

**PRACTICE QUESTION PAPER No.-1**  
**(2020-21)**  
**ENGLISH – Language and Literature**  
**CLASS-X (Rationalized syllabus)**

**Time allowed: 3 Hrs.**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

**General Instructions:**

1. This paper is divided into two parts: A and B. All questions are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.  
Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

**Part A (40 Marks)**

**READING (20 marks)**

**1. Read the passage given below.**

1. Happiness is not something far away and unattainable. Happiness does not depend on circumstances or objects. It is an inseparable part of our consciousness, of our essence, but hidden and covered from sight by our thoughts, desires and worries. We all seek happiness but few, very-few, indeed, get it. We are unhappy partly because we desire much more than what we can hope to attain. Our countless desires are hard to be satisfied. And that is what makes us so sad in life. The secret of happiness lies in the simplification of life. Simple living encourages high thinking. It leads to contentment. Contentment gives us inner wealth, the wealth of the mind and of the soul.
2. A contented man devotes himself to virtues; a man can feel true happiness. I do not mean that for simplification of life, a man should become an ascetic. The happiness of a sadhu is of a negative kind. I want positive kind of happiness. For this I must live in the midst of life and faithfully carry out my responsibilities to my home and my country. But all this should be done in the spirit of selfless service.
3. A man, who wants to lead a happy life, should also make others happy. In making others happy he will taste real and lasting happiness. There is a kind of joy in serving others with virtuous motives, in sacrificing what one has for the good of others. An act of goodness is of itself an act of happiness. The secret of perfect happiness lies in renunciation.
4. Wealth may give us joy for a while and fame may provide us with fleeting excitement. But they cannot give us permanent happiness. Kings have everything to make them happy and yet they feel unhappy. It is because they do not practise renunciation. There is a sense of joy in doing one's work honestly and efficiently. A research-worker feels joy in research and a journalist in writing. In doing one's duty sincerely, one feels peace of mind which is an important essence of happiness. It is only by cultivating spirit of renunciation, self-sacrifice, contentment and science work that one can really be happy. The strings of misfortune spare none but they will not cow such a person.
5. Happiness is like the sun, it is often hidden by the clouds of thoughts, worries and desires. We have to scatter and dissolve them to experience happiness. You don't have to create happiness. All you have to do is calm your mind, because when there is a quiet mind and inner peace, there is happiness.

**On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the twelve that follow.**

**(1x10=10)**

**1. We are unhappy partly because we have \_\_\_\_\_.**

- (a) no inner strength
- (b) lost moral and spiritual values
- (c) countless, unfulfilled desires
- (d) extremely complicated lives

**2. According to the passage, the essence of happiness lies in\_\_\_\_\_**

- (a) worldly desires
- (b) doing one's duty sincerely
- (c) avoiding all unfortunate events
- (d) adopting a simple life style

**3. Which of the following is the correct chain of things, as mentioned in the passage, leading to happiness?**

- (a) contentment, high thinking, simple living, inner wealth
- (b) simple living, high thinking, inner wealth, contentment
- (c) high thinking, simple living, inner wealth, contentment
- (d) simple living, high thinking, contentment, inner wealth

**4. What does a contented man do?**

- (a) He assimilates the basic virtues of life
- (b) He faces boldly the adversities of life
- (c) He encounters the strings of misfortunes
- (d) He gives up bad habits effortlessly

**5. What according to the passage, is a positive kind of happiness?**

- (a) Keeping ones motives and feelings under control
- (b) Love for life and a country
- (c) Leading a simple life of an ascetic
- (d) Carrying out all worldly activities in the spirit of selfless service

**6. A man who wants to live a happy life should \_\_\_\_\_**

- (a) make others happy
- (b) master the art of renunciation
- (c) pursue wealth and fame
- (d) inculcate the virtues of life

**7. Which of the following is OPPOSITE in meaning to the word 'fleeting' as used in the passage?**

- (a) permanent
- (b) passing
- (c) fast
- (d) momentary

**8. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE in the context of the passage?**

- (a) One feels peace of mind in doing one's duty sincerely
- (b) Renunciation is the result of perfect happiness.
- (c) Multiplicity of desires make us unhappy.
- (d) Making others happy makes one happy.

