

No. of pages –26(M)

COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK

PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION

CLASS:X (2025-26)

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE (184)

Time Allowed :3 hours Maximum Marks : 80

SECTION-A (READING SKILLS) (20 MARKS)

1.	Passage 1	10
	<p>Crochet – A Long Lost Art and Its Revival</p> <p>I. Crochet, once considered a simple pastime of grandmothers, is making a powerful comeback in today's world of fashion and lifestyle. The word "crochet" comes from the French term meaning "small hook," which refers to the hooked needle used to create interlocking loops of yarn. Traditionally, crochet was valued for its utility: blankets, tablecloths and warm sweaters were lovingly made at home, often passed down as heirlooms. For a long time, however, crochet was seen as outdated, associated only with older generations and limited to household use.</p> <p>II. In recent years, this long-lost art has stepped into the spotlight again. Social media platforms such as Instagram, Pinterest and Tik Tok have played a huge role in reviving its popularity. Young people across the world are learning crochet not only as a hobby but also as a creative outlet. Handmade crochet tops, bags, bucket hats and even shoes have become a new trend, combining tradition with modern fashion. The uniqueness of each handmade piece makes it special in a world dominated by machine-made fast fashion.</p> <p>III. One of the reasons for this revival is the growing awareness about sustainability. Fast fashion has raised concerns about pollution, waste and unfair labour practices. Crochet, on the other hand, is slow fashion. It emphasizes creativity, patience and quality. A handmade crochet product lasts longer and since it can be made from natural or recycled yarns, it is eco-friendly. This makes crochet highly appealing to environmentally conscious youth.</p> <p>IV. Another factor is its therapeutic effect. In a world full of stress and screens, many people find crochet calming and meditative. The repetitive motions of looping yarn can reduce anxiety and improve concentration. It also offers a sense of accomplishment when a design is finally completed. For some, crochet has even turned into a small business, as handmade products are increasingly valued in markets and online shops.</p> <p>V. Crochet is no longer just an old-fashioned skill hidden in the cupboards of history. It is a creative art form that blends culture, fashion and sustainability. From being a symbol of family warmth to becoming a global fashion statement, crochet has travelled a long journey. Today, it is not only preserving tradition but also shaping the future of handmade fashion.</p>	
(i)	<p>Answer the following questions, based on the passage above :</p> <p>Why is the revival of crochet described as a 'long lost art'? (<i>Para I</i>)</p>	1

	Value Point : crochet was seen as outdated, associated only with older generations and limited to household use	
(ii)	<p>According to paragraph II, crochet items are valued for all of the following qualities EXCEPT being:</p> <p>(A) inspired by social media (B) entirely machine-made (C) fashionable and unique (D) handmade creations</p> <p>Correct Answer : Option (B) entirely machine-made Value Point :Paragraph II clearly states that crochet items are handmade, not machine-made.</p>	1
(iii)	<p>Complete the following by selecting the correct option from those given in the brackets. The use of natural or recycled yarns make crochet products _____. (eco-friendly/short-lived).(paragraph III)</p> <p>Correct Option:eco-friendly Value Point :Paragraph III states that crochet uses natural or recycled yarns, making it environmentally friendly.</p>	1
(iv)	<p>Select the option that is True from (A)–(C) given, for what the phrase, “slow fashion” suggests in paragraph III.</p> <p>(A) Fashion that focuses on creativity, patience, and sustainability. (B) Fashion that copies machine-made designs at a slower pace. (C) Fashion that compromises quality to reduce costs.</p> <p>Correct Answer:(A) Fashion that focuses on creativity, patience, and sustainability. Value Point :The passage links slow fashion with creativity, patience, quality, and eco-friendliness.</p>	1
(v)	<p>Complete the analogy by selecting one of the two correct options (A), (B): fast fashion :waste :: crochet : _____ (<i>Paragraph III</i>)</p> <p>(A) sustainability (B) low quality</p> <p>Correct Answer:(A) sustainability Value Point: Fast fashion creates waste, while crochet supports eco-friendly and sustainable practices.</p>	1
(vi)	<p>Why is crochet seen as beneficial for people’s mental health? (<i>Paragraph IV</i>) Answer in about 40 words.</p> <p>Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crochet has a calming and meditative effect. • Repetitive movements reduce stress and anxiety. • It improves concentration and focus. • Completing a design gives a sense of achievement and satisfaction. 	2
(vii)	<p>What are the main ideas of paragraph II and paragraph III?</p> <p>(a) Social media has revived interest in crochet. (b) Crochet is fast and cheap to produce.</p>	1

