

Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi

Practice Paper (Session: 2023-24)

Class: XI

Subject: English Core (Code 301)

Duration: 3hours

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. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.
3. Please write down the serial number of the question in the answer script correctly before attempting it.
4. Separate instructions are given with each question, wherever necessary. Read these carefully.

SECTION--A: READING SKILLS

1. Read the following passage:

1. India's Chandrayaan-3 mission marked another giant leap in its lunar quest as the 'Vikram' lander module of the spacecraft successfully separated from the propulsion module on Thursday. The Chandrayaan-3 mission's lander is named after Vikram Sarabhai (1919–1971), who is widely regarded as the father of the Indian space programme. On Wednesday, the spacecraft carried out the final lunar-bound orbit reduction manoeuvre of the Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft, a week ahead of its scheduled landing on the south pole of the moon on August 23.
2. A GSLV Mark 3 (LVM 3) heavy-lift launch vehicle was used for the launch of the spacecraft that was placed in the lunar orbit on August 5 and since then it has been through a series of orbital manoeuvres been lowered closer to the moon's surface. It has been a month and two days since the Indian Space Research Organisation launched the Chandrayaan-3 mission on July 14.
3. The spacecraft was launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Andhra Pradesh's Sriharikota. ISRO is bidding to make a successful soft landing on the moon, which will make India the fourth country in the world to achieve the feat after the United States, Russia and China. Chandrayaan-3 components include various electronic and mechanical subsystems intended to ensure a safe and soft landing such as navigation sensors, propulsion systems, guidance and control, among others. The stated objectives of Chandrayaan-3, India's third lunar mission, are safe and soft landing, rover roving on the moon's surface, and in-situ scientific experiments. The approved cost of Chandrayaan-3 is Rs 250 crores (excluding launch vehicle cost).
4. Chandrayaan-3's development phase commenced in January 2020 with the launch planned sometime in 2021. However, the Covid-19 pandemic brought an unforeseen delay to the mission's progress. Chandrayaan-3 is the ISRO's follow-up attempt after the Chandrayaan-2 mission faced challenges during its soft landing on the lunar surface in 2019 and was eventually deemed to have failed its core mission objectives.

5. The key scientific outcomes from Chandrayaan-2 include the first-ever global map for lunar sodium, enhancing knowledge on crater size distribution, unambiguous detection of lunar surface water ice with IIRS instrument and more.
6. Meanwhile, the Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), S Somanath last week expressed confidence in the progress of the Chandrayaan 3, providing reassurance that all systems were operating as planned. Chairman S Somanath stated, “Everything is going fine now. There will be a series of manoeuvres until it lands (on the Moon) on 23rd August. The satellite is healthy.”

<https://newsmobile.in/articles/2023/08/17/chandrayaan-3-vikram-lander-successfully-separates-from-propulsion-module/>

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

1. What is the primary objective of India's Chandrayaan-3 mission? 1
 - a) Mapping the lunar surface
 - b) Exploring lunar craters
 - c) Achieving a safe and soft landing
 - d) Studying lunar sodium distribution

2. Which launch vehicle was used for the Chandrayaan-3 mission? 1
 - a) GSLV Mark 2
 - b) GSLV Mark 3
 - c) PSLV
 - d) ISRO Space Shuttle

3. What are the key scientific outcomes of the Chandrayaan-2 mission mentioned in the passage? 1
 - a) Successful soft landing, mapping lunar surface
 - b) Detection of lunar water ice, global map for lunar sodium
 - c) Discovery of lunar craters, in-situ experiments
 - d) Achieving fourth place in lunar missions, rover roving

4. What was the primary reason for the delay in Chandrayaan-3's development phase? 1
 - a) Technical difficulties
 - b) Budget constraints
 - c) Covid-19 pandemic

d) Political challenges

5. What components are included in Chandrayaan-3's subsystems for a safe and soft landing?1

- a) Solar panels, communication devices
- b) Propulsion systems, guidance and control
- c) Navigation sensors, navigation maps
- d) Lunar rovers, scientific instruments

6. What is the approved cost of Chandrayaan-3? 1

- a) Rs 150 crores
- b) Rs 200 crores
- c) Rs 250 crores
- d) Rs 300 crores

7. What are the main objectives of the Chandrayaan-3 mission, and how does it build upon the Chandrayaan-2 mission's challenges? 1

