



**BK BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATIO
SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
SENIOR SECONDARY CO-ED DAY CUM BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
PRE-BOARD 2 EXAMINATION 2024-25
ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE (101)**



Class: X

Duration: 3 hr.

Date: 09.12.24

Max Marks: 80

SECTION A

READING SKILLS (22 marks)

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

- (I) (d) The setting evokes a sense of nostalgia, connecting the narrator's experiences with their native place.
- (II) The author felt pleasure in preserving originality while adapting for a new purpose and eagerness to share a beloved place with others.
- (III) (b) Unregulated construction and rapid development.
- (IV) The paragraph "The bad times made me reflect on my business and I thought of choosing a different option" would likely be placed after Paragraph 4 in the story. In Paragraph 4, the passage mentions the standstill of tourism in Jibhi Valley during the 2020-21 pandemic and lockdown.
- (V) The passage narrates the author's personal journey, including leaving the Indian Army, returning to their hometown, and starting a guesthouse in Jibhi Valley. Moreover, It reflects the author's experiences, emotions, and reflections, particularly during the renovation and the challenges faced, providing a personal and autobiographical touch to the narrative.
- (VI) The underlined word can be replaced with the word exposure.
- (VII) (b) The necessity of diversifying business options.
- (VIII) the local community initially doubted the author's potential for success in starting tourism in Jibhi Valley.
- (IX) the former emphasizes negativity and failure, while the latter accurately captures the positive and transformative aspects of the author's journey.
- (X) True

2. Read the following table displaying the performance and interest of four students of different calibre in academics and cocurricular activities:

- (I) Raghu
- (II) (b) App Developer
- (III) Painting beautiful portraits can provide him with a sense of peace.
- (IV) (a) Lata's actions are based on accurate calculations because coding requires proper calculations of codes to form something or yield a result and she has an interest in coding. Also, she has scored 100 marks in maths

(b) She can take part in any competitive exam because she has scored 95 and above in subjects like English, science and maths which is the main topic for all exams.

(V) Nature

(VI) more creative

(VII) In situation (c) Ravi, instead of being jealous or sorrowful for not winning the competition takes the situation positively and congratulates the other team with a positive mindset.

(VIII) (c) Mohan can convince others with valid points and facts

SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS

(22 marks)

3. You are Alok Bansal or Alka Bansal a student of grade 10 at Greenfield High School. Due to a sudden family emergency, you need to leave town for a week. Write an email in about 50 words to your class teacher requesting leave from 31st July to 6th August 2024. Make sure that you mention the reason for your leave. **[Content- 01, Organisation-01, Accuracy 01]**

From:	
To:	
Cc:	xyz123@gmail.com
Date:	30 July 2024, 5:04pm
Subject:	Request for Leave from 31st July to 6th August 2024
<p>Dear Sir, I hope this email finds you well. Due to a sudden family emergency, I need to travel out of town and will be unable to attend school from 31st July to 6th August 2024. I kindly request your approval for this leave. I will ensure to catch up on missed lessons. Thank you for your understanding. Yours Sincerely, [Your Name] Grade 10, Greenfield High School</p>	

4. Write a factual description of a florist shop that's you recently visited.

[Content 02, Organisation 01, Accuracy 01]

The florist shop I visited was a **small yet vibrant space bursting with colours and fragrances**. The exterior featured a **charming wooden sign** and **hanging flower baskets**. Inside, the shop was neatly arranged **with rows of fresh roses, lilies, tulips, orchids, and seasonal blooms**. **Bouquets of varying designs** and sizes adorned the display counter, while potted plants added a touch of greenery. The **atmosphere was calming**, with soft instrumental music playing in the background. The **florist was friendly**, offering expert **advice on flower** selection and care. They provided customized bouquets, same-day delivery, and **gift wrapping**, making the **experience delightful and memorable**.

5. [Format 01, Content 03, Organisation 02, Accuracy 01].

A. 112, Lawrence Road
South Extension
New Delhi.

6th December 2024

TheEditor
[NameoftheNationalDaily]
[Address]

Subject: The Detrimental Impact of Modern City Lifestyles on Health.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to draw attention to a concerning trend prevalent in modern cities—habitual "late to sleep and late to rise" lifestyles. Urban living, characterized by long work hours, digital distractions, and nightlife culture, has disrupted natural sleep cycles, leading to numerous health issues.

This unhealthy habit contributes to sleep deprivation, chronic fatigue, weakened immunity, and even mental health problems like anxiety and depression. The lack of early morning routines also hampers productivity and disconnects individuals from nature's rhythm, essential for holistic well-being.

I urge health authorities and urban planners to promote awareness campaigns and advocate for healthier lifestyles. Incorporating flexible work hours, community fitness programs, and limiting unnecessary late-night activities can encourage individuals to restore balance.

Let us prioritize health and adopt habits aligned with nature for a brighter future.

Yours Sincerely,
Fullname

OR

C8/9HauzKhas
SouthExtension
New Delhi.

