

Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi

Practice Paper (Session: 2023-24)

Class: X

**Subject: English Language
And Literature(184)**

Duration: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

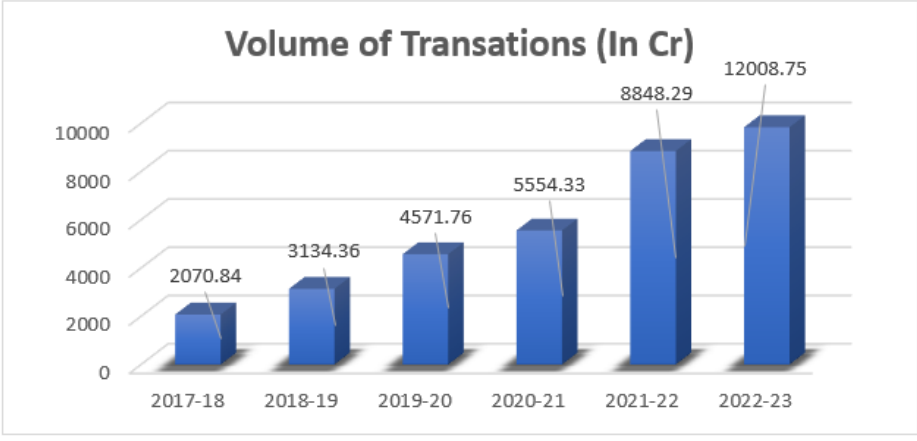
General Instructions:

1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for question paper reading.
2. This question paper contains three sections- Reading, Grammar & Writing and Literature.
 - ❖ Section A - Reading 20 Marks
 - ❖ Section B - Grammar and Writing Skill 20 Marks
 - ❖ Section C - Literature 40 Marks
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part and question.

Section A: READING SKILLS		20 Marks
I	Read the passage given below	10
1	The significance of having genuine and supportive friends in one's life cannot be overstated. Research consistently underscores the positive impact of strong interpersonal relationships on individual happiness and overall well-being. This essay explores the qualities that define a good friend, the enduring nature of friendships, and the actions that contribute to fostering meaningful connections.	
2	The essence of a good friendship lies in the unconditional acceptance of each other. Regardless of the transient nature of friendships, the enduring factor is the unwavering acceptance of an individual for who they truly are. This acceptance forms the bedrock upon which strong and lasting friendships are built.	
3	A good friend embodies various qualities that contribute to the richness of the relationship. This includes being consistently present, displaying a non-judgmental attitude, refraining from hurtful behavior, practicing kindness and respect, offering enjoyable company, demonstrating loyalty, and being trustworthy. These attributes, both individually and collectively, create a supportive environment that enhances the well-being of those involved in the friendship.	
4	Being a good friend extends beyond mere verbal affirmations. It involves tangible actions that showcase care and commitment. A good friend is there during both the highs and lows, laughs together, provides unwavering support during challenging times, and has the ability to bring joy even in the darkest moments. These actions collectively contribute to the emotional and psychological support that friends offer one another.	

5	Nurturing a meaningful friendship requires deliberate efforts. It involves empathetic listening, understanding situations from the friend's perspective, acquiring relevant information to provide informed support, asking about their needs during tough times, expressing care through physical gestures, maintaining regular contact regardless of distance, and openly vocalizing feelings of importance. Complimenting friends beyond physical appearances also adds depth to the connection.	
6	True friendships are tested when faced with challenges or situations that demand tough decisions. A good friend cares enough to make difficult calls, especially when the safety and well-being of the friend are at risk. This involves acting decisively to protect them, even if it means going against their explicit consent.	
7	In conclusion, the essence of true friendship lies in the acceptance, qualities, and actions that define the relationship. Nurturing strong bonds involves intentional efforts, empathetic understanding, and a willingness to make tough decisions when necessary. As individuals navigate the complexities of life, cultivating and cherishing genuine friendships contributes not only to personal happiness but also to the overall well-being of each friend involved.	
	Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below	
i.	Infer one reason for the following, based on information in paragraph 4: Being a good friend extends beyond mere verbal affirmations.	1
ii.	“Nurturing a meaningful friendship requires deliberate efforts” Justify the above statement in about 40 words.	2
iii.	State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE: A good friend motivates you by being jealous of you.	1
iv.	Substitute the word ‘explicit’ with one word similar in meaning, in the following sentence from paragraph 6: This involves acting decisively to protect them, even if it means going against their explicit consent.	1
v.	According to passage 2, what is the essence of a good friendship? (a) Verbal affirmations (b) Unconditional acceptance (c) Consistent presence (d) Transient nature	1

