

SAMPLE PAPER

Class	12
Subject	English (Core)
Session	2023-24
Time Limit	3 hours
Maximum Marks	80

SECTION – A: UNSEEN COMPREHENSION

[15]

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow, according to the passage. Do any one. *1×10=10*

- (i) Cataract is the major cause of blindness, which is caused by damage to the cornea. It occurs more often in old age. As one starts growing old, the lens of the eye hardens, loses its transparency and becomes opaque. It obstructs the light rays from entering the eye.

The onset of cataract blurs the vision. Sometimes, the cataract patient sees multiple images instead of a single object image. Because of the gradual development of cataract, the afflicted person loses his/her vision, and the world becomes dark to him/her.

The development of cataract is a complex process. However, the following factors can be attributed to its formation. Cataract generally develops in old age but sometimes, children are born with cataract because of hereditary defect. Eye injuries too, can cause cataracts.

People exposed to sun rays for longer periods develop cataract earlier than others. Researchers opine that the smoke inhaled while smoking carries substances internally damaging the eyes.

Ultraviolet radiation, invisible to the human eye, is linked to skin cancer. The victim loses vision and the world becomes dark to him.

- (a) What is the major cause of blindness?
 (A) Cataract
 (B) Accident
 (C) Injury
 (D) Smoking
- (b) What does **NOT** happen in old age?
 (A) The eye lens hardens.
 (B) The eye lens loses its transparency.
 (C) The eye lens becomes pink.
 (D) The eye lens obstructs light rays from entering into the eye.
- (c) Which of the following symptoms can identify the onset of cataract?
 (A) Blurry vision
 (B) Seeing multiple images of single object
 (C) Headache
 (D) Both (A) and (B)
- (d) “People exposed to _____ rays for longer periods tend to develop cataract earlier.” Fill in the blank.
 (A) Gamma
 (B) Infrared
 (C) Sun

- (D) X
- (e) What, according to you, eye injuries can **NOT** cause?
 (A) Blindness
 (B) Cataract
 (C) Astigmatism
 (D) Pain in joints
- (f) Why do you think cataract happens in young children?
 (g) How can smoking contribute to eye diseases?
 (h) Should you stare at sunrays for long periods? Why or why not?
 (i) Which type of cancer is caused by ultraviolet radiations?
 (j) Give a suitable title to the passage.
- (ii) Once upon a time, there was a wise old man who lived in a small village. He was known throughout the land for his wisdom and his ability to solve any problem that came his way.

One day, a young man came to the wise old man and said, “I have a problem. I have been wronged by someone and I want revenge. What should I do?”

The wise old man replied, “Before you seek revenge, you should ask yourself if it is worth it. Revenge may make you feel better in the short term but it will not bring you true happiness.”

The young man thought about this for a moment and then asked, “But what if I don’t seek revenge? Won’t people think that I am weak?”

The wise old man replied, “True strength comes from within. It takes more courage to forgive than it does to seek revenge. If you can find it in your heart to forgive those who have wronged you, you will find true happiness.”

The young man thought about this for a moment and then thanked the wise old man for his advice. He left the village feeling much better than he had before.

- (a) Where did the wise man live?
 (A) Palace
 (B) Village
 (C) Town
 (D) City
- (b) What does ‘wronged’ mean?
 (A) ill-treated
 (B) angered
 (C) loved
 (D) made happy
- (c) What did the old man tell him to do?
 (A) He told the man to meditate.
 (B) He told the man to get revenge.
 (C) He told the man to forgive the other person.
 (D) He told the man to find ways to feel strong.
- (d) From where does true strength come?
 (A) From meditation
 (B) From *yoga*
 (C) From within
 (D) From exercise
- (e) Did the man thank the old man for his help?

- (A) Yes
- (B) No
- (C) Maybe
- (D) Not stated in the passage

- (f) What lesson do we learn from the story?
- (g) What was the quality of old man that led to his fame?
- (h) Why was the young man seeking revenge?
- (i) How can one find true happiness?
- (j) Give a suitable title to the story.

2. Read the following passage carefully and make notes. Also, give a suitable title to the passage.

4+1

You may never want to fly kites to keep away evil spirits, as the Chinese have done for centuries, or to make rain, as the Tibetans did, but some more modern and western uses may tempt you to try experimenting yourself along similar lines. Ancient and medieval Chinese sources describe kites being used for measuring distances, testing the wind, lifting men, signalling and communication for military operations.