**9. The phrase "cow a person" refers to get someone:**

- (a) spare
- (b) conquer
- (c) scare
- (d) provoke

**10. Which of the following statements is TRUE in the context of the passage?**

- (a) Human beings seldom seek happiness
- (b) Doing one's work sincerely hardly makes one happy
- (c) Peace of mind is tangent to happiness
- (d) Simple life is like a life of an ascetic

**11. Select the option that makes the correct use of "unattainable", as used in the passage, to fill in the blank space.**

- (a) \_\_\_\_\_ development implies a long-term perspective.
- (b) Keep goals small so they are more easily \_\_\_\_\_.
- (c) Diabetes is \_\_\_\_\_ but not curable.
- (d) Some economists think that 100% employment in India is an \_\_\_\_\_ goal.

**12. Choose the option that best captures the central idea of the passage from the given quotes.**

"Life is about creating and living experiences that are worth sharing." - <b>Steve Jobs</b>	"Imagination is more important than knowledge." - <b>Albert Einstein</b>	"Happiness is not something readymade; it comes from your own actions." - <b>Dalai Lama</b>	"When you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it." - <b>Paulo Coelho</b>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

- (a) Option (1)
- (b) Option (2)
- (c) Option (3)
- (d) Option (4)

### Question No.-2

Read the passage given below.

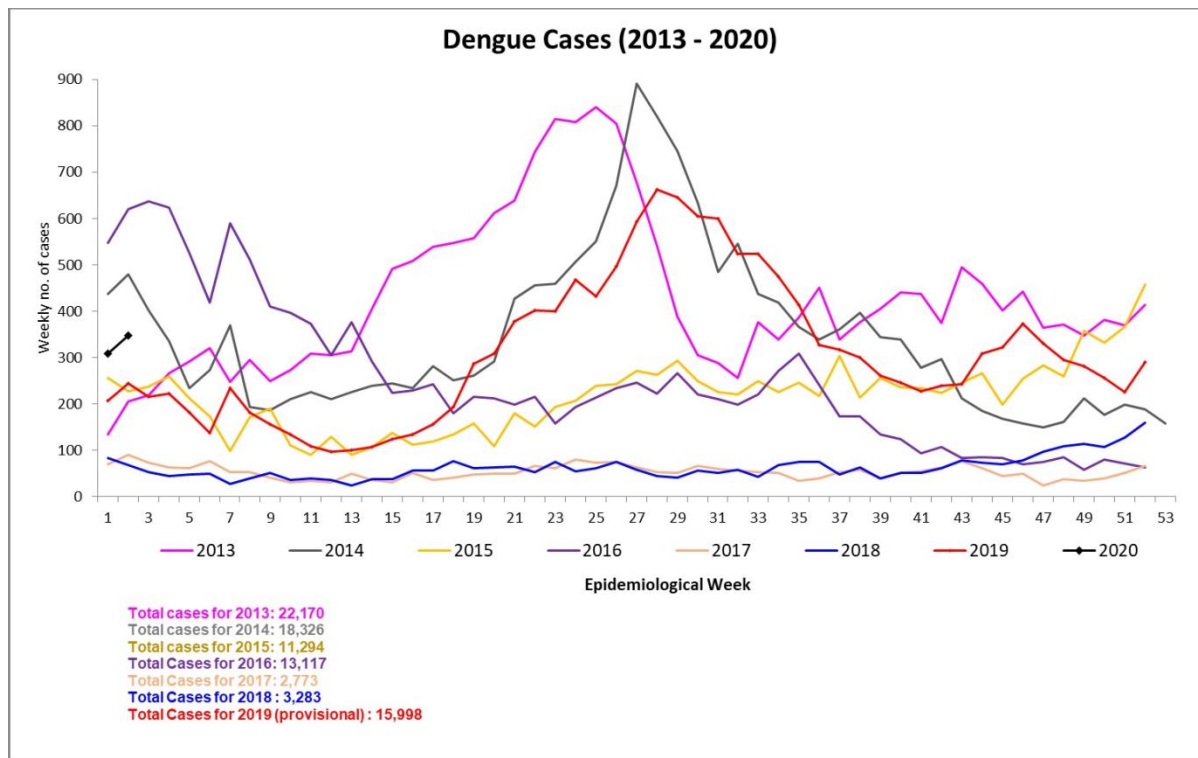
The incidence of dengue has grown dramatically around the world in recent decades. A vast majority of cases are asymptomatic or mild and self-managed, and hence the actual numbers of dengue cases are under-reported or often misdiagnosed.

