

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE SAMPLE PAPER FOR CLASS X

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING & GRAMMAR and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A –READING SKILLS (20marks)

I. Read the following passage carefully.

1. It is an indisputable fact that the world as such has gone too far with the innovation of new technologies such as smartphones, the Internet and so on; due to which people are able to tour the cosmos virtually sitting at one place using their smart devices or other technological gadgets. Though mobile internet access is oftentimes hurried and short, it can still provide common internet features like alerts, weather data, emails, search engines, instant messages, and games and music downloading.
2. Due to the easy access of smartphones, communication has been very effective and instant. People are able to convey their message all around the globe to their loved ones without spending hefty sums of money. Adults are always fond of such gadgets and they welcome and adopt such new technology readily. Further, young people have been able to broaden their minds and improve their skills by doing research on the internet. For instance, they use smartphones to look up any new word they come across. Most universities have online teaching provision and smart phones assist the students to complete their assignments on time.
3. The mobile phone has been a lifesaver for a lot of people in case of an emergency. Likewise, use of smartphones can be of vital importance in preventing crimes in the society by providing information to the security forces in time.
4. Nonetheless, for the young; the use of mobile phone can be like an addiction and they can misuse it. Young people are also prone to getting involved in undesirable activities on the Internet. This might have an adverse effect on their academic performance. Therefore, young people should always be monitored and made aware of its bad outcomes.
5. Also a major contributor to its popularity is the availability of prepaid or pay-as-you-go services from a phone shop or an online store. This allows subscribers to load text or airtime credits to their handsets by the use of their credit cards, debit cards or by buying a prepaid card from the network they subscribe to. This plan also doesn't commit a particular customer to a contract. If prepaid card is not that appealing to you, then you can opt to subscribe using the pay-by-month plan.

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions.

- (i) Why does the writer say that the world has gone too far with the innovation of new technologies such as mobile phones"? (1)
- a) Mobile internet access is oftentimes hurried and short.
 - b) People can tour the cosmos sitting at a place.
 - c) One can access common internet features at a click.

d) It can help prevent crimes in society.

(ii) What is the connection the writer wishes to establish between a cell phone and its being a life saver in case of an emergency? Rationalize your response in about 40 words. (2)

(iii) Based on your reading of the text, complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

The reason why the writer says that gadgets like cell phones have helped broaden the minds of young people is because.....

(iv) The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets 1-5 below, identify two sets of antonyms. (2)

1. effective and instant

2. tough and delayed

3. hurried and short

4. prepaid or pay-as-you-go

a) 1 and 2

b) 3 and 4

c) 1 and 4

d) 2 and 3

(v) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

A major contributor to the popularity of cell phones is not only the availability of prepaid or pay-as-you-go services from a phone shop or an online store but also.....(Paragraph 5)

(vi) Based on your reading, examine in about 40 words, how has the world gone 'too far' with the innovation of new technologies? (1)

(vii) Select the option that displays what the writer projects, with reference to the following.

Cell phones are remarkable because of 'the availability of prepaid or pay-as-you go services from a phone shop or an online store.' (1)

a) convenience

b) prodigality

c) excessiveness

d) dependence

(viii) Choose the correct option for the following.

The writer says, "Though mobile internet access is oftentimes hurried and short, it can still provide common internet features like alerts, weather data, emails, search engines, instant messages, and games and music downloading. (Paragraph 1) (1)

The author wishes to emphasize these features of mobile technology that have made it omnipresent- its ____ and ____.

1. ease

2. might.

3. tradition

4. affordability

5. range

- a) 2 and 3
- b) 1 and 4
- c) 4 and 5
- d) 2 and 5

II. Read the passage given below.

1. That there's a gendered division of labour in India is something well known and evident from looking around virtually every household, and to some extent, workplaces. But just how unequal it is, was hard to quantify, until now.
2. Data shows that women are overwhelmingly involved in work they do not get paid for. Some 84 percent of women's working hours are spent on activities they do not get paid for, while for men, the reverse is true-80 percent of their work time is spent on activities they get paid for. Spending majority of their time in employment does reduce the hours available for men to spend on unpaid domestic chores, but the problem goes beyond mere time availability.
3. Just 6.1 percent men participate in cooking, even if only for a few minutes in a day, but 87 per cent men participate in leisure activities. In places where patriarchal norms around division of labour are rigid, they create gendered spaces within the household. In many such households, if a man walks into the kitchen it is considered odd or wrong. It isn't paid work that is preventing them from sharing household work.



