

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (Code No. 184)
CLASS-X- (2024-25)

Time allowed: 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly 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: Grammar and Creative Writing Skills*
 - Section – C: Literature Textbook*
3. *Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each Part.*

SECTION A
READING SKILLS

(20 marks)

1. Read the following text.

10

- (1) Water is one of the most essential resources on Earth, yet it is often taken for granted. Despite its abundance, the reality is that only a small fraction of the world's water is fresh and available for human use. With increasing populations, climate change, and industrial demands, the pressure on our water resources is growing. This makes water conservation not just a collective responsibility but a crucial individual duty. Each person's effort towards conserving water can significantly impact the preservation of this vital resource for future generations
- (2) One of the primary reasons individual water conservation efforts are so important is the cumulative effect of small actions which may seem trivial on their own. However, when multiplied by millions of people, these actions can lead to substantial water savings. For example, a single dripping tap can waste over 15 litres of water a day. Imagine the water saved if every household in a city repaired just one leaky faucet. This highlights the power of collective individual actions in reducing water waste.
- (3) Moreover, personal efforts towards water conservation often lead to greater awareness and education. When individuals take steps to conserve water, they become more conscious of their water usage and the importance of this resource. This awareness can then spread within communities, inspiring others to adopt similar practices. For instance, a family that installs water-saving devices in their home may encourage neighbours and friends to do the same, creating a ripple effect. This grassroots approach to conservation can be particularly effective in areas where larger-scale initiatives may be slow to implement or lacking in support.
- (4) In addition to daily habits, individuals can also make a difference through more significant lifestyle choices. For instance, opting for drought-resistant plants in gardens and supporting water-efficient agriculture can all contribute to water conservation. Agriculture, especially livestock farming, is one of the largest consumers of water globally. By supporting sustainable farming practices, individuals can indirectly reduce the water footprint of their food.

- (5) Critics might argue that individual efforts are negligible compared to the large-scale water consumption by industries and agriculture. However, this perspective overlooks the potential for individual actions to drive systemic change. When people collectively make water-conscious choices, they send a powerful message to businesses and policymakers about the importance of conservation.
- (6) Each person's commitment to saving water, no matter how small, contributes to a larger culture of sustainability. By making conscious choices and spreading awareness, individuals can help ensure that future generations have access to the clean, fresh water they need to thrive. Water conservation is not just the responsibility of governments and industries; it is a shared duty that begins with each of us.

Created for Academic Usage / 441 words

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- I In paragraph 1, what does the phrase 'each person's effort towards conserving water can significantly impact the preservation of this vital resource' emphasise? 1
Individual actions, when combined, play a crucial role in conserving water for future generations.
- II Complete the following with the correct option from the two given. 1
 Water is often taken for granted, despite its essential nature because_____.
- a) it is abundant and always easily accessible, making people less aware of its usage
 b) its importance is not always recognised, leading people to overlook its value (paragraph 1)
- III Support the writer's idea that small individual actions towards water conservation are not trivial. 2
1. A single dripping tap can waste over 15 litres of water daily, showing how minor issues can lead to significant wastage. (paragraph 2)
2. If every household repairs one leaky faucet, it can save substantial amounts of water collectively.
- IV Select the option that best reflects the concept of a 'ripple effect' in the context of student life at school. 1
 a) A student's act of volunteering at a local charity leads to the school administration organising a large-scale fundraising event.
 b) A student who consistently follows good study practices inspires classmates to improve their own study routines, creating a culture of academic excellence in the class. (paragraph 3)
- V State whether the following statement is True or False. 1
 (paragraph 3)
- VI The writer mentions 'sustainable farming practices' in paragraph 4. Which of the following is a sustainable farming practice? 1
 A. Using chemical fertilizers and pesticides extensively to increase crop yields.
 B. Clearing large areas of natural vegetation to expand farmland for organic farming.
 C. Implementing crop rotation and using organic compost to maintain soil health.
 D. Relying solely on monoculture farming to maximise production efficiency.
- VII List any two points that a powerful message sent to businesses and policy makers about the importance of water conservation might include. (paragraph 5) 2
1. The collective impact of individual actions highlights the urgency of water conservation.
2. Businesses and policymakers must adopt sustainable practices to support long-term water availability.

VIII Fill in the blank with the correct option from those given. (paragraph 6) 1
In the phrase 'culture of sustainability,' the word 'culture' refers to_____.