8. How has the Covid-19 pandemic impacted the development timeline of Chandrayaan-3?1

9. What is the synonym for "victorious" as used in the para 3 ? 1

10. What is the antonym for "anticipated" as used in the para 4 ? 1

2. Read the following passage:

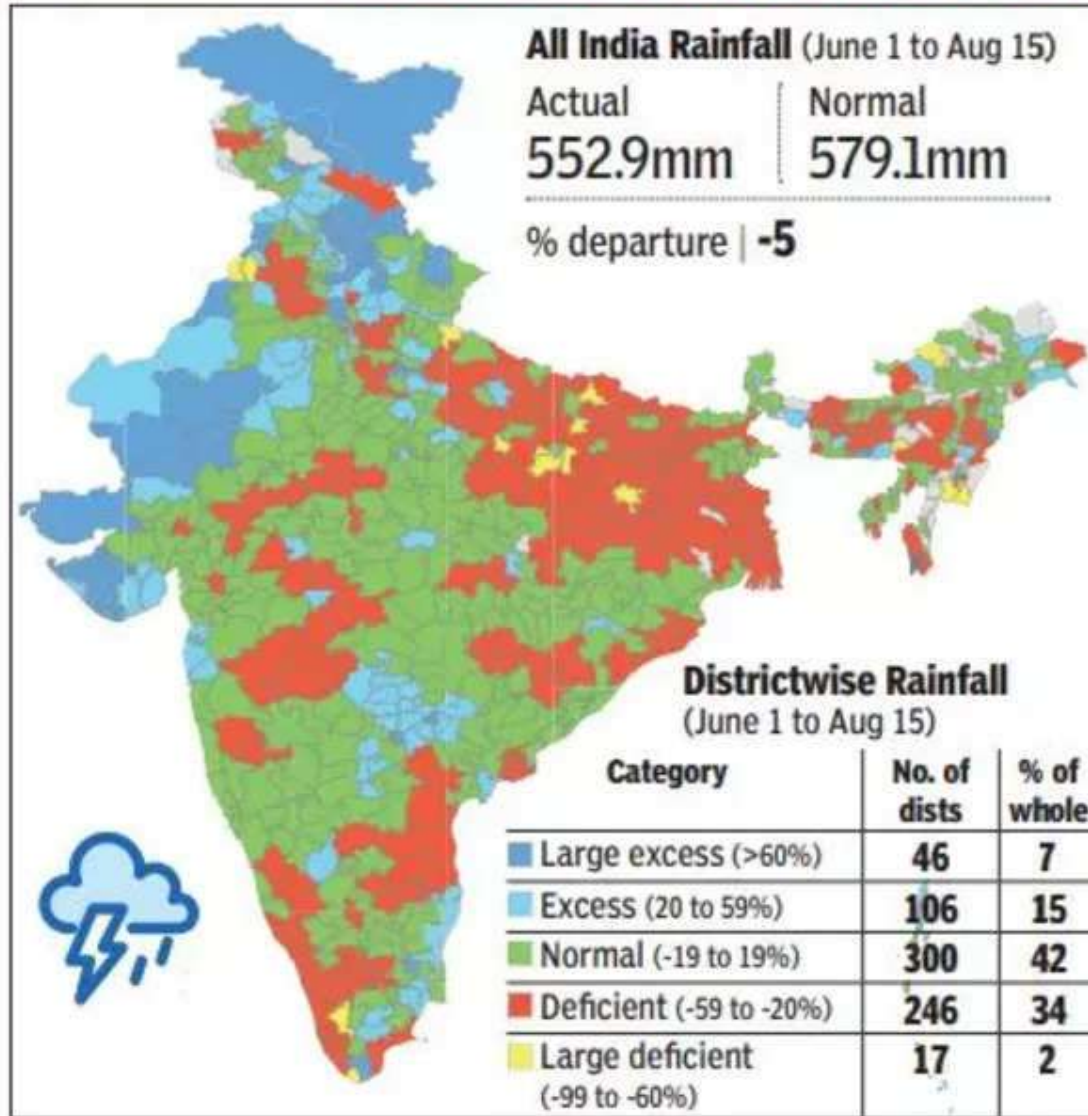
In just 15 days, the southwest monsoon has gone from "above normal", at 5% higher than the long period average (LPA) at the end of July, to "below normal".

Heavy monsoon rains and landslides have killed at least 59 people in Himachal Pradesh over the last week. Many are still missing and presumed buried under debris. Among the most affected areas are Mandi and Shimla districts, with nearly 23 and 19 fatalities, respectively.

On Tuesday, the season's cumulative rainfall slipped to 5% in the negative, going below normal range of $\pm 4\%$ of LPA, as the break in monsoon continued.

Countrywide rainfall in the first half of August (1 to 15) has been 35% below LPA, with the monsoon remaining weak almost through this period following a long active spell that saw 13% higher than normal rains in July.