	<p>(c) Crochet promotes eco-friendly and sustainable fashion. (d) Crochet is only for older generations. Select the correct option :</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Options</th><th>Main idea of Para II</th><th>Main idea of Para III</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A.</td><td>b</td><td>d</td></tr> <tr> <td>B.</td><td>a</td><td>c</td></tr> <tr> <td>C.</td><td>d</td><td>b</td></tr> <tr> <td>D.</td><td>c</td><td>a</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Correct Answer: Option B Value Points: Para II discusses the role of social media. Para III focuses on sustainability and eco-friendly fashion.</p>	Options	Main idea of Para II	Main idea of Para III	A.	b	d	B.	a	c	C.	d	b	D.	c	a	
Options	Main idea of Para II	Main idea of Para III															
A.	b	d															
B.	a	c															
C.	d	b															
D.	c	a															
(viii)	<p>Why is crochet no longer seen as just an old-fashioned household skill? (<i>Paragraph I</i>) Answer in about 40 words.</p> <p>Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crochet has evolved into a creative art form. • It blends tradition with modern fashion. • It promotes sustainability and handmade culture. • It has become a global fashion statement rather than a household activity. 	2															
Q2	Passage 2	10															
	<p>I. A recent research-based study compared students' learning outcomes, concentration level, and problem-solving abilities when studying through group study sessions versus traditional self-study. The study involved two age groups students aged 13-15 and 16-18 and aimed to understand study preferences and their impact on academic performance.</p> <p>II. The results revealed distinct patterns between the two groups. Among students aged 13-15, 68% preferred group study, citing better doubt clarification, peer support and increased motivation as major reasons. Many students reported that studying with friends helped them understand difficult concepts more easily and kept them engaged for longer durations. The remaining 32% preferred self-study, saying they could focus better alone and avoid distractions.</p> <p>III. In the 16-18 age group, preferences shifted. 57% preferred self-study, explaining that individual study gave them more control over time, pace and topics, especially during board exam preparation. However, 43% still valued group study for brainstorming, quick revision, and exchanging ideas, particularly in subjects that required discussions or multiple perspectives.</p> <p>IV. Interestingly, overall performance scores were comparable in both methods, but students who combined both approaches strategically performed the best. Group study worked well for conceptual clarity and active discussions, while self-study proved more effective for focused revision and exam practice.</p>																

	V. The study concluded that both methods have unique advantages and students should choose or blend them based on their learning styles and subject requirements for optimal academic success.	
(i)	<p>Answer the following questions, based on the passage above :</p> <p>Why did the study most likely focus on the two specific age groups of 13-15 and 16-18? <i>(Paragraph I)</i> This is so because these age groups ... (A) represent students who are preparing for important examinations. (B) were the easiest to survey in schools. (C) have a natural preference for group study (D) show no difference in study patterns</p> <p>Correct Answer: (A) represent students who are preparing for important examinations. Value Point: These age groups face academic pressure and exam preparation, making study habits significant.</p>	1
(ii)	<p>Identify the phrase in paragraph I that conveys the writer's reference to the patterns or preferences in how students study.</p> <p>Correct Answer: study preferences</p>	1
(iii)	<p>Complete the following by selecting the correct option from those given in the brackets. <i>(Paragraph II)</i> Riya prefers group study because it helps her with quick _____ (doubt clarification/quiet concentration) and keeps her motivated to continue.</p> <p>Correct Option:doubt clarification Value Point: Paragraph II highlights doubt clarification as a major benefit of group study.</p>	1
(iv)	<p>What does the writer suggest by saying that students preferred group study for "better doubt clarification"? <i>(Paragraph II)</i></p> <p>Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students can ask questions freely. • Peers help explain difficult concepts. • Immediate feedback improves understanding. 	1
(v)	<p>Complete the following with the correct option: When the writer says 'preferences shifted' in paragraph III, he means that _____ (A) students of both age groups preferred only group study. (B) the older age group leaned more towards self-study compared to the younger group. (C) both age groups showed no change in study preference. (D) group study was completely replaced by self-study</p> <p>Correct Answer:(B) the older age group leaned more towards self-study compared to the younger group.</p>	1

	Value Point: Older students preferred self-study more than younger students.	
(vi)	<p>Complete the following appropriately. One likely reason why many older students preferred self-study is _____.(Paragraph III)</p> <p>Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better control over time and pace. • Focused board exam preparation. • Ability to choose topics independently. 	1
(vii)	<p>How does combining both study methods impact performance? (Paragraph IV)</p> <p>Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combining both methods improves overall performance. • Group study helps with conceptual clarity. • Self-study supports focused revision. • Strategic use leads to better academic results. 	1
(viii)	<p>Elaborate how using both group and self-study strategically benefits students. (Paragraph V) Answer in about 40 words.</p> <p>Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each method has unique strengths. • Students can adapt to learning styles. • Different subjects require different approaches. • Blending both ensures optimal academic success. 	2
(ix)	<p>Fill in the blank with ONE suitable word. (Paragraph V) The study concluded that both methods have unique advantages and students should _____ them based on their learning styles for best results.</p> <p>Value Points : As per para 5 of the passage, the following answer can be mentioned:</p> <p>Choose/select/blend, as the question is asking for one word answer, it needs to be apt and according to the sentence asked.</p> <p>1 mark for correct answer</p>	1
	SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR	(20)
	GRAMMAR	
3.	Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed	(1* 10)
(i)	<p>Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket for the given advertisement excerpt: The new wallpapers are beautifully _____ (design) to attract young buyers.</p> <p>Answer:</p> <p>(b) designed</p>	1