- A. A set of beliefs and practices shared by a group
- B. The artistic and traditional practices specific to a community's heritage.
- C. The lifestyle habits and choices that are popular among the urbane
- D. The techniques and methods used in development efforts

2. Read the following text. 10

- (1) A thorough study conducted across several villages of north-west India unveiled fascinating insights into the mural* landscape. It revealed that a significant majority, comprising around 80%, of these vibrant artworks are meticulously crafted by the villagers themselves. Approximately 15% of the murals stem from collaborative endeavours between villagers and local or visiting artists.
- (2) Surprisingly, a small fraction, about 5%, of the murals are the result of sponsored initiatives, often commissioned by governmental or non-governmental organisations. These murals convey social messages ranging from education and environmental conservation to public health awareness.
- (3) Among the locally crafted murals, nearly 55% depict scenes from mythology and folklore, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of the region. About 26 % of these murals showcase daily life in the villages, capturing moments of joy, struggle, and victory. The remaining 19% feature abstract or contemporary themes, reflecting evolving artistic expressions in rural settings.
- (4) Further analysis reveals that among the locally crafted murals, nearly 63% are found on the walls of community centres, temples, and other public spaces. Around 27 % adorn the exterior walls of residential houses. The remaining 10% are scattered across schools, health centres, and other institutional buildings, serving as educational tools and sources of inspiration for the younger generation.
- (5) To delve deeper, comparisons across various parameters such as demographic patterns, subject matter, techniques, community engagement, and impact are crucial. Analysing these facets not only provides a comprehensive understanding of mural creation in northwest Indian villages but also unveils avenues for cultural preservation, community development, and creative expression.

* a large painting or artwork that is typically created directly on a wall or ceiling

Created for academic usage/252 words

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above

- I What does the use of the phrase 'fascinating insights' by the writer, in paragraph 1, tell us about their feelings? 1
 - A. The writer is expressing surprise.
 - B. The writer is conveying boredom and frustration.
 - C. The writer is indicating interest and enthusiasm.
 - D. The writer is showing disappointment.

- II Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below. 1
Assertion: The murals in northwest Indian villages are meticulously crafted.
Reason: The murals are the result of collaborative endeavours.
- A. Both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
 B. Both the assertion and reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
 C. The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
 D. The assertion is false, but the reason is true.
- III Identify the word that indicates that the writer anticipated a higher percentage of sponsored initiative murals? 1
- IV How do the murals in northwest Indian villages contribute to community engagement and awareness? 1
 1. Murals with social messages promote education, environmental conservation, and health awareness.
 2. They inspire collective efforts and cultural pride, fostering stronger community bonds.
- V Read the given prompt and select the correct option in the brackets to fill in the blank. 1
 In Hari's village, a mural depicting sustainable farming practices is showcased on the Panchayat office wall.
 The percentage of mural type that this would be counted in is. (26% / 19% / 55%)
- VI What does the highest percentage of different mural themes suggest about the artistic preferences and cultural priorities in northwest Indian villages? 1
- VII Complete the sentence suitably. 1
 The significant presence of murals on the exterior walls of residential houses highlight. **It suggests that villagers value their cultural heritage and mythology, as 55% of the murals depict scenes from folklore and mythology.**
The integration of art into daily life and the importance of self-expression in rural communities.
- VIII Complete the following with a suitable reason. 1
 The most likely reason the writer believes that a mural can serve as an 'educational tool' is because it can _____ **Communicate important messages visually, making them accessible to people of all ages and literacy levels.**
- IX In the context of the last paragraph, describe the significance of comparing various parameters such as demographic patterns, subject matter, techniques, community engagement, and impact in understanding the mural landscape in northwest Indian villages. 2

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR

(20 marks)

GRAMMAR

10

3. Complete **any ten** of twelve of the following tasks, as directed.

I Fill in the blank with the correct option to complete the opening line of a formal letter: 1

Dear Mr. Patel,

We are pleased to inform you that your proposal for the upcoming project by the board of directors _____.

- A. had endorsed
 B. will have been endorsed
 C. has been endorsed
 D. have endorsed

For collective nouns (e.g., "board of directors"), use singular verbs unless the context emphasizes individual members.

example:

1. The team is practicing hard for the match.
 2. The committee has decided on the budget.
 3. A group of students

II Read the given sentence from a marketing report. Identify the error and supply the correction in the given format. 1

The company continues to strives tirelessly to meet customer demands.

ERROR	CORRECTION

III Rhea asked the following question to her colleague, Deepak. 1

Have you finalised the magazine content to be submitted tomorrow?

Report Rhea's question correctly

Rhea asked Deepak if he had finalized the magazine content to be submitted the next day.

