

CLASS X PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION – 2024-25Q.P. Code: **184/2/1**

Roll No.

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Candidate must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.

- Please check that this question paper contains **14** printed pages.
- Please check that this question paper contains **11** questions.
- Q.P. Code given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- **Please write down the serial number of the question in the answer-book before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

ENGLISH

(Language and Literature)

*Time allowed : 3 hours**Maximum Marks : 80*

General Instructions:

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

- This question paper comprises **11** questions. **All** questions are compulsory.*
- The question paper contains **THREE** sections*

Section-A: Reading Skills

Section-B: Grammar and Creative Writing Skills

Section-C: Literature Text Book

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

Section: A READING (20 Marks)

Q.1) Read the following passage.

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 bewilderment that 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 process of unlocking a poem's meaning can feel like cracking a code or solving a puzzle but the sense of accomplishment derived from mastering a challenging piece can be deeply gratifying. Finally, impressing an English teacher with a well-analyzed 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.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

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

- 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)? Rationalize your response in about 40 words.

2m

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. 1m

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: 1m

(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. 1m

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

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

vii. What is the message conveyed by Hina's experience, in the following case? 1m

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. 1m

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

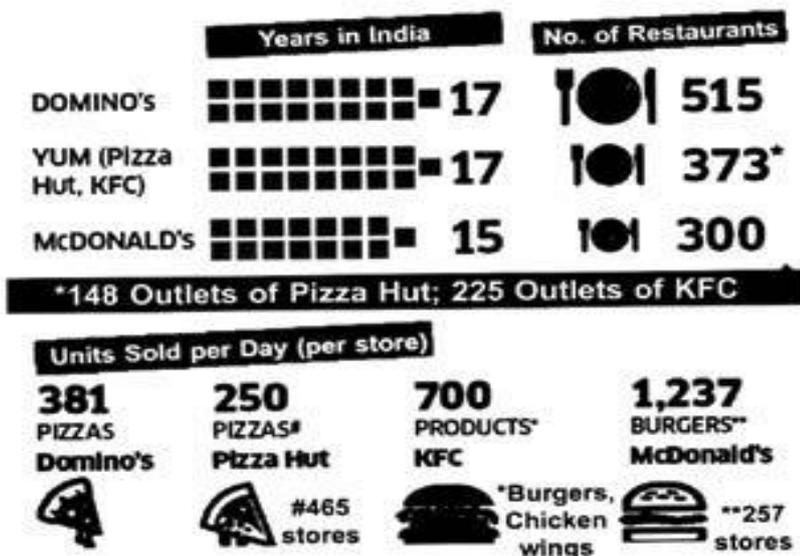
Q.2) Read the following passage.

10 m

1. According to the National Institutes of Health (NHI), fast foods are a quick alternative to home-cooked meals. They are also high in saturated fat, sugar, salt and calories. Eating too much fast food has been connected to, among other things, obesity, colorectal cancer and high cholesterol. Still the traditional family dinner is increasingly being replaced by eating “on the run”. As a result, the time invested in food preparation is getting lower and lower. 54% of the Indians are aged below 25 years and eating out is their favourite outdoor entertainment. Much of the retail boom in India could be attributed to these young consumers.

2. Organized fast food service sector in India and elsewhere, busy lifestyles of people and dual-working families with children have provided the perfect platform for fast food companies to flourish, which offer quick meal solutions. As a result, the fast food industry has witnessed a tremendous growth rate. McDonald’s alone serves 46 million people worldwide each day. Fast-food chains are still less than 5% of India’s food services market-the global average rests at 20%.

3. India’s food services market was estimated at 24,236 billion in 2020. Fast food chains in India have a market size of 2348 billion and account for 54% of the total sales. This is estimated to reach 64% by 2025. Covid dealt a body blow to the food services industry because of long lockdowns. However, large players were quick to remedy the impact on business by scaling their existing delivery capabilities. Fortunately, these chains had the infrastructure and process for delivery services in place long before the spread of the pandemic, which enabled them to adapt swiftly to government regulations.



