



**BK BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION**  
**SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS**  
**SENIOR SECONDARY CO-ED DAY CUM BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL**  
**MID TERM EXAMINATION 2024-25**  
**ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE (101)**



**Class: X**  
**Date: 19.09.24**  
**Name:**

**Duration: 3 hrs.**  
**Max Marks: 80**  
**Exam No:**

**Q1. Read the following text.**

[12]

- (1) As a high school student, studying poetry can be a rollercoaster ride. This journey is punctuated by moments of profound appreciation for simpler pieces and intermittent frustration with more complex works. Let's be real here -some poems are just plain confusing, and no amount of re-reading seems to help decipher the intended meaning. The puzzlement that results from such instances can be both vexing and demotivating. If solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing Sudoku is a better option. One is led to ponder if obscurity was the goal.
- (2) Conversely, some pieces resonate with the reader's soul. stirring feelings of warmth, happiness, and connection to the world. Often, these compositions centre on themes that are universally understood, such as love, nature, or faith. Being able to actually understand what the poet is trying to say can feel like a little victory and is a welcome relief after grappling with more perplexing poetry.
- (3) Then there are poems that are emotionally charged; the ones that make the reader curl up in a ball and cry or jump up and down with joy. One is left in awe of the poet's ability to convey emotion through words. Let's not forget the downright weird poems. These are the ones that defy categorization and leave the reader to their own devices in attempting to interpret meaning. The author's use of figurative language and unconventional imagery can create a sense of bewilderment that is either intriguing or off-putting. Regardless, the reader can appreciate the uniqueness of the work.
- (4) Despite the wide range of emotions and reactions that come with studying poetry, it can be a rewarding pursuit. Not only does reading poetry allow one to appreciate the artistic beauty of the written word but also enables one to develop crucial critical thinking and analytical skills. The process of unlocking a poem's meaning can feel like cracking a code or solving a puzzle but the sense of accomplishment derived from mastering a challenging piece can be deeply gratifying. Finally, impressing an English teacher with a well-analysed poem can be a source of pride and validation.
- (5) Overall, studying poetry is like a box of mixed chocolates, you never know what you're going to get. But whether it's complex, emotional, simple, or just downright weird, there's always something to be gained from the experience. So, let's applaud all the poets out there, for making us laugh, cry, scratch our heads, and occasionally feel like a genius.

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**

- i** What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from paragraph (1)? Rationalise your response in about 40 words. **2**  
*If solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing Sudoku is a better option. One is led to ponder if obscurity was the goal.*
- ii** Based on the reading of the passage, examine, in about 40 words, how studying poetry can **2**

be like exploring a new city.

- iii** The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets (a)-(e) below, identify two sets of antonyms: **2**

- (a) intriguing and off-putting                      (b) deciphering and interpreting  
(c) appreciate and applaud                      (d) simple and challenging  
(e) emotions and feelings

- iv** Which of the following statements best describes the author's attitude towards studying poetry? **1**
- A. Finds poetry to be a frustrating and meaningless endeavour.  
B. Believes that the emotional rollercoaster of studying poetry is not worth the effort.  
C. Recognizes the challenges of studying poetry but also acknowledges the rewards it offers.  
D. Feels that poetry is too obscure and abstract for the average person to appreciate.

- v** Complete the sentence appropriately. **1**
- We can say that the author's tone becomes more neutral and objective when discussing weird poems, compared to other types of poetry because \_\_\_\_\_.

- vi** Complete the sentence appropriately. **1**
- The author's use of vivid imagery in the paragraph (3), such as "curl up in a ball and cry" and "Jump up and down with joy", greatly affects the reader because \_\_\_\_\_.

- vii** What is the message conveyed by Hina's experience, in the following case? **1**

Hina spends hours trying to analyse a poem for her assignment and finally feels a sense of accomplishment and pride, once she understands.

- A. Only those with natural talent for poetry should engage with it.  
B. Persistence makes studying poetry a rewarding pursuit.  
C. Study of poetry is guaranteed to impress others.  
D. The efforts of studying poetry are inversely proportional to the rewards gained.

- viii** State whether the following lines display an example of a simple / complex / emotionally charged / downright weird, poem. **1**

*The sun rises in the east,  
A new day begins, a fresh start.  
Birds chirp, nature wakes up,  
A peaceful feeling in my heart.*

- ix** State whether the following sentence is true or false: **1**
- Poem is something which curls you in a ball filled with emotions.

**2. Read the following text.** **[10]**

- (1)** Reduction in green areas has caused various environmental problems. People squeezed between concrete structures are looking for various ways to meet their longing for green. One of the ways to do so, is vertical gardens and green walls. Vertical gardening is a unique method of gardening

where plants are grown in a vertical position or upward, rather than in the traditional method of planting them on the ground.