The earliest known Chinese kites were flat (not bowed) and often rectangular. Later, tailless kites incorporated a stabilising bowline. Kites were decorated with mythological motifs and legendary figures; some were fitted with strings and whistles to make musical sounds while flying. From China, kites were introduced to Cambodia, India, Japan, Korea and the western world.

The most widespread use of kites in modern times has been for meteorological investigations. Everybody knows about how Benjamin Franklin, the great American scholar and statesman, sent a kite up in 1752 during a thunderstorm to prove that lightning was caused by electricity. He produced sparks at ground level from a key hung on the wet line as the current flowed down it.

A second investigator repeated Franklin's experiment shortly afterwards and was killed. By sending up instruments on kites it has been possible to make readings of air pressure, temperature, speed, direction and humidity. Although thermometers had been sent up long before, it was not until 1894, that a self-reading thermometer, a thermograph, was sent up by a kite.

SECTION – B: WRITING SKILLS

[15]

3. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 100 words.

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- (i) Write a notice for your school notice-board inviting names for interested students for school trip to Agra for visiting the 'Taj Mahal'.
- (ii) Draft an advertisement on behalf of 'Saundarya Cosmetics Ltd.', as they have released their new 'Clean and Fair Soap'.
- (iii) Make an attractive poster for an NGO to raise awareness against female foeticide.

4. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 100 words.

5

- (i) Write a paragraph on the topic 'My favourite festival'.
- (ii) Your state government has banned the use of plastic bags. You are Amarjeet, a reporter of The National Herald. Write a report in 100 words on how the ban is being ignored and what damage the indiscriminate use of plastic bags is causing to the environment.

5. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 100 words.

5

- (i) Read the following advertisement for products using solar energy.

Solar Power Systems for A Greener India

- Excellent Offers
- Solar Cookers
- Solar Lanterns
- Solar Heating/Cooking Systems
- Solar Water Heater

Raj Solar Sales and Service, 45-Panchkwan Road, New Delhi

Write a letter to the editor of an English daily, making a plea to the common people to switch over to solar energy to conserve electricity and limit electricity bills.

- (ii) You are Ashish/Nimmi Dhar B – 94 Fort Road, Jamrhu. You have read the advertisement given below. You are qualified for the job. Write an application in 120 – 150 words along with resume.

India Chemical Industries, Delhi	
Requirement	: Accounts Officers
Qualification	: B. Com.
Experience	: Minimum 4 years
Job requirement	: Maintaining books of accounts, preparation of Balance Sheet, etc
Salary	: Best in the industry
Apply to	: Managing Director, ICI, B – 12 Barakhamba Road, New Delhi

SECTION –C: GRAMMAR

[10]

6. Answer any 10 questions in all, choosing *two* from each sub-part.

$2 \times 5 = 10$

(i) Fill in the blanks by choosing the *correct form of the verb*.

2

(a) The patient _____ before the doctor came.

- (A) had died
- (B) had not die
- (C) have became dead
- (D) has dead

(b) I _____ a boy.

- (A) is
- (B) am
- (C) are
- (D) be

(c) You must _____ traffic rules.

- (A) obey
- (B) to obey
- (C) have obey
- (D) had obeyed

(ii) Fill in the blanks to make correct conversion to *indirect speech*.

2

(a) **Direct Speech:** Anshu said, "I am a good student."

Indirect Speech: Anshu said that she _____ a good student.

- (A) was
- (B) is
- (C) am
- (D) are

(b) **Direct Speech:** Our teacher said, “The circumference of a circle is given by $2\pi r$.”

Indirect Speech: Our teacher told the class that the circumference of a circle _____ by $2\pi r$.

- (A) was given
- (B) were given
- (C) is given
- (D) will have been give

(c) **Direct Speech:** The hermit said to the panicking crowd, “What is your problem?”

Indirect Speech: The hermit asked the panicking crowd what _____ problem was.

- (A) his
- (B) her
- (C) there
- (D) their

(iii) Fill in the blanks with suitable *articles*, if necessary.

2

(a) _____ Gold is a precious metal.

- (A) A
- (B) An
- (C) The
- (D) ×

(b) _____ B/boy, who had lost his parents, cried shrilly.