vi	The antonym of the word ' deliberate ' in paragraph 5 is: (a) Intentional (b) Sweet (c) Accidental (d) Clear	1
vii.	List any two qualities of a good friend. 1. _____ 2. _____	2
viii.	According to passage 4, what extends beyond mere verbal affirmations in being a good friend? (a) Offering enjoyable company	1
	(b) Demonstrating loyalty (c) Providing unwavering support (d) Providing unwavering support	
II.	Read the passage given below	10
1.	The expansion of the digital ecosystem in India can be attributed to several factors, including the government's proactive push towards digitalization, the surge in internet and smartphone usage, and the flourishing e-commerce landscape. Notable government initiatives such as Digital India, Make in India, and Startup India actively promote the integration of digital technologies across various sectors such as healthcare, education, and agriculture	
2.	These endeavors also strive to create a favorable environment for the growth of startups. The escalation in internet and smartphone penetration is a pivotal contributor to the digital ecosystem's growth. Projections by the Internet and Mobile Association of India anticipate the number of internet users in India reaching 800 million by 2023, consequently boosting mobile wallet users to an estimated 900 million by 2025.	
3.	The government's commitment to achieving 2,500 crore digital transactions in the 2017-18 Union Budget is a significant stride towards promoting digital payment transactions and diminishing reliance on cash transactions. With a focus on methods like UPI, USSD, Aadhar Pay, IMPS, and debit cards, the government aims to foster a culture of digital payments. While digital payments have gained prominence in India, especially with the surge in smartphone adoption and internet access, there remains a substantial portion of the population reliant on cash transactions. The government is actively working to shift this paradigm by incentivizing merchants to adopt digital payment methods, potentially offering subsidies for point-of-sale terminals and tax incentives for businesses embracing digital transactions.	

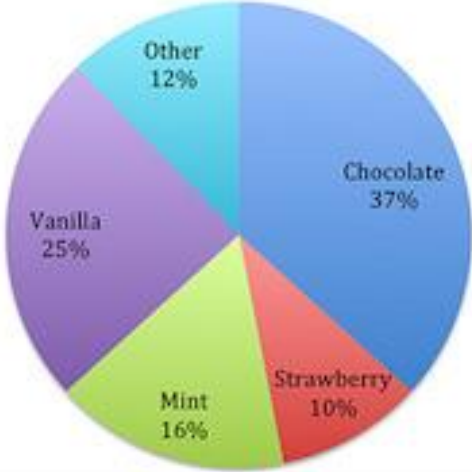
4.	The government's role in promoting digital payments marks a crucial step towards realizing a cashless society, fostering financial inclusion, and expanding the reach of formal banking services. The allocation of resources to incentivize merchants and build infrastructure aligns with the goal of creating an environment conducive to the thriving of digital payments. As smartphone and internet access continue to proliferate, the allocation is expected to further enhance the accessibility and adoption of digital payments, ultimately contributing to a more efficient and secure financial system for all Indians.															
5.	The digital payments landscape in India has witnessed substantial growth, driven by government initiatives, increased internet and smartphone usage, and the flourishing e-commerce sector. Key government projects, such as the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and the Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) app, have played a pivotal role in facilitating real-time inter-bank transactions and simplifying digital transactions. In conclusion, the future of digital payments in India appears promising, with anticipated growth in internet users and the e-commerce market size, supported by both government and private sector contributions to the digital payment ecosystem.															
6.	<p style="text-align: center;">Volume of Transactions (In Cr)</p>  <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Volume of Transactions (In Cr)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2017-18</td> <td>2070.84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018-19</td> <td>3134.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019-20</td> <td>4571.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020-21</td> <td>5554.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021-22</td> <td>8848.29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022-23</td> <td>12008.75</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Volume of Transactions (In Cr)	2017-18	2070.84	2018-19	3134.36	2019-20	4571.76	2020-21	5554.33	2021-22	8848.29	2022-23	12008.75	
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	Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.															
i	Which of the following is not a digital payment method? (a) BHIM (b) Demand Drafts (c) Debit Cards (d) UPI	1														
ii	State 1 reason for the following sentence: The cash flow and use are decreasing.	1														
iii	Your friend carries a lot of cash while going shopping. Explain to him/her why he/she doesn't need to carry cash anymore. Give any 2 reasons.	1														