Today - That day
Now - Then
This - That
Here - There
Yesterday - The previous day
Tomorrow - The next day
Last week - The previous week
Yes/no questions: Use "if" or "whether."

IV Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete an official announcement. 1

Attention all prefects,
Please be informed that the deadline for submitting your registrations for participation in the Art Exhibition has been extended; (that/ these/ this) should be communicated to all students of classes IX-X.

V Read Sana's reply to her team leader, regarding the preparation of an important presentation. 1

I'm sorry I forgot ma'am. I'll have the presentation ready for you very soon today.

Report Sana's reply by completing the following sentence correctly.

Sana apologised for having forgotten and said .

Sana apologised for having forgotten and said that she would have the presentation ready for her very soon that day.

VI Identify and correct the error in the given line taken from an online news report: 1

Nearly most shop was closed for the public holiday. *Nearly most shops were closed for the public holiday.*

Option No.	Error	Correction
A	most	every
B	shop	shops
C	was	were
D	the	that

VII Complete the given school announcement by selecting the correct option to fill in the blank. 1

Good news, everyone!
Our school's robotics team has successfully _____ a place in the semi-finals.

A. securing
B. secured
C. will secure
D. had secured

VIII Detect the error and supply the correction for the given observation by a child. 1

That needn't be Dad's jacket. It's too small.

ERROR	CORRECTION

"Needn't" means "not necessary," but in this context, it doesn't fit as well as "can't".
"Can't" is the more appropriate choice when you're expressing that something is not possible or unlikely, which aligns better with the intended meaning of the sentence

- IX Report the dialogue between a teacher and a student, by completing sentence. 1
Teacher: Did everyone understand the new assignment?
Students: Yes, we all got it, thank you! For a positive response, "responded affirmatively" or "agreed" works well.
For a negative response, you can use "responded negatively" or "disagreed."

The teacher asked if everyone had understood the new assignment, to which the students _____, expressing their gratitude. "asked if" or "inquired whether"

- X Select the correct option to complete the given sentence from a handbook for managers. The manager _____ consider the proposal before making a decision. 1

- A. will
- B. should
- C. might
- D. can

- XI Complete the given sentence about the reaction of some friends, by selecting the correct option: 1

The group of friends _____ excited at the prospect of their upcoming adventure.

- A. are
- B. has
- C. is
- D. were

"Group" is a collective noun, and collective nouns are treated as singular when they refer to the group as a single entity. Therefore, the correct verb is "is".

- XII Read the conversation about social media, between a teacher and a student 1

Teacher: How do you think social media influences our perceptions of reality?

Jagrit: I believe it distorts our perception of reality by only showing the highlight reels of people's lives.

Report the student's response by completing the following.

The student remarked _____ by only showing the highlight reels of people's lives.

The student remarked that social media distorts our perception of reality by only showing the highlight reels of people's lives.

WRITING

NOTE: All details presented in the questions in writing section are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

- 4A** You are Nirmal Pillai, a concerned citizen from Aluva, Kochi. Compose a letter in about 120 words, to the Project Head of the E-Waste Management Cell at Electronics Vatika, New Delhi, highlighting the adverse effects of e-waste* pollution. Suggest measures for addressing its management through community engagement and government initiatives.

* Discarded electronic devices such as smartphones, computers, and televisions, which are no longer in use or have reached the end of their lifecycle.

OR

- 4B** You are Chhavi Pathak of Ranchi, Bihar. Write a letter in about 120 words addressing the Secretary of the City Municipal Authority. Detail the problem of overgrown trees and shrubs in the neighbourhood and request the delegation of personnel for regular pruning.

5A Read the product details on a label for a school bag:

ECO-FRIENDLY SCHOOL BAG

1. Made from recycled materials
 2. Ergonomic* design with padded shoulder straps and breathable mesh back panel
 3. Spacious main compartment with multiple pockets and organisers
 4. Reflective strips for visibility and safety
 5. Water-resistant fabric
 6. Available in various vibrant colours and patterns
-

Now, analyse why this school bag would be a beneficial purchase. Write the analytical paragraph in 120 words, considering factors such as its eco-friendliness, comfort features, functionality, safety aspects, and design options.

* Design that is intended to maximise comfort, efficiency, and safety for the user

OR

5B Read the given details of a playground intended for your resident area.

