

Roll No. _____

D.A.V. INSTITUTIONS, CHHATTISGARH**SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER : 9****CLASS XII****ENGLISH CORE**

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

SECTION - A - READING SKILLS (22 MARKS)

Q.1. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: (12)

1. I got posted in Srinagar in the 1980s. Its rugged mountains, gushing rivers and vast meadows reminded me of the landscapes of my native place – The Jibhi valley in Himachal Pradesh. Unlike Srinagar that saw numerous tourists, Jibhi valley remained clouded in anonymity. That is when the seeds of the starting tourism in Jibhi was planted. I decided to leave my service in the Indian Army and follow the urge to return home.
2. We had two houses – a family house and a traditional house which we often rented out. I pleaded with my father to ask the tenant to vacate the house so that I could convert it into a guesthouse. When my family finally relented, I renovated the house keeping its originality intact, just adding windows for sunlight.
3. I still remember the summer of 1992 when I put a signboard outside my first guesthouse in Jibhi valley. The village residents were skeptical about my success. My business kept growing but it took years to take off in Jibhi valley. Things changed significantly after 2008 when the government launched a homestay scheme. People built homestays with rapid tourism growth; the region also changed rapidly. Villages turned into towns with many concrete buildings. Local business and tourists continued putting a burden on nature.
4. Then with 2020-21 pandemic and lockdown, tourism came to a complete standstill in Jibhi valley. Local people who were employed at over a hundred homestays and guest houses, returned to their villages. Some went back to farming; some took up pottery and some got involved in government work scheme. Now all ardently hope that normalcy and tourism will return to the valley soon. In a way, the pandemic has given us an opportunity to introspect, go back to our roots and look for sustainable solutions.
5. For me the tourism has been my greatest teacher. It brought people from many countries and all states of India to my guest house. It gave me exposure and countless opportunities to learn new things. Most people who stayed at my guesthouse became my repeat clients and good friends. When I look back, I feel proud yet humbled at the thought that I was not only able to fulfil my dream desire

despite all the challenges but also to play a role in establishing tourism in the beautiful valley that I call home.

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

Questions: (i) What is the relationship between (1) and (2) ?

1..... tourism came to a complete standstill in Jibhi Valley.

2. tourism has been my greatest teacher

(a) (2) is the cause for (1).

(b) (1) repeats the situation described in (2).

(c) (2) elaborates the problem described in (1).

(d) (1) sets the stage for (2).

(ii) The writer mentions looking for sustainable solutions. He refers to the need for sustainable solutions because he realises that

(a) even though all natural ecosystems are essential pillars of resilience, we need to focus on using their resources to address the economic needs of mankind, as a priority.

(b) the exposures to pandemics are a reality and a big threat to the countries across the world.

(c) for an economic recovery to be durable and resilient, are turn to business as usual' and environmentally destructive investment patterns and activities must be avoided .

(d) there is an increasing urgency in the climate movement and the need for collaborative action for the future.

(iii) What made the 'summer of 1992' worth memorable in writer's life. Explain in 40 words.

(iv) The writer says that Jibhi valley remained 'clouded in anonymity'. Rewrite the sentence replacing the underlined phrase.

(v) Select the option that lists the customer review for the writer's project.

(a) Beautiful accommodation in the lap of nature. Luxurious cottage with indoor pool and garden.

(b) Comfortable and peaceful. Neat room with ample Sunlight. Pleasant and warm host.

(c) Enjoy the sprawling suite on the fifth floor. Great view. Professional service.

(d) Remote locale, good food and clean room. would have loved more natural light, though.

(vi) How does scenic beauty of Srinagar affect the writer?

(vii) Skepticism was faced by the author from the village people because.....

(viii) Pandemic proved to be a boon to the narrator, how? Explain in 40 words.

(ix) Select the option that lists what we can conclude from the text.

1. people of Jibhi Valley practiced sustainable tourism.

2. the people of Jibhi Valley gradually embraced tourism.