- (2) The purpose of vertical gardens and green walls, which arises from the studies of different disciplines (landscape architects, architects, engineers, etc.), is to close the cold image of concrete and increase the visual value. In these systems, nature and structures are integrated, and thus, urban areas and the desired environment have become intertwined.
- (3) Vertical garden case studies often show that, though functionality should be in the foreground, when vertical gardens are planned, they are generally made as aesthetic elements in the city's underpasses and city squares, and decorative elements in residences, without seeking functionality.
- (4) Experts support that the visual quality and evaluation of landscape architecture is determined based on the satisfaction of the users. Hence, a survey questionnaire was prepared for residents of varied age groups from of a metropolitan city. The given **Table 1**, displays these responses:

<b>Table 1 - Total number of participants : 400</b>						
<b>No.</b>	<b>Survey statements</b>	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>
Vertical gardens-						
1	improve quality of life of people in urban areas	191	138	43	9	19
2	reduce noise pollution	128	164	77	25	6
3	increase air quality -indoors and outdoors	172	147	51	28	2
4	reduce energy and water consumption	58	47	125	68	2
5	positively impact global warming	114	144	106	30	6
6	have a relaxing and calming effect	161	177	44	7	11
7	cost too much	86	107	152	42	13
8	make plants look beautiful	195	139	44	6	16
9	add naturalness to the environs	135	173	55	25	12
10	are among the determining factor to visiting a place	59	133	141	54	13
11	are inconvenient indoors	9	84	123	126	48
12	can be applied in every place	71	132	97	77	23
13	have a functional feature	81	207	100	10	2
14	distract drivers	34	101	106	131	28
15	funds are best used for social issues	57	72	100	130	41

- (5) The study acknowledged that vertical gardening has the potential to transform urban spaces into green, sustainable areas, and further research should explore the impact of vertical gardening on the environment and human well-being.

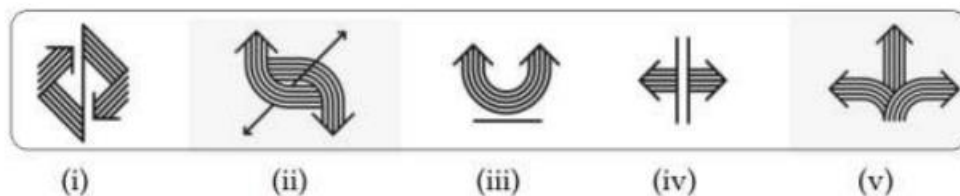
**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above:**

- i. Justify the following, in about 40 words.

While the survey results suggest that vertical gardens may be effective in improving the quality of life in urban areas, further research and evaluation may be necessary to fully

understand their effectiveness and potential drawbacks.

- ii.** Infer one benefit and one drawback of vertical gardening, in comparison to other solutions, such as community gardens or parks. (Answer in about 40 words) **2**
- iii** Fill the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of paragraph 2. **1**
- The statement that , urban spaces have become more closely connected with the desired natural surroundings through the incorporation of nature and structures in vertical gardens and green walls, is a \_\_\_\_\_ (fact/ opinion) because it is a \_\_\_\_\_ (subjective judgement/ objective detail).
- iv** Based on the survey results, which two concerns should a city government, looking to install vertical gardens, address? **1**
- v** In Table 1, the statement 3, "Vertical gardens increase air quality - indoors and outdoors," received the most neutral responses from participants, with 51 respondents indicating a neutral stance. State any one inference that can be drawn from this. **1**
- vi** Select the option that correctly displays what 'intertwined' signifies. (Reference-Paragraph 2) **1**



- A. (i) , (iv) and (v)  
B. Only (ii)  
C. Only (iii)  
D. (ii) and (v)
- vii** Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of paragraphs 1 & 2. **1**
- We can say that the situation of people living in concrete structures is comparable with a fish living in a fishbowl, and the need for vertical gardens to the need for decorations in the fishbowl because \_\_\_\_\_.
- viii** Which of the following is the main takeaway from the study mentioned in the passage? **1**
- A. Vertical gardening has minimal impact on the environment or human well-being.  
B. Vertical gardening is a sustainable practice that can transform urban spaces into green areas.  
C. The impact of vertical gardening on the environment and human well-being has already been thoroughly explored.  
D. The study needs to include experts from horticultural firms to offer any recommendations for further research.

### SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (22 marks)

- 3.** You are the Secretary of dance drama Society of the Sanskriti School, Patna. Write a notice for your school notice board inviting students to give their names for fancy dress competition. Provide all the necessary details of the event. **[3]**

4. As Aarushi, a student of class IX, write an email, in 50 words, to the principal of your school, requesting him/her for a change your section from IX-A to IX-B. Include a reason why you desire the change. [4]

From :	
To :	
Date :	Septempter 19, 2024, 07:05 AM
Subject:	

5. As Vaishali Nathani of 214, Indrayani Apartments, Vaishali Street, Udaipur, you believe that forming Ecology clubs and appointing Eco-minders in your city can aid in the preservation and conservation of nature. Write a letter to the MLA of your city area, in about 120 words, suggesting the need to form such clubs. Share their importance and implications. Recommend the involvement of resident volunteers for implementation of eco-club activities that nurture and protect the local ecosystem. [7]

OR

You live in the beautiful city, Dehradun which is also a popular tourist destination. Recently, you have been witnessing many tourists polluting the tourist places by throwing garbage. Write a letter to the municipal corporation complaining regarding the same. You are Shreya, residing in Lake Society, Dehradun.