4. In case of women aged 15-59, however, the vast majority participate in some cooking every day. Just 8 per cent men participate in house cleaning and just 3 per cent in washing clothes. This leaves women with little time to socialize or even sleep. The average woman, aged 15-59, gets 13 minutes' fewer sleep each night, but catches up by grabbing a nap at odd hours. Women in their working ages also get less time to socialize, eat and drink, and even bathe and get soaps dressed.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions.

(i) Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of

paragraphs 1 and 2.

We can say that in India the state of the gendered division of labour is particularly unfavourable to women than men and is comparable with bonded labour under the Zamindari system in the olden times because both are__.

(1)

(ii) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of paragraph 3.

That only 6.1 % men participate in cooking but 87% participate in leisure activities shows that men are reluctant to share household work because they are groomed to

think it as odd, is a__(fact/opinion) because it is a/an____(subjective /judgement/objective detail). (2)

(iii) Justify the following statement from the passage in about 40 words.

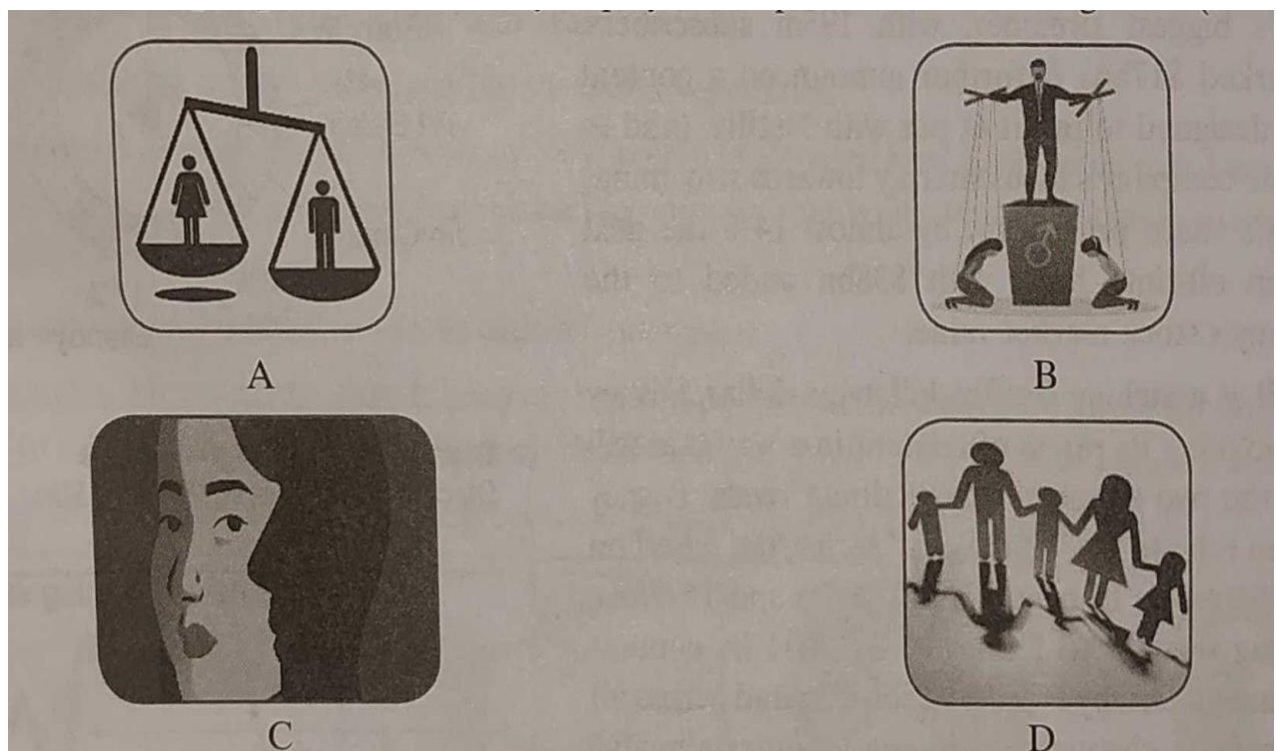
Rigid gendered spaces within a household aid the interests of men and burden the women. (1)

(iv) Based on the passage, list any 2 examples to refute or support the given statements as referred to in Paragraph 2.

Spending the majority of their time in employment does reduce the hours available for men to spend on unpaid domestic chores, but the problem goes beyond mere time availability and ends up having an adverse effect on women. (2)

(v) List one major consequence of women in the age group of 15-59 getting cooped up at home day after day without a break. (1)

(vi) Select the image-option that correctly displays what '**patriarchal norms**' signifies. (Refer Paragraph 3) (1)



- a) A and C
- b) A and D
- c) Only B
- d) B and D

(vii) Infer one benefit and one disadvantage of Work from Home (WFH) on both genders' perspective of household chores. Answer in about 30-40 words.