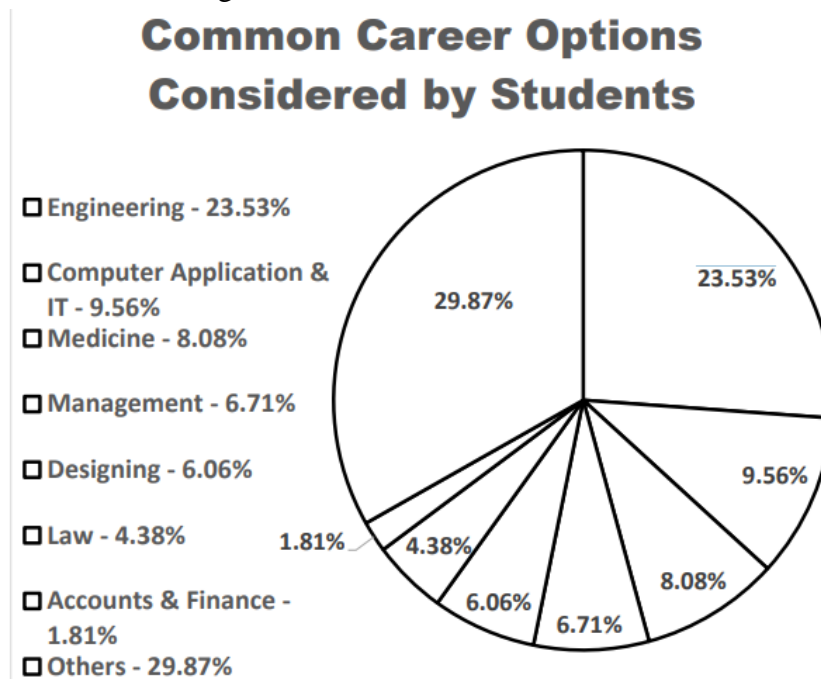
3. tourists never revisited Jibhi Valley.

4. The writer was an enterprising person.

- (a) (1) and (2) are true
- (b) (2), (3) and (4) are true.
- (c) (2) and (4) are true
- (d) (1), (3) and (4) are true.

Q.2. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: (10)

The average age of India will be just 27 in 2020, which means that the majority of the country will comprise young students and youth. But even now with the clock ticking, the unemployment problem is raging the country and the main reason behind this problem is that there are a huge number of youth passing out of schools and colleges every year, and there are many new career options and job roles being added to various job industries as well. However the youth do not have the kind of skills the new industries want which result in a wide skill gap. A new survey by Mindler, an online career counseling platform, has proved that a majority of Indian students are aware of just seven career paths, even though there are 250 career options that can be pursued in India- most new and in demand. The survey on the awareness of career options among the Indian students in the age group of 14-20 was conducted among 10,000 participants. The responses collected in the survey showed that a staggering 93% of the students who participated in the survey were aware of just seven career options –law, engineering, medicine, accounts, finance, design, computer applications and IT, and management.



According to researchers, India has a variety of 250 career options available across 40 domains covering 5,000 job types. This shocking lack of awareness among Indian students can spell a death knell for the economic bonus that could have come to India due to its demographic dividend the time period where its population is young and earning. Thus, if the parents and teachers can build their own awareness regarding, new career options coming up, then they can be a very helpful part in their child's career decisions rather than being one of those parents who push their child into one of the most common careers simply because they are unable to understand which area would be perfect fit for the child. If the parents utilize the available

technology and tools available, they can become more aware of which careers will help their children grow the most, and career counselling can help both parties get their desired satisfaction. 23.53% 9.56% 8.08% 6.71% 6.06% 1.81% 4.38% 29.87% Common Career Options Considered by Students Engineering - 23.53% Computer Application & IT - 9.56% Medicine - 8.08% Management - 6.71% Designing - 6.06% Law - 4.38% Accounts & Finance - 1.81% Others - 29.87%.

On the basis of the understanding of the passage, answer the following questions:

(i) Infer two possible ways that the survey, mentioned in paragraph

(1) could be beneficial. Answer in about 40 words.

(ii) What is the main essence of the passage?

1. There is a huge gap between education and employment opportunities.
2. There is a lack of awareness regarding new professions available.
3. Parents must be involved in the process of career selection.
4. Only 7 professional field are popular in India.

(a) Only 1

(b) Both (3) and (4)

(c) Only 2

(d) Only 4

(iii) According to the survey which field was most popular among students?

(iv) According to the passage, the lack of awareness regarding various career options results in

(a) unemployment.

(b) frustration and depression.

(c) economic stagnation without any bonus.

(d) lack of economic bonus.

(v) What, according to the survey, should parents not do?

(a) Help their children in choosing their career.

(b) Force them to take a career option from the popular seven.

(c) Get their children into career counseling.

(d) Both (b) and (c)

(vi) How does the survey help to create insight among parents and students? Explain in 40 words.