(iv)	Read the given statement.	1
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	<p>Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Designed” correctly describes the wallpapers.• <i>design</i> → base verb, grammatically incorrect here• <i>designing</i> → continuous form, does not fit after “are beautifully” <p><i>designs</i> → verb in present tense, incorrect structure</p>					
(ii)	<p>Identify the error and write the correction in the given sentence from a science magazine.</p> <p>The student along with his classmates were honoured at the School Annual Function. Use the given format.</p> <table><tr><td>ERROR</td><td>CORRECTION</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>ERROR CORRECTION</p> <p>were was</p> <p>Value points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The main subject is “The student” (singular). <p>“Along with his classmates” is an additional phrase and does not change the verb.</p>	ERROR	CORRECTION			1
ERROR	CORRECTION					
(iii)	<p>Fill in the blank with the correct form of verb given in the brackets.</p> <p>I can’t believe how much the place _____ (change) since my last visit.</p> <p>Answer: has changed</p> <p>Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Since my last visit” indicates present perfect tense.• Subject “the place” is singular → <i>has changed</i>. <p>Other incorrect Alternatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>changed</i> → simple past, time not finished• <i>is changing</i> → continuous, meaning incorrect <p><i>changes</i> → simple present, does not fit context</p>					

	<p>He said to his teacher, “I have completed my project.” Report it correctly by completing the following: He told his teacher that _____.</p> <p>Correct Answer:</p> <p>He told his teacher that he had completed his project.</p> <p>Why this is correct:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present perfect → past perfect • “I” changes to “he” • “Said to” becomes “told” 	
(v)	<p>Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the conclusion of a letter of complaint. 1 We hope that the issue will be resolved _____. A. prompt B. promptly C. more promptly D. most promptly</p> <p>Correct Answer: B. promptly Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Resolved” needs an adverb, not an adjective. <p>Other incorrect alternatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>prompt</i> → adjective • <i>more promptly</i> / <i>most promptly</i> → comparison not required 	1
(vi)	<p>Report the following by completing the sentence correctly. “Please help me with my homework,” she requested her brother. She requested her brother _____. Answer: to help her with her homework.</p> <p>Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Please” indicates a request • Structure: <i>requested</i> + <i>object</i> + <i>to</i> + <i>verb</i> 	1
(vii)	<p>Complete the given opinion by filling the blank with the correct option. Watching the match live was an experience I will never forget; it left me _____ thrilled.</p>	1

	<p>A. completely B. complete C. completing D. completes</p> <p>Answer: (A) completely</p> <p>Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Thrilled” (adjective) needs an adverb to modify it. <p>Why others are incorrect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>complete</i> → adjective • <i>completing</i> → verb form • <i>completes</i> → verb 	
(viii)	<p>The given question has an error. Select the option that correctly identifies the error and the correction. 1</p> <p>He do not like to participate in competitions.</p> <p>No. Error Correction</p> <p>A. do does B. like likes C. participate participates D. in into</p> <p>Answer: A. do does</p> <p>Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject “He” is singular → requires does not <p>Other incorrect alternatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>like</i> is correct in base form after “does not” • <i>participate</i> is correct • <i>in</i> is the correct preposition 	1
(ix)	<p>Report the following question. She said to her friend, “Will you help me with the assignment?”</p> <p>Correct Answer: She asked her friend if/whether he/she would help her with the</p>	1

	<p>assignment.</p> <p>Value Points: As per the rules for reported speech :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question → indirect question • “Will” → “would” • “You” → “he/she” 	
(x)	<p>Fill in the blank with the correct option from those given in the brackets. We haven’t decided yet, but we _____ (may / must) go on a short trip this weekend. may Answer: may Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “May” expresses possibility • “Must” expresses compulsion, which is incorrect here 	1
(xi)	<p>Fill in the blank to complete the sentence in a teacher’s diary by choosing the correct option. _____ students have submitted the practical file on time. A. Each B. Some C. Every D. Much (B) Some Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Students” is plural → “Some” fits. <p>Other Incorrect Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Each / Every</i> → singular • <i>Much</i> → used for uncountable nouns 	1
(xii)	<p>Choose the correct option to fill the blank. There were _____ chairs in the room, so some guests had to stand. A. few B. little C. least D. a little</p>	

	<p>Answer:</p> <p>A. (Few)</p> <p>Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Few” shows not enough chairs, matching the meaning. <p>Other incorrect alternatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>little / a little</i> → uncountable nouns <i>least</i> → superlative, incorrect usage 	
	WRITING (10 marks)	
4.A	<p>4A. As Nida/ Nadeem, the Vice Head Girl of RV International School, you are concerned over the growing stress amongst students regarding their career and future. Students in your school are often confused about which stream to choose after Class 10. Write a letter to the District Education Officer, requesting to organise career counselling sessions in schools to help students make informed choices. Highlight why such guidance is important and suggest how these sessions can be conducted.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>4B. As Sadhika/Sadh, the Vice Head Girl of RV Public School, you are aware of the increasing traffic jams near your school during arrival and dispersal hours create inconvenience and safety hazards. It contributes to the rising noise pollution in your city, and increases the concerns for the students. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily in about 120 words, stressing the urgent need to promote taking strict actions against traffic violators and to create a traffic management system for the same. Highlight the challenges faced by the students and propose practical solutions to address this growing issue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Format-1 [full credit if all aspects included. Partial credit (½ mark) if one-two aspects are missing. No credit if more than two aspects are missing] 	6