WEST WET, EAST & SOUTH IN DEFICIT



With large rain deficits persisting in several states of eastern India and a growing shortfall in the south, the India Meteorological Department said a pick-up in rainfall is expected from around August 18. "The second half of August should see better rainfall. We expect a revival of the monsoon from August 18 or so. It may not be very strong but areas along the west coast and peninsular India are expected to get wet weather, along with rainfall in several states in the east and northeast as well as central India," said senior IMD scientist D Sivananda Pai, who was earlier the department's lead monsoon forecaster.

There are clouds of worry over the monsoon's performance in the second half of the season (August-September) with El Nino now fully developed as a "coupled system", which means changes associated with the warming of ocean waters in the east and central Pacific were now reflecting in wind patterns over the region, as per the latest update from US national weather

agencies. Such a state enables the El Nino to impact weather in other parts of the world, including India, say experts.

As on Tuesday, around 36% of India's districts - 263 out of 717 - had received deficient or large deficient rainfall (deficits of 20% or more) since beginning of rainy season. Among the worst-hit states were Bihar, where 31 of the 38 districts were in deficit, Kerala (all 14 districts in deficit), Jharkhand (21 out of 24) and UP (46 out of 75, most of these in east UP). While IMD has forecast a "normal" monsoon this year with rainfall in the lower end of the normal range. For the month of August, it said rainfall is expected to be below-normal at 90-94% of the LPA. However, August seems headed for a higher deficit.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

1: What has been the trend in southwest monsoon rainfall within a span of 15 days as mentioned in the passage? 1

- a) It remained consistent with the long period average (LPA).
- b) It increased to a significant extent.
- c) It decreased to below normal levels.
- d) It varied unpredictably.

2: According to the passage, which state in India has experienced heavy monsoon rains and landslides, resulting in fatalities? 1

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Kerala
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Bihar

3. How does the India Meteorological Department predict and assess the revival of the monsoon? 1

4: What is El Nino and how does it impact weather patterns? 1

- a) A monsoon-related phenomenon that leads to heavy rainfall.
- b) A drought-related phenomenon that brings dry conditions.
- c) A warming of ocean waters in the Pacific affecting wind patterns.
- d) A type of cyclone that affects the east coast of India.

5: What percentage of India's districts had received deficient or large deficient rainfall as on the reported date? 1

- a) 14%
- b) 36%
- c) 50%

d) 64%

6: According to the passage, which state had the majority of its districts facing rainfall deficits? 1

a) Kerala

b) Uttar Pradesh

c) Bihar

d) Himachal Pradesh

7: What is the forecasted rainfall for the month of August, as per the India Meteorological Department? 1

a) Above-normal

b) Normal

c) Below-normal

d) Extremely heavy

8: What is the meaning of the term "deficient" from the passage? 1

a) Excessive

b) Lacking or inadequate

c) Abundant

d) Consistent

3. Read the passage given below:

The term artificial intelligence (AI) refers to the ability of a digital computer or computer-controlled robot to perform tasks commonly associated with intelligent beings. Since the mid-20th century, scientists have attempted to develop a system capable of carrying out tasks perceived as requiring human intelligence. Among the tasks that have been studied from this point of view are game playing, natural-language understanding, fault diagnosis, robotics, and supplying expert advice. Although computers can be programmed to perform these and other very complex tasks—and while advances continue to be made in computer processing speed and memory capacity—there are as yet no programs that can match human flexibility over wider domains or in tasks requiring much everyday knowledge.

The earliest substantial work in the field of AI was done by British mathematician and computer pioneer Alan Turing. In 1950 Turing declared that one day there would be a machine that could duplicate human intelligence in every way and prove it by passing a specialized test. In this test, a computer and a human hidden from view would be asked random identical questions. If the computer were successful, the questioner would be unable to distinguish the machine from the person by the answers.

By the early 21st century no AI program had come close to passing the Turing test. Some programs had, however, attained the performance levels of human experts in performing certain specific tasks. AI in this limited sense could be found in applications as diverse as medical diagnosis, language translation, computer design, and voice or handwriting recognition.

