a similar one, for that she and her husband had to take a loan. Then it took Loiseles a decade to pay back the money they borrowed to buy the necklace. In this way, their life changed. Now, Matilda was no longer pretty and beautiful. Her hollow desires led to her disaster.



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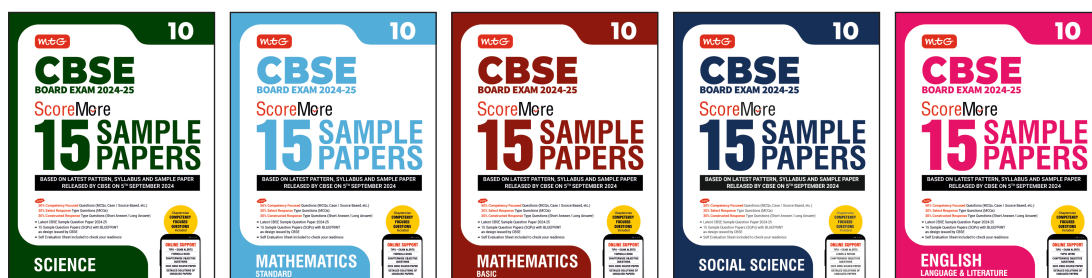
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