- (A) A
- (B) An
- (C) The
- (D) ×

(c) The Sun rises in _____ east and sets in _____ west.

- (A) the, the
- (B) an, a
- (C) the, a
- (D) an, the

(iv) Choose the correct conversion of given sentences in *active voice* into *passive voice*. 2

(a) The man was crying over the robbery.

- (A) The robbery was being cried over by men.
- (B) The robbery was crying over the man.
- (C) The robbery was being cried over by the man.
- (D) The greedy man cried over petty robbery.

(b) Rescuers were saving the life of the drowning kid.

- (A) The life of the drowning kid was being save by the rescuers.
- (B) The rescuers have been saving lives.
- (C) The drowning kid was saved by life of the rescuers.
- (D) The life of the drowning kid was being saved by rescuers.

(c) Sharmila will take tea.

- (A) Tea will be taken by Sharmila.
- (B) Tea is taken by Sharmila.
- (C) Sharmila takes tea.
- (D) Tea will be taken from Sharmila.

(v) Fill in the blanks with suitable *modals*.

- (a) Drive fast lest we _____ miss the flight.
 (A) would
 (B) should
 (C) could
 (D) might
- (b) _____ you like to take tea, Ma'am?
 (A) Would
 (B) Might
 (C) Need to
 (D) Dare
- (c) You _____ stop drinking. You have liver cirrhosis.
 (A) should
 (B) might
 (C) could
 (D) must

SECTION – D: LITERATURE

[I. FLAMINGO (PROSE)]

7. Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most suitable option from the given alternatives. Do any *one*. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- (i) What a thunderclap these words were to me!

Oh, the wretches; that was what they had put up at the town-hall!

My last French lesson! Why, I hardly knew how to write! I should never learn any more! I must stop there, then! Oh, how sorry I was for not learning my lessons, for seeking birds' eggs, or going sliding on the Saar! My books, that had seemed such a nuisance a while ago, so heavy to carry, my grammar, and my history of the saints, were old friends now that I couldn't give up. And M. Hamel, too; the idea that he was going away, that I should never see him again, made me forget all about his ruler and how cranky he was.

QUESTIONS:

$1 \times 5 = 5$

- (a) What does 'thunderclap' mean, in the context of this passage?
 (A) thunderbolt
 (B) shock
 (C) strike of lightning
 (D) anger
- (b) Who is the author of the given passage?
 (A) Kamala Das
 (B) Alphonse Daudet
 (C) Selma Lagerlöf
 (D) Nelson Mandela
- (c) What is the name of the chapter from which this passage has been extracted?
 (A) The Rattrap
 (B) The Last Lesson
 (C) Indigo
 (D) The Interview
- (d) What was the behaviour of M Hamel before the announcement?
 (A) Angry
 (B) Cranky
 (C) Sad

- (D) Terrorising
- (e) What had seemed as a nuisance to Franz a little while ago?
- (A) Books
- (B) Grammar
- (C) History of Old Saints
- (D) All of these
- (ii) Savita, a young girl in a drab pink dress, sits alongside an elderly woman, soldering pieces of glass. As her hands move mechanically like the tongs of a machine, I wonder if she knows the sanctity of the bangles she helps make. It symbolises an Indian woman's *suhaag*, auspiciousness in marriage. It will dawn on her suddenly one day when her head is draped with a red veil, her hands dyed red with henna, and red bangles rolled onto her wrists. She will then become a bride. Like the old woman beside her who became one many years ago. She still has bangles on her wrist, but no light in her eyes. "*Ek waqt ser bhar khana bhi nahin khaya,*" she says, in a voice drained of joy. She has not enjoyed even one full meal in her entire lifetime — that's what she has reaped!

QUESTIONS:

1×5=5

- (a) What do bangles symbolize?
- (A) A man's *suhaag*
- (B) An Indian woman's *suhaag*
- (C) A girl's auspiciousness
- (D) A red veiled woman
- (b) Who is dressed in a drab pink dress?
- (A) A Young Lady
- (B) Savita
- (C) Old lady
- (D) Both (A) and (B)
- (c) Who has not enjoyed even one full meal in his/her life?
- (A) Old Lady
- (B) Savita
- (C) Old Man
- (D) Author
- (d) What does a bride **NOT** wear on her wedding day?
- (A) Red Veil
- (B) Red Bangles
- (C) Henna in her hands
- (D) Shirt
- (e) What is the name of the author of the given passage?
- (A) Anees Jung
- (B) Leslie Norris
- (C) Adrienne Rich
- (D) William Shakespeare

8. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100 words.