(2)

SECTION-B WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR

(20 marks) GRAMMAR (10MARK)

III. Complete ANY TEN of the twelve of the following tasks as directed.(1X10=10)

(i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter.

Dear Sir

This is with reference to your query about our latest products. We are glad to inform you that we (introduce) disappearing ink pens and refills in the market this year.

(ii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report.

Most of the nation's policies and programmes for socio-economic development originates at the Central Government, and the responsibility for their successful implementation is entrusted to the states.

Option no.	Error	Correction
a)	the nations	the nation's
b)	originates	originate
c)	at	in
d)	is entrusted	is to be entrusted

(iii) 40% of the country ____ support the new law.

- a) doesn't
- b) couldn't
- c) should
- d) won't

(iv) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the following statement:

Although ____ species of fox are reddish in colour, ____ Arctic fox is often pure white.

- a) most/ the
- b) any/the
- c) a great amount of/an
- d) None

(v) Identify the error on a shop's hoarding and supply the correction, for the following.

Cloth yourself in the best fashion trends of 2023!

Use the given format for your response.

ERROR	CORRECTION

(vi) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from an article in the Food and Health magazine.

Further, advertising through print media and social media is also found_____in a higher demand-led growth of Food Processing Industry in India.

- a) resulted
- b) to be resulted
- c) resulting
- d) to have resulted

(vii) Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between two friends'

Arif: What kind of books are you interested in?

Siraj: I like science fiction a lot and can also never turn down a thriller.

Arif asked Siraj what kind of books_____to which Siraj replied that he liked sciencefiction and could also never turn down a thriller.

- a) he had been interested in
- b) was he interested in and so
- c) were he interested in
- d) he was interested in

(viii) Read the given sentence from a report on sanitation in a residential area. Identifythe error and supply the correction in the sentence.

Our colony has become an unhealthy and disease-prone area and every day, someoneor the other is succumbing to deadly diseases.

ERROR	CORRECTION

(ix) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the given statement:

He felt certain that his wings_____never support him; so he bent his head and ranaway back to the little hole under the rocks where he slept at night.

- a) shall
- b) can
- c) would
- d) ought to

(x) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line from a healthy livingmagazine.

Those who never exercised before, too_____some new habits of yoga, Pranayam andexercises during the lockdown period.

- a) have developed
- b) had developed
- c) developed
- d) were developing

(xi) Complete the given narrative, by filing in the blank with the correct option:I woke up and knew at once that something_____wrong.

- a) is
- b) was
- c) has been
- d) will be

(xii) Read the conversation between a mother and her son. Complete the sentence by reporting the son's reply correctly.

Mother: Why don't you clean up your room?

Son: I don't have the time.

The mother asked her son the reason of not cleaning his room to which he replied _____.

(CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS)

(10marks)

IV. Attempt any one from A and B given below.

(5m)

A. You are Satish/Sonali, a student prefect in charge of the school library. You have been asked by your Principal to write a letter to place an order for certain children's storybooks (10-13 years). Write a letter to M.S. Book Depot, 82 Ramnagar, Bikaner, placing an order for the books. Invent all the necessary details. (100-120 words)