One estimate indicates 390 million dengue virus infections per year (95% credible interval 284–528 million), of which 96 million (67–136 million) manifest clinically (with any severity of disease). The number of dengue cases reported to WHO increased over 8 fold over the last two decades.

This alarming increase in case numbers is partly explained by a change in national practices to record and report dengue to the Ministries of Health, and to the WHO. But it also represents government recognition of the burden, and therefore the pertinence to report dengue disease.

Before 1970, only 9 countries had experienced severe dengue epidemics. The disease is now endemic in more than 100 countries in the WHO regions of Africa, the Americas, the Eastern Mediterranean, South-

East Asia and the Western Pacific. The America, South-East Asia and Western Pacific regions are the most seriously affected, with Asia representing ~70% of the global burden of disease. In 2020, dengue continues to affect several countries, with reports of increases in the numbers of cases in Bangladesh, Brazil, Cook Islands, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mayotte (Fr), Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Yemen.



The largest number of dengue cases ever reported globally was in 2019. All regions were affected, and dengue transmission was recorded in Afghanistan for the first time.

The first dengue vaccine, Dengvaxia® (CYD-TDV) developed by Sanofi Pasteur was licensed in December 2015 and has now been approved by regulatory authorities in ~20 countries. In November 2017, the results of an additional analysis to retrospectively determine serostatus at the time of vaccination were released.

As described in the WHO position paper on the Dengvaxia vaccine (September 2018) the dengue vaccine CYD-TDV has been shown in clinical trials to be efficacious and safe in persons who have had a previous dengue virus infection. However, it carries an increased risk of severe dengue in those who experience their first natural dengue infection after vaccination. For countries considering vaccination as part of their dengue control programme, pre-vaccination screening is the recommended strategy.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage attempt ANY TEN questions from the twelve that follow. (1x10=10)

- i. In the line, 'and therefore the pertinence to report dengue disease', the word pertinence does not mean
  - a. Importance
  - b. Ignorance
  - c. Relevance
  - d. Appropriateness
- ii. According to the WHO report, around 70% of the dengue cases from around the world,
  - a. Affect people in Asia
  - b. Misdiagnosed in Asia
  - c. Do not occur in Asia
  - d. Remain untreated in Asia

