

Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi
PRACTICE PAPER (Mid Term)
(2026-27)
CLASS: IX
SUBJECT: ENGLISH (R1)

Time allowed: 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the instructions carefully and follow them:

1. This question paper comprises 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.

2. The question paper contains THREE sections –

Section – A: Reading Skills

Section – B: Writing Skills and Grammar

Section – C: Literature Textbook

3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each Part.

SECTION A READING SKILLS

20 Marks

1. Read the passage given below:

10

1. In today's world, success often depends not only on what an individual can do but also on how well people can work together. Teamwork refers to the process of combining the abilities, ideas and efforts of different people to achieve a common goal. Whether it is a classroom project, a sports competition or a professional assignment, working as a team can make difficult tasks more manageable. For students, learning to work with others is therefore an important part of preparing for life beyond school.
2. One of the greatest advantages of teamwork is that it brings together people with different strengths and perspectives. A student who is good at research may work with another

who is skilled at presenting ideas, while someone else may contribute creative solutions. When these abilities are combined, a group can often produce better results than an individual working alone. Research by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has also highlighted the importance of collaborative problem-solving and the ability to work effectively with others.

3. Teamwork can also develop valuable personal and social skills. When students work together, they learn to communicate clearly, listen to different opinions and respect the contributions of others. They may also learn how to divide responsibilities, manage disagreements and reach decisions collectively. Such experiences can develop qualities such as patience, empathy, leadership and a sense of responsibility. These skills are useful in higher education, workplaces and everyday life.
4. However, teamwork is not always easy or successful. Some group members may contribute more than others, while some may depend heavily on the efforts of their teammates. Differences of opinion can sometimes lead to arguments, and poor communication may delay the completion of a task. Group work can also become ineffective when responsibilities are not clearly defined. Proper planning, clear roles and individual accountability are therefore necessary.
5. Schools can help students develop effective teamwork skills by providing meaningful opportunities for collaboration. Group discussions, debates, experiments, presentations and projects can encourage students to work towards common objectives. Teachers can make such activities more effective by assigning clear responsibilities and ensuring that every student participates. This can make learning more engaging and give quieter students opportunities to participate.

6. Ultimately, teamwork does not mean that everyone must think or work in the same way. Its real value lies in bringing different abilities together for a shared purpose. A successful team allows each individual to contribute their strengths while learning from others. In an increasingly interconnected society, the ability to cooperate, communicate and take responsibility is not merely an advantage; it is an essential life skill.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- I. Why does the writer consider teamwork an important skill for students beyond school? (Paragraph 1) 1
- II. Which of the following is **NOT** presented as an advantage of combining different abilities in a team? 1
- a) Bringing together varied perspectives
 - b) Generating creative solutions
 - c) Making individual abilities unnecessary
 - d) Improving the quality of outcomes
- III. Complete the following by selecting the correct option from those given in the brackets. 1
- Working with others enables students to develop qualities such as patience, empathy and _____. (responsibility / competition) (Paragraph 3)
- IV. Which of the following best explains the statement “**simply putting students into groups does not guarantee successful teamwork**”? 1
- a) Group activities are unsuitable for students.
 - b) Teamwork succeeds only when students have similar abilities.
 - c) Successful collaboration requires planning, clear roles and accountability.
 - d) Students should complete all tasks independently.
- V. **Complete the following analogy by selecting the correct option.**

Group discussions : Collaboration :: Arguments : _____

- a) Responsibility
- b) Conflict

c) Leadership

d) Participation

VI. Mention **any two factors** that can make teamwork ineffective, according to the passage. 2
(Paragraph 4)

VII. Which TWO of the following ideas are supported by the passage? 1
i. Teamwork requires everyone to possess the same abilities.
ii. Collaborative activities can help students develop responsibility.
iii. Differences of opinion can sometimes make group work difficult.
iv. Individual contribution is unimportant in successful teamwork.

Options:

Option	Statement 1	Statement 2
A	i	iv
B	ii	iii
C	i	iii
D	ii	iv

VIII. How can the skills developed through teamwork help students in their lives beyond school? (Paragraphs 3 and 6) 2

2. Read the passage given below: 10

1. Social media has become an important part of young people's digital lives. It is used for several purposes, including communication, entertainment, education and accessing information. An NCERT-published study on adolescents' internet use found that students used the internet for academic purposes, social media and entertainment, although the preferred purpose varied among groups. This suggests that young people do not use digital platforms for a single reason.