(vii) Complete the following sentence - The given passage focuses on.....

(viii) State TRUE or FALSE. Management is not a popular career option according to the given extract? 1 M

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18 MARKS)

Q.3. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in not more than 50 words:

(4)

A. You are Aniket/Anisha, the Sports Captain of St Mary's School, Bilaspur. Write a notice to be put up on the school notice board inviting names for an inter-school Basketball tournament that is going to be held in your school.

OR

B. You are Ravita/Rohan of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Bilaspur. You found a pencil box in the school playground. Draft a notice for the school notice board inviting the owner to claim the lost items.

Q.4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in not more than 50 words: (4)

A. You are Sumati/Sumant. Your friend from another town stays in a hostel and is not going home during holidays. Invite him/her to join Diwali celebrations with you at your home.

OR

B. You are Sneha/Saket, the Secretary of the Alumni Association of Sprindales Public School, Delhi. Draft a formal invitation for the teachers and alumni to attend the 10th Alumni Meet to be held in Hotel Grandeur. Furnish all relevant details.

Q.5. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in approximately 120-150 words: (5)

A. Read the following advertisement and write a job application in response to it. You are Saira/Sameer. Situation vacant Required, an Assistant Editor for a reputed publishing firm for its Pune office. A post-graduate in Mass Communication with at least 2 years of experience in the field of publishing. Salary negotiable. Contact – Aarohi Shende, 25, Unicorn Publishing, University Road, Pune.

OR

B. Games and Sports are not given so much importance in the country as academics. As a result of this, our achievements in the international arena are far from satisfactory. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily on the importance of sports and games and on the need to raise awareness about it.

Q.6. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in approximately 120-150 words: (5)

A. The present-day youth are greatly stressed due to cut-throat competition, consumerist culture and social media. Write an article discussing these factors, suggesting suitable solutions.

OR

B. Your school organized a two-day workshop on Personality Development for students of classes XI and XII. Many eminent professionals had been invited to share their expertise in this field. Write a detailed report on the event for your school's monthly newsletter. You are Shireen/ Sharad, the Captain of the Literary Club.

SECTION C : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)

Q.7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given. (6)

What I want should not be
confused
with total inactivity.

Life is what it is about;
I want no truck with death.
If we were not so single-minded
about keeping our lives moving,
and for once could do nothing,
perhaps a huge silence
might interrupt this sadness
of never understanding ourselves
and of threatening ourselves with death.

(Keeping Quiet)

- i) Which of these does the speaker imply through the following lines: Life is what it is about; I want no truck with death.
- A. Life is meant to be lived and death should not be the focus here.
 - B. Life is meant to teach us lessons and near-death experiences are not always bad.
 - C. Life is full of adventures and the fear of death should not stop us from exploring them all.
 - D. Life is full of many choices and thoughts about death should not be a point of consideration.
- ii) Complete the given sentence appropriately.
Based on the extract, silence would help humanity to _____
- iii) What does the speaker mean when he describes people as 'single-minded'?
- A. People who only work towards understanding themselves.
 - B. People who are driven by only one passion in their life.
 - C. People who only focus on rushing through their life.
 - D. People who can focus on only one task at a time.
- iv) Justify the following statement as FALSE.
In the given extract, the speaker is ordering readers to do certain actions.
- v) Based on the extract, how do you think the speaker feels about humanity? Answer in one sentence.
- vi) Observe how the lines in the poem break off at certain words. Give one reason why the poet has structured the lines in this manner.

OR

I saw my mother,
beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face
ashen like that
of a corpse and realised with
pain that she was as old as she

looked but soon
put that thought away, and
looked out at Young
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes, ...

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

- i) Why does the poet compare her mother's face to a corpse? Answer in one sentence.
- ii) What effect does the phrase 'open mouthed' have on the poem?
 - A. It builds a mood of surprise and shock in the poem.
 - B. It reveals the speaker's fear of her own death and mortality.
 - C. It adds to the imagery of the speaker's mother appearing dead.
 - D. It highlights the speaker's attempt at hiding her emotions from her mother.
- iii) Complete the given sentence appropriately. The contrast present in the given extract is between _____.
- iv) State a reason for the following. The speaker looks out of the window while travelling with her mother.
- v) Which of these phrases uses the same poetic device as the following line from the extract? looked out at Young Trees sprinting...
 - A. that restaurant is as nice as the Big Fish
 - B. the pen became my highway to success
 - C. that fluffy cloud crying with sadness
 - D. the tall trees with many branches
- vi) Why do you think the poet has placed the word 'pain' on a separate line? Give a reason.