4. The large food chains are set to gain a bigger share of the food services market on the back of a young population, value pricing, and increased penetration in tier two and three cities. The more recent popularity of online food ordering and food delivery platforms has enabled food chains to reach more consumers. Fast food chain Burger King reported a blockbuster IPO last year; meanwhile, Domino & pizza franchise in India recently revised its potential store opening target in India from the earlier 2,000 to 3,000. McDonald’s, Burger King, Domino’s plan to deepen their reach in India’s smaller cities, and benefit from a younger demographic expecting to clock a compound annual growth rate of 23% between 2021 to 2025.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i) Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of paragraph

1m

The convenience that fast food can be eaten 'on the run' is comparable with on one's person or in a handbag as opposed to having a desktop that keeps one tied to their work desk.

ii. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of the passage. 1m

We can infer that the large food service chains particularly in India were able to buffer their businesses and revenues during the pandemic owing to their ability to adapt to the new regulations, infrastructure and the flexibility of their delivery service is a (fact/ opinion) because it is a/an(subjective judgement/ objective detail).

iii. "The traditional family dinner is increasingly being replaced by eating on the run". Justify the following, in about 40 words. 2m

iv. Based on the results of the study, which two concerns showcase the flip side of the popularity of fast foods as referred to in the passage? 1m

v. Study the statement: 'McDonald's alone serves 46 million people worldwide each day.' State any one inference that can be drawn from this. 1m

vi. Select the option that correctly displays what 'demographic' signifies.(Reference-Paragraph 4)

1m



(i)

(ii)

(iii)

(iv)

(v)

(a) Only (i)

(b) Only (ii)

(c) (ii), (iv) and (v)

(d) (i) and (iii)

vii. Infer the reasons responsible for the large food chains set to gain a bigger share of the food services market on the back of a young population in India. Answer in about 40 words. 2m

viii. Three sets of statements about the trends in fast food sector in India are given below. Which of the following statements is CORRECT with reference to the study mentioned in the passage?

1m

- (a) The share of fast food chains in food services market is below 5%.
- (b) The share of fast food chains in food services market is 20%.
- (c) Branded fast food services fall under unorganized sector in India.
- (d) By 2025, the total sales in fast food market size will grow by 10%

SECTION B : WRITING SKILL AND GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)

GRAMMAR 10 m

Q.3) Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed. 1x10=10 m

i. Read the conversation between Reena and Ramesh. Complete the sentence by reporting Ramesh's reply correctly 1

Reena : Have you seen 'Three Idiots'?

Ramesh : I saw them yesterday in my class.

Reena asked Ramesh if he had seen 'Three Idiots'. Ramesh replied that.....

ii. Complete the given school announcement by selecting the correct option to fill in the blank

Good news, everyone!

Our school's robotics team has successfully..... a place in the semi- finals.

- (a) securing (b) secured (c) will secure (d) had secured

iii. _____ left a letter for you at the gate.

- (a) Somebody (b). None (c) Everybody (d) Anybody

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

.....I suggest a slight change in your plan?

- (a)May (b)Would (c)Must (d) Will

v. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line

The people of India show remarkable unity at the time of Kargil Conflict.

Option No.	Error	Correction
(a)	time	times
(b)	conflict	conflicts
(c)	show	showed
(d)	The	A

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

Diwali, well known as the festival of lights, is a festival that is celebrate in almost all parts of India. Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

vii. Rohit and Remo are discussing their plans for the weekend. Complete the dialogue below by choosing the correct option.

Rohit : How do you like the idea of going to the zoo?

Remo : That sounds good, But I my parent's permission.

- (a) needs to take (b) need not to take
(c) needs not to take (d) need to take

viii. Complete the given sentence, by filling in the blank with the correct option :

Had the police not reached there in time, the bandits him.