2. India's expanding internet infrastructure has made such access increasingly widespread.

Data released by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) show the scale of this growth.

Internet subscribers in India	March 2024	March 2025
Total internet subscribers	954.40 million	969.10 million
Broadband subscribers	924.07 million	944.12 million
Wireless subscribers	—	927.70 million
Wired subscribers	—	41.41 million

3. The figures indicate that most internet access is wireless, making digital platforms readily available through mobile devices. Young people can therefore communicate with friends, watch entertainment content, follow news and use educational resources from the same device.
4. However, access does not automatically mean effective or responsible use. Social media can expose students to misinformation, excessive screen time, privacy risks and harmful content. Government initiatives on online safety also recognise that digital platforms can be useful for **education, communication and entertainment**, while creating risks such as cyberbullying and privacy breaches. Young users therefore need digital literacy to evaluate information, protect personal data and maintain a healthy balance between online and offline activities.

(235 words approximately; created for academic use)

Answer the following questions based on the passage above:

I. Why does the passage suggest that young people use digital platforms for more than one purpose? (Paragraph 1) 1

- a) They use different platforms exclusively for different activities
- b) Digital platforms provide opportunities for communication, entertainment, education and accessing information.
- c) Most young people use the internet only for academic purposes.
- d) Social media has replaced all other forms of communication.

II. Identify the phrase in **Paragraph 1** that indicates that students do not have the same preferred use of the internet. 1

III. Complete the following by selecting the correct option from those given in the brackets. 1

The growth in India's internet subscriber base indicates that digital _____ is becoming more widespread.(access / isolation)(Paragraph 2)

IV. What does the term “**digital literacy**” in Paragraph 4 imply in the context of the passage? 1

- a) The ability to use digital platforms mainly for entertainment
- b) The ability to use digital technology critically, safely and responsibly
- c) The ability to spend more time on social media
- d) The ability to access the internet without restrictions

V. Complete the following analogy by selecting the correct option. 1

Education : Purpose :: Misinformation : _____

- a) Risk
- b) Communication
- c) Entertainment
- d) Information

VI. According to the data given in Paragraph 2, by how many million did the number of **total internet subscribers** increase between March 2024 and March 2025? 1

- a) 14.70 million
- b) 15.70 million

- c) 24.98 million
d) 41.41 million
- VII. Why does the passage connect the widespread availability of wireless internet with greater access to digital platforms? (Paragraph 3) 1
- VIII. The passage presents increased internet access as both an opportunity and a responsibility. Explain this statement with reference to the benefits and risks mentioned in the passage. (Paragraphs 3–4) 2
- IX. **Fill in the blank with ONE suitable word.** 1
Young users need digital _____ to evaluate information and protect their personal data. (Paragraph 4)

SECTION B: GRAMMAR AND WRITING SKILLS

30 Marks

GRAMMAR 10 Marks

3. Do as directed: (4 × 1 = 4)

Fill in the blank to complete the sentence by choosing the correct option.

i. The school library has _____ books on science and technology for students to explore.

- A. much
- B. several
- C. little
- D. any

ii. Fill in the blank to complete the sentence by choosing the correct option.

The students _____ preparing for the annual cultural programme since Monday.

- A. have been
- B. has been
- C. was
- D. is

The given sentence has an error. Select the option that correctly identifies the error and the correction.

iii. She has been living in Delhi since five years and enjoys the city's cultural diversity.

No. Error Correction

- A. has have
- B. since for
- C. living lived
- D. enjoys enjoyed

iv. The students was excited about participating in their inter-school competition.

No. Error Correction

- A. students student
- B. was were
- C. excited exciting
- D. participating participate

4. Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogues to create meaningful sentences. (3 × 1 = 3)

i. RIYA: Our school has started a gardening club. Would you like to join it?

AMAN:

students / teaches / gardening / how to / the club / care for plants / and / protect nature

ii. NEHA: Why do you prefer cycling to school?

ROHAN:

it / keeps me / cycling / healthy / reduces pollution / and / is enjoyable

iii. KAVYA: What are you planning to do during the summer vacation?

MEERA:

I / a short course / am planning / during / to join / my summer vacation

5. Transform the following sentences by converting them from Direct Speech to Indirect Speech. (3 × 1 = 3)

i. **Riya said**, “I have finished my homework, and I will submit it tomorrow.”

ii. **The teacher said**, “The students have performed well because they practised regularly.”

iii. **Arjun said**, “My sister is learning Spanish because she wants to travel to Spain next year.”