5

-
- A central climbing structure inspired by traditional Indian architecture, such as a miniature fort, with multiple levels and slides.
 - Swings adorned with colorful Indian patterns, along with monkey bars and a zip line.
 - A water play feature inspired by Indian fountains or rivers
 - Shaded seating areas with benches and swings, resembling traditional *chaupals* or gazebos.
 - Trees, shrubs, and flower beds
 - Ample open space
-

Analyse the details and write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words about the suitability of this playground.

Focus on factors such as safety, inclusivity, fun features, suitability for different age groups, and overall experience.

SECTION D: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK

(40 marks)

6 Read the given extracts and answer **any one** of the two questions given below

5

A With a loud scream he fell outwards and given downwards into space. Then a monstrous terror seized him and his heart stood still. He could hear nothing. But it only lasted a minute. The next moment he felt his wings spread outwards. The wind rushed against his breast feathers, then under his stomach, and against his wings. He could feel the tips of his wings cutting through the air. He was not falling headlong now. He was soaring gradually downwards and outwards. (His First Flight)

1

I What effect does the experience, as described in the lines below, have on the baby seagull? 1

With a loud scream he fell outwards and downwards into space. Then a monstrous terror seized him and his heart stood still.

Chose the most suitable option.

- A. exhilarates **To make someone feel very happy, excited, or elated.**
- B. overwhelms **To have a strong emotional effect on someone, often to the point of making them feel helpless or unable to cope.**
- C. energises
- D. confuses

II How does the author's use of descriptive language enhance the narrative technique in the paragraph? 2

III Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket. 1
The use of the word 'rushed' adds to a sense of _____(speed / relief), in the extract

IV How does the seagull's feelings towards the end of the extract contrast with the initial feeling of terror? 1
The seagull's initial feeling of terror contrasts sharply with the sense of exhilaration/ freedom/ empowerment /excitement as it learns to fly and soars.

B And suddenly Bholi noticed that the teacher was standing by her side, smiling at her. "What's your name, little one?"
"Bh-Bho-Bho-." She could stammer no further than that.
Then she began to cry and tears flowed from her eyes in a helpless flood. She kept her head down as she sat in her corner, not daring to look up at the girls who, she knew, were still laughing at her. When the school bell rang, all the girls scurried out of the classroom, but Bholi dared not leave her corner. Her head still lowered, she kept on sobbing.
"Bholi."
The teacher's voice was so soft and soothing! In all her life she had never been called like that. It touched her heart. (Bholi)

I What is the tone the teacher is UNLIKELY to have used in the line, "What's your name, little one?". 1

- A. reassuring **Providing comfort or confidence, especially in a time of doubt or fear.**
- B. comforting **Offering relief and consolation, often by making someone feel less anxious or worried.**
- C. settling **Making someone feel stable or composed, often after a period of confusion or uncertainty.**
- D. calming **Reducing agitation or anxiety, helping to make someone feel more relaxed and at peace.**

II How does the author's use of Bholi 's perspective help build the narrative in the extract? 2
The author's use of Bholi's perspective allows readers to deeply empathize with her feelings of fear and insecurity, enhancing the emotional impact of the narrative.

III Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket. 1
The word 'flood' in the line '...tears flowed from her eyes in a helpless flood.' Indicates that Bholi was crying _____(uncontrollably / unintentionally).

IV How does the teacher's comforting demeanour contrast with the behaviour of the other girls in the classroom? 1

The teacher's comforting demeanor contrasts sharply with the mocking behavior of the other girls. While the girls laugh and make Bholi feel ashamed, the teacher's gentle and soothing approach helps to ease Bholi's distress and begins to build her confidence.

7 Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **any one** of the two, given. 5

A He stalks in his vivid stripes
The few steps of his cage,
On pads of velvet quiet,
In his quiet rage.

(Tiger in the Zoo)

- I What is the most likely reason the poet chooses to say 'vivid' stripes instead of just stating the colours of the stripes? **The poet chooses to say "vivid" stripes to emphasize the striking and lively appearance of the tiger's stripes, making the image more powerful and attention-grabbing than merely stating the colors.**
- II Fill the blank with ONE word.

The tiger's stalking suggests a movement that is _____ within the confines of its cage.

- III How does the poet reinforce the contrast between the tiger's confined environment and its internal emotions? **By describing the tiger's physical limitation in the cage with phrases like "few steps" and "pads of velvet quiet," while also highlighting its suppressed anger and frustration with the term "quiet rage."**
- IV Select the option that applies the same rhyme scheme as the lines of the given extract. 5

A. This bird so small and sweet,
Sings aloud in the morn,
Perched on a branch green,
Chirp, chirp, tweet, tweet.

B. Perched on a branch green,
This bird so sweet and lean,
Sings aloud in a voice sweet,
Chirp, chirp, tweet, tweet.

C. This bird sings without a care,
sweet Perched on a branch green,
A song with the world to share,
With its feelings so keen.