- a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply a suitable title. 5 marks
b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 50 words. 3 marks

SECTION-B: CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR

4. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs: 1X3=3 marks

1. Last Saturday, my father ___ that his dinner suit was too small, so now he ___ a strict diet.

- A) has discovered / followed
B) discovers / was following
C) discovered / is following
D) was discovering / has followed

2. Helen ___ her driving test five times so far without success, but she ___, yet.

- A) takes / isn't giving up
B) has taken / hasn't given up
C) was taking / didn't give up
D) is taking / doesn't give up

3. Ravi and his friends ___ football matches at their local ground, but this Saturday, they ___ to the stadium.

- A) watch / are going
B) have been watching / go
C) are watching / have gone
D) were watching / went

4. I would like to know ___ the trains will be running normally during the public holiday.

- A) who
B) whom
C) whether
D) what

Q5. Attempt the given questions as directed: 4X1=4 Marks

i. Rearrange the following words/phrases to make a meaningful sentence:

excitedly / the children / for / waited / to / the fireworks / start

ii. Rearrange the following words/phrases to make a meaningful sentence:

to / the store / went / they / to / groceries / buy

iii. Transform the sentence using passive voice –

The teacher asked the students to submit their homework.

iv. Transform the sentence using active voice -

The boys were rewarded for hardwork by the Principal.

6. You are Nitin/ Nita, HR manager at Global Tech Ltd, Noida. You need a well-qualified Computer Engineer for your company. Draft a suitable advertisement mentioning the required age, qualifications, experience etc. to be published in a local daily in about 50 words. 3 Marks

OR

You are Vineet/Vineeta, a resident of 123 TrilokPuri, Delhi. While travelling in a bus you found some certificates, a wallet and some jewellery in a bag but you could not find any contact details of the owner in the bag. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in the lost and found column of a local newspaper.

7. Every year, 16 September is celebrated as the International Ozone Day to commemorate the need for the preservation of the ozone layer. Design a poster in not more than 50 words on the need to phase out ozone depleting chemicals by 2040. You are Deepak/Deepika, a student of class XI of Bal Bharti Public School, Delhi. 3 marks

OR

You were very upset about the reports of communal riots in various parts of the country. As Vinay/Vineeta, a concerned social worker, design a poster in not more than 50 words, highlighting the importance of communal harmony.

8. Global Warming and rapid melting of glaciers has become the concern of every Nation. As President of the Eco-Club of your school, Write a speech in 120-150 words to be delivered in the school's morning Assembly, in order to make the students aware about it. You are Asha/Ashish of Yuva Public School, Anand Vihar. 5 marks

OR

Delhi Metro is a Mass Rapid Transit System serving Delhi and NCR which is equipped with the most modern communication and train control system. It is our duty to follow all rules and guidelines while commuting through it and be responsible citizens. Write a speech in 120-150 words on the topic "Using Delhi Metro responsibly" to be delivered in the morning assembly. You are Arvind/Vrinda, a student of class XI of Sarvodaya Vidyalaya, RK Puram, Delhi.

9. There is going to be an inter-school debate for all the students of Class XI on the topic 'Tobacco companies should not sponsor sports events'. You wish to participate in the debate for your school and as Ranveer / Ravina, a student of class XI of your school, write the debate either for or against the motion in 120-150 words. 5 marks

OR

Social media is a big part of many teens' lives. Is media responsible for the moral degradation of teenagers? As Daivik/Daivika of Class XI, write the debate expressing your views either for or against the motion in 120-150 words.

SECTION--C: LITERATURE TEXT BOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READER TEXT

10. Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow: 1X3=3 marks

The Laburnum Top is silent, quite still
In the afternoon yellow September sunlight,
A few leaves yellowing, all its seeds fallen

1. Which literary device is evident in the line "The Laburnum Top is silent"?
 - a) Simile
 - b) Metaphor
 - c) Personification
 - d) Alliteration
2. What is the significance of the color yellow in "Laburnum Top"?
 - a) It represents vitality and energy.
 - b) It symbolizes impending danger.
 - c) It signifies the arrival of spring.
 - d) It represents the changing season and fading life.
3. Which season is suggested by the above lines?
 - a) Spring
 - b) Summer
 - c) Autumn
 - d) Winter

OR

Yet have I killed
The seed I spent or sown it where
The land is his and none of mine?
We speak like strangers, there's no sign
Of understanding in the air.
This child is built to my design
Yet what he loves I cannot share.

1. What is the father's fear regarding his relationship with the son?
 - a) Fear of his son's disinterest
 - b) Fear of being misunderstood
 - c) Fear of losing his identity
 - d) Fear of losing control

2. What does the poet feel about the child he has brought up?

- a) Disconnected and estranged
- b) Frustrated but hopeful
- c) Proud and understanding
- d) Unconditional love and connection

3. How can the gap between father and son be narrowed or bridged?

11. Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow: 1X3=3 marks

While she sat in the verandah breaking the bread into little bits, hundreds of little birds collected round her creating a veritable bedlam of chirruping's. Some came and perched on her legs, others on her shoulders. Some even sat on her head. She smiled but never shooed them away. It used to be happiest half an hour of the day for her.

i. How did the grandmother feel while feeding her sparrows?

