

Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi

Mid Term Practice Paper (2025-26)

Class – XI

English Core (Code: 301)

Time: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. The paper is divided into three sections: Section A: Reading Comprehension, Section-B: Writing Skills and Grammar and Section C: Literature. All the sections are compulsory.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A

READING COMPREHENSION

1. Read the following passage carefully: (10)

Bachendri Pal is a lady of great courage, perseverance and determination. She braved all adversities to become the first Indian woman to summit the world's highest peak, Mount Everest, in 1984.

Pal was born in a modest family in Nakuri village, Uttarakhand on 24th May, 1954 to Hansa Devi and Kishan Singh Pal. She was one of the seven children. Her father was a cross-border trader. She climbed for the first time, at the age of 12, during a school picnic. It was a 400 m high peak. She became the first girl to graduate from her village. She did masters in Sanskrit, and then B.Ed. During her course at NIM (Nehru Institute of Mountaineering), she climbed Mt Gangotri and Mt. Rudragaria. She got a job at the NAF (National Adventure Foundation) as instructor.

In 1984, she was selected to be a part of a group of six women and eleven men, to climb Mt Everest. The team started the ascent in May 1984. Her team met with an avalanche accident in their night camp. Many members quit and by 22 May, Pal was the only woman left in the group. On the last day of their climb, cold winds were blowing at a speed of 100 km/hr and temperatures dipped to minus 30 to 40 degrees Celsius. On 23rd May, the team touched the summit at 1:07 pm and the lady created a new record. After the successful climb, Pal led Indo-Nepalese Women's Expedition in 1993. It comprised 7 women. In 1994, she took part in the Great Indian Women's Rafting Voyage, and completed the journey from Haridwar to Calcutta in river Ganga in 39 days. In 1997, the Women Trans-Himalayan Expedition, that included her and seven other women, trekked more than 4,500 km in 225 days. They crossed 40 high mountain passes. This was unique and the first in the world.

She has been conferred numerous awards. She won the Padma Shri in 1984 and Arjuna Award in 1986. Her name featured in Guinness Book of World Records in 1990. In 2013, she was the first one to be felicitated with Lakshmi Bai Rashtriya

Samman. Her autobiography, "Everest-My Journey to the Top" makes for an interesting read. Not only in adventure sports, she used her skills for service to the nation too. In 2013, when floods ravaged Uttarakhand, she quietly arrived on the scene with a group of climbers and carried out rescue operations in terrains where even Army Jawans couldn't reach. Hers is an awe-inspiring tale of discipline and passion. She broke the ice-ceiling for women and proved that nothing is impossible if we have strong will-power. Her feats inspire us to follow our dreams and to never give up.

On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following questions:

1. Bachendri Pal is best known for:

1

- A) Being the first woman to win an Olympic medal for India
- B) Being the first Indian woman to climb Mount Everest
- C) Becoming the first female IAS officer in India
- D) Writing the Indian Constitution

2. In which year did Bachendri Pal successfully summit Mount Everest?

1

- A) 1982
- B) 1983
- C) 1984
- D) 1985

3. Which Indian state is Bachendri Pal originally from?

1

- A) Himachal Pradesh
- B) Sikkim
- C) Uttarakhand
- D) Arunachal Pradesh

4. Bachendri Pal was awarded the Padma Shri in which year?

1

- A) 1984
- B) 1985
- C) 1986
- D) 1987

5. She wrote her autobiography titled

1

- A) My Mountaineering Saga
- B) The Adventure
- C) Everest-My Journey to the Top
- D) The memorable journey to Mt. Everest

6. What challenges did Bachendri Pal face during her Everest expedition?

2

7. What honors and awards has Bachendri Pal received for her achievements?

2

8. How did Bachendri Pal use her skills for service to the nation also?

1

2. Read the following text and answer the following questions:

(8)

Healthcare & Biotech			(8)
FinTech / Blockchain			(8)
Entrepreneurship & Freelancing			(7)
Interdisciplinary & Liberal Arts + Tech			(6)
Traditional Low-Stress Careers			(6)

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions:-

1. According to ASER 2023 report, what percentage of students **knew only seven career paths**? 1

A)98%
B)93%
C)99%
D)95%

- 2.India expects over one million green jobs to be created by 1

A)2026
B)2027
C)2028
D)2029

- 3.What are the two aspects which now guides the students aspirations? 2

4. The Field ofshows the maximum attraction of students while focusing on their career growth. 1

(For visually impaired students only)

- 4.for 60% graduates..... is more valuable than post graduation degrees.

