



# B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS  
A CBSE DAY-CUM-BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

MID-APRIL TEST 2025-26

ENGLISH

Class: X

Date: 21.04.25

Admission no:

Time: 1hr

Max Marks: 25

Roll no:

## 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

I. Read the passage and answer the questions given below.

7M

#### The Fascination of Space Exploration

Space exploration has always captivated human curiosity, pushing the boundaries of what we know about the universe. From the first moon landing in 1969 to recent missions to Mars, scientists and astronauts continue to explore the unknown. Organizations like NASA, ISRO, and SpaceX are at the forefront of space missions, working tirelessly to unravel the mysteries of the cosmos.

One of the most significant advancements in space technology is the development of reusable rockets. Traditional rockets could only be used once, making space travel extremely expensive. However, companies like SpaceX have pioneered reusable rocket technology, significantly reducing costs and making space travel more sustainable. This has opened doors to ambitious projects, such as colonizing Mars and mining asteroids for rare minerals.

Another critical aspect of space exploration is satellite technology. Satellites play a crucial role in modern life, supporting communication, weather forecasting, and global positioning systems (GPS). Without them, everyday activities like mobile phone navigation and live weather updates would be impossible. Furthermore, satellites help scientists study climate change, track natural disasters, and even monitor deforestation.

However, space exploration is not without its challenges. One of the biggest concerns is space debris—millions of defunct satellites, broken parts, and fragments orbiting Earth at high speeds. This debris poses a serious threat to active satellites and even space missions. Scientists are working on ways to clean up space junk to ensure safe and sustainable exploration.

As technology advances, the future of space exploration looks promising. With plans for human missions to Mars, the discovery of exoplanets, and the possibility of extraterrestrial life, space remains one of the most exciting frontiers for humankind.

#### Answer the following questions:

1. Replace the underlined word "captivated" in the first sentence of the passage with a suitable synonym.  
a) Confused                      b) Fascinated                      c) Ignored                      d) Diminished
2. What is one major advantage of reusable rockets in space exploration?  
a) They increase the speed of space travel.  
b) They make space missions more cost-effective.  
c) They help in satellite communication.  
d) They reduce the need for astronauts.
3. What is the primary function of satellites in modern society?  
a) To assist in space debris collection.

- b) To help navigate spacecraft in deep space.
- c) To support communication and weather forecasting.
- d) To reduce the cost of launching rockets.

4. Complete the Analogy. (1)

Satellite: Communication :: Telescope: \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Exploration                      b) Navigation                      c) Observation                      d) Construction

5. Assertion (A): Space debris does not pose any significant risk to space exploration.

Reason (R): Space debris can damage active satellites and spacecraft.

- a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true, but R is false.
- d) A is false, but R is true.

6. Reusable rockets make space exploration more expensive. State True or False.

7. Why is space debris considered a major challenge for future space missions? Give an example.

### Section – B (Writing & Grammar)

**II.** You are Rohan/Priya, a student of Class 10 at Sunshine Public School. You recently visited an old-age home as part of a school community service program. The experience made you realize the challenges faced by the elderly, including loneliness and lack of care. Write an email to the director of a local NGO, expressing your desire to volunteer for elderly welfare programs. Ask about ways students can contribute and suggest initiatives to improve the lives of senior citizens. **4M**

**III. Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the options given.**

**3M**

1. The thief explained how he \_\_\_\_\_ from the jail.  
(a) escapes      (b) had escaped                      (c) escaped      (d) has escaped
2. The swimmer was tired but he \_\_\_\_\_ reach the shore before he collapsed.  
(a) will              (b) could              (c) may                      (d) must
3. I saw \_\_\_\_\_ boys playing in the park.  
(a) A little      (b) Any                      (c) Some              (d) This

**IV. Rearrange the following words/phrases to form meaningful sentences.**

**4M**

1. always / punctuality / important / is / for success / in life.
2. scientists / Mars / signs of / searching / life / for / are / on.
3. the / after / clean / we / should / picnic / place / up.
4. in / essential / communication / is / effective / the workplace.

### Section C (Literature)

**V. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:**

**3M**

*Neither stones nor prayers nor sticks,  
Insults or complaints or bricks  
Stilled the frog's determination  
To display his heart's elation."*

1. What do the words "stones, prayers, sticks, insults, complaints, and bricks" suggest about how others viewed the frog? (1)
2. What does the frog's determination reveal about his personality? (1)
3. How does this extract reflect the theme of manipulation and persistence in the poem? (1)

**VI. Answer the questions in brief.**

**4M**

1. Despite their hardships, the two boys never complained. What does this tell you about their character and values? (2)
2. How does the story highlight the theme of selfless love and responsibility? Give an example from the text. (2)

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