6. Write a factual description, in not more than 150 words, Write a brief description of your grandfather. [8]

OR

Write a factual description, in not more than 150 words, the puzzle that you have purchased.

### GRAMMAR (10 MARKS)

- 7.A Fill the blanks (i) -(ii) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets. [1]

Learning a new language (i) ..... (can/could/would) open up new opportunities for personal and professional growth. It (ii) ..... (involves/involved/ involving) dedication and consistent practice to achieve fluency.

- B. Choose the appropriate option from the box to complete the given sentence: [2]

- (i) He drove with\_\_\_\_\_ ( much/little) care and hence was fined by the traffic police.
- (ii) My\_\_\_\_\_ (another/other) sister is taller than me.
- (iii) I spent\_\_\_\_\_ (the little/a little) money I had
- (iv) You may have\_\_\_\_\_ ( either/any) of the four watches.

- C. Rearrange the following jumbled words/ phrases to create a meaningful sentence. [3]

eg - ideal citizen/the nation/an/to/an asset/is

Ans. An ideal citizen is an asset to the nation.

- (i) the/he/top/despite/ill/being/came/of/class.
- (ii) His/in spite of/he/well/copos/disabilities.
- (iii) Is/he/additionally/lazy/he/ignorant/is.

[4]

**D.**

The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line against which a blank is given. Write the incorrect word and the correction in the space provided.

	Correct	Incorrect
In July 2012, physicists with CERN in Switzerland	_____	_____
announces the discovery of a new subatomic particle	_____	_____
that looked like the higgs boson. The discovery and	_____	_____
confirmations of this particle is crucial for scientists.	_____	_____

### LITERATURE (26 MARKS)

**8. Read the extract given below and answer two out of three questions that follow:**

**i**

The ice was here, the ice was there,  
 The ice was all around:  
 It cracked and growled, and roared and howled,  
 Like noises in a swound!  
 At length did cross an Albatross,  
 Through the fog it came;  
 As it had been a Christian soul,  
 We hailed it in God's name.

- (A) How does the poem's mood shift with the arrival of the Albatross? [1]
- (B) How is the poem's tone affected by the line, "Through the fog it came; / As it had been a Christian soul"?' [1]
- (C) The lines "The ice was here, the ice was there, / The ice was all around" reflects the speaker's struggles. Elaborate. [1]
- (D) Name the literary device used in "Like noises in a swound!". [1]

**ii.**

- 'Well, I was in no position to contradict Jenkins.'
- (A) Why was the narrator not able to refuse Jenkins' request? [1]
  - (B) Give an antonym of 'contradict'. [1]
  - (C) What had Jenkins asked the narrator to do? [1]
  - (D) What does 'I' refer to? [1]

**iii.**

And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,  
 Tell that its sculptor well those passions read  
 Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,

The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed.

- (A) What do 'lifeless things' mean? [1]
- (B) How do we know that he was a good sculptor? [1]
- (C) How did the heart feed the passions? [1]
- (D) What does the word 'sculptor' mean? [1]

**9. Answer Five out of the Six following questions in 40-50 words:**

- (a) What arrangements were made by the villagers to make a tiger available to Mrs. Packletide and thus earn a thousand rupees? [2]
- (b) Greed and deception govern the lives of the Slaters and the Jordans. Do you agree? Support your answer giving reasons based on the play, 'The Dear Departed'. [2]
- (c) How might the loathing of the frog's voice by other creatures symbolise the challenges one faces when expressing individuality? [2]
- (d) How, according to Shakespeare, will poetry prove to be more powerful than statues? [2]
- (e) How effective is the use of the line, "Victoria, don't breathe a word to your aunt about the clock and the bureau" on the declining family values in modern society? [2]
- (f) Why is Helen, the ghost, upset with people using Ouija Boards? What does she want from Jenkins? [2]

**10. Answer one of the following questions in 120 to 150 words:**

- (a) Patol Babu always remembered the words of his mentor that one must accept whatever is offered and make the best of any opportunity. Write a letter to a friend telling him about the value of hard work and the art of putting in your best. Write the answer in 150 words.

**OR**

- (b) Both the stories, 'Two Gentlemen of Verona' and 'The Letter' teach us not to lose hope and courage even in adverse situation. Justify the statement with reference to the stories.