- 5.The employability rate rose toin 2025. 1

- 6.How has NEP 2020 reoriented education and student's approach towards their career growth? 2

3.Read the following passage carefully and answer the following questions that follow: (8)

1. Myanmar sits at the crossroads of Asia's great civilisations of India and China, and looks out onto the vast Indian Ocean next to Thailand. One of South-east Asia's largest and most diverse countries, Myanmar stretches from the sparkling islands of the Andaman Sea in the south right up into the Eastern Himalayan mountain range

2. Myanmar offers all the traditional delights of Asia in one fascinating country, virgin jungles, snowcapped mountains and pristine beaches, combined with a rich and glorious heritage spanning more than two thousand years. Spectacular monuments and ancient cities attest to a vibrant culture that is still home to 135 different ethnic groups.

3. The country's tourism infrastructure boasts of five-star properties, intimate boutiques hotels and family guest houses in all the major centres, as well as stunning mountain and beach resorts. It also boasts of one of the lowest tourist crime records

in the world, so visitors can rest assured their holiday will be carefree from start to finish.

4 .Wherever you go in Myanmar, whether it be cruising down the mighty Ayeyarwaddy river in style, drifting over the ancient city of Bagan by hot air balloon, or searching for that elusive tiger on the back of an elephant, there is always a feeling of adventure.

5. With two modern internal airlines upgrading and expanding their networks, new and exciting destinations off the beaten track are gradually being opened - from mountain trekking and rafting in the far north to world class diving in the Mergui Archipelago. But above all, Myanmar offers the warmest welcome in Asia. Known as the 'Land of Gold', it promises to provide one a mystical adventure full of mountains and historical places.

6. Yangon (Rangoon) the capital lies in the fertile delta country of southern Myanmar on the wide Yangon river, about 30 km from the sea. Although the population hovers around 4 million, the city seems so full of trees and shades that some neighbourhoods are practically jungle, giving it a totally different feel from other Asian cities of comparable size. At night, Yangon's wide boulevards come alive with hordes of stalls selling delicious foods and piles of huge cigars. Yangon is home to the gold-plated Shwedagon Paya. Other sights include the colonial architecture of the legendary Strand Hotel, the colossal reclining Buddha in Chaukhtatgyi Paya and the peaceful Kandawgyi and Inya Lakes.

7. Bagan another popular tourist destination is a deserted city of fabulous pagodas and about 5,000 temples on the banks of the Ayeyarwaddy. It is one of the wonders of Asia.

8 During the Mon dynasty, Bago was a fabulous city, a major seaport and capital of Lower Myanmar. The city was destroyed by the Burman in 1757 but partially restored in the early 19th century. When the Bago river changed its course and cut the city off from the sea, Bago failed to return to its previous grandeur. Sights include the Shwemawdaw Pagoda, which dominates the town, the Hintha Gone Pagoda and the 55m-long (180-ft) reclining Shwethalyaung Buddha.

A. On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, using headings and subheading .Also use recognizable abbreviations, whenever necessary (minimum 4). Give an appropriate title to your notes. (5)

B. Write a summary of the above passage in about 50 words. (3)

SECTION B

CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR

4.(i) Fill in the blanks using the correct form of the words given in the brackets. Attempt any three. (3X1=3marks)

1. Who(catch) the notorious dacoit? 1
2. The doctor.....(treat) her regularly. 1
3. Shall I(promise) to contact you? 1
4. I want to see the film as it.....(direct) by Satyajit Ray. 1

(ii) Attempt any FOUR of the following: **(4X1=4 marks)**

(A). Rearrange the words to make meaningful sentences:

1. Examination/pass/she/hard/order/to/the/work/needs to/in. 1
2. For/sleep walkers/ anxiety/source/a /of/their/families/are. 1

B) Transform the following sentences as per the instructions given below:

- a) Opening the door, he asked for my permission to come in. (Change into a complex sentence) 1
- b) "Will you be home soon?" She asked her husband. (Change into reported speech) 1
- c) Have you received the letters from your sister? (change into passive voice) 1

5. (a) You are Sunil/Sunita. You want to purchase a flat in Vasant Enclave, Delhi. Write an advertisement to be published in a national daily giving full details of your requirement. **(3)**

OR

(b) You are the Director of Star Communications, an advertising agency, 20 Silver Arcade, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110054. Your company requires Sales executives. Draft an advertisement to be printed in the National daily.