D. This bird so small and
Sings aloud in the morn
Perched on a green branch
Singing its own melody

B Belinda paled, and she cried Help! Help!
But Mustard fled with a terrified yelp,
Ink trickled down to the bottom of the household,
And little mouse Blink strategically mouseholed.

(*The Tale of Custard the Dragon*)

- I Examine the portrayal of Blink in the given lines. 2
- II Complete the following suitably. 1
The word 'paled' implies that Belinda became very frightened or alarmed
- III What kind of picture is painted by the poet through the line, 'Ink trickled down to the bottom of the household'? **slow and silent descent / a descent with Ink trying to avoid drawing attention to itself / Ink seeking safety in a cautious and inconspicuous manner** 1
- IV What kind of atmosphere is created through these lines? 1
Select the correct option
1. Urgency 2. Apprehension 3. Uncertainty 4. mystery 5. Aggression
- A. 1 and 4
B. Only 2
C. 1, 2 and 3
D. 4 and 5

- 8** Answer **any four** of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words. **4x3=12**
- I How does the ignorance about Mijbil as a creature in the urban environment of London reveal insights about people's perceptions and knowledge regarding animals? (Mijbil the Otter) 3
 - II How does the imagery of the trees' movement from the house to the forest, in 'Trees', reflect broader themes of liberation and growth in human experiences? 3
 - III What does the postmaster's reaction to Lencho's letter reveal about his character? (A Letter to God) 3
 - IV Assess the narrative's effectiveness in portraying the tension between the comfort of familiarity and the allure of the unfamiliar in 'Madam Rides the Bus'. 3
 - V Summarise the role of the use of parentheses in the poem 'Amanda!'. 3
- 9** Answer **any two** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. **2x3=6**
- I How does Matilda's desire for material wealth drive the plot of 'The Necklace'? 3
 - II Justify the opinion that Ebright's early successes were essential for his later achievements in science. (The Making of a Scientist) 3
 - III How does 'The Book that Saved the Earth' include elements of satirical science fiction? 3
- 10** Answer **any one** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words **6**
- I Both poems 'Dust of Snow' and 'Fire and Ice' use contrasting elements of nature to convey their respective messages about life and human emotions but they do it differently. Examine these differences.
 - II Both the texts, 'For Anne Gregory' and 'The Sermon at Benares,' grapple with the idea that external attributes are fleeting and subject to decay. Examine the similarities.
- 11** Answer **any one** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. **6**
- I Evaluate how Griffin's character is shaped by a combination of personal ambition, the unintended consequences of his scientific pursuits, and the reactions of the society he faces.
 - II Evaluate how James Herriot's characterisation contributes significantly to the overarching theme of responsible pet ownership and animal welfare.

WRITING

NOTE: *All details presented in the questions in writing section are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.*

- 4A** You are Nirmal Pillai, a concerned citizen from Aluva, Kochi. Compose a letter in about 120 words, to the Project Head of the E-Waste Management Cell at Electronics Vatika, New Delhi, highlighting the adverse effects of e-waste* pollution. Suggest measures for addressing its management through community engagement and government initiatives.

* Discarded electronic devices such as smartphones, computers, and televisions, which are no longer in use or have reached the end of their lifecycle.

OR

- 4B** You are Chhavi Pathak of Ranchi, Bihar. Write a letter in about 120 words addressing the Secretary of the City Municipal Authority. Detail the problem of overgrown trees and shrubs in the neighbourhood and request the delegation of personnel for regular pruning.

34, Gems Homes
Aluva, Kochi

15 May 2024

The Project Head
E-Waste Management Cell
Electronics Vatika
New Delhi

Subject: Urgent Action Needed to Address E-Waste Pollution and Management

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the escalating e-waste pollution in our region. Electronic waste from discarded devices like smartphones, computers, and televisions poses severe environmental and health risks. The toxic materials such as lead, mercury, and cadmium leach into soil and water systems, causing significant ecological damage and potential health hazards for local communities.

I strongly recommend implementing comprehensive community awareness programs and establishing convenient e-waste collection centers. Government-supported recycling initiatives and incentive schemes for responsible electronic disposal could dramatically improve our current waste management strategies.

Urgent action is crucial to protect our environment and public health.

The time to act is now. Our collective efforts can transform this environmental challenge into an opportunity for sustainable development and responsible citizenship.