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content -2 [1½ mark for each content point area addressed - suggestion, importance, implication, recommendation] <p>(A)Value Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students face stress and confusion while choosing streams after Class 10. • Lack of awareness about careers leads to poor decision-making. • Career counselling can help identify interests, aptitude, and career options. • Sessions can include expert talks, aptitude tests, and personal guidance. <p>(Any other relevant point)</p> <p>(B)Value Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Traffic jams near school cause safety risks, noise pollution, and inconvenience to students. ✓ Rash driving, illegal parking, and lack of traffic control worsen the problem. ✓ Strict action against violators and police deployment during peak hours is necessary. ✓ Proper traffic management, parking zones, and awareness drives can provide solutions. <p>(Any other relevant point)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisation of ideas -1 [effective style, orderly sequence, paragraphed structure and formal tone and vocabulary] • Accuracy-1[Spelling, punctuation and grammar] 	
Q5.	<p>(A) Answer ANY ONE from (A) and (B).</p> <p>You are the Literature Society Incharge of your school. Your school is hosting a Literature Festival and two authors have offered to participate: Mr. Saurabh Singh, a famous poet and Ms. Shikha, a popular children's fiction author. Read their excerpts and write a paragraph in 100-120 words analysing who would be more relevant as a guest author for your audience. Consider factors such as experience, relevance to the topic and audience engagement.</p>	5

	<p>Excerpt 1-Mr. Saurabh Singh: “..As an award-winning poet, my works focus on Morningcontemporary social themes, I regularly conduct poetry reading sessions in colleges and literary forums, inspiring young adults to express themselves through verse.”</p> <p>Excerpt 2-Ms. Shikha: “..I have authored over 20 children's books widely read in schools. I conduct storytelling and creative writing workshops that make literature engaging and interactive for younger audiences My focus is on developing a love for reading among students...”</p>	
	<p>Suggested Reasons for Choosing Either Author</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audience Age: Teenagers → Saurabh Singh; Younger children → Shikha. • Experience & Expertise: Saurabh Singh → contemporary poetry, social themes; Shikha → children’s fiction, storytelling. • Audience Engagement: Saurabh Singh → thought-provoking poetry, discussions; Shikha → interactive storytelling, workshops. • Relevance to Topic: Consider the focus of the festival and which age group the sessions aim to target. <p>Marking Scheme</p> <p>1. Content – 2 Marks</p> <p>Expectations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum four elaborated points showing comprehension and clear communication: • Clearly identifies the chosen author (Mr. Saurabh Singh or Ms. Shikha). • Explains why the author is suitable based on experience and expertise. • Mentions audience engagement and relevance to the target students. • Compares briefly with the other author to justify the choice. • States the expected outcome of the author’s participation (inspiring, interactive, or age-appropriate sessions). <p>2. Organisation of Ideas – 2 Marks</p> <p>Covering the four elaborated parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective Style: Clear and concise introduction stating the chosen author; focus on key features. • Orderly Sequence: Begins with the choice of author, explains experience and expertise, mentions audience engagement, includes brief comparison, ends with a concluding statement. • Single Paragraph Structure: Ideas presented in one cohesive paragraph. • Formal Tone & Functional Vocabulary: Uses precise and purposeful words such as ‘inspire’, ‘engaging’, ‘interactive’, ‘age-appropriate’, ‘creative expression’, avoiding casual language. 	

	<p>3. Accuracy – 1 Mark</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar throughout. • Proper sentence structure and logical flow. • Ideas expressed clearly without ambiguity or errors. <p>(Marks may accordingly be deducted if a candidate does not mention any relevant points.)</p>	
Q5.	<p>(B) Rehan has been given the responsibility to lead his class's Social Awareness Campaign on environmental conservation. He is a creative thinker but sometimes lacks through on execution. He must pick a co-leader from Manisha, David and Zoya.</p> <p>Manisha: A natural organizer who is excellent at planning and logistics. She ensures tasks are done on time but isn't very experimental with ideas.</p> <p>David: A dynamic speaker and motivator who connects well with large audiences but often struggles with paperwork and documentation.</p> <p>Zoya: Good at both planning and public interaction. She is cooperative and often takes initiative to support others. Sometimes, she hesitates to make bold decisions independently.</p> <p>Based on the features of each candidate, write an Analytical Paragraph (in about 120 words) deciding who would be the best partner for Rehan. Consider aspects such as complementary strengths, teamwork, and the project's requirements.</p>	
	<p>Suggestive Value Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chosen Co-leader – Zoya is the best partner for Rehan. • Complementary Skills – Zoya balances Rehan's creativity with her planning and supportive abilities. • Planning and Public Interaction – She can organize tasks and communicate with the audience. • Comparison with Other Candidates – Manisha is good at planning but not flexible; David motivates but struggles with paperwork. • Conclusion / Outcome – Together, they form a balanced and effective team, ensuring a successful campaign. <p>Marking Scheme:</p> <p>Content – 2 Marks</p> <p>Minimum four value points for comprehending the paragraph & elaborated with clear communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoya is chosen as the best co-leader for Rehan's campaign. • Zoya complements Rehan's creativity with her planning and supportive skills. • She can handle both organizing tasks and interacting with the audience. • Comparison with other candidates: Manisha is planning-oriented but rigid, David 	