- (a) did have killed (b) will have killed
(c) would kill (d) would have killed

ix. Transform the following direct speech into reported speech :

I said to my friend, "Ganesh, can I borrow your dictionary for one day ?"

x. Report the dialogue between Mannu and Tannu, by completing the narration :

Mannu: Where are you going to?

Tannu: I am going to the market. Do you want anything?

Mannu asked Tannu..... . Tannu replied that she was going to the market and she further asked if she wanted anything.

xi. Rehana asked the following question to her colleague, Deepak.

Have you finalised the magazine content to be submitted tomorrow?

Report Rehana's question correctly

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

Have you got some proof that he committed the crime?

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

WRITING SKILL 10 M

Q.4- A) You are Pranjol Barua, the Captain of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Jorhat , Assam. You have recently noticed several posters around your school premises conveying a hazardous message:

Lose weight in just a month!

“A WONDER DIET comes to your rescue ...

A privilege available for only a few!”

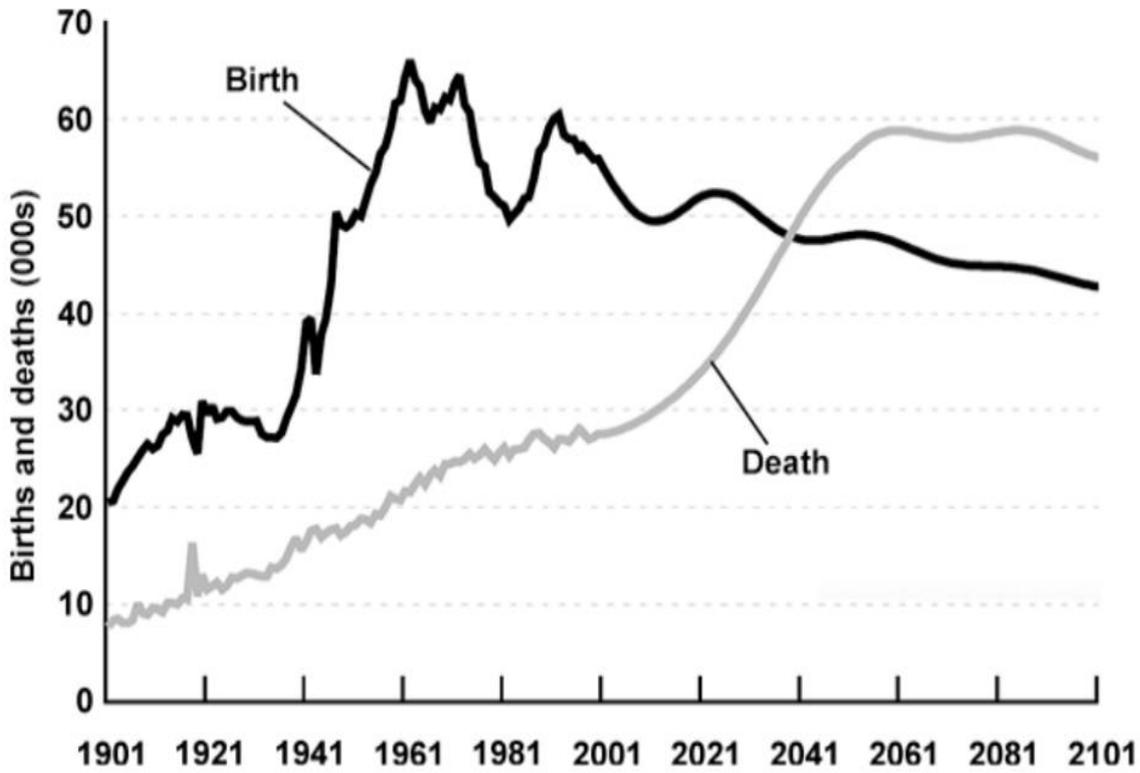
Write a letter to the Editor of The Jorhat Times, Jorhat in not more than 120 words, drawing attention towards harm caused by such advertising. Propose the implementation of “Wholesome Lunch Month’ in schools as an idea to address such practices, mention the advantages and share suggestions to foster healthy eating routines and develop positive body image among youngsters. 5m