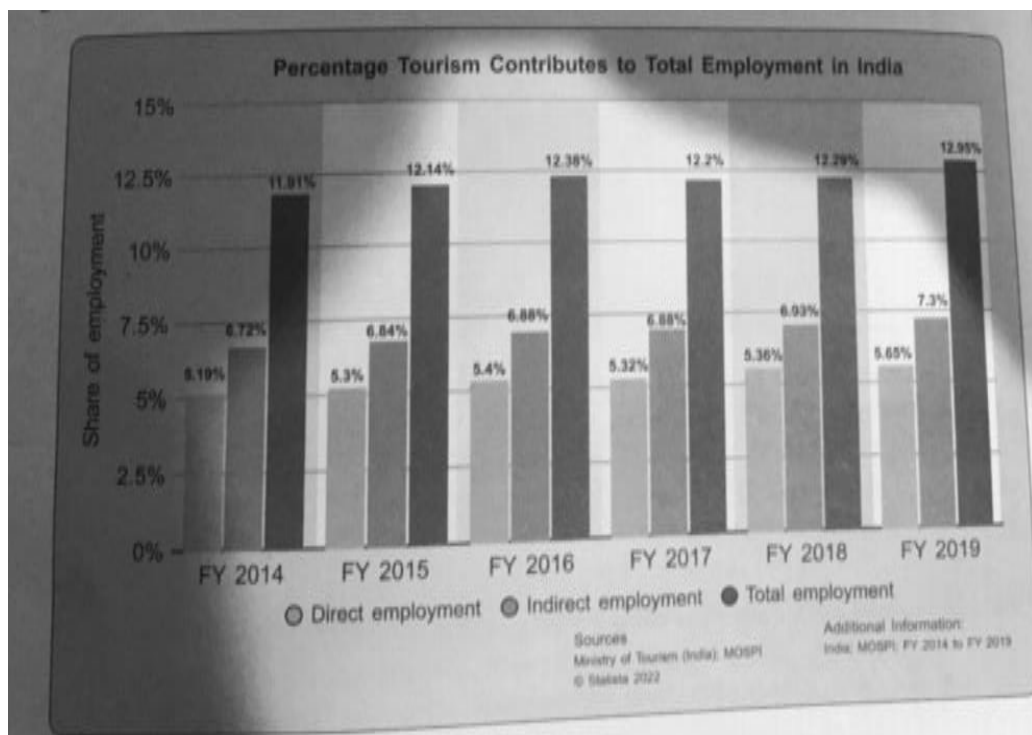
OR

B. You are Rachna/Raghu residing at 15 Mall Road, Agra. Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper about your views on the order passed by the Supreme Court that children should take care of their aged parents or lose the right to their parents' inheritance. (120 words)

V. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

(5m)

A. The government of India has started a drive '*Tourism for All*'. Its objectives are to generate more and more employment opportunities in the tourism sector and thus boost its contribution to the national economy. Enlisting some of the latest facilities being offered to the tourists coming to India and using the figures in the bar graph given below, draft a paragraph.



OR

B. Children tend to become tense and nervous before the board exams. This may affect their health and performance in the examination. Write a paragraph in 100-120 words on the 'Need for Counselling before Board Exams'.

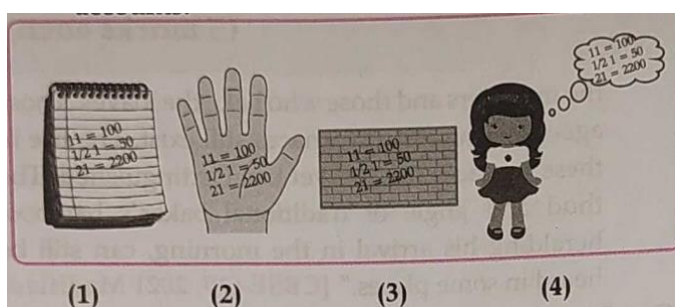
SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY (40 marks)

VI. Attempt ANY ONE of the two extracts given below. (5m)

A. Read the following extract and answer the questions/complete the sentences that follow:

The baker or bread-seller of those days had a peculiar dress known as the kabai. It was a single piece long frock reaching down to the knees. In Our childhood, we saw bakers wearing shirts and trousers which were shorter than full-length ones and longer than half pants. Even today, anyone who wears a half pant which reaches just below the knees invites the comment that he is dressed like a pader!

i) Choose the answer that lists the correct option about the recording of the baker's monthly accounts. (1)



- a) Option (1)
- b) Option (2)
- c) Option (3)
- d) Option (4)

ii) The baker was paid for his services at the end of the _____. (1)

iii) What can you infer from the statement, "Even today, anyone who wears a half pant which reaches just below the knees invites the comment that he is dressed like a pader!" Comment. (2)

iv) The extract uses the phrase, 'invites (the) comments'. Which of the following expressions is INCORRECT with respect to the word 'invites'? (1)

- a) trouble
- b) prayers
- c) guests
- d) application

OR

B. Read the following extract and answer the questions/complete the sentences that follow:

To enhance the image of this long-awaited friend in my imagination, I don't want to jot down the facts in this diary the way most people would do, but I want the diary to be my friend, and I'm going to call this friend "Kitty". Since no one would understand a word of my stories to Kitty if I were to plunge right in, I'd better

provide a brief sketch of my life, much as I dislike doing so.

i) Anne wanted a diary to be her best friend means that_____.(1)

- a) she had no real friends
- b) all her friends wrote diaries
- c) she was a difficult person to be friends with
- d) her family was not loving enough with her

ii) A synonym of the word 'sketch' as used in the above passage is_____.(1)

- a) introduction
- b) drawing
- c) character sketch
- d) bio sketch

iii) Anne refers to her diary as a long awaited friend. Why? Answer in about 40 words.(2)

iv) Complete the statement. (1)

Anne needs to give a brief sketch about her family because_____.