	<p>motivates but struggles with paperwork.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Together, Rehan and Zoya form a balanced, effective team ensuring the campaign's success. <p>Organisation of Ideas – 2 Marks</p> <p>Covering the four elaborated parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective Style: Clear introduction stating the co-leader and focus on key reasons. • Orderly Sequence: Begins with choice of co-leader, explains complementary skills, compares with other candidates, ends with the conclusion of teamwork and success. • Single Paragraph Structure: All ideas are in one cohesive paragraph, with smooth flow. • Formal Tone & Functional Vocabulary: Uses precise and purposeful words such as “complements,” “balanced team,” “supports,” “effective,” avoiding casual expressions. <p>Accuracy – 1 Mark</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar throughout. • Proper sentence structure and clarity of expression. • Logical flow of ideas with no major errors. 	
Q6.	<p>(A) Read the given extracts A (40 marks) A and B and answer any ONE of the TWO.</p> <p>Very soon Mij would follow me without a lead and come to me when I called his name. He spent most of his time in play. He spent hours shuffling a rubber ball round the room like a four-footed soccer player using all four feet to dribble the ball, and he could also throw it with a powerful flick of the neck, to a surprising height and distance. But the real play of an otter is when he lies on his back and juggles with small objects between his paws. Marbles were Mij's favourite toys for this pastime: he would lie on his back rolling two or more of them up and down his wide, flat belly without ever dropping one to the floor.</p> <p>(Mijbil-The Otter)</p>	5

	<p>i. Contradict the view that Mij was a dull and inactive pet. Answer in about 40 words. 2</p> <p>Possible Answer</p> <p>Mij was not dull or inactive. He was lively and playful, spending hours playing with a rubber ball, throwing it skillfully, and juggling marbles on his belly without dropping them.</p> <p>Suggestive Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The above points clearly reject the idea that Mij was dull • Mentions active play (ball, marbles) • Mij shows energy and skill as clearly mentioned in the extract 	
	<p>ii. Which of the following statements best explains Mij's behaviour during playtime? 1</p> <p>(a) Mij preferred to sit still and watch others play. (b) Mij was energetic and skilled, engaging actively in different kinds of playful activities.</p> <p>Answer:</p> <p>(b) Mij was energetic and skilled, engaging actively in different kinds of playful activities.</p> <p>Suggestive Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This point matches the description in the extract • Shows Mij's active and playful nature • Option (a) is incorrect as Mij never sits idle 	
	<p>iii. What can be inferred about Mij's personality from the way he played with marbles? 1</p> <p>Possible Inference:</p> <p>Mij was intelligent and playful, as he could juggle marbles carefully without dropping them.</p> <p>Suggestive Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct inference from Mij's behaviour • Highlights his intelligence and coordination • Links personality trait to action in the extract 	

	<div>iv. Read the following sound and movement words:</div> <div>1</div> <div>(i) shuffling (ii) dribble</div> <div>(iii) flick (iv) rolling</div> <div>(v) juggling</div>																				
	<div>Select the option that correctly categorises (i)-(v) into sound and movement words.</div> <table><tr><th>No.</th><th>Sound</th><th>Movement</th></tr><tr><td>(A)</td><td>i</td><td>ii, iii, iv, v</td></tr><tr><td>(B)</td><td>i, v</td><td>Ii, iii, iv</td></tr><tr><td>(C)</td><td>ii, iii</td><td>i, iv, v</td></tr><tr><td>(D)</td><td>iii, iv</td><td>i, ii, v</td></tr></table> <div>Answer:</div> <div>(A)</div> <table><tr><th>Sound</th><th>Movement</th></tr><tr><td>shuffling</td><td>dribble, flick, rolling, juggling</td></tr></table> <div>Suggestive Value Points:</div> <div><div><div></div><div>Correctly identifies sound-related word</div></div><div><div></div><div>Movement words correctly grouped</div></div><div><div></div><div>Shows understanding of word meaning in context</div></div></div>	No.	Sound	Movement	(A)	i	ii, iii, iv, v	(B)	i, v	Ii, iii, iv	(C)	ii, iii	i, iv, v	(D)	iii, iv	i, ii, v	Sound	Movement	shuffling	dribble, flick, rolling, juggling	
No.	Sound	Movement																			
(A)	i	ii, iii, iv, v																			
(B)	i, v	Ii, iii, iv																			
(C)	ii, iii	i, iv, v																			
(D)	iii, iv	i, ii, v																			
Sound	Movement																				
shuffling	dribble, flick, rolling, juggling																				
Q6. OR	<div>(B) Historian: (chuckling) And that's how one dusty old book of nursery rhymes saved the world from a Martian invasion. As you all know, in the twenty-fifth century, five hundred years after all this happened, we Earthlings resumed contact with Mars, and we even became very friendly with the Martians. By that time, Great and Mighty Think-Tank had been replaced by a very clever Martian the wise and wonderful Noodle! Oh, yes, we taught the Martians the difference between sandwiches and books. We taught them how to read, too, and we established a model library in their capital city of Marsopolis. But as you might expect, there is still one book that the Martians can never bring themselves to read. You've guessed it Mother Goose! (She bows and exits right.)</div> <div>(The Book that Saved the Earth)</div>																				