iv	List any 2 sectors where integration of digital technology has been seen. 1. _____ 2. _____	2
v	The word which means the same as 'pivotal' in paragraph 5 is: (a) Weak (b) Strong (c) Crucial (d) Insignificant	1
vi	Select the option that shows the correct relationship between (1) and (2). 1. We all often use cash and digital transactions. 2. Cash transactions are easier than digital ones. a) (2) is a contradiction of (1) b) (2) is independent of (1) c) (2) is an example of (1) d) (2) is the cause of (1)	1
vii	"The government's role in promoting digital payments marks a crucial step towards realizing a cashless society"	2
viii	State whether the following sentence is TRUE or FALSE: Digital payments have seen a downfall in the past few years.	1
III	SECTION B - GRAMMAR	
	Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions	10
i	Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence. If only Rajan ___ us earlier, things would have gone according to the plan.	1

	<p>(a) has informed (b) would have informed (c) had informed (d) should have informed</p>																
ii	<p>Read the conversation between Sumayya and Smriti. Complete the narration correctly.</p> <p>Sumayya : Can you teach me how to sing? Smriti: Yes, I will. Come to my singing club tomorrow.</p> <p>Sumayya asked Smriti if she could teach her how to sing. Smriti replied that she would. She also asked Sumayya_____.</p>	1															
iii.	<p>Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line.</p> <p>If I ate these chocolates, I _____ fall ill.</p> <p>(a) would (b) should (c) may (d) can</p>	1															
iv.	<p>Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line:</p> <p>The grasshopper would spend his days sleeping or playing his guitar while the ant would collect food and built his ant hill.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Option No.</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Error</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Correction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a.</td> <td>spend</td> <td>spends</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b.</td> <td>built</td> <td>build</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c.</td> <td>and</td> <td>but</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d.</td> <td>would</td> <td>should</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Option No.	Error	Correction	a.	spend	spends	b.	built	build	c.	and	but	d.	would	should	1
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v.	<p>Complete the given news report by filling in the blank with the correct option:</p> <p>The crocodile went to the monkey and said that his wife _____ him for dinner.</p> <p>(a) have called (b) are calling (c) had called (d) would have called</p>	1															

vi.	Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket.	1				
	As night _____ (fall) on the city, the bustling lanes of Chandni Chowk light up and dot the Old Delhi landscape.					
vii.	Report the dialogue between Nitya and Sakshi by completing the narration: Nitya : When are you joining the dance classes? Sakshi: I am joining the classes on the 18th. Do you wish to join along? Nitya asked Sakshi when she was joining the dance classes. Sakshi replied that she was joining the classes on 16th and she further asked _____.	1				
viii	Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction. I am really not sure where the cat is, but I think she will be playing in the kitchen. Use the given format for your response.	1				
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ix	Transform the following direct speech into reported speech: "My friend said to Deepak, "Have you ever been to Agra?"	1				
x	Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence. If you had let me know earlier, I _____ have been able to come. (a) will (b) could (c) might (d) would	1				