VII. Read the two given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two. (5m)

A. Read the stanza given below and choose the correct option.

Stop that sulking at once, Amanda!
You're always so moody, Amanda!
Anyone would think that I nagged at
you, Amanda!

i) Is the accusation that Amanda is a moody girl right? Give a reason to support your answer. (1)

ii) What is the significance of the use of poetic devices in the given lines from the poem? Does the punctuation play any significant role too? Answer in about 40 words.(2)

iii) Choose the correct theme of the poem Amanda. (1)

- a) The battle between daydreaming and parental expectations.
- b) The battle between expectations of parents and children.
- c) The difficulties of growing up.
- d) The story of a little girl named Amanda.

iv) Identify the rhyme scheme used in the given lines of the poem. (1)

OR

B. Read the following extract and find answer the questions/complete the sentences that follow:

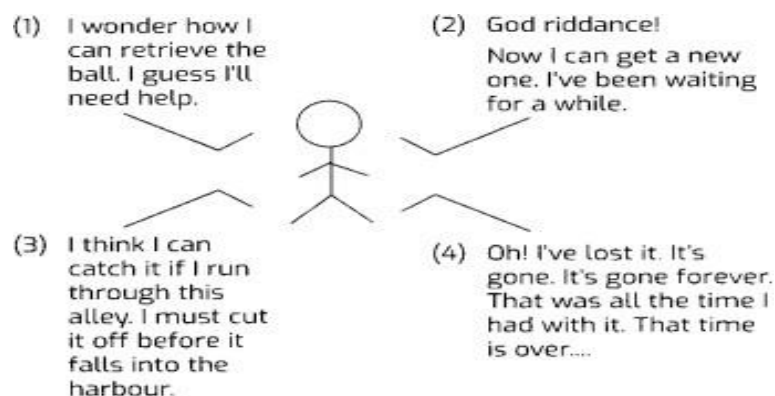
An ultimate shaking grief fixes the boy
As he stands rigid, trembling, staring
down
All his young days into the harbour where His ball went.

I would not intrude on him;

- i) Give another word for 'ultimate' as used in the extract. (1)
- ii) The boy is very young in this poem. As a mature, balanced grown-up, he might lookback and think that his reaction of 'ultimate shaking grief' was: (1)
- (1) disproportionate to the loss.
 - (2) pretension to procure a new toy.
 - (3) according to his exposure and experience then
 - (4) a reaction to the failure of retrieving the toy.
 - (5) justified and similar to what it would be currently.

- a) 5 and 2
- b) 1 and 3
- c) 2 and 4
- d) 3 and 5

- iii) Pick the option that lists the boy's thoughts, matching with the line-As he stands rigid, trembling, staring down. (1)



- a) Option 1
- b) Option 2
- c) Option 3
- d) Option 4

- iv) Why does the speaker choose not to intrude? (2)

VIII. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions in about 40–50 words.(3x4=12m)

- a) Was the pilot of the Dakota able to meet the pilot of the black aeroplane?
- b) “Now we’re really going to get some water, woman.” Is Lencho sure that it is going to rain? Give reasons to support your answer.
- c) How were tea pluckers different from other farmers or labourers on the farms?
- d) Do you think the tiger in the poem had lost its natural instinct due to captivity? Support your response with evidence from the story poem.

e) The poem 'Dust of Snow' evokes a sense of black and white. Justify.

IX. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40–50 words. (2x3=6m)

a) What makes you know that MrsPumphrey was a rich lady?
b) "The most successful people work smart, not hard." Justify the quote with reference to 'A Question of Trust'.

c) The will to win, for the right reasons, was a quality that Richard Ebright had. Do you think this quality alone help us accomplish great feats? Why/Why not?

X. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 100–120 words. (1x6=6m)

A. The Coorgis are said to be descendants of Greeks or Arabs. They have settled here and there but they have never given up their values and culture. Today many Indians have settled abroad but they are still Indians by heart. They still believe in Indian culture and keeping it alive. Do you think that when we settle abroad we must change our culture to adopt the culture of the country where we settle? Does it help us?

OR

B. As Valli, make a diary entry about your experience of riding the bus alone for the first time.

XI. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100–120 words. (1x6=6m)

A. Why are books referred to as man's best companion? Which is your favorite book and why? Write a paragraph about that book.

OR

B. Contentment in one's life is very important to lead a peaceful life. Matilda suffered in her life because she was not contented in her life. What do you learn from her mistake?