	<p>i. What does the word "(chuckling)" at the beginning of the Historian's speech convey?</p> <p>1</p> <p>(i) amusement at the events being narrated (ii) nervousness about speaking to the audience (iii) sarcasm towards the Martians (iv) satisfaction with the peaceful outcome (A) (i) and (iv) (B) (i) and (iii) (C) Only (ii) (D) Only (iii)</p> <p>Answer: (B) (i) and (iii)</p> <p>Suggestive Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Chuckling" shows the Historian's amusement at the past events. • It also reflects gentle sarcasm towards the Martians' foolishness. • The tone is light-hearted rather than serious or nervous. 	
	<p>ii. How do the stage directions, such as "(She bows and exits right)", contribute to the understanding of the scene? (Answer in about 40 words)</p> <p>2</p> <p>Probable Answer:</p> <p>The stage directions help the reader understand the Historian's confident and humorous attitude. Her bow shows satisfaction and pride, while her exit signals the conclusion of the story and adds a theatrical, storytelling effect to the scene.</p> <p>Suggestive Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage directions reveal the speaker's emotions and attitude: (the Historian is proud and pleased with the story she has shared, reflecting her amusement and satisfaction). • The bow suggests confidence and enjoyment of the moment: (By bowing, the Historian emphasizes her connection with the audience, highlighting that she enjoys telling the story in a theatrical and engaging way). • They help visualise the ending of the scene clearly: (Her exit clearly marks the conclusion of the scene, helping the audience visualise the ending and enhancing the humorous, playful tone of the extract.) 	
	<p>iii. Select the option that correctly completes the following: The Historian refers to "Mother Goose" as the book Martians can't read to –</p> <p>1</p> <p>(A) highlight the lingering comic irony of the Martians' misunderstanding.</p>	

	<p>(B) show their disrespect for Earth's literature.</p> <p>Answer:</p> <p>(A) highlight the lingering comic irony of the Martians' misunderstanding.</p> <p>Suggestive Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mother Goose earlier confused the Martians. • The reference maintains the humorous tone of the play. • It shows that the irony continues even after peace is established. 	
	<p>iv. What emotion is the Historian most likely conveying through her tone and actions in this extract?</p> <p>1</p> <p>Answer:</p> <p>The Historian conveys amusement and satisfaction.</p> <p>Suggestive Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Her (the Historian) chuckling shows amusement. • The bow reflects pride in the peaceful outcome. • The tone remains light, humorous, and celebratory. 	
Q7.	<p>(A) Read the given extracts A and B and answer ANY ONE of the two.</p> <p>Don't eat that chocolate, Amanda!</p> <p>Remember your acne, Amanda!</p> <p>Will you please look at me when I'm speaking to you,</p> <p>Amanda!</p> <p>(Amanda)</p>	5
	<p>i. What emotions are most appropriately conveyed through the tone of the speaker in this stanza?</p> <p>1</p> <p>(i) frustration (ii) concern</p> <p>(iii) authority (iv) kindness</p> <p>(v) irritation</p> <p>Select the correct option :</p>	

	<p>(A) i, ii, iii (B) ii, iv, v</p> <p>(C) i, iii, v (D) i, ii, iv</p> <p>Answer:</p> <p>(C) i, iii, v (frustration, authority, irritation)</p> <p>Suggestive Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated commands show frustration. • The speaker gives instructions, showing authority. • The sharp, nagging tone reflects irritation. • Concern or kindness is not dominant in the tone of the speaker (her mother) in the given stanza. 	
	<p>ii. What does the line "Will you please look at me when I'm speaking to you" suggest about the relationship dynamic between Amanda and the speaker? Answer in about 40 words. 2</p> <p>Probable Answer:</p> <p>The line suggests a controlling and authoritative relationship where the speaker (her mother) expects obedience and attention from Amanda. Amanda seems disengaged, while the speaker insists on being listened to, indicating a lack of mutual understanding.</p> <p>Suggestive Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The statement highlights authority vs. passivity • It clearly shows how the speaker (Amanda's mother) demands for attention • Amanda appears mentally distant or uninterested • Reflects imbalance in the relationship 	
	<p>iii. Which phrase from the extract reflects the speaker's attempt to control Amanda's personal choices? 1</p> <p>Suitable Answer:</p> <p>"Don't eat that chocolate, Amanda!"</p> <p>Suggestive Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The phrase directly restricts Amanda's personal choice. • It shows the speaker's (her mother's) controlling attitude. • The command reflects lack of independence given to Amanda. 	