xi	<p>Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between a mother and her son.</p> <p>Mother : Why are you late from school, Amit ? Rohit : While coming from school to bus stop, I slipped by stepping on a banana peel.</p> <p>Mother asked Rohit why was he late from school. Rohit replied that while coming from school to bus stop _____</p> <p>(a) he slipped by stepping on a banana peel. (b) he had slipped by stepping on a banana peel. (c) he slipped and stepped on a banana peel. (d) he has slipped by stepping on a banana peel.</p>	1				
xii	<p>Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction for the following sentence.</p>	1				
	<p>Winter is one of the most important seasons in India. It is a part of the four seasons that occurs in India.</p> <p>Use the given format for your response.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="318 957 972 1077"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="318 957 647 1016">Error</th> <th data-bbox="647 957 972 1016">Correction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="318 1016 647 1077"></td> <td data-bbox="647 1016 972 1077"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Error	Correction			
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IV	SECTION B -CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS	10				
	<p>All the names and addresses used in the questions are fictitious. Resemblance, if any, is purely coincidental.</p>					
1.	<p>Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below</p>	5				
A	<p>Q1. You are Riya/Raju of A-35, Ashok Nagar, New Delhi. You want information about the Japanese Language Courses at the Japanese Embassy, Chankya Puri, New Delhi. Write a letter to the Director inquiring about the same. . (in 100-120 words)</p>					
	OR					
B	<p>You are Priya/Prashant of East Patel Nagar, New Delhi. You visited a historical park in your city as a part of school excursion. You noticed that the park was not clean and also had a stale smell which could result in many diseases. Write a letter to the editor of a National Daily in about 100-120 words making people aware of the authorities to guarantee that such parks should be cleaned and maintained for public.</p>					
2.	<p>Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.</p>	5				

<p>A</p>	<p>Given below is a newspaper report on the corruption prevailing in India. You have been asked to write an analytical paragraph on ‘Corruption’. Taking information from the clipping given below together with your own ideas, write this paragraph in 100-120 words.</p> <p>“</p> <p>Corruption has been the major challenge for the developing nations of the world which deters the progress and prosperity of the people and deteriorates devastatingly the welfare of the society making it a moral and unethical. Corruption is rampant in society that has a wide range of corrosive effects on societies.</p> <p>It undermines democracy and the rule of law, leads to violations of human rights, distorts markets, erodes the quality of life and allows organized crime, terrorism and other threats to human security flourish. The menace of corruption is found in almost all countries- big and small, rich, and poor. Corruption is a key factor in the performance of the economic structure of the country and is one of the major obstacles to poverty alleviation and development.”</p>													
	<p>OR</p>													
<p>B</p>	<p>The chart below shows the favorite ice cream flavors of various students in a class. Write an analytical paragraph in 100 - 120 words by selecting and reporting the main features, and making comparisons where relevant.</p>													
	<p>Favorite Ice Cream Flavor</p>  <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <caption>Favorite Ice Cream Flavor Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Flavor</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Chocolate</td> <td>37%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vanilla</td> <td>25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mint</td> <td>16%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strawberry</td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td>12%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Flavor	Percentage	Chocolate	37%	Vanilla	25%	Mint	16%	Strawberry	10%	Other	12%	
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	<p>SECTION C - LITERATURE</p>	<p>40</p>												
<p>V</p>	<p>Reference to the context</p>	<p>10</p>												
<p>1.</p>	<p>Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given</p>	<p>5</p>												

1.A	<p>The ceremonies took place in the lovely sandstone amphitheatre formed by the Union Buildings in Pretoria. For decades this had been the seat of white supremacy, and now it was the site of a rainbow gathering of different colours and nations for the installation of South Africa’s first democratic, non-racial government.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Nelson Mandela- A Long Walk to Freedom)</p>	
i.	<p>State any one inference about the gathering from the given context:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“and now it was the site of a rainbow gathering”</p>	1
ii.	<p>State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE:</p> <p>For many decades South Africa was ruled by ‘Whites’.</p>	1
iii.	<p>The ceremony which was about to take place held a lot of significance for the people of South Africa. Elaborate in about 40 words.</p>	2
iv.	<p>Which word/ phrase would correctly substitute 'installation', in the given sentence from the extract.</p> <p>“... a rainbow gathering of different colours and nations for the <u>installation</u> of South Africa’s first democratic, non-racial government.”</p>	1
	OR	
1.B	<p>Now, walking in the bright July sunshine, he felt sure that this year’s robbery was going to be as successful as all the others. For two weeks he had been studying the house at Shotover Grange, looking at its rooms, its electric wiring, its paths and its garden. This afternoon the two servants, who remained in the Grange while the family was in London, had gone to the movies. Horace saw them go, and he felt happy in spite of a little tickle of hay fever in his nose.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(A Question of Trust)</p>	
i	<p>Which of the following is NOT a reason why Horace felt happy?</p> <p>A. Horace had studied the house thoroughly B. Horace saw the servants go C. Horace was sure the robbery would be a success D. Horace had hay fever</p>	1