Yours sincerely,

Nirmal Pillai
A concerned resident

For Starting the Letter:

- I am writing to bring to your attention the critical issue of in our residential area.
- Through this letter, I wish to express my concerns regarding...
- This is to draw your attention to the critical issue of that is rapidly becoming an environmental crisis in our region.

For Explaining Concerns/Problems:

- The issue at hand has serious implications for the environment/society/community.
- This problem is not only causing inconvenience but also has long-term repercussions.
- Despite previous efforts, this matter remains unresolved and requires immediate action.

For Suggesting Solutions:

- I suggest implementing awareness campaigns to educate people about...
- Collaborative efforts between the community and authorities can be a game-changer.
- Introducing strict regulations and regular monitoring could significantly address the issue.

For Making Requests:

- I kindly urge you to consider this matter as a priority and take appropriate action.
- It would be highly appreciated if necessary steps are taken to resolve this concern promptly.
- I request your esteemed office to address this issue at the earliest.

For Closing the Letter:

- I hope my suggestions will be taken into account and acted upon.
- Looking forward to a positive and timely response.
- Thank you for your attention to this matter.

WRITING

NOTE: *All details presented in the questions in writing section are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.*

- 4A** You are Nirmal Pillai, a concerned citizen from Aluva, Kochi. Compose a letter in about 120 words, to the Project Head of the E-Waste Management Cell at Electronics Vatika, New Delhi, highlighting the adverse effects of e-waste* pollution. Suggest measures for addressing its management through community engagement and government initiatives.

* Discarded electronic devices such as smartphones, computers, and televisions, which are no longer in use or have reached the end of their lifecycle.

OR

- 4B** You are Chhavi Pathak of Ranchi, Bihar. Write a letter in about 120 words addressing the Secretary of the City Municipal Authority. Detail the problem of overgrown trees and shrubs in the neighbourhood and request the delegation of personnel for regular pruning.

18, Krishna Colony
Ranchi, Bihar

20 May 2024

The Secretary
City Municipal Authority
Ranchi Municipal Corporation
Ranchi, Bihar

Subject: Urgent Request for Tree Pruning and Maintenance in the Neighbourhood

Respected Sir,

I am writing to bring to your attention the critical issue of overgrown trees and shrubs in our residential area. The unchecked growth of vegetation has created multiple concerns for local residents. Overhanging branches are obstructing pedestrian pathways, blocking street lights, and posing significant safety risks during adverse weather conditions.

The unmanaged trees pose potential dangers, including:

- Risk of branches falling on vehicles and pedestrians
- Interference with electrical lines and infrastructure
- Reduced visibility and street safety
- Potential damage to residential and public property

I kindly request the municipal authority to depute a dedicated team for regular tree pruning and maintenance. Timely intervention will ensure the safety and aesthetic appeal of our neighbourhood.

Your immediate attention to this matter is solicited.

Yours faithfully,
Chhavi Pathak
Concerned Resident

5A Read the product details on a label for a school bag:

ECO-FRIENDLY SCHOOL BAG

1. Made from recycled materials
 2. Ergonomic* design with padded shoulder straps and breathable mesh back panel
 3. Spacious main compartment with multiple pockets and organisers
 4. Reflective strips for visibility and safety
 5. Water-resistant fabric
 6. Available in various vibrant colours and patterns
-

Now, analyse why this school bag would be a beneficial purchase. Write the analytical paragraph in 120 words, considering factors such as its eco-friendliness, comfort features, functionality, safety aspects, and design options.

* Design that is intended to maximise comfort, efficiency, and safety for the user

OR

5A. Suggested response:

The Eco-Friendly School Bag stands out as an excellent purchase choice for several reasons. Firstly, its use of recycled materials demonstrates a commitment to environmental sustainability, making it an eco-conscious option. Additionally, the ergonomic design, featuring padded shoulder straps and a breathable mesh back panel, ensures maximum comfort during long school days. The spacious main compartment with multiple pockets and organisers offers ample storage space for textbooks, notebooks, and other essentials, promoting organisation and efficiency. Moreover, the inclusion of reflective strips enhances visibility and safety, especially during low light conditions. The water-resistant fabric further protects belongings from unexpected rain showers, adding durability and reliability to the bag. With its availability in various vibrant colours and patterns, this school bag not only meets functional needs but also allows for personal style expression, making it a versatile and appealing choice for students.

5B Read the given details of a playground intended for your resident area.

