



B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

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

PRE MID TERM TEST 2026-27

ENGLISH

SET 1

Class: XII

Date: 23.07.26

Admission no:

Time: 1hr

Max Marks: 25

Roll:

SECTION A – READING SKILLS (7 Marks)

Q1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

India's transition towards sustainable development has accelerated in recent years. At the COP28 Summit, India reaffirmed its commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2070 while simultaneously focusing on economic growth. One of the most visible developments has been the rapid expansion of renewable energy projects, particularly solar parks and green hydrogen initiatives. Experts argue that India's strategy is unique because it seeks to balance environmental concerns with developmental priorities.

Several cities have introduced electric public transport systems to reduce urban pollution. Simultaneously, government schemes promoting rooftop solar installations have encouraged citizens to become active participants in energy generation. According to recent reports, India's renewable energy capacity has witnessed significant growth, positioning the nation among the leading producers of clean energy globally.

However, challenges remain. Energy storage technology, infrastructure costs and public awareness continue to influence the pace of transition. Environmentalists emphasize that sustainability is not solely the responsibility of governments. Businesses, educational institutions and individuals must collectively contribute to responsible consumption and waste management practices.

Recognising the importance of collective action, schools and local communities have also started promoting sustainable practices through tree plantation drives, recycling campaigns and environmental awareness programmes. Young people are increasingly participating in climate action by adopting eco-friendly habits, reducing single-use plastics and encouraging responsible use of natural resources. Such initiatives demonstrate that achieving a sustainable future requires not only technological innovation but also active public participation and behavioural change at every level of society.

I. India's approach towards sustainability is described as unique because it:

- (a) focuses only on environmental protection
- (b) prioritises industrial growth over ecology
- (c) balances development with environmental responsibility
- (d) discourages renewable energy investments

II. Complete the analogy

Electric buses : Sustainable transport :: Rooftop solar installations : _____

III. The word "accelerated" in paragraph 1 most nearly means _____

IV. Which of the following remains a challenge in the renewable transition?

- (a) Lack of sunlight
- (b) Energy storage technology
- (c) Absence of policy support
- (d) Ban on electric vehicles

V. What can be inferred about sustainability from the passage?

VI. Select the statement that is TRUE according to the passage:

- (a) India has reduced all carbon emissions.
- (b) Renewable energy capacity has declined.
- (c) India is among leading clean energy producers.
- (d) Sustainability only concerns industries.

VII. The tone of the passage is:

- (a) critical
- (b) informative and analytical
- (c) humorous
- (d) nostalgic

SECTION B – WRITING SKILLS (4 Marks)

Q2. You attended an Inter-School Sustainability Summit organised in your city where students presented innovative environmental solutions. As the Cultural Secretary of your school, write a report in 100–120 words for the school magazine.

SECTION C – LITERATURE (14 Marks)

Q3. Read the extract and answer the question. (1x4=4)

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever:
Its loveliness increases; it will never
Pass into nothingness.

I. Complete the statement.

According to the poet, a thing of beauty is a source of _____ that lasts forever.

II. A student says, "*Expensive things give lasting happiness.*" Based on the given lines, would the poet agree? Answer in **one sentence**.

III. Which of the following situations best reflects the idea expressed in the lines?

- (a) Buying a new phone every year brings permanent happiness.
- (b) Remembering a peaceful walk in nature continues to comfort a person even years later.
- (c) Winning a game is enjoyable only until the next competition.
- (d) Fashion trends remain popular forever.

IV. Complete the analogy.

Beauty : Everlasting joy :: Kindness : _____

Q4. Answer the following in 30–40 words each. (2x3=6)

I. How does the visit to Antarctica help students understand global environmental concerns? (2)

II. Why does Keats associate beauty with emotional healing? (2)

III. How does Edla's behaviour transform the peddler's self-perception? (2)

Q5. Answer any ONE of the following in 100–120 words. (4)

A. Both 'A Thing of Beauty' and 'A Roadside Stand' examine human needs. Compare how the poets present material and emotional fulfilment.

OR

B. Climate change is often described as a global crisis, yet many people believe it is someone else's responsibility to address it. Based on the ideas presented in **Journey to the End of the World**, evaluate why individual actions are as important as government policies in protecting the environment. Justify your response with evidence from the chapter and relevant real-life examples.

*****ALL THE BEST*****