6. (a) Water is life. Water is precious and each one of us must stop its wastage. Prepare a poster in not more than 50 words creating an awareness to save water. **(3)**

OR

(b) Draft a poster in not more than 50 words depicting the Do's and Don'ts of prevention against Dengue, Malaria etc. during rainy season.

7. Attempt any ONE of the two in 120-150 words: **(5)**

(a) As the president of the Eco club of your school, write a speech to be delivered in the school morning assembly on the topic, 'Degradation of Our Environment'. You are Niharika/Nikhil of class XI.

OR

(b) The recent rise in incidents of violent behaviour of students is a matter of concern for all. The problem can be curbed if students learn how to manage anger. Write a speech to be delivered in the school morning assembly. You are Aruna/ Abhay of Class XI.

8. Attempt any ONE question (Either in Favour/against the motion) in 120-150 words: **(5)**

(a) Peer Pressure is harmful for teenagers. Write a debate in 120-150 words either in favour or against the topic. You are Anjali/Arun of XI class.

Favour:

- Leads to Risky or Harmful Behaviour
- Loss of Individual Identity

- Negative peer pressure can lead to stress
- Can Promote Bullying and Exclusion
- People under peer pressure may make impulsive or poor decisions

Against:

- Promotes Social Belonging
- Builds Confidence and Social Skills
- Encourages Discipline and Responsibility
- Shapes Identity and Values
- Motivates Positive Behavior

OR

(b) Are influencers good role models for today's youth? Write a debate in 120-150 words either in favour or against the topic. You are Neha/ Nihaal of XI class.

Favour:

- Promote Awareness and Positive Messages
- Encourage Creativity and Talent
- Relatable and Approachable
- inspire young people to pursue their goals and be self-driven
- often mobilize their audiences for good causes

Against:

- Promote Unrealistic Standards
- Lack of Accountability
- Encourage Materialism and Consumerism
- Can lead to peer pressure
- Influence Without Expertise

SECTION C

LITERATURE TEXT BOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT

9. Read the given stanza and answer any ONE set of questions that follow:

(3x 1=3 marks)

- (A) All three stood still to smile through their hair
At the uncle with the camera. A sweet face.
My mother's. that was before I was born.
And the sea, which appears to have changed less,
Washed their terrible transient feet.

1. The word 'eternity' in these lines symbolizes 1

- | | |
|----------------|------------|
| (a) Beach | (b) Sea |
| (c) Photograph | (d) Camera |

2. The poetic device used in the first line of this stanza is 1

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| (a) Alliteration | (b) Metaphor |
|------------------|--------------|

(c) Simile

(d) Personification

3. The feet of the girls in these lines are called transient as their feet are- 1

(a) Very small

(b) Eternal

(c) Temporary

(d) Ever-changing

OR

(B) Then with eerie delicate whistle-chirrup whisperings

She launches away, towards the infinite

And the laburnum subsides to empty.

1. Identify the figure of speech in the first line. 1

(a) Irony

(b) Pun

(c) Personification

(d) Alliteration

2. What is the state of the Laburnum tree after the bird leaves? 1

(a) It becomes noisy and active

(b) It glows with golden light

(c) It becomes silent and still

(d) It starts shedding its leaves

3. What overall mood is created in the final stanza? 1

(a) Joyful and festive

(b) Quiet and peaceful.

(c) Angry and chaotic.

(d) Cold and harsh

Q10. Read the extract and answer any ONE out of the choices given. (1x3=3 marks)

(A). " All afternoon the usual line of tourists from around the world had descended into the cramped, rock-cut tomb some 26 feet underground to pay their respects. They gazed at the murals on the walls of the burial chamber and peered at Tut's gilded face, the most striking feature of his mummy-shaped outer coffin lid."

1. To whom/what the tourists had the tourists come to respect to? 1

(a) Tomb of Tut

(b) mummy of tut

(c) treasures in Tut's tomb

(d) main coffin of Tut

2. What does the word 'murals' depict in the passage? 1

- (a) mummified body of Tut
- (b) treasures of the tomb
- (c) artwork on the coffin lid
- (d) artwork on the walls of the tomb

3. Where was Tut's gilded face? 1

- (a) on the burial chamber walls
- (b) under the ground
- (c) coffin lid
- (d) on the murals

OR

(B) "It's not me that's being silly-and I must say it's a bit much when I've been working hard all day and you can't even bother to get my tea ready. Did you hear what I said about my yellow silk?"