5

-
- A central climbing structure inspired by traditional Indian architecture, such as a miniature fort, with multiple levels and slides.
 - Swings adorned with colorful Indian patterns, along with monkey bars and a zip line.
 - A water play feature inspired by Indian fountains or rivers
 - Shaded seating areas with benches and swings, resembling traditional *chaupals* or gazebos.
 - Trees, shrubs, and flower beds
 - Ample open space

Analyse the details and write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words about the suitability of this playground.

Focus on factors such as safety, inclusivity, fun features, suitability for different age groups, and overall experience.

5B. Suggested response:

The proposed playground design for the resident area embodies a thoughtful fusion of traditional Indian aesthetics and modern play elements. The central climbing structure, like a miniature fort, offers multifaceted play experiences, encouraging physical activity and imaginative exploration. The swings, decorated with vibrant Indian patterns, coupled with monkey bars and a zip line, add cultural flair as well as excitement to the playground. Additionally, the incorporation of a water play feature inspired by Indian fountains or rivers not only provides sensory stimulation but also offers a refreshing respite from the heat. Shaded seating areas, resembling traditional chaupals or gazebos, provide comfortable spaces for parents and caregivers to supervise and socialise. Furthermore, the presence of trees, shrubs, and flower beds, along with ample open space, enhances the overall aesthetic appeal and promotes environmental sustainability. This playground prioritises safety, inclusivity, cultural enrichment, and environmental consciousness, ensuring an engaging and enriching experience for residents of all ages.

8 Answer **any four** of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words.

4x3=12

- 1 How does the ignorance about Mijbil as a creature in the urban environment of London reveal insights about people's perceptions and knowledge regarding animals?
(Mijbil the Otter)

3

The ignorance about Mijbil in London shows:

- 1. Lack of Knowledge: People are unfamiliar with otters as pets and exotic animals.**
- 2. Disconnect from Nature: Urban life limits exposure to rare species, leading to misconceptions.**
- 3. Need for Awareness: Highlights the importance of wildlife education and respecting animal habitats.**

It reflects how urban environments affect perceptions of animals and the need for awareness.

II How does the imagery of the trees' movement from the house to the forest, in 'Trees', reflect broader themes of liberation and growth in human experiences?

3

The imagery of trees moving from the house to the forest in 'Trees' symbolizes:

1. Freedom: Trees breaking out of the house represent the yearning for liberation and autonomy.

2. Self-Discovery: Their journey to the forest reflects growth and exploration of new possibilities.

3. Human Experience: This movement mirrors the human quest to break free from societal norms and personal limitations, embracing change for growth. It highlights liberation and the transformative power of stepping into the unknown.

III What does the postmaster's reaction to Lencho's letter reveal about his character? (A Letter to God)

3

The postmaster's reaction to Lencho's letter reveals his:

1. Compassion: He is deeply touched by Lencho's unwavering faith and chooses to help rather than dismiss him.

2. Creativity: He devises a thoughtful plan to protect Lencho's faith, going beyond his official role.

3. Generosity: Contributing his own money and encouraging others to do the same reflects his selflessness and empathy.

4. Respect for Faith: Despite Lencho's naivety, he honors and supports his belief system, showing his sensitivity to personal convictions.

This portrays him as kind-hearted, resourceful, and respectful.

IV Assess the narrative's effectiveness in portraying the tension between the comfort of familiarity and the allure of the unfamiliar in 'Madam Rides the Bus'. 3

The narrative in Madam Rides the Bus effectively portrays the tension between familiarity and the allure of the unfamiliar:

- 1. Valli's Yearning for Freedom: Her desire to ride the bus highlights her aspiration to escape her predictable daily life and experience something new.**
- 2. Symbolism of Familiar vs. Unfamiliar: The street represents safety and routine, while the bus signifies adventure and possibilities.**
- 3. Emotional Conflict: The narrative captures Valli's internal struggle between the comfort of the known and the excitement of the unknown.**

This contrast successfully conveys the universal human experience of balancing security with the urge for exploration and growth.

V Summarise the role of the use of parentheses in the poem 'Amanda!'.

3

The parentheses in Amanda! show the difference between what Amanda hears (commands and scolding) and what she imagines (her dreams and escapes). They help us understand how she feels trapped in reality but finds freedom in her imagination.

9 Answer **any two** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. **2x3=6**

I How does Matilda's desire for material wealth drive the plot of 'The Necklace'? **3**

i. Matilda's desire leads her to borrow a necklace from her friend Forestier to appear wealthy at a party.

ii. She loses the necklace -- she and her husband embark on a desperate journey to replace it-- ultimately leads to their financial ruin.

iii. Her desire for material wealth sets off a chain of events that shape the plot.