WRITING 20 marks

6. Attempt ANY ONE From (A) and (B): (1×3=3)

(A) You are the Photography Club Secretary of your school. The club is organising an inter-house photography competition on the theme “Life Around Us”. Draft a notice in about **50 words** inviting entries from students. Mention the theme, eligibility, number of photographs allowed, submission format, deadline, judging criteria, and details of the prizes.

OR

(B) Your school's Student Council has decided to invite suggestions from students for improving the school campus and learning environment. As the Head Girl/Head Boy, draft a notice in about 50 words asking students to submit practical suggestions. Mention the areas on which suggestions are invited, submission method, deadline, selection of the best ideas, and recognition for students whose suggestions are adopted.

7. Attempt ANY ONE From (A) and (B): (1×5=5)

(A) You are **Diya/Dev**, a resident of 32, Model Town, Chandigarh. You have noticed that the increasing use of food-delivery services has led to a large amount of disposable packaging in your neighbourhood. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily in about **120 words**,

highlighting the problem. Discuss the impact of excessive packaging and suggest measures such as reusable containers, responsible packaging, waste segregation, and consumer awareness.

OR

(B) You are **Rohan/Riya**, a resident of 42, Patel Nagar, Delhi. You have observed that people often throw away shoes, bags, bicycles, electronic items, and household objects that could easily be repaired. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily in about **120 words**, highlighting the importance of developing a culture of repair and reuse. Suggest ways to encourage repair services, reduce unnecessary purchases, and promote responsible consumption.

8. Attempt Any One from A and B

(1x5=5)

A. Your brother is interested in purchasing wireless earbuds. Based on your research, write a factual description of wireless earbuds in about **120–150 words**. Include information about their **design, sound quality, technology, special features, advantages, and uses**.

OR

B. **Your school garden** adds beauty to the campus and promotes environmental awareness. Write a factual description of your school garden in about **120–150 words**. Include details about its **location, plants, maintenance, features, and importance**.

9. Attempt Any One from A and B

(1x7=7)

A. You visited a wildlife sanctuary during your school vacation. The close encounter with nature and animals left you amazed. Write a descriptive essay in about **200–250 words** describing the sanctuary, wildlife, natural surroundings, activities, and the lessons you learned from the visit.

OR

B. During an important family celebration, there was a sudden power outage. Write an essay in about **200–250 words**, describing the events in sequence, how everyone reacted, how the situation was managed, and what you learned.

SECTION D :LITERATURE

30 MARKS

10. Read the given extracts A and B and answer ANY ONE of the two.

5 Marks

A. Sentila did not disclose her fascination with pot making at home as she had overheard a conversation between her parents one night. Her mother was complaining about Sentila's indifference to weaving. She said, "I shall not teach her pot making as it has brought no joy to me and only a pittance for my troubles. The riverbank, where the grey and red clay required for making pots is found, is sixteen kilometres from here. I need to climb down a sheer drop to the riverbank and my back aches from carrying the heavy load uphill all the way to the village. Pounding the stubborn clay inside bamboo cylinders to soften it, is also tedious.

(The Pot Maker)

- I. What does the passage suggest about the life of traditional potters? Choose the correct option. 1
 - a) Their work is physically demanding.
 - b) They earn a high income.
 - c) They work only during festivals.
 - d) Their work requires very little effort.
- II. Choose the word from the passage that means "difficult and boring". 1
- III. Fill in the blank suitably 1
The clay had to be _____ before it could be used for making pots.
- IV. Why did Sentila hide her interest in pot making from her parents? 1
- V. Why was collecting clay difficult for Sentila's mother? 1

OR

B. In modern times, the use of pankhas has been restricted to decorative purposes, and they have become traditional craft items in India. The structure of each fan reflects the cultural core of the region that crafts it. For instance, the appliqué hand fan of Rajasthan is an antique pankha made of pieces of fabric in different shapes and patterns sewn onto another cloth with the use of ornamental needlework. Furthermore, the zardozi hand fan of Rajasthan differs in its use of glittering ornate and encrusted gold threadwork.

