



**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**

**Duration: 3 hr.**  
**Max Marks: 80**

**SECTION A: READING SKILLS (12+10 marks)**

**1. Read the following text:**

i) The tone - critical

Rationale - The writer seems to be expressing their scepticism and dissatisfaction with poems that are overly obscure and difficult to understand. The writer suggests that such poems may not be worth the effort and compares them unfavourably to solving a riddle. [Overall, the tone suggests a frustration with poetry that prioritizes obscurity over clarity and meaning.]

**OR**

The tone - sarcastic

The statement "if solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing Sudoku is a better option" suggests that the writer is not impressed with the level of complexity in some poetry. Additionally, the phrase "led to ponder if obscurity was the goal" implies that the writer believes some poets may intentionally make their work difficult to understand, which can be frustrating for readers. [The sarcastic tone in these lines is likely a reflection of the writer's opinion that poetry should not be needlessly complex and should strive to connect with readers.]

ii) Just as exploring a new city requires an open mind and a willingness to embrace the unexpected, studying poetry requires an openness to different styles and approaches, and a willingness to be challenged and surprised by what you find.

iii) (a) intriguing and off-putting

(d) simple and challenging

[They represent opposite concepts, with "simple" meaning easy, uncomplicated, or straightforward, while "challenging" means difficult, demanding, or requiring effort. In the given passage, the author uses both terms to describe different types of poetry that a reader may encounter.]

iv) C. Recognizes the challenges of studying poetry but also acknowledges the rewards it offers. [Throughout the initial paragraph, the author acknowledges the difficulties of studying poetry, but also notes the emotional resonance and sense of accomplishment that can be derived from analysing complex works. Therefore, option C is the correct answer.]

v) ...the author acknowledges that weird poems can be off-putting, but also appreciates their uniqueness and the challenge they present to readers [hence, the author is being neutral and objective with no bias]

vi) ... it creates a powerful emotional impact and enhances the reader's understanding of the intensity of emotion that can be conveyed through poetry.

vii) B. Persistence makes studying poetry a rewarding pursuit.

[Q. is rooted in paragraph (4). Hina's experience of finally unlocking a poem's meaning and feeling a sense of accomplishment shows that poetry can be rewarding if one is persistent.]

viii) Simple

[This verse is simple in terms of its language, structure, and content. It describes a natural scene, which is easy to comprehend and has a peaceful effect on the reader.]

ix) True

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

i) The given sentence is true because the majority of participants agreed that vertical gardens can improve the quality of life, increase air quality, and have a relaxing and calming effect. However, the survey does not provide information on the long-term effectiveness of vertical gardens or their potential impact on other aspects of urban life, such as traffic or community engagement

ii) Advantages of vertical gardens over other green spaces- ♣ They can be installed in small spaces, making them ideal for urban areas with limited space. ♣ They also offer aesthetic and design benefits, as they can be customized to fit specific architectural styles or preferences. Disadvantages of vertical gardens over other green spaces- ♣ May not provide as much space for outdoor recreation as community gardens or parks do. ♣ The cost of installation and maintenance may be higher than for other types of green spaces.

iii) (iii) opinion, subjective

iv) A city government looking to install vertical gardens should consider addressing these concerns:

♣ cost of installation and maintenance [should be reasonable]

♣ areas of installation should be where driver distraction is less of an issue. [Both need to be mentioned as the survey reflects these]

v) Possible inferences: (any one)

♣ Participants may not be fully informed or aware of the effects of vertical gardens on air quality, which could contribute to the neutral response. [This suggests a need for more education and awareness campaigns around the benefits of vertical gardens.]

♣ The perceived effect of vertical gardens on air quality may vary based on the specific location or environment in which they are installed. [This could explain the higher number of neutral responses, as participants may not have enough information to judge the statement in a generalized manner.]

♣ It is possible that participants did not have a strong opinion or preference regarding the effect of vertical gardens on air quality, which resulted in a neutral response. [This could indicate a need for more targeted research to understand the potential benefits and limitations of vertical gardens in improving air quality.]

vi) B (only (ii))

vii) ... a fish needs decorations such as plants or rocks, to simulate a natural environment and improve its quality of life, people living in urban areas need green spaces such as vertical gardens to improve

their physical and mental wellbeing. [ The analogy highlights the importance of providing a natural and healthy environment for living beings, regardless of their habitat, and emphasizes the need to explore creative solutions to meet this need.]

viii) B

### **SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR**

3.