OR

Q.4-B) You are Vinit Khurana, the Purchase Executive at Haven Book Store in Secunderabad, Telangana. You had a telephonic discussion with a sales executive from Arvindan Book House, the wholesalers. The conversation pertained to the delivery of books, stationery, and art materials for your store. Despite the conversation, there has been no response from the Arvindan Book House, and attempts to contact them through the provided phone number have been unsuccessful. Write a complaint letter, in about 120 words, to the proprietor of Arvindan Book House, 60, Haveli Market Street, Hyderabad, Telangana.

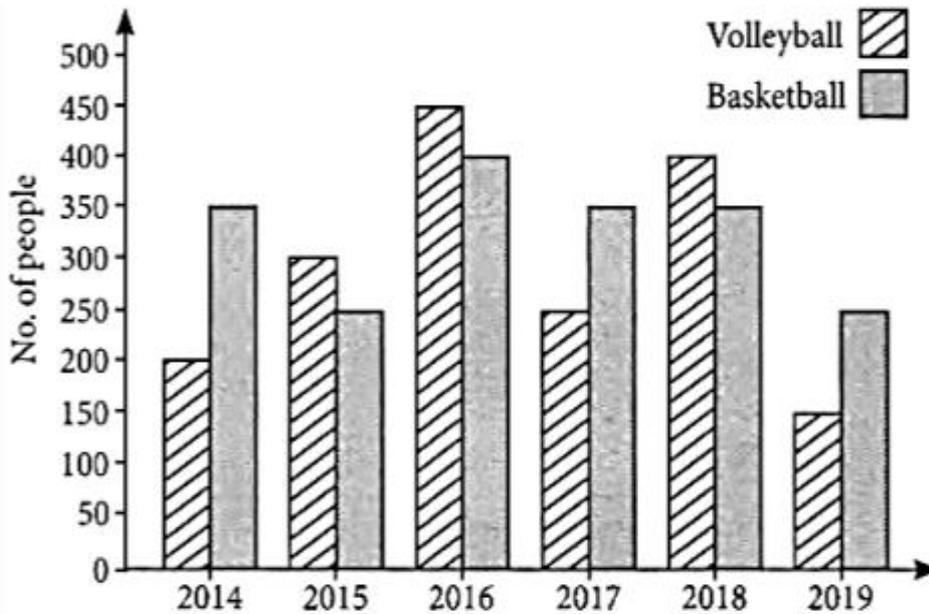
Q.5-A) The given line graph provides information about changes in birth and death rates in New Zealand between 1901 and 2101. Write an analytical paragraph summarizing the information and make comparisons where relevant in about 100-120 words.

5m



OR

Q.5-B) The given double bar graph shows the preferences of children in a school in playing different games over the span of six years. Write an analytical paragraph about the given information.



SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK (40 marks)

Q.6) Read the given extracts and answer **ANY ONE** of the two questions given below 5m

Q.6-A) Lencho showed not the slightest surprise on seeing the money; such was his confidence - but he became angry when he counted the money. God could not have made a mistake, nor could he have denied Lencho what he had requested.

Immediately, Lencho went up to the window to ask for paper and ink. On the public writing-table, he started to write, with much wrinkling of his brow, caused by the effort he had to make to express his ideas. When he finished, he went to the window to buy a stamp which he licked and then affixed to the envelope with a blow of his fist. The moment the letter fell into the mailbox the postmaster went to open it. It said, "God: of the money that I asked for, only seventy pesos reached me. Send me the rest, since I need it very much. But don't send it to me through the mail because the post office employees are a bunch of crooks. Lencho."