	<p>iv. Fill in the blank suitably to complete the sentence: 1 The repeated instructions in the stanza highlight the speaker's focus on _____ rather than understanding Amanda's perspective.</p> <p>Suitable Answer: The repeated instructions in the stanza highlight the speaker's (Amanda's Mother's) focus on discipline rather than understanding Amanda's perspective.</p> <p>Suggestive Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The word 'discipline' matches the repeated commands. • It highlights control rather than emotional understanding. • The contrast strengthens the meaning of the sentence. 	
Q7.	<p>(B) Now the name of the little black kitten was Ink. And the little grey mouse, she called him Blink. And the little yellow dog was sharp as Mustard. But the dragon was a coward, and she called him Custard. (The Tale Of Custard the Dragon)</p>	5
	<p>i. What does the poet imply by describing the dragon as a coward? 1</p> <p>(A) The dragon lacked the courage usually associated with such creatures. (B) The dragon was lazy and refused to participate in daily activities. (C) The dragon was disliked by the other animals. (D) The dragon was only pretending to be afraid.</p>	
	<p>Answer: (A) The dragon lacked the courage usually associated with such creatures.</p> <p>Suggestive Value Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dragons are usually brave and fearsome, so calling Custard a coward shows he is different from the usual expectation. • It highlights the dragon's timid and fearful nature, not laziness or pretending. • This contrast adds humour and interest to the poem, as readers expect a dragon to be brave. 	
ii	<p>Complete the following suitably: (1) The name "Mustard" for the little yellow dog refers to its _____. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sharp and lively nature (and yellow colour, like mustard) Explanation - The name "Mustard" is suitable because the dog is small, yellow in colour like mustard, and has a sharp, lively nature. Just as mustard is strong and spicy, the dog's</p>	1

	energetic and alert behaviour matches the name.	
iii	<p>How does the poet use humour in the description of the characters in this stanza? Answer in about 40 words.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The poet uses humour through the playful naming of the animals “Ink.” “Blink.” “Mustard.” and “Custard” which sound like a rhyme chain, and by giving the dragon a cowardly nature, which is the opposite of what we expect from a dragon. <p>Explanation - The poet creates humour by giving the animals funny, rhyming names like Ink, Blink, Mustard and Custard, which sound playful. He also makes the dragon cowardly instead of fierce, creating a comic contrast with the usual idea of a brave dragon.</p>	2
iv	<p>Identify the phrase in the stanza that reveals the dragon’s ironical trait.</p> <p>“the dragon was a coward”</p>	1
8	<p>Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40- 50 words each.</p> <p>Content-2 Marks</p> <p>Expression-1 Mark</p>	4x3 =12
i	<p>How does Anne Frank’s tone in her diary entries reflect her maturity and self-awareness despite her age? Explain</p> <p>Value Points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Honest and introspective tone; reflects awareness of personal feelings and situation. Shows ability to analyze relationships and human behavior critically. Mature reflection on fear, hope, and the impact of war on life. <p>Explanation - Anne Frank’s tone in her diary is honest and deeply introspective, showing that she is aware of her own emotions and the difficult situation she lives in. She thoughtfully analyses relationships and human behaviour around her. Her reflections on fear, hope, and the effects of war reveal maturity and self-awareness beyond her age.</p>	
ii	<p>Kisa Gotami’s journey conveys a deep message about life and death. Support this statement with reference to the lesson, Sermon at Benaras’.</p> <p>Value Points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realizes death is a universal truth; her child’s death mirrors everyone’s mortality. Seeks guidance from Buddha; learns wisdom through observation and experience. 	3

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journey teaches acceptance of loss and understanding impermanence of life. <p>Explanation- KisaGotami's journey conveys a deep message about life and death. After losing her child, she realises that death is a universal truth faced by every family. Through Buddha's guidance, she understands that life is impermanent. Her experience teaches acceptance of loss and the reality of human suffering.</p>	
iii	<p>How does Valli's bus journey mark a turning point in her understanding of the world? (Madam Rides The Bus)</p> <p>Value Points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exposed to new experiences and city life; broadens her perspective. • Learns independence and courage in unfamiliar situations. • Observes realities of society; realizes world is bigger and complex than her village. <p>Explanation - Valli's bus journey marks a turning point in her understanding of the world. It exposes her to new experiences and city life beyond her village. Traveling alone builds her confidence and independence. She also observes the realities of society, helping her realise that the world is larger and more complex than she had imagined.</p>	3
iv	<p>How does the boy's reaction to the loss of his ball reflect a universal experience of growing up? (The Ball Poem)</p> <p>Value Points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows initial shock, sadness, and denial-natural response to loss. • Reflects universal experience of coming to terms with impermanence • Learning to accept reality and grow emotionally, symbolic of growing up. <p>Explanation- The boy's reaction to losing his ball shows shock, sadness, and a sense of denial, which are natural responses to loss. Through this experience, he learns that things do not last forever. Accepting this reality helps him grow emotionally, reflecting a universal part of growing up.</p>	3
v	<p>How does the poet contrast the tiger's majestic nature with its helplessness in captivity to evoke sympathy? (Tiger in The Zoo)</p> <p>Value Points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describes tiger's strength, grace, and wild instincts in the jungle. • Contrasts with dullness , confinement, and frustration in captivity. 	3