**Sanskriti School, Patna**

**Dance Drama Society**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2024**

#### **NOTICE**

#### **Invitation for Fancy Dress Competition**

**The Dance Drama Society is excited to announce that a Fancy-Dress Competition will be held on September 30, 2024. All students from Classes VI to XII are invited to participate and showcase their creativity and talent.**

**Details of the Event:**

**Date: September 30, 2024 (Friday)**

**Time: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Venue: School Auditorium**

**Theme: "Famous Personalities from Indian History"**

**For registration and any further queries, please contact the undersigned during the recess period.**

4. From:

To:

Date:

Subject: Request for Section Change from IX-A to IX-B

Dear Principal,

I kindly request a change of my section from IX-A to IX-B. My best friend, who supports me in studies, is in IX-B, and I believe it will enhance my academic performance. I hope for your understanding.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Full Name

Class IX-A

5. 124, Indrayani Apartments

Vaishali Street, Daipur.

21 August, 2023.

The MLA

Janta House Rajajipura, Daipur.

Subject: Suggestion Regarding the Need to Form Ecology Clubs

Dear Madam,

This letter is written to express my concern about the environmental degradation in our city and suggest a solution that I believe could help in preserving and conserving nature. I believe that forming Ecology clubs and appointing Eco-minders in our city can aid in this endeavour.

Ecology clubs can be run by resident volunteers who may undertake activities such as making bird-houses, planting native trees, water harvesting and creating compost piles to nurture and protect the local ecosystem. By involving the residents in these activities, we can raise awareness about the importance of preserving nature and instil a sense of responsibility towards it. Some of the implications of forming Ecology clubs are reduction of pollution levels, increase in biodiversity and promotion of sustainable practices. This initiative will enhance the quality of life of the residents by providing them with a green and healthy environment.

Madam, you are requested to kindly consider this suggestion to ensure better preservation and conservation of nature.

Yours sincerely,

Vaishali Nathani.

OR

Lake Society

Dehradun,

Uttarakhand

19<sup>th</sup> September, 2024

The Commissioner

Municipal Corporation

Dehradun, Uttarakhand

Subject: Complaint Regarding Garbage Pollution at Tourist Places in Dehradun

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to bring to your attention a pressing issue that has been affecting the beauty and cleanliness of our city, Dehradun, which is well-known for its scenic tourist attractions.

Recently, I have noticed a significant increase in the amount of garbage being carelessly disposed of by tourists at various popular locations around the city. This includes littering in parks, roadsides, and especially at prominent tourist spots. The presence of plastic bottles, wrappers, and other non-biodegradable waste not only detracts from the natural beauty of these places but also poses a serious threat to the environment and public health.

As a concerned citizen and resident of Lake Society, I request the Municipal Corporation to take immediate action to address this issue. Some measures that could be considered include:

1. Increasing the number of dustbins: Placing more dustbins in strategic locations at tourist spots to encourage proper disposal of waste.
2. Regular Clean-up Drives: Organizing regular clean-up drives in collaboration with local NGOs and volunteers to maintain cleanliness.
3. Awareness Campaigns: Conducting awareness campaigns for both tourists and locals to educate them about the importance of keeping our city clean and the harmful effects of littering.
4. Strict Enforcement of Fines: Implementing and enforcing stricter fines for those caught littering, to deter such behaviour.

I believe that with the collective effort of the Municipal Corporation and the citizens of Dehradun, we can preserve the natural beauty of our city and ensure that it remains a pleasant destination for all visitors.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your prompt and effective response.

Yours sincerely,

(full name)

## 6. Factual Description

My grandfather, at 72, is a remarkable figure in our family. With grey hair, brown eyes, and a sweet voice, he's endured much, having lost his wife at 39. Despite frequent health challenges, his strong personality and kind nature make him the heart of our family. A father of five and grandfather to eight, he is lively and engaging, sharing captivating stories and songs. Although there's a generation gap, we share a close bond, and he remains my best friend.

OR

The puzzle I purchased is a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle featuring a vibrant landscape scene. Measuring 27 x 20 inches when completed, it showcases a detailed and colourful depiction of a serene mountain range with a crystal-clear lake reflecting the surrounding trees. The pieces are made from sturdy, recycled cardboard, with a matte finish to reduce glare. Each piece is uniquely cut to ensure a snug fit, making the puzzle both challenging and rewarding. Suitable for ages 12 and up, it provides a relaxing activity for individuals or families looking for a stimulating and screen-free pastime. The puzzle also comes with a reference poster for assistance during assembly.