5

- (i) What are the steps William Douglas takes throughout the story, in order to conquer his fear of water? (Deep Water)
- (ii) What socio-economic background did Sophie belong to? What are the indicators of her family's financial status? (Going Places)

9. Answer any four of the following questions in about 30-40 words.

2 × 4 = 8

- (i) 'The Rattrap' is a story, which presents the life of a miser peddler and how trust and kindness transformed him. How did this happen?
- (ii) How were Shukla and Gandhiji received in Rajendra Prasad's house? (Indigo)

- (iii) Why was Subbu considered No. 2 in Gemini Studios? *(Poets and Pancakes)*
- (iv) Do you think Umberto Eco likes being interviewed? Give reasons for your answer. *(The Interview)*
- (v) Why do celebrities not like getting interviewed? *(The Interview)*

[II. FLAMINGO (POETRY)]

10. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow, choosing correct option from the given alternatives. Do any one. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- (i) *A thing of beauty is a joy forever
Its loveliness increases, it will never
Pass into nothingness; but will keep
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.*

Questions:

- (a) Who is the poet of these lines?
 (A) William Shakespeare
 (B) Pablo Neruda
 (C) John Keats
 (D) Leslie Norris
- (b) Name the poem from which this extract has been taken.
 (A) Keeping Quiet
 (B) A Thing of Beauty
 (C) An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum
 (D) My Mother at Sixty-Six
- (c) “Its loveliness increases,” – What does ‘its’ refer to?
 (A) Beauty
 (B) A Thing of Beauty
 (C) A flower
 (D) An animal
- (d) What does ‘bower’ mean?
 (A) A shady place
 (B) A place of fear
 (C) A place of distress
 (D) A place full of sadness
- (e) What will never pass into nothingness?
 (A) A thing of beauty
 (B) A man
 (C) A woman
 (D) A child’s tears
- (ii) *Those who prepare green wars,
wars with gas, wars with fire,
victory with no survivors,
would put on clean clothes
and walk about with their
brothers
in the shade, doing nothing.*
- (a) Who is the poet of these lines?
 (A) William Shakespeare

- (B) Pablo Neruda
 (C) John Keats
 (D) Leslie Norris
- (b) Name the poem from which this extract has been taken.
 (A) Keeping Quiet
 (B) A Thing of Beauty
 (C) An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum
 (D) My Mother at Sixty-Six
- (c) What does ‘*victory with no survivors*’ underline?
 (A) Inhumanity of war
 (B) Cruelty of Humans
 (C) Wars being baseless
 (D) All of these
- (d) How are wars fought?
 (A) With gas
 (B) With fire
 (C) With love
 (D) Both (A) and (B)
- (e) What does the author want the people who prepare ‘green wars’ to do?
 (A) Fight even more
 (B) Destruct world peace
 (C) Walk in shade with their enemies (brothers)
 (D) To be revengeful

11. Answer any two of the following in about 30-40 words each.

$3 \times 2 = 6$

- (i) How does the poet ‘Kamala Das’ describe her mother in the poem ‘My Mother at Sixty-Six’?
 (ii) Contrast Aunt Jennifer’s tigers with her own character.
 (iii) What are the things sold by the owner of the roadside stand? (*A Roadside Stand*)

[III. VISTAS (SUPPLEMENTARY READER)]

12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100 words.

5

- (i) Why did the tiger king vow to kill a hundred tigers? (*The Tiger King*)
 (ii) Describe Charley’s experience at the third level. (*The Third Level*)

13. Answer any three of the following questions in about 30-40 words each.

$2 \times 3 = 6$

- (i) How did the hundredth tiger take revenge on the Tiger King? (*The Tiger King*)
 (ii) Why did the General spare the American soldier? (*The Enemy*)
 (iii) How did Derry overcome his shyness and insecurity? How did Mr Lamb help him?
 (*On the Face of It*)
 (iv) What kind of indications do we get while visiting Antarctica to save Earth?
 (*Journey to the End of the Earth*)