- iii. The actual number of dengue cases are more than the figures in the reports because:
  - a. There has been a misprint
  - b. Cases reported late
  - c. Cases are under-reported
  - d. Cases constantly increase
- iv. Choose the option that is correct about the rise in the number of dengue cases
  - a. Rise in dengue is due to rise in tourism
  - b. Dengue is being tested and reported in vast numbers
  - c. Dengue is a communicable disease
  - d. Dengue spread is uncontrollable
- v. According to this WHO report which year recorded the maximum number of Dengue cases?
  - a. 2017
  - b. 2015
  - c. 2020
  - d. 2019
- vi. Which statement is not true about the dengue vaccine as stated in the report?
  - a. Dengue vaccine works effectively on people who have been infected before
  - b. Dengue vaccine works effectively on people who haven't been infected before
  - c. Dengue vaccine must be administered to people in the countries where it is an endemic
  - d. Dengue vaccine has been in clinical trials but the results are not as expected
- vii. What does the word 'endemic' refer to?
  - a. Disease regularly found in people of a certain area
  - b. Disease irregularly found in people of a certain area
  - c. Disease regularly found in people any where
  - d. Disease irregularly found in people any where
- viii. The number of cases of Dengue reported to WHO
  - a. Decreased 8 times in the last ten years
  - b. Decreased 10 times in the last twenty years
  - c. Increased 10 times in the last eight years
  - d. Increased 8 times in the last twenty years
- ix. What is the above report informing us about? Choose the most appropriate response
  - a. Spread of dengue and its effects around the world
  - b. Spread of dengue and its under-reportage
  - c. Spread of Dengue and how it affects Asia
  - d. Spread of Dengue and directions on the use of vaccine
- x. Where do we need to administer the dengue vaccine?
  - a. In country where dengue is wide-spread
  - b. In country where dengue may spread
  - c. In country where dengue spread is limited
  - d. In country where dengue spread originated
- xi. Choose which statement is 'Not Correct' as per the report
  - a. Pre-screening must be done before administering the vaccine
  - b. Pre-screening must not be done before administering the vaccine
  - c. Pre-screening helps to identify people who have been dengue positive in the past
  - d. Pre-screening allows to target people who can be administered the vaccine
- xii. In Afghanistan Dengue spread began in
  - a. 2017
  - b. 2020
  - c. 2019
  - d. 1970

**LITERATURE**

(10 marks)

**Q3. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE, by answering the questions that follow.**  
(5x1)

**A.**

The following Sunday Lencho came a bit earlier than usual to ask if there was a letter for him. It was the postman himself who handed the letter to him while the postmaster, experiencing the contentment of a man who has performed a good deed, looked on from his office.

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."

**i. When the writer says 'Lencho showed not the slightest surprise on seeing the money', he means that**

- a) Lencho doubted if he will receive any help.
- b) Lencho had complete faith that God had sent him the money.
- c) Lencho never expected that God will help him.
- d) Lencho was sure that it was an act of charity.

**ii. Choose the option that lists the set of statements that are NOT TRUE according to the given extract.**

- 1) Lencho tried to find out who had sent the money.
- 2) Lencho thought that the post office employees stole the money sent by God.
- 3) The postmaster was amazed to see a letter addressed to God.
- 4) Lencho had a firm belief that God will help him.
- 5) The postmaster helped Lencho by collecting money from his employees and friends.
- 6) Lencho's crops were destroyed by a locust attack.
- 7) Lencho was satisfied on receiving seventy pesos.

- a) 2, 3 & 5
- b) 3,4 & 5
- c) 1, 6 & 7
- d) 4, 5 & 6

**iii. Pick the option that correctly classifies fact/s(F) and opinion/s (O).**

I think the postmaster shouldn't have helped Lencho.

1.

I feel Lencho was acting greedy in asking for thirty more pesos.

2.

Lencho had a firm belief in God. That's why he again wrote a letter to God.

3.

Probably people refused to help Lencho, so he didn't ask them for help.

4.

- a) F-4; O-1,2,3
- b) F-3; O-1,2,4
- c) F- 2; O - 1,3,4
- d) F- 1; O- 2,3,4

**iv. Which word does 'contentment' NOT correspond to?**

- a) Satisfaction
- b) Fulfilment
- c) Dissatisfaction
- d) Happiness

**v. Choose the characteristic displayed by Lencho when he writes the second letter to God.**

- a) Thankless
- b) Ungrateful
- c) Greedy
- d) Naive

**OR**

**B.**

That evening, after I'd finished the rest of my homework, the note about the essay caught my eye. I began thinking about the subject while chewing the tip of my fountain pen. Anyone could ramble on and leave big spaces between the words, but the trick was to come up with convincing arguments to prove the necessity of talking. I thought and thought, and suddenly I had an idea. I wrote the three pages Mr Keesing had assigned me and was satisfied. I argued that talking is a student's trait and that I would do my best to keep it under control, but that I would never be able to cure myself of the habit since my mother talked as much as I did if not more, and that there's not much you can do about inherited traits.