**(ANY OTHER RELEVANTS WILL BE CONSIDERED.)**

### GRAMMAR (10 MARKS)

7. A (i) Can (ii) Involves  
B (i) little (ii) other (iii) the little (iv) either  
C (i) Despite being ill, he came to top of the class.  
(ii) In spite of his disabilities, he copes well.  
(iii) He is lazy additionally he is ignorant.  
D Correct Incorrect  
At with  
Announced announces  
Looks looked  
Confirmation confirmations

### LITERATURE (26 MARKS)

8. (i) (A) When the Albatross arrives, the mood shifts dramatically. The bird is seen as a good omen, bringing a sense of hope and renewal.  
(B) The line adds a reverent tone, portraying the Albatross as a divine, sanctified presence bringing hope amid despair.  
(C) The repetition emphasizes the Mariner's entrapment and hopelessness, surrounded by ice, symbolizing isolation and the overwhelming power of nature.  
(D) Simile  
(ii) (A) It was the only magazine that printed his stuff and hence he could not contradict Jenkins. Secondly, the narrator was in need of money. Therefore, it was more of a necessity for him to come up with good stories whenever Jenkins demanded them.  
(B) Agree/ Accept  
(C) Write a ghost story.  
(D) 'I' is John Hallock.  
iii.(A) "Lifeless things" refer to the physical elements or objects, such as the statue itself, which lack life or vitality.  
(B) We know the sculptor was good because the poem mentions that he "well those passions read," indicating that he understood and portrayed the emotions and character of Ozymandias accurately.  
(C) The phrase "the heart that fed" suggests that the heart, symbolizing Ozymandias's ambitions and power, nourished or fuelled the passions depicted in the sculpture.  
(D) The word "sculptor" refers to an artist who creates sculptures or statues, in this case, the person who made the statue of Ozymandias.

9. Answer the following questions in 40-50 words:

(a) The villagers agreed to entice the tiger into the hunting grounds so that Mrs. Packletide could shoot it in exchange for a thousand rupees. Little goats were left on the hunting area as bait, and children were assigned to patrol the edges of the nearby jungle and head tigers present there.

(b) Yes, I agree that the Jordans' and Slaters' lives are ruled by deceit and greed. The grandfather's belongings, including the bureau and the clock, are the subject of intense competition between the characters, particularly Elizabeth Jordan and Amelia Slater. This demonstrates their preference for material wealth over family bonds.

(c) The loathing of the frog's voice by other creatures symbolises how in a world when one tries to express themselves or show their uniqueness, they are continuously pulled down by other people through harsh words.

(d) The poet implies that his poetry will endure even if battle destroys statues and masonry. Poetry seems more resilient because of its permanence in comparison to the transience of physical monuments.

(e) Amelia's order to Victoria highlights a family culture that values individualism and places an importance on self-interest over the welfare of the whole. This shows a shift towards more individualistic attitudes, in contrast to traditional family values that emphasise the value of cooperating and supporting one another.

(f) Exhausted from answering questions from Ouija board supporters, Helen, and her fellow hosts decided to go on strike. They believed they were too often upset to respond to absurd inquiries. She suggested that the narrator get his friends and acquaintances to give up using Ouija boards.

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

(a) . House number 2

Lawrence Road

Punjab - 110009

(DATE)

Dear friend,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirits. Recently, I came across a story that beautifully illustrates the value of hard work and making the most of every opportunity. It's about a character named Patol Babu who always remembered his mentor's advice: to accept whatever is offered and give it your best effort. This story reminded me that no matter how big or small a task may seem, putting in our best effort is what truly matters. Like Patol Babu, we should embrace every opportunity and work diligently towards our goals. Hard work not only brings success but also teaches us valuable lessons along the way. It shapes our character, builds resilience, and fosters a sense of accomplishment. Looking forward to hearing your thoughts.

Yours lovingly,

(full name)

**OR**

(b) In 'Two Gentlemen of Verona', we are introduced to two young boys, Jacopo and Nicola, who have faced immense hardship in their lives. Their family home was destroyed in a bomb blast; their father

was killed in the war; and their sister is suffering from tuberculosis of the spine. Despite these challenges, the kids never give up hope.

Similarly, in 'The Letter', we find Coach Ali, who, despite his old age, regularly visits the post office with the hope that one day he will receive a letter from his daughter. Despite his regular visits, the letter doesn't come, but he doesn't lose hope and waits till his death bed for Miriam, his daughter, to send a letter to him. Both of these stories teach us that it is important to never give up hope, no matter how difficult things may seem. I hope this letter has inspired you to never lose hope, even in the darkest of times.