(1) Identify the speaker. 1

- (a) Mrs. Fitzgerald
- (b) Mrs. Person
- (c) Cyril
- (d) Doris

(2) What do you learn about the speaker's behaviour from these lines? 1

- (a) Speaker is very hard-working and diligent
- (b) Speaker is very soft-hearted and caring
- (c) Speaker is kind and generous
- (d) Speaker lacks empathy and understanding.

(3) Which word in the passage is the antonym of "rational"? 1

- (a) Silly
- (b) Bit
- (c) Hard
- (d) Bother

11. Read the extract given and answer the questions that follow. (ANY ONE)

(1x4=4 marks)

(A) The address was correct but now I didn't want to remember it anymore. I wouldn't go back there because the objects that are linked in your memory with the familiar life of former times instantly lose their value when, severed from them, you see them again in strange surroundings. And what should I have done with them in a small rented room where the shreds of black-out paper still hung along the windows and no more than a handful of cutlery fitted into the narrow table drawer?

(1) Who lives at the "address"?

1

(a) The narrator

(b) Mrs. Dorling

(c) The narrator's mother

(d) Both (a) and (b)

(2) What kind of emotions are filled in the narrator's heart at this time?

1

(a) She's ecstatic upon finding her mother's belongings

(b) She's sad and feeling betrayed by Mrs. Dorling

(c) She's full of gratitude for Mrs. Dorling for taking care of her mother's belongings

(d) All of the above

(3) Which word from the paragraph which means the same as "small pieces"?

1

(a) Severed

(b) Cutlery

(c) Instantly

(d) Shreds

(4) Why did the narrator not want the things belonging to her mother anymore?

1

(a) The things had lost their value for her

(b) The things were broken

(c) The things did not look beautiful

(d) The things were being used by Mrs. Dorling

OR

(B) The farmer looked into the mouth of the horse. Tooth for tooth, he said, I would swear it is my horse if I didn't know your parents. The fame of your family for honesty is well known to me. Yet the horse is the twin of my horse. A suspicious man would believe his eyes instead of his heart. Good day, my young friends.

(1) What is the name of the farmer? 1

(a) Zorab (b) Khosrove

(c) John Byro (d) William Saroyan

(2) Whom does "My young friends" refer to? 1

(a) Author of the lesson (b) Zorab and Khosrove

(c) Aram and Mourad (d) None of the above

(3) Find a word from the extract which means the same as "Doubtful". 1

(a) Swear (b) Instead

(c) Suspicious (d) Honesty

(4) Which trait of the family is being referred to? 1

(a) Kindness (b) Honesty

(c) Humility (d) Compassion

12. Answer any TWO of the following questions in about 40-50 words:

(2x3=6 marks)

(a) The three stanzas in the poem 'The Photograph' depict three different phases. What are they?

OR

(b) How did Sue make her father laugh when the situation was almost hopeless?

(c) Why does the narrator mention Uncle Khosrove? Which characteristic features of the man are highlighted?

OR

(d) Why did the boy king change his name from Tutankhaten to Tutankamun?

Q13. Answer any ONE of these questions in about 40 – 50 words: **(1x3=3marks)**

A .Draw a comparison between village school education and city school education.

OR

B . Why was Aram delighted and frightened at the same time when he saw his cousin Mourad on a beautiful white horse?

Q.14. Answer ONE of the following in about 120 -150 words: **(1x6=6 marks)**

The boys Mourad and Aram do not think they have stolen the white horse even though they kept the horse with them for a long time. Why did they take the horse? Why did they return it?

OR

What values do you learn from goldfinch in the poem "the Laburnum Top"?

Q.15. Answer Any ONE question in 120-150 words: **(1x6=6 marks)**

A. It is not easy to let off past memories and possessions; Do you agree on the basis of "The Address"? Imagine yourself to be the daughter and write a diary entry sharing your emotions and experience .You may write what you have learnt in the process of searching for material possessions ? How it has helped you grow?

OR

B. Khushwant Singh's grandmother wrote a letter to her sister describing her life with her grandson in the village. Write a letter on her behalf describing all your experience and bond you share with your grandson.