- II Justify the opinion that Ebright's early successes were essential for his later achievements in science. (The Making of a Scientist) 3

Ebright's early successes were crucial for his later achievements in science. These victories motivated him, validated his talent, and provided growth opportunities. They built his confidence, strengthened his passion for science, and encouraged a competitive spirit, all of which shaped his path as a successful scientist.

III How does 'The Book that Saved the Earth' include elements of satirical science fiction?

3

The Book That Saved the Earth blends satirical humor with science fiction. It uses exaggerated Martian characters to critique human behavior and social norms, humorously portraying their misunderstandings of Earth culture. The play highlights themes of intelligence, communication, and cultural differences through absurd situations. Its futuristic setting and space exploration elements enhance its science fiction appeal.

10 Answer **any one** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words

6

- I Both poems 'Dust of Snow' and 'Fire and Ice' use contrasting elements of nature to convey their respective messages about life and human emotions but they do it differently. Examine these differences.

Dust of Snow and Fire and Ice both use nature to convey messages about life and emotions but in contrasting ways. Dust of Snow presents light and serene imagery, showing how small moments in nature, like snow falling from a hemlock tree, can uplift the spirit and bring positivity. It emphasizes renewal and gratitude for life's simple joys.

On the other hand, Fire and Ice uses intense imagery of fire and ice to symbolize desire and hatred, reflecting on the destructive forces within human emotions. It explores how these emotions can not only harm individuals but potentially destroy humanity.

While Dust of Snow focuses on positivity and renewal, Fire and Ice highlights darker emotions and their consequences.

- II Both the texts, 'For Anne Gregory' and 'The Sermon at Benares,' grapple with the idea that external attributes are fleeting and subject to decay. Examine the similarities.

Both For Anne Gregory and The Sermon at Benares explore the fleeting nature of external attributes. The poem illustrates this through Anne's beauty, where the speaker emphasizes how physical appearance, like her golden hair, is impermanent and secondary to inner qualities. Similarly, The Sermon at Benares conveys the Buddha's teachings about the inevitability of death and the transient nature of life. Both texts urge readers to look beyond the temporary—whether it is beauty or life itself—and focus on inner truths and enduring values. They challenge the attachment to external features and encourage deeper contemplation of what truly matters in life.

11 Answer **any one** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.

6

- I Evaluate how Griffin's character is shaped by a combination of personal ambition, the unintended consequences of his scientific pursuits, and the reactions of the society he faces.

Personal Ambition

Griffin is deeply motivated by his desire to achieve scientific breakthroughs, showcasing his high intellectual ambition and dedication.

He willingly isolates himself to focus on his experiments, indicating a prioritisation of personal goals over social or ethical considerations.

Unintended Consequences of Scientific Pursuits

Becoming invisible renders him physically vulnerable, necessitating theft and deception for basic survival like warmth and food.

The state of invisibility leads to paranoia and a disconnection from human relationships, altering his perception and interaction with the world.

Reactions of the Society He Faces

Society's initial reaction is a mix of curiosity and fear, which quickly shifts to hostility as Griffin's actions become more desperate and harmful.

As Griffin becomes more aggressive and society more fearful, a cycle of aggression and retaliation develops, further alienating him.

The lack of understanding from others about his condition and needs deepens his resentment and estrangement, fuelling his hostile behaviour

- II Evaluate how James Herriot's characterisation contributes significantly to the overarching theme of responsible pet ownership and animal welfare.

James Herriot's characterisation as a compassionate yet firm veterinary surgeon:

Herriot's compassion towards animals

evident throughout the narrative -- genuinely cares about Tricky's well-being and is willing to go the extra mile to ensure the dog receives the care and attention it needs.

This compassion -- reflected in his interactions with Mrs. Pumphrey, where he patiently educates her about proper pet care and advocates for Tricky's health.

Herriot's empathetic approach stresses the importance of treating animals with kindness and consideration, which aligns with the theme of responsible pet ownership.

Herriot's firmness highlights his commitment to advocating for the best interests of the animals under his care.

Despite Mrs. Pumphrey's initial reluctance to acknowledge Tricky's health issues, Herriot remains steadfast in his recommendations for dietary and lifestyle changes.

His firm yet compassionate demeanour shows the importance of setting boundaries and making tough decisions for the well-being of pets.

This aspect of Herriot's characterisation reinforces the theme of responsible pet ownership by emphasising the need for owners to prioritise their pets' health and welfare above personal indulgence.