(A Letter to God)

i) Why was Lencho not surprised when he received the money? 1m

- A. because he knew the post office employees were kind
- B. because he knew his hard work would pay off
- C. because he had been lucky in the past
- D. because he had faith in a higher power

ii) How did the postmaster **MOST LIKELY** feel when he read Lencho's second letter? 1m

iii) Fill in the blank with **ONE WORD** only. 1m

The postmaster rushed to open Lencho's second letter. This tells us that the postmaster was _____ to know the contents of the letter

iv) Why did Lencho wrinkle his brow when writing the letter? 1m

- A. He was not able to put his thoughts into words.
- B. He was not sure that God would respond again.
- C. He was not comfortable writing in front of the others.
- D. He was not able to calculate how many pesos were missing.

v) Which of these uses the word 'stamp' with the same meaning as used in line 7 of the extract? 1m

- A. Simon could stamp and crush dry twigs with his boots if he had to.
- B. Simon has an impressive stamp collection he liked to boast of.
- C. Simon happily gave his stamp of approval on the new recipe.
- D. Simon bears the stamp of a retired naval officer with pride

Q.6- B) OMEGA: It shall be done, Sir. Remove vitamins. (Crew takes vitamins from boxes on their belts.) Present vitamins. (They hold vitamins out in front of them, stiffly.) Swallow vitamins. (They pop the vitamins into their mouths and gulp simultaneously. They open their eyes wide, their heads shake, and they put their hands to their foreheads.)

THINK-TANK: Excellent. Now, decipher that code.

ALL: It shall be done, Sir. (They frown over the book, turning pages.)

OMEGA: (brightly) Aha!

IOTA: (brightly) Oho!

OOP: (bursting into laughter) Ha, ha, ha.

THINK-TANK: What does it say? Tell me this instant. Transcribe, Omega.

(The Book that Saved the Earth)

i. Select the option that correctly captures the usage of the word 'present' from line 1 of the extract. 1m

- A. Oops received a nice present from Think Tank.
- B. Iota needs to present his opinion firmly.
- C. Omega must focus on the present and leave the past behind.
- D. Oops didn't know anyone even though a crowd was present.

ii. Complete the analogy by selecting the suitable word from the text 1m

frown: smile:: gloomily:

iii. Select the option that displays the reason why all crew members were asked to have vitamins. 1m

In order to -

- A. boost their physical energies.
- B. adapt to their circumstances.
- C. quickly turn all the pages.
- D. accomplish a specific task.

iv. According to the extract, what did THINK-TANK most likely want OMEGA to do when he said 'Transcribe...'? 1m

- 1. read aloud
- 2. Translate
- 3. make notes
- 4. interpret
- 5. record reactions

Select the correct option.

- A. 1 & 3
- B. 2 & 4
- C. Only 3
- D. 1, 4 and 5

v. The playwright places certain words and sentences in brackets in the given extract. List any ways these benefit both the director and actors.

1m

i)

ii)

Q.7) Read the given extracts and answer **ANY ONE** of the two questions given below

(5 m)

Q.7-A) Or if some time when roaming round,
A noble wild beast greets you,
With black stripes on a yellow ground,
Just notice if he eats you.
This simple rule may help you learn

The Bengal Tiger to discern.

If strolling forth, a beast you view,
Whose hide with spots is peppered,
As soon as he has lept on you,
You'll know it is the Leopard.
'Twill do no good to roar with pain,
He'll only lep and lep again.

(How to Tell Wild Animals)

i) Complete the sentence appropriately. 1m

The word 'discern' in line 6 of the extract means the same as.....

. (Clue: explain contextual meaning here)

ii) Identify the option that explains the poetic device used. 1m

With black stripes on a yellow ground...

...Whose hide with spots is peppered

- A. a word formed from a sound
- B. a word or phrase repeated at intervals
- C. a word or expression used in place of an unpleasant one
- D. a word or phrase that creates a mental image through vivid description

iii) State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE: 1m

The extract tells us the similarities between tigers and leopards.

iv) Select the appropriate option to complete the sentence. 1m

The tone of the poet when telling how to identify a wild animal is both scary and .