Mr Keesing had a good laugh at my arguments, but when I proceeded to talk my way through the next lesson, he assigned me a second essay. This time it was supposed to be on 'An Incurable Chatterbox'. I handed it in, and Mr Keesing had nothing to complain about for two whole lessons.

**i. How did Anne feel when she completed the first essay?**

- a) Somewhat disappointed
- b) Satisfied
- c) Unhappy
- d) Displeased

**ii. When Anne says 'there's not much you can do about inherited traits', she means that**

- a) she acquired the habit of talking from her mother and she would not talk thereon.
- b) she supported the necessity to talk as she inherited this habit from her mother.
- c) she supported the idea of keeping quiet even though her parents were talkative.
- d) she would change this quality of her personality and remain quiet.

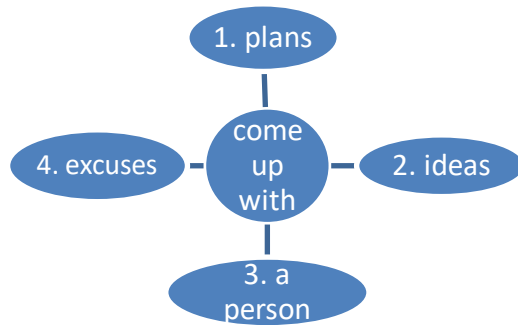
**iii. The statement that is TRUE about Mr. Keesing is:**

- a) he understood that she was not a dull student, but talkative .
- b) he was angry with Anne.
- c) he was a strict teacher.
- d) he allowed students to talk during his class.

**iv. Choose the characteristic displayed by Anne Frank according to the above extract.**

- a) Creative
- b) Adamant
- c) Indisciplined
- d) Unimaginative

**v. The extract uses the phrase, 'come up with'. Which of the following expressions is incorrect with respect to the phrase 'come up with'?**



- a) Option (1)
- b) Option (2)
- c) Option (3)
- d) Option (4)

**4. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE, by answering the questions that follow.**

(5x1)

(A)

The way a crow  
 Shook down on me  
 The dust of snow  
 From a hemlock tree  
                                 Has given my heart  
                                 A change of mood  
                                 And saved some part  
                                 Of a day I had rued.

i. The poet's state of mind at the time the crow shook down the snow particles on him was:

- a) devoted
- b) disgusted
- c) delighted
- d) depressive

ii. What is the rhyme scheme of the given stanzas?

- a) abab; abab
- b) abcb; abcd
- c) abcd; abcd
- d) abcd; abcb

iii. These stanzas tell us that

- a) we should be happy always.
- b) even a simple moment in life has a large impact and significance.
- c) freedom revives our spirits.
- d) we should take care of our mother Earth.

iv. What is the name of the 'poisonous plant' from the passage :

- a) Hemlock
- b) English Yew
- c) Poison Ivy
- d) Ladies Glove

v. The phrase, 'Of a day I had rued' means :

- a) The poet woke up from sleep and was ready to go for work
- b) The poet's spirit was revived and he got ready to utilize the rest of the day constructively.
- c) The poet became judgmental.
- d) The poet decided to sleep soundly for the rest of the day.

Or



(B) Belinda paled, and she cried Help! Help!  
But Mustard fled with terrified yelp,  
Ink trickled down to the bottom of the household,  
And little mouse Blink strategically mousehold.

But up jumped Custard, snorting like an engine,  
Clashed his tail like irons in a dungeon,  
With a clatter and a clank and a jangling squirm,  
He went at the pirate like a robin at a worm.

i. Belinda cried for help because

- a) she grew afraid of her pets
- b) she was afraid of the pirates
- c) she was drowning
- d) she was afraid of the little mouse blink

ii. Who came to rescue everyone in danger?