Q.8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (4)

A. The man ceased his mutterings, and then a third bell was tapped. Every one picked up his knife and fork and began eating. I began crying instead, for by this time I was afraid to venture anything more. But this eating by formula was not the hardest trial in that first day. Late in the morning, my friend Judewin gave me a terrible warning. Judewin knew a few words of English; and she had overheard the paleface woman talk about cutting our long, heavy hair. Our mothers had taught us that only unskilled warriors who were captured had their hair shingled by the enemy. Among our people, short hair was worn by mourners, and shingled hair by cowards! (Memories of Childhood: The Cutting of my Long Hair)

- i) Which of these can be inferred from the extract?
 - A. The speaker did not understand or speak English.
 - B. The speaker did not think highly of her own culture.
 - C. The speaker did not have any living family members.

D. The speaker did not know what a knife or fork were used for.

- ii) How was the speaker feeling by the time the third bell rang? Why did she feel this way?
- iii) Complete the given sentence appropriately. The speaker compares her experience of eating to that of a trial because _____.
- iv) Based on the extract, what would it mean to the speaker if her long hair was cut?

OR

B. The presidents of the New York Central and the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroads will swear on a stack of timetables that there are only two. But I say there are three, because I've been on the third level of the Grand Central Station. Yes, I've taken the obvious step: I talked to a psychiatrist friend of mine, among others. I told him about the third level at Grand Central Station, and he said it was a waking-dream wish fulfillment. He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it, and that I just want to escape. Well, who doesn't? Everybody I know wants to escape, but they don't wander down into any third level at Grand Central Station.

(The Third Level)

- i) Complete the given sentence appropriately. Unlike the two levels that have 'a stack of timetables' to prove their existence, the third level has _____.
- ii) Yes, I've taken the obvious step. What is the narrator assuming that the reader is thinking when he says the above line?
- iii) Which of these is an example of 'a waking-dream wish fulfillment' as described in the extract?

A. Meenal loses her book and swears that it is her enemy who stole it.

B. Milind claims that he was petting his beloved dog whom he lost a few years ago.

C. Malini tells everyone that she saw a Cheetah though she herself knows it is a lie.

D. Mrinal thinks that he saw a spaceship in the sky which later turned out to be a normal aircraft.

- iv) Based on the extract, what does the narrator think about the psychiatrist's opinion?

Q.9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given. (6)

A. The old man was just as generous with his confidences as with his porridge and tobacco. The guest was informed at once that in his days of prosperity his host had been a crofter at Ramsjo Ironworks and had worked on the land. Now that he was no longer able to do day labour, it was his cow which supported him. Yes, that bossy was extraordinary. She could give milk for the creamery every day, and last month he had received all of thirty kronor in payment. The stranger must have seemed incredulous, for the old man got up and went to the window, took down a leather pouch which hung on a nail in the very window frame, and picked out three wrinkled ten-kronor bills. (The Rattrap)

- i) Based on the extract, which of these can we infer about the old man?
 - A. He made more money at the creamery than as a crofter.
 - B. His occupation changed due to the limitations of old age.
 - C. His generosity increased as he became more prosperous in old age.
 - D. He preferred to earn by being his own boss rather than working under someone.
- ii) What is the author implying when she compares the old man's confidences with his porridge and tobacco?
- iii) Complete the given sentence appropriately. Based on the extract, we can infer that being a crofter paid the old man _____.
- iv) Which of these sentences uses 'supported' in the same way as the extract does?
 - A. The pillars supported the thick ceiling that was made completely of stone.
 - B. Raman supported his friend's decision to find a job that pays her more money.
 - C. Lalitha supported her mother by sending some money home on a regular basis.
 - D. Few people supported the policy while the majority of the voters were against it
- v) Why would the peddler have seemed 'incredulous'? State a reason.
- vi) Justify any one trait of the old man that the extract reveals.