6th December 2024

TheHealthMinistry
GovernmentofIndia
New Delhi.

Subject: Complaint Regarding Garbage Dumping Outside My Building

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to bring to your attention a recurring issue of garbage dumping outside my residence in South Extension. Despite my repeated reminders to my neighbour about the need to maintain cleanliness, they continue to dispose of their waste irresponsibly in the open area near our building.

This practice not only creates an unpleasant environment but also poses significant health risks, including the spread of diseases and pest infestations. It undermines the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and other environmental initiatives aimed at ensuring a clean and hygienic living space for all.

I kindly request the health authorities to address this matter urgently by inspecting the site and taking necessary action to prevent further violations. Awareness campaigns and strict penalties may also help curb such irresponsible behaviour in residential areas.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing issue.

Yours sincerely,
Rishabh
C8/9HauzKhas
South Extension, New Delhi

6. Write an article on any of the given topics:

[Format 01, Content 03, Organisation 03, Accuracy 01]

A. Save the Stripes: The Urgent Need to Protect India's Tigers

By Amit Malhotra

The tragic death of Avni, the tigress who left behind two young cubs, has once again highlighted the alarming consequences of human encroachment and corporate greed on India's fragile ecosystems. Avni's death is not an isolated incident; it symbolizes the growing threat faced by one of our most iconic species—the tiger.

Tigers are apex predators that play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance. Their decline signals the deterioration of the forests, which are not just wildlife habitats but also vital resources for millions of local communities. Human encroachment, fueled by deforestation and land-grabbing by corporations, has led to habitat destruction, forcing tigers into human settlements and escalating conflicts.

The repercussions extend beyond the animal kingdom. Local communities suffer as their livelihoods are disrupted, crops are destroyed, and lives are endangered. Meanwhile, the tiger population, once thriving in India, continues to face the threat of extinction.

Urgent action is needed to reverse this trend. Governments and organizations must strengthen wildlife conservation policies, enforce strict penalties for illegal encroachments, and expand protected reserves. Awareness campaigns should educate the public about the importance of tigers to our ecosystem and involve local people in conservation efforts.

If immediate steps are not taken, the loss of tigers will mark not just the end of a species but also the degradation of our natural heritage. It's time to prioritize coexistence over exploitation and act to preserve the stripes that define the soul of India.

OR

B. Solar Power: An Apt Global Solution for the Energy Crisis

By- Name

The energy crisis is one of the most pressing issues of our time, with frequent power cuts disrupting lives and industries across the globe. As conventional energy sources like coal and

oil deplete, it's imperative to explore sustainable alternatives. Among these, solar power emerges as the most promising solution, offering a clean, efficient, and renewable energy source.

Solar power harnesses energy from the sun, an inexhaustible resource, making it a long-term answer to the global energy demand. One of its greatest advantages is its environmentally friendly nature—no greenhouse gases, no carbon emissions, and no water pollution. By reducing dependence on fossil fuels, solar power significantly mitigates climate change effects.

Financially, solar power is highly beneficial. Although initial installation costs can be high, it drastically reduces energy bills over time and requires minimal maintenance. Additionally, technological advancements have made solar panels more affordable and efficient, allowing both individuals and industries to adopt this green energy source.

Incorporating solar power on a larger scale can transform our energy systems. Governments must promote its usage through subsidies, tax benefits, and public awareness campaigns. With its potential to provide clean, reliable energy and address power shortages, solar power is undoubtedly the most apt global solution for the energy crisis—a step toward a sustainable future.

SECTION C: GRAMMAR (10 marks)

7. A. Fill in the blanks (A) - (C) with the appropriate option given below.

- (i) the (ii) with (iii) is

B. In the following paragraph, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, as shown below.

S.no	Text	Word before	Omission	Word after
(A)	One thing we all must do to cooperate	do	is	to
(B)	With police and pay heed to their advice	with	the	police
(C)	They warn us to aware of dangerous item.	to of	be any	aware dangerous
(D)	We should not spread false information any activity.	information	about	any

C. Do as directed.

- a) Rearrange the following jumbled words/ phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence.

Answer: Devices that allow you to control home heating.

b) Report the dialogues to complete the paragraph that follows.