- A. funny
- B. exciting
- C. shocking
- D. sorrowful

v) Identify the option that has the **same rhyme scheme** as these 4 lines. 1m

Or if some time when roaming round,
A noble wild beast greets you,
With black stripes on a yellow ground,
notice if he eats you.

A. The sky is very sunny.

The children are funny.

Under the tree we sit,

But just for a bit.

B. I lost two cities, lovely ones. And, vaster,
some realms I owned, two rivers, a continent.

I miss them, but it wasn't a disaster.

—Even losing you (the joking voice, a gesture

C. The people along the sand

All turn and look one way.
They turn their back on the land.
They look at the sea all day.

D. Others abide our question. Thou art free.
We ask and ask—Thou smilest and art still,
Out-topping knowledge. For the loftiest hill,
Who to the stars uncrowns his majesty,

Q.7-B)

The trees inside are moving out into the forest,
the forest that was empty all these days
where no bird could sit
no insect hide
no sun bury its feet in shadow
the forest that was empty all these nights
will be full of trees by morning.

(The Trees)

i. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1m
It is clear that Personification is the poetic device used for ‘No sun bury its feet....’
Because..... (Clue: explain how personification applies here)

ii. The poet has used a poetic device in the given lines. What effect does she wish to create by its use? 1m

...no bird could sit
no insect hide
no sun...

A. emphasis B. comparison C. rhyme D. humour

iii. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE: 1m
The extract uses trees as a symbol for conservative people.

iv. Select the appropriate option to complete the sentence, according to the extract. 1m.
The idea of a forest that has been ‘empty all these days’ is.....
A. unnatural B. scary C. magical D. legendary

v. How does the use of enjambment impact this extract? 1m
A. It forces frequent pauses. B. It simplifies the meaning.
C. It builds momentum. D. It makes the lines lyrical.

Q.8) Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words 4x3=12m

i) Validate the given statement with reference to baby seagull’s fear. ‘Fear doesn’t exist anywhere else other than one’s mind.’

ii) Valli's unique maiden bus ride experience could be possible because she belonged to a small village. Do you agree? Why? /Why not? (2 reasons)

(Madam Rides a Bus)

iii) How is the Coorgi tradition of courage and bravery recognized in modern India?

(Glimpses of India- Coorg)

iv) Write the appropriate response comprising of at least two reasons to present a counter to the following: "Zoo should be banned. It's not right to keep animals this way". (A Tiger In The Zoo)

v) 'Paper has more patience than people.' Do you agree/disagree? Give reason.

(From the Diary of Anne Frank)

Q.9) Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words

2x3=6m

i) Validate the importance of small, fun learning tasks towards successful careers, in the context of Richard Ebright in 'The Making of a Scientist.'

ii) Do you think Bholi could refuse to marry Bishamber only because she was educated? Give reasons. (Bholi)

iii) Though Horace planned everything meticulously, why did he fail?

(A Question of Trust)

Q.10) Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words

6m

i) Compare and contrast what Anne from the poem 'Anne Gregory' would look for in a life partner as compared to Natalya from 'The Proposal'.

Justify your answer with one example from each of the texts.

ii) "Not from weeping nor from grieving will anyone obtain peace of mind".

If you had to use the message of the given quote from the Buddha's sermon (The Sermon at Benares) to help the boy cope with the loss of his ball and what it signifies (The Ball Poem), what would you include in your advice?

Also, evaluate why it might be difficult for him to understand the notion.

Q.11) Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words

6m

i) Describe the twist in the plot in 'The Midnight Visitor'. Analyse how Fowler's opinion of Ausable must have undergone a change after the plot twist

ii) Fiction writers prefer creating grey characters rather than black and white. Analyse this in detail, with reference to both the characters of 'The Thief's Story'