- a) Ink
- b) Custard
- c) Blink
- d) Mustard

iii. The word 'dungeon' DOES NOT have a meaning similar to

- a) jail
- b) cell
- c) prison
- d) park

iv. "Belinda paled, and she cried Help! Help!" The exclamatory mark is here to convey:

- a) a feeling of anticipation
- b) a feeling of excitement.
- c) a feeling of sorrow.
- d) some thoughtful moments.

v. The word that DOES NOT indicate fear-stricken Belinda:

- a) paled
- b) cried
- c) terrified
- d) snorting

### GRAMMAR (10 marks)

5. Choose the correct options to fill in the blanks to complete the note about the Saga Dawa Festival of Sikkim. (3x1)

Saga Dawa is an important festival for the Mahayana Buddhists as it .....(i) the three most important phases of Gautama Buddha – his birth, his enlightenment and his attaining nirvana. This triple celebration, which is the biggest in Sikkim, .....(ii) on the full moon of the fourth month of the lunar calendar of the Buddhists and typically falls between the end of May to beginning of June – what the rest of India celebrates as BuddhPoornima. The day is celebrated with people .....(iii)a visit to the Sikkim monasteries and offering lamps of butter to show their devotion and love.

- i) a) celebrates
- b) is celebrated
- c) celebrating
- d) was celebrated

- ii) a) observes  
b) is observed  
c) was observed  
d) observed
- iii) a) pays  
b) payed  
c) paying  
d) were payin

6. Choose the correct options to fill in the blanks to complete the narration of Betty's conversation with Sonu. (3x1)



Sonu asked Betty . (i).....voice of the explosion from the sky.

- (i) a) if she knew  
b) that she knows  
c) that who knows  
d) if you know
- (ii) a) she had watched  
b) she watches  
c) she was watching  
d) she has been watching
- (iii) a) if she hears  
b) if she had heard  
c) if she has heard  
d) if she was hearing

7. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct options for ANY FOUR of the six sentences given below. (4x1)

- (i) Prachi .....work hard as one week is left for her CA Final Examination.  
a) should  
b) will  
c) has to  
d) may

(ii) He will be seventeen next week. He is inviting \_\_\_\_ his friends for a party  
a) more  
b) most  
c) all  
d) could

(iii) A person with \_\_\_\_fragile ego can take anything you say personally.  
a) a  
b) an  
c) the  
d) their

(iv) You must \_\_\_\_\_ for longer hours as it will make your voice grow stronger.  
a) practicing  
b) will practice  
c) to practice  
d) practice

(v) Doctor, I am not feeling well, .....you please issue me a medical certificate?  
a) would  
b) could  
c) must  
d) should

(vi) You .....not worry. Your money is safe.  
a) would  
b) need  
c) can  
d) may

## Section B

### WRITING

(2x5= 10 marks)

8. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the following in 100-120 words. (5 marks)

(A) You are Amit/Amita, a resident of Prem Vihar Colony, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh. You have noticed that your next door neighbour family (all three members) have COVID-19 flu symptoms like persistent high fever along with cough and cold for more than a week. They are alternately flouting quarantine rules and despite repeated requests made by other neighbours, they are not getting themselves COVID-tested.

Write a letter to the Medical Officer of the local hospital/dispensary, drawing attention towards the same. Explain how such acts impact the health of the community and request immediate intervention and strict action.

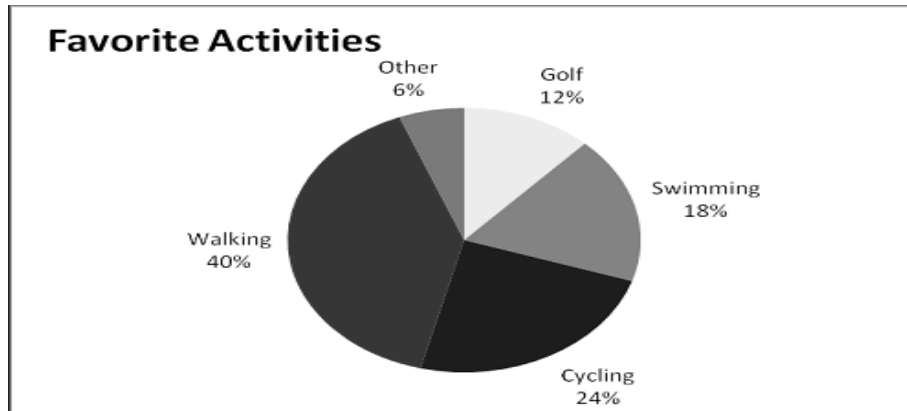
**OR**

(B) You are Balraj/Bala from Ferozabad, Gujarat and you live near the landfill site. The growing unsanitary conditions are causing multiple diseases and inconvenience due to poor hygiene to the residents. It has also resulted in illnesses and rising fatalities in your colony. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner requesting him/her to organize a cleanliness drive.

9. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the following in 100-120 words. (5 marks)

(A) The pie-chart below displays data about the choice of activities which Indians prefer to do. Write a paragraph analyzing the given data. You may support your analysis by stating specific reasons about the most/least preferred activities, think of which activities can you enlist in the 'other' category which makes 6% of the pie-chart, how does Indian lifestyle/diet/weather impact this data.

Image credit: The Open University



OR

(B) The charts below show the percentage of time which people (of different age groups) spend on various Internet activities. Write a paragraph analyzing given information, about people's dependence on internet, by reporting the main features (like what is internet most/least used for) and making comparisons where relevant.

You may express your views by including specific experiences/observations.

Internet Activities by Age Group

Activity%	Age group						
	Teens	20s	30s	40s	50s	60s	70+
Get News	76	73	76	75	71	74	70
Online games	81	54	37	29	25	25	32
Downloads	52	46	27	15	13	8	6
Product research	0	79	80	83	79	74	70
Buying a product	43	68	69	68	67	65	41
Searching for people	5	31	23	23	24	29	27

About the news that a great explosion had occurred on Sun. Betty that (ii).....it on TV the day before. Sonu..... (iii) the

**LITERATURE**

10. Answer ANY TWO questions in 20-30 words each, from (A) and (B) respectively. (2x4=8)

(A) (Any two) (2x2=4)

- i) What change/s did you notice in the poet, in the second stanza of the poem 'Dust of Snow'?
- ii) How did Nelson Mandela plan to attain political emancipation?

iii) Explain the purpose of 'oxymoron' used in the poem 'A Tiger in the zoo'?

(B) (Any two) (2x2=4)

i) "It was a temptation to keep Tricki on as a permanent guest." Why was it so?

ii) Why did 'Hari Singh' want to be friends with Anil?

iii) What did Griffin do with the landlord?

**11. Answer ANY TWO questions in 40-50 words each, from (A) and (B) respectively. (3x4=12)**

(A) (Any two) (3x2=6)

i) Why did the postmaster try to help Lencho?

ii) Do you agree with the poet in relating 'fire' with desire and 'ice' with hatred in the poem 'Fire and Ice'? Why/ Why not?

iii) Was the attitude of the family justified towards the young seagull? Why/ why not?

(B) (Any two) (3x2=6)

i) How did hiding in the big London store help Griffin?

ii) Do you think that Richard's mother and teacher Richard E. Weiherer were instrumental in 'making him a worthy scientist'? Why/ why not?

iii) Why did the author expect to hear from Mrs Pumphrey very soon?

**12. Answer ANY ONE the following in 100-120 words. (5x1)**

(A) How do you think the postmaster felt when Lencho called the post office employees "a bunch of crooks"? Do you think he would have helped someone else after this incident? Explain why or why not?

OR

(B) Read the extracts given below and comment on the change in the attitude of Peggy towards Wanda.

(a) "How many dresses did you say you had hanging up in your closet?"

(b) "She must have really liked us, anyway."

**13. Answer ANY ONE of the following in 100-120 words. (5x1)**

(A) "You don't understand who or what I am!" he shouted. "Very well — I'll show you."

Who is this person? What does he do? What is he trying to show? Write a character sketch of the person.

OR

(B) Read the following statement.

"If you tell the truth it becomes a part of your past. If you tell a lie, it becomes a part of your future."

How does Matilda's life change after she tells a lie about the necklace? Explain in the light of the statement given above and with the help of examples from the text.