Raja told Mahira (i) **that their school was celebrating dance day the next day.**

Mahira wanted to (ii) **know who the chief guest was.**

SECTION D: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK (26 marks)

8. A. Read the given excerpts and answer the questions briefly, **for any two excerpts**, of the three, given.
- I. In the given line from the chapter the letter the term accustomed means **habitually** or **regularly used to something over a period of time** it indicates that the old man had **developed a routine or habit of sitting on that particular bench for last five years** it also conveys the sense of familiarity and attachment to the bench symbolising the old man's consistent and long- standing practise.
 - II. Coachman Ali's daily search for a letter is seen as unreasonable or odd and labelling him as a mad man contributes to this impression. Its purpose is to comment on how society tends to categorise unusual actions without taking into account the feelings and reasons behind them.
 - III. A line from the extract that reveals that Ali has been waiting for a letter from his daughter for a long time is 'The old man went back slowly to the bench on which he had been accustomed to sit for five long years.'
 - IV. Ali's slow return to the bench, despite not receiving a letter, suggests a mix of disappointment and determination. The inference drawn is that early continues his routine with a resilient spirit holding on to hope despite the lack of results.
- B I. Considering the passage nothing remains beside round and decay suggests that Ozymandias's once grand empire has collapsed, leaving the surrounding area largely empty and in decay. His accomplishments are now lost and forgotten in ruins.
- II. Ozymandias's declaration, "Look upon my works, ye mighty and despair!" is ironic because, in reality, there is nothing left to be envious of. The once-great works lie in ruins and the emptiness that remains calls on the mighty to despair or be envious of.
 - III. The tone in the given line is one of arrogance and pride. Speaking with a proud attitude, Ozymandias assumes that everyone is impressed by his achievements.
 - IV. The poetry device used in the line is **alliteration/Hyperbole**.
- C. I. When Antony saw his close friend Caesar's lifeless body, he was devastated. He said that the sword that had killed Caesar was valuable because it was stained by the blood of the world's most honourable man. He pleaded with the senators to kill him as well if they despised him.
- II. The phrase which indicates that Antony regarded Caesar as the most noble man in the world is "the most noble blood of all this world."
 - III. Antony addresses Caesar as "O mighty Caesar!" This exclamation conveys a strong emotional bond and a sense of respect. "Mighty" is used to emphasize how great Caesar is in Antony's perspective
 - IV. The expression "lying so low on the ground" refers to Caesar's decline in strength and stature. Once a powerful and towering figure, Caesar is now reduced to a state of humility and lowliness on the ground.
9. Answer ANY FIVE of the following questions in about 30-40 words:
- (I) The author refers to Nicola and Jacopo as gentlemen because of their remarkable maturity, selflessness, and sense of responsibility. Despite their young age, they worked tirelessly to care for their ailing sister, displaying dignity and noble character

- (II) Grandfather witnesses the deceptive actions and greed displayed by his daughters and their families in the aftermath of the false news of his death. He is troubled by the rivalry for his belongings and the absence of true mourning. After seeing the results of the family's behaviour, Abel concludes that something has to change.
- (III) The poet feels that the lover can live in the rhyme written by him until the end of time, as the rhyme will preserve the lover's memory for eternity.
- (IV) The frog exploits the nightingale by pretending to be a music expert, praising her to gain her trust. He then charges for her performances and trainings, using her talent for his profit while masking his selfish intentions.
- (V) Sebastian Shultz was finally rescued by Michael in the game "Warzone." In this intense virtual reality scenario, they had to make it to a helicopter to escape the war-torn city. Despite the pursuing tank and imminent danger, Michael managed to pull Sebastian out just in time. They escaped the pursuing threats and soared into the sky in the helicopter.
- (VI) Patol Babu was keen to learn his lines for the film because it was his first collaboration with a well-known director and actor. In addition, this would be his first time performing in front of the camera. Patol Babu had previously exclusively performed in theatre productions, decades ago. Patol Babu was disappointed after reading his dialogue, which comprised simply the phrase "Oh".

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 150 words:

[Content 04, Organisation 03, Accuracy 01]

I. John's wife was enraged because the Ouija board was **relaying a message from Helen** to her husband, calling him a traitor. This made her suspicious, and she **grew envious of John's closeness with Laura Hinkle**, with whom he was matched on the Ouija board. When she went to say goodbye, **John was chatting with someone and attempting to conceal the situation** from her. She eventually **discovered him communicating with a ghost**, whom he was attempting to hide from her. **To her amazement, the ghost was Helen of Troy**, who had come to assist John with a ghost story. She asked John to forgive her, and they were both happy again. They said farewell to the ghost. Her lack of trust nearly destroyed the very foundation of their relationship, but they saved their lives from turmoil.

OR

II. In *the Rime of the Ancient Mariner* by Coleridge and D.H. Lawrence's *Snake*, **guilt** and **regret** are central themes that emerge from actions disrupting natural order. In Coleridge's poem, the Mariner's **impulsive killing of the albatross**—a symbol of nature's benevolence—triggers his guilt. This act curses the crew, and the Mariner faces spiritual torment, reflected in his eternal compulsion to recount his tale as penance. Similarly, in *Snake*, the narrator's **regret** arises after throwing a log at a snake, which he initially admires as majestic. Influenced by societal norms labeling the snake as dangerous, he betrays his instinctive reverence for nature. Both protagonists suffer emotional turmoil: the Mariner's guilt manifests as a relentless burden, while the narrator feels ashamed of his cowardice and disrespect. These feelings highlight humanity's fragile relationship with nature and the consequences of violating its sanctity. **Impulsiveness, societal expectations, and moral conflict** drive their remorse.