(Winds of Change)

- I. Which type of hand fan is decorated with pieces of fabric stitched in different patterns? Choose the correct option 1
 - a) Bamboo fan
 - b) Zardozi hand fan
 - c) Appliqué hand fan
 - d) Palm-leaf fan
- II. What does the design of each pankha reflect? 1
- III. Fill in the blank suitably 1

_____ makes the zardozi hand fan unique

- IV. Why should traditional crafts like pankha-making be preserved? 1
V. What is the main purpose of pankhas in modern times? 1

11. Read the given extracts A and B and answer ANY ONE of the two. 5

A. I cannot remember my mother

only when from my bedroom window I send

my eyes into the blue of the distant sky,

I feel that the stillness of

my mother's gaze on my face

has spread all over the sky.

(I Cannot Remember My Mother)

- I. Which image in the stanza creates a sense of vastness and distance? Choose the correct option. 1
A. the bedroom window
B. the blue of the distant sky
C. the poet's face
D. the mother's gaze
- II. What does the expression "I send my eyes into the blue of the distant sky" suggest? 1
- III. Which sense is mainly appealed to in this stanza? 1
A. hearing
B. smell
C. sight
D. touch
- IV. What quality of the mother's remembered gaze is conveyed through the word "stillness"? 1
- V. What does the sky symbolise in the stanza? Choose the correct option: 1
A. a physical place where the poet believes his mother lives
B. the vast and continuing presence of the mother in the poet's memory
C. the poet's desire to travel far away
D. the loneliness of an empty landscape

OR

B) The boatmen gathering their nets from the shore,
sailing, and singing while at work, return to tell
the tales of life at sea,
The shoemakers affirming the quality of their
work, for the feet that walk, dance, run, jump,
return home

(Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations)

I. What do the references to the boatmen and shoemakers suggest about the poet's view of different vocations? Choose the correct option:

1

- i. Every vocation involves skill, effort and a sense of purpose.
- ii. Work becomes meaningful when it contributes to the lives of others.
- iii. The poet considers physical labour less valuable than artistic work.
- iv. Ordinary occupations can contain creativity, dignity and pride.
- v. The workers perform their duties only because they have no other choice.

- A. i, ii and iv
- B. ii, iii and v
- C. i, iii and iv
- D. iii and v only

II. What does the phrase "singing while at work" reveal about the boatmen's attitude towards their vocation?

1

III. Complete the following suitably.

1

The expression "tell the tales of life at sea" suggests that the boatmen return with _____.

IV. Why does the poet mention feet that "walk, dance, run, jump, return home" while describing the shoemakers?

1

V. Which idea is common to the portrayal of both the boatmen and the shoemakers? Choose the correct option:

1

- A. Their occupations separate them from society.
- B. Their work combines skill with service to everyday life.
- C. Their professions depend mainly on modern technology.
- D. Their work is valuable only because it provides income.

Q12. Answer Any Five of the following six questions in about 40–50 words. (5×2=10)

- i. How does the grandmother's achievement in learning to read change the relationship between her and the narrator?(How I Taught My Grandmother to Read)
- ii. How did Onula's guidance help Sentila gain confidence and improve her skill in pot making?(The Pot Maker)
- iii. How does the poet use India's natural and spiritual treasures to present the country as unique and worthy of admiration?(Bharat Our Land)
- iv. How do the regional varieties of pankhas reflect the creativity and cultural diversity of India?(Winds of Change)
- v. Why was Grandpa unhappy with the restrictions placed on him, even though his family was concerned about his safety?(Vitamin M)
- vi. How does the repeated use of the word "celebrating" in the poem highlight the poet's attitude towards different vocations?(Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations)

Q13 Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120–150 words. (1 × 5 = 5)

- A. Family bonds can remain powerful even when circumstances change. With reference to *I Cannot Remember My Mother* and *Vitamin-M*, compare how the two texts present love, care and emotional connection within a family. Support your answer with suitable examples from both texts.

OR

- B. Traditions can survive only when people value them and also allow them to adapt to changing times. With reference to *Winds of Change*, explain how traditional crafts can be preserved while remaining relevant to modern life. Support your answer with ideas from the lesson and your own understanding.

14. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120–150 words. (1 × 5 = 5)

- A. Arenla and Onula respond differently to Sentila's interest in pot making. While Arenla is worried about the hardships of the craft, Onula encourages Sentila to learn it. What do these contrasting attitudes reveal about the challenges of preserving traditional skills? Support your answer with reference to *The Pot Maker*.

OR

B. In *I Cannot Remember My Mother*, the poet cannot recall his mother clearly, yet her presence returns to him through ordinary sights, sounds and fragrances. Explain how the poem shows that emotional memories can remain alive even when specific details are forgotten