- a. lonely
- b. happy
- c. sorry
- d. angry

ii. Where did the little birds sit?

- A) On her legs
- b) On her shoulders
- c) On her head
- d) All of the above

iii. What does shoo away mean?

- a) Drive away
- b) Accept
- c) Come near
- d) walk away

OR

By late afternoon we had reached the small town of Hor, back on the main east-west highway that followed the old trade route from Lhasa to Kashmir.

Daniel, who was returning to Lhasa, found a ride in a truck so Tsetan and I bade him farewell outside a tyre-repair shop. We had suffered two punctures in quick succession on the drive down from the salt lake and Tsetan was eager to have them fixed since they left him with no spares.

Besides, the second tyre he'd changed had been replaced by one that was as smooth as my bald head.

i. What is the significance of the town of Hor in the given excerpt?

- a) It marks the end of the journey.

- b) It's a pivotal point on the main east-west highway to the old trade route.
- c) It's the starting point of the old trade route.
- d) It's where the travelers decide to rest for the night.

ii. Why did Tsetan and the narrator bid farewell to Daniel outside a tyre-repair shop?

iii. Name the poetic device used in 'as smooth as my bald head.'

12. Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow: 1X4=4 marks

After my first visit in vain to Mrs. Dorling's house I decided to try a second time. Now a girl of about fifteen opened the door to me. I asked her if her mother was at home. 'No' she said, 'my mother's doing an errand.' 'No matter,' I said, 'I'll wait for her'. Followed the girl along the passage. An old-fashioned iron Hanukkah candle-holder hung next to a mirror.

i. Who opened the door for the second time?

- a. Mrs. Dorling's daughter
- b. Mrs. Dorling's husband
- c. Mrs. Dorling's mother
- d. Mrs. Dorling

ii. What does 'doing an errand' mean?

- a. To bathe
- b. To eat out
- c. To sit out
- d. To go out for some work

iii. Find out the synonym of 'old-fashioned' from the following

- a. Mint
- b. Modern
- c. Replicated
- d. Obsolete

iv. Who was the real owner of Hanukkah hung over there?

- a. Mrs. Dorling
- b. Mrs. S
- c. Mrs. Dorling's daughter
- d. Mrs S's sister

OR

'Let us postpone consideration
Of finer points like guilt. The nation
Wants a hanging. Hanged must be

Someone, and that immediately.'
The noose was set up somewhat high.
Each man was measured by and by.
only one man was so tall fitted.
One man. That was all.

- i. What attitude did the king demonstrate regarding guilt?
 - a) Guilt should be examined in detail.
 - b) Guilt is a crucial aspect that needs immediate consideration.
 - c) Guilt should be ignored or postponed.
 - d) Guilt is an significant aspect for the nation.
- ii. What did the nation need, according to the king?
 - a) Forgiveness and understanding
 - b) Detailed consideration of each case
 - c) Immediate action, specifically a hanging
 - d) A fair trial for all individuals
- iii. How did the king select which individual was to be hanged ?
 - a) The man was randomly chosen.
 - b) The tallest man among them was selected.
 - c) They were all chosen equally.
 - d) The man who was willing was to be hanged.
- iv. Who ultimately ended up being hanged and why?

13. Answer any two out of the following four questions in 30-40 words: 3x2=6 marks

- a. Explain 'Both wry with the laboured ease of loss' in reference to the poem A Photograph
- b. Do you think it is justified that the rain calls itself the 'poem of the earth'? How?
- c. Why did the narrator call Ile Amsterdam as the most beautiful island in the world?

14. Answer any one out of the following two questions in 30-40 words: 3 marks

The trust exhibited by John Byro in their family values makes the boys return the horse. Justify.

OR

In the lesson Mother's Day, what objection did Mrs. Pearson have against her husband George?

15. Answer any one out of the following questions in 120-150 words: 6 marks
King Tutankhamen was 'The last heir of a powerful family that had ruled Egypt and its empire for centuries'. Describe the known facts about the history of his dynasty in your own words.

OR

What was the difference in the actual events of the Battle of Panipat and the ones reported in the alternative universe as described in the lesson 'The Adventure'?

16. Answer any one out of the following questions in 120-150 words: 6 marks

The play 'Mother's Day' is a humorous and satirical depiction of the status of the woman in a family. Bring out the elements of humour and satire with examples from the text

OR

Give a brief account of the efforts made by Andrew to revive the stillborn baby in the lesson 'Birth'.
