



**BK BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION**  
**SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS**  
**SENIOR SECONDARY CO-ED DAY CUM BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL**  
**POST-MID TERM 2024-25**  
**ENGLISH**  
**MARKING SCHEME**



**Class: IX**  
**Date: 06.01.25**  
**Admission no.:**

**Duration: 1 hr**  
**Max Marks: 25**  
**Roll no. :**

**General Instructions:**

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

**SECTION A: READING SKILLS (7 marks)**

**I. Read the following report.**

**7**

I ...the secretary is typically responsible for documenting events, maintaining records, and writing formal reports/ the secretary's position within the student council likely provides them with direct access to the necessary information and insights to create an accurate and detailed report

II unique /ahead of its time / innovative /pioneering / significantly advanced

III D 1

IV D 1

V To highlight the success and potential of the student-made drone programme / To illustrate the technical skills and creativity of the students involved in the project / To emphasise the educational value of the programme/To encourage broader participation and support for future activities

VI Performing aerial photography and obstacle course navigation 1

VII Students are expected to develop several key skills – (any two)

- learn the technical aspects of operating drones, controlling and manoeuvring them for precise photography.
- enhance their photography skills, focusing on composition, framing, and capturing unique aerial perspectives.
- develop problem-solving skills for selecting suitable locations and dealing with weather conditions.
- think imaginatively and explore new artistic expressions

**SECTION B- WRITING & GRAMMAR (8 marks)**

**II. The Editor,**  
**The Times of Pune,**  
**Pune.**

**Date: [Insert Date]**

Sir/Madam,

I am Akshay/Akshita, a resident of ABC Apartments, writing to express my deep concern over the alarming increase in pollution levels in Pune. The unchecked emissions from industries and the ever-growing vehicular traffic are significantly degrading the city's air quality and harming the health of its residents.

Industrial emissions release harmful gases like sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide, while the increasing number of vehicles adds to particulate matter in the air. These pollutants are not only causing respiratory and cardiovascular issues among citizens but also contributing to climate change.

To address this crisis, I urge the authorities to implement the following measures:

Enforce strict regulations on industrial emissions, ensuring compliance with pollution control norms.

Promote the use of public transport by improving its accessibility and frequency.

Encourage carpooling and the use of eco-friendly vehicles like electric cars.

Develop more green spaces and implement urban afforestation programs to absorb pollutants.

Through your esteemed newspaper, I hope to draw the attention of the concerned authorities and the public towards this pressing issue. Collective action is the need of the hour to safeguard our environment and ensure a healthier future for Pune.

Yours sincerely,

Akshay/Akshita

Resident of ABC Apartments, Pune

**III. Rearrange the words to form a meaningful sentence.**

**4M**

1. Students should develop healthy habits.
2. They should include regular exercise in their daily routine.
3. Nutritious food should be preferred, and eating junk food should be avoided.
4. Physical and mental fitness are key to overall well-being.

**SECTION C – LITERATURE (10 marks)**

**IV. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow.**

**1x3=3marks**

"When people in real life marry, they generally hunt up somebody in their own station. A fellow usually picks out a girl who went to the same high school and belonged to the same singing-society that he did."

Questions:

1. What belief about marriage is implied in the extract?

A. Marriage is primarily based on love and emotion.

(Answer: A)

2. How does this statement reflect Pescud's perspective on romantic novels?

B. He finds romantic novels unrealistic compared to practical life.

(Answer: B)

3. How is irony subtly hinted at in Pescud's statement?

C. He dislikes romantic novels but later writes one himself.

(Answer: C)

V. Attempt the questions given below, within 20-30 words each.

2x2=4M

**Q1. Based on Best Seller, do you think Pescud's actions align with the romantic ideals he criticizes in novels? Justify your answer with an example from the story. (4 Marks)**

**Answer:**

*Pescud's actions partially align with the romantic ideals he criticizes in novels:*

*Alignment with Romantic Ideals:*

*Despite mocking romantic novels, Pescud falls in love at first sight with Jessie, a woman from a vastly different social background.*

*His decision to follow her across cities, risking rejection, mirrors the grand, unrealistic gestures often seen in romantic fiction.*

*Contradiction:*

*Unlike the exaggerated drama of novels, Pescud approaches Jessie's father directly and acts pragmatically, reflecting real-life sensibilities.*

*Example from the Story:*

*Pescud admits he followed Jessie on the train and resolved to marry her, demonstrating his emotional and impulsive side, akin to the characters in romantic novels he ridicules.*

**Q2. In Villa for Sale, Gaston decides to sell the villa without owning it. What does this reveal about his character? How does it affect the resolution of the play? (4 Marks)**

**Answer:**

*Revelation about Gaston's Character:*

*Gaston is opportunistic, shrewd, and quick-witted.*

*His actions show he is pragmatic, valuing profit over morality or honesty.*

*Impact on the Resolution:*

*Gaston's cleverness resolves the financial aspect of the villa's sale. He sells it at a higher price to Mrs. Al Smith and simultaneously avoids buying it himself.*

*This action creates humor and irony in the play while highlighting the human tendency to prioritize personal gain over ethical considerations.*

VI. Attempt the question given below, within 40-50 words.

3M

Q: Both Villa for Sale and Best Seller depict characters who act contrary to societal norms and expectations. Compare how Gaston (Villa for Sale) and John A. Pescud (Best Seller) challenge these norms in their respective stories. What does their behaviour reveal about human nature and values? (4 Marks)

**Answer: ANY THREE POINTS**

Both Villa for Sale and Best Seller feature protagonists who defy societal expectations, showcasing unique perspectives on human behaviour:

Gaston in Villa for Sale:

Gaston challenges norms by exploiting the opportunity to sell the villa without actually owning it.

His actions demonstrate sharp wit, practicality, and a materialistic outlook. He values financial gain over emotions or morality, reflecting a pragmatic approach to life.

John A. Pescud in Best Seller:

Pescud, despite criticizing romantic novels, ironically falls in love in a manner reminiscent of the very stories he mocks. He pursues Jessie across cities and marries her, defying his self-proclaimed disdain for such dramatic actions.

His behaviour highlights the unpredictability of love and how emotions can override logic, revealing a softer, human side.

Comparison:

Both characters exhibit behaviours that defy expectations but for different reasons: Gaston's actions are driven by profit, while Pescud's actions stem from genuine affection.

Gaston's opportunism contrasts with Pescud's romantic idealism, yet both showcase how human decisions are often influenced by circumstances and personal motivations.

Values Revealed:

Gaston represents cleverness and pragmatism but also questions moral boundaries.

Pescud embodies the paradox of human nature—logical yet emotional—showing how people can contradict their beliefs when driven by deeper desires.