



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 2

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 electoral system is regarded as one of the largest democratic exercises in the world. During recent general elections, millions of voters participated across thousands of constituencies, demonstrating the scale and complexity of democratic governance in the country. The Election Commission of India employed advanced technologies, extensive voter-awareness campaigns and elaborate logistical planning to ensure free and fair elections.

One notable trend observed in recent elections has been the increasing participation of young and first-time voters. Educational institutions, social media platforms and civil society organisations have played an important role in encouraging voter registration and awareness. Political analysts suggest that younger voters are increasingly concerned with issues such as employment opportunities, technological development, environmental sustainability and quality of public services.

At the same time, elections also present challenges. The spread of misinformation through digital platforms, the need for ethical campaigning and the importance of informed voting remain significant concerns. Experts emphasise that democracy functions effectively only when citizens critically evaluate information, participate responsibly and hold elected representatives accountable.

The success of any democracy ultimately depends not merely on the conduct of elections but on the active engagement of citizens before, during and after the voting process. Therefore, strengthening democratic values requires continuous efforts from institutions as well as the public.

I. The passage primarily highlights:

- (a) political conflicts in India
- (b) the functioning and significance of elections in India
- (c) economic policies of the government
- (d) international relations

II. According to the passage, which group has shown increasing participation in recent elections?

- (a) Retired citizens
- (b) Government officials

- (c) Young and first-time voters
- (d) Foreign residents

III. The word "**constituencies**" in the passage refers to:

IV. Complete the analogy

Misinformation : Fair Elections :: Pollution : _____

V. What can be inferred from the passage regarding democracy?

VI. Why have educational institutions and civil society organisations been mentioned?

- (a) They conduct elections independently.
- (b) They help increase voter awareness and participation.
- (c) They nominate political candidates.
- (d) They monitor voting machines.

VII. The author's tone throughout the passage is:

- (a) persuasive and analytical
- (b) humorous and entertaining
- (c) critical and sarcastic
- (d) emotional and nostalgic

SECTION B – WRITING SKILLS

(4 Marks)

Q2. Your school organised a Digital Citizenship Awareness Programme highlighting responsible use of technology and AI. As the Student Editor, write a report in 100-120 words for the school newsletter.

SECTION C – LITERATURE (14 Marks)

Q3. Read the extract and answer.

*"And ask for some city money to feel in hand
To try if it will not make our being expand,
And give us the life of the moving-pictures' promise
That the party in power is said to be keeping from us."*

I. The poet suggests that the villagers believe that having _____ may help improve their lives and broaden their opportunities.

II. What does the phrase "the life of the moving-pictures' promise" symbolise?

- (a) A life filled with entertainment and films only
- (b) A modern, prosperous, and better life shown through media
- (c) A life spent working in cinemas
- (d) A life without responsibilities

III. Why does the poet use the expression "city money" instead of simply saying "money"?

IV. What does this extract suggest about the villagers' perception of the government?

Q4. Answer the following in 30–40 words each.

(2x3=6)

I. How does the poet of 'A Roadside Stand' portray the relationship between villages and cities? (2)

II. What does the vastness of Antarctica reveal about human existence? (2)

III. Why is the peddler's transformation significant in understanding human nature? (2)

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

(4)

A. 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.

OR

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

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