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evokes sympathy, highlights restriction of natural freedom and injustice of confinement. <p>Explanation - The poet first presents the tiger as powerful, graceful, and free in the jungle, moving silently and confidently. This image is sharply contrasted with the tiger's dull, frustrated life in a cage. The loss of freedom evokes sympathy and highlights the injustice of captivity.</p>	
9	<p>Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40–50 words each</p> <p>Content-2 Marks</p> <p>Expression-1 Mark</p>	<p>2x3 =6</p>
i	<p>Briefly evaluate the statement, “Education is the most powerful tool for empowerment,” with reference to Bholi's transformation in the story.</p> <p>Value Points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initially shy, uneducated, and humiliated due to looks and illiteracy. • Education boosts confidence, self-expression, and independence. • Gains empowerment to challenge injustice and make her own choices. <p>Explanation- Bholi's transformation proves that education is the most powerful tool for empowerment. Initially, she is shy, uneducated, and humiliated because of her looks. Education gives her confidence and a voice. It empowers her to stand up against injustice and make independent decisions.</p>	3
ii	<p>How does Matilda's obsession with appearances influence the course of her life? (The Necklace)</p> <p>Value Points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desire for luxury and social recognition drives her decisions. • Leads to borrowing and losing necklace; faces years of hardship. • Shows materialism and vanity can have long-term consequences. <p>Explanation - Matilda's obsession with appearances and social status shapes her life negatively. Her desire for luxury and recognition leads her to borrow the necklace, which she loses. This mistake forces her into years of hard work and suffering, showing how vanity and materialism can have lasting consequences.</p>	3

iii	<p>Griffin's misuse of his scientific discovery ultimately leads to his downfall. Evaluate this statement with reference to his choices and their consequences. (Footprints Without Feet)</p> <p>Value Points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses invisibility selfishly for theft and evasion. • Ignores moral responsibilities and social norms. • Misuse leads to isolation, fear, and eventual downfall. <p>Explanation- Griffin's downfall is the result of his misuse of scientific discovery. Instead of using invisibility responsibly, he uses it for theft and escape. By ignoring moral values and social rules, he becomes isolated and feared, and this misuse ultimately leads to his tragic end.</p>	3
10	<p>Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.</p> <p>Content-3 Marks</p> <p>Expression-2 Marks</p> <p>Accuracy-1 Mark</p>	1x6 =6
(A)	<p>In 'The Black Aeroplane' and 'His First Flight,' the characters persist despite fear and danger. How do these stories show that determination and effort are essential to overcome obstacles?</p> <p>Value Points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characters face fear: young seagull hesitant to fly, pilot confronting storm. Persistence helps overcome physical and mental challenges. • Shows courage, self-reliance, and resourcefulness. • Life lesson: effort and determination are essential to face obstacles. <p>Explanation- Both stories highlight that determination and effort help overcome fear and danger. The young seagull overcomes his fear of flying through persistence, while the pilot bravely faces the storm. Their courage, self-reliance, and effort show that determination is essential to overcome obstacles in life.</p>	6
	OR	
(B)	<p><i>B. Both the poems, 'Fog' and 'The Trees' reveal how nature can be both gentle and imposing. How do these poems show humans' relationship with the natural world?</i></p> <p>Value Points-</p>	6

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature’s gentleness: fog softly envelops: trees provide calm, shelter. • Nature’s imposing side; fog obscures vision; trees symbolize silent observation. Highlights humans’ awe, respect, and dependence on natural world. • Poetic imagery encourages reflection on coexistence and observation of nature. <p>Explanation- Both poems show that humans share a close and respectful relationship with nature. In <i>Fog</i>, nature appears gentle as the fog quietly surrounds everything, yet it is also imposing by limiting vision. In <i>The Trees</i>, nature offers calm and shelter while silently observing humans. These images highlight human awe, respect, and dependence on the natural world.</p>	
11.	<p>Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.</p> <p>Content-3 Marks</p> <p>Expression-2 Marks</p> <p>Accuracy-1 Mark</p>	1x6 =6
(A)	<p>In 'Footprints Without Feet,' Griffin's actions after becoming invisible lead to his downfall. Analyze his character and the consequences of his misuse of invisibility.</p> <p>Value Points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becomes invisible: initially enjoys freedom and power. • Misuses invisibility for selfish motives, theft, and mischief. • Ignoring moral consequences leads to fear, isolation, and eventual defeat. • Story warns about responsibility in using knowledge and power. <p>Explanation- Griffin’s character in <i>Footprints Without Feet</i> shows how power without responsibility leads to destruction. After becoming invisible, he initially enjoys freedom and control. However, he misuses his power for theft and mischief. By ignoring moral values, he creates fear and isolates himself, which finally leads to his downfall.</p>	6
	OR	

(B)	<p><i>B. In 'The Midnight Visitor,' the protagonist's unexpected actions lead to a surprising conclusion. How does the author build suspense through misdirection, and what is the impact of the story's ending?</i></p> <p>Value Points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author creates suspense through mysterious visitor and uncertain events. • Misdirection: reader expects danger, protagonist acts cleverly to reveal truth. • Unexpected ending surprises readers: detective-style revelation. • Highlights protagonist's wit and story's theme of intelligence overcoming deception. <p>Explanation- <i>In The Midnight Visitor, the author builds suspense by presenting a mysterious visitor and creating an atmosphere of danger. Through misdirection, the reader expects violence, but Ausable cleverly outwits Max with intelligence rather than force. The unexpected ending surprises readers and highlights the theme that wit and presence of mind can defeat deception.</i></p>	6
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