OR

B. So it is hardly surprising that opinions of the interview --- of its functions, methods and merits --- vary considerably. Some might make quite extravagant claims for it as being, in its highest form, a source of truth, and, in its practice, an art. Others, usually celebrities who see themselves as its victims, might despise the interview as an unwarranted intrusion into their lives, or feel that it somehow diminishes them, just as in some primitive cultures it is believed that if one takes a photographic portrait of somebody then one is stealing that person's soul. V. S. Naipaul feels that, 'Some people are wounded by interviews and lose a part of themselves.' Lewis Carroll, the creator of Alice in Wonderland, was said to have had 'a just horror of the interviewer' and he never consented to be interviewed. (The Interview: Part I)

- i) Identify any one contrast in the extract and explain it in one sentence in your own words.
- ii) Based on V. S. Naipaul's quote, we can say that interviews _____. A. are forced upon people B. are physically violent in nature C. can build hostility and hatred D. can be a traumatic experience
- iii) What is common between how celebrities feel about interviews and how primitive cultures viewed photographic portraits?
- iv) Which of these uses 'just' in the same way as the following expression in the extract? 'a just horror of the interviewer'
 - A. The just decision in the case against the criminal will empower us.
 - B. I just need to buy one pencil so we can go shopping tomorrow.

C. We will get back to you on this query in just a moment.

D. The little girl looks just like her mother.

v) What makes an interview 'a source of truth'? State any one feature.

vi) Complete the given sentence appropriately. The author of the extract has a/an _____ tone while describing the interview.

Q.10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 40-50 words: (10)

i) The author of 'Poets and Pancakes' is extremely observant of people and their behaviour. Support this statement with an example of a description he gives us about any one of the characters.

ii) Why does Sophie's father look at Sophie with disdain in the following scene from 'Going Places'? "Sophie's met Danny Casey", Geoff said.

iii) In the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', why does the poet describe the tigers as 'bright topaz denizens of a world of green'?

iv) What were some strategies that helped the narrator to overcome his fear of water that one can apply in their own life for facing any major fear? Explain any two. (Deep Water)

v) A crisis brings out our true capacity for compassion and kindness. Support the above statement using M. Hamel from 'The Last Lesson' as an example. State any one detail from the text.

vi) Imagine that John Keats meets someone who is feeling sad. What advice would he give to such a person? State any one feature of beauty from 'A Thing of Beauty' and relate the advice to it.

Q.11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three question, in about 40-50 words. (4)

i) In the story, 'On the Face of It', what brings Derry and Mr Lamb together as friends? What can you conclude about friendships from this?

ii) How would a student's learning experience be enhanced in the 'Students on Ice' programme as compared to studying only in a classroom? Analyse any one point. (Journey to the End of the Earth)

iii) With reference to 'The Enemy', describe any two ways in which Sadao's father influenced Sadao's life.

Q.12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. Imagine that Mahatma Gandhi from the text 'Indigo' visits Mukesh's town Firozabad as described in 'Lost Spring'. Gandhi sees how the poor bangle-makers are caught up in 'a vicious circle of the sahu-kars, the middlemen, the policemen, the keepers of law, the bureaucrats and the politicians.' True to his nature of being an activist and a social reformist, he decides to do something about it over a month.

As Mukesh, write a diary entry on the last day of Gandhi's one-month stay, elaborating on any two things that he did that transformed the people's lives in Firozabad.

You may begin this way:

Dear Diary,

Today marks a month of Mahatma Gandhi being in our town...

OR

B. Observe the following lines from two different poems.

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie

Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.

(The Roadside Stand)

I can't help owning the great relief it would be

To put these people at one stroke out of their pain.

There are many commonalities between the two poems. Imagine that you are interviewing Adrienne Rich and Robert Frost together. Ask them any two questions that would highlight two points of similarity between their poems, and create their responses to each.

You may begin this way:

Interviewer:

Rich:

Frost:

Q.13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120 – 150 words. (5)

A. Recall the story 'We too are Human Beings' from the text 'Memories of Childhood'. Imagine that Bama stops the elderly man who was carrying the packet of vadais, and strikes up a conversation with him. She asks him a couple of questions. As the man, respond to Bama's questions. You may follow the given format and include the two questions in your conversation.

Bama: Hi sir, I noticed that you were carrying that packet in a funny manner. Why were you doing so?

Elderly man: ...

Bama: But that's terrible. How does that make you feel?

OR

B. The king in the story 'The Tiger King' was driven by the single purpose of staying alive based on the prophecy that the hundredth tiger would kill him. He hunted tigers out of fear. Imagine that you are living in the King's times, and he has killed seventy tigers at this point. As someone who cares about animal welfare, write a letter to the king convincing him to stop hunting tigers.

You may begin this way:

My sincerest greetings to his majesty,

I am Rajan, a subject of your kingdom, and I am writing to you today
because..