ii	Fill the blank with one word. When the speaker says that, “he felt sure that this year’s robbery was going to be as successful as all the others”, he refers to Horace’s _____ in robbing houses.	1
iii	Horace was seasoned in robbing houses. Justify the statement with reference to the extract in about 40 words.	2
iv	Which of the following best describes Horace’s state of mind before attempting another robbery, this time at Shotover Grange. A. Indifferent B. Fearful C. Dismissive D. Optimistic	1
2.	Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given	5
2.A	But if it had to perish twice, I think I know enough of hate To say that for destruction ice Is also great And would suffice. (Fire and Ice)	
i.	Fill the blank with one word. When the speaker says “But if it had to perish twice”, he refers to the _____ of earth.	1
ii	What does speaker mean when he says “I think I know enough of hate”. Answer in about 40 words.	2
iii	Mention the rhyme scheme of the poem.	1
iv	Which of the following words can replace perish in the following line: But if it had to <u>perish</u> twice A. Collapse B. Commence C. Dissolve D. Create	1
OR		
2.B	He is learning, well behind his desperate eyes, The epistemology of loss, how to stand up Knowing what every man must one day know And most know many days, how to stand up. (The Ball Poem)	

i	Comment on the poet's use of language in these lines. .	1
ii	What is the significance of the use of the phrase " epistemology of loss " to describe the longing of the little boy in the poem and how does the word choice contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem? Answer in about 40 words.	2
iii	Complete the sentence with the appropriate option. The lines from the poem tell us that every man should be _____ to face the losses. A. Confident B. Resilient C. Intense D. intelligent	1
iv	What does the ball in the poem signify? Answer in one sentence.	1
VI	Answer ANY FOUR of the following in about 40 - 50 words each	4 *3 = 12
i	Why was Anne's entire class quacking in its boots? Describe the reason with justification. (From the Diary of Anne Frank)	3
ii	We all take time to adjust to new environments whenever we are out of our comfort zones. With reference to the statement describe how did the otter behave in the first twenty-four hours with the author? (Mijbil the Otter)	3
iii	The principle of 'forgive and forget', helps a lot in maintaining cordial relations with our neighbours. Do you think that this message is conveyed in the play 'The Proposal'? Explain briefly. (The Proposal)	3
iv	According to Buddha, what is the nature of life of human beings? Elucidate (Sermon at Banaras)	3
v	How did the young seagull's parents treat him in the beginning when he feared flying. Comment. (Two Stories about Flying)	3
VII	Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40 - 50 words each	2*3 = 6
i	"Now ! really mean this. If you don't cut his food right down and give him more exercise he is going to be really ill. You must harden your heart and keep him on a very strict diet". Why does the speaker try to sound so severe. Comment. (A Triumph of Surgery)	3
ii	Books are referred to as man's best friend. How did a Book save the Earth from martian invasion? Elaborate.	3

iii	Mrs. Hall found the scientist rather eccentric. Justify the statement with reference to the chapter “Footprints Without Feet”	3
VIII	Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100 - 120 words	1*6 = 6
i	You have been asked to present a Speech on how diverse India is. Write this presentation draft including your insights, in about 120 words, with reference to chapter “Glimpses of India”.	6
	OR	
ii	You have been chosen to address a student gathering from the neighbourhood schools, to speak on the topic “Little minds, Big Steps”. Prepare the speech draft in not more than 120 words, with reference to the commonality of themes in “Madam Rides a Bus” and “From the Diary of Anne Frank”.	6
IX	Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100 - 120 words	1*6 = 6
i	Mme Loisel’s disposition invites her doom. In the light of this statement draw a character sketch of Malilda to highlight her good as well as bad qualities.	6
	OR	
ii	Bholi chose an honorable life of service rather than surrendering herself to a greedy old man for the rest of her life. Education provides the required stimulus to overcome one’s personal barriers. Explain with examples from the chapter, the role of education in shaping the life of Bholi.	6

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