



**BK BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION**  
**SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS**  
**SENIOR SECONDARY CO-ED DAY CUM BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL**  
**PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION 1 - 2024-25**  
**ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE (101)**



**Class: X**

**Date: 18.11.24**

**Name:**

**General Instructions:**

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

- I. This question paper has 12 questions. All questions are compulsory.
- II. This question paper contains three sections:  
Section A: Reading Skills,  
Section B: Writing Skills  
Section C: Grammar  
Section D: Literature
- III. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
- IV. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
- V. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

**Duration: 3 hrs.**

**Max Marks: 80**

**Exam No. :**

**SECTION A**  
**READING SKILLS**

**(22 marks)**

**1. Read the following passage**

**12**

- (1) Once upon a time, there lived a young boy named Sammy. He was good at studies, obedient towards his elders, more hard working than a lot of other boys in his class and kind to everyone. Grown-ups as well as those younger than Sammy loved him very much. This aroused jealousy in some boys who longed to be as loved as him. A boy named Timmy studied in the same class as Sammy. Unlike Sammy, he was not good at studies and always liked to play during school hours. He misbehaved with his parents, bullied his classmates and even ill-treated Sammy. He always tried to put Sammy down and belittled him before the other kids in class. But no matter what he did, Sammy's grades kept getting better and better, whether in studies or in sports. Sammy kept getting accolades from everywhere. On his eighth birthday, Sammy got a beautiful pen as a gift from his parents. He brought it to school so that he could use it to take down the notes of the lectures that the teachers gave in class. When Timmy saw it, he felt jealous.
- (2) He asked Sammy, "Hey, where did you get that? Did you buy it?" "My parents gave it as a birthday gift to me," replied Sammy. Timmy was overcome with anger and jealousy. The bad boy that he was, he rarely got any presents from his parents. He decided to steal Sammy's pen. During recess, when everyone had gone out from the class, Timmy opened Sammy's bag and took out his pen. Then he hid it inside his bag and went out to have his lunch. When Sammy came back and could not find his pen, he informed his class teacher about it. The class teacher ordered the class monitor to check every student's bag. The missing pen was soon found from Timmy's bag and the furious teacher asked the errant boy, "Now Timmy, what do you have to say about this?" Timmy was in tears. He had nothing to say.
- (3) When Sammy saw Timmy cry, he took pity on the boy. The kind boy that he was, Sammy had no ill-feeling against his classmate. He requested his class teacher not to take any action against Timmy now that his stolen pen was found.

- (4) The teacher, surprised by Sammy's compassion, hesitated for a moment but eventually agreed to let Timmy off with a warning. "You're very lucky, Timmy," she said sternly. "Sammy has a big heart, but you must learn from this. Stealing is wrong, and it only brings shame." Timmy nodded, feeling the weight of his wrongdoing. He couldn't understand why Sammy would defend him after all the mean things he had done, but it made him realize how different Sammy was from him. As the class resumed, Timmy sat quietly, reflecting on what had just happened.
- (5) Later that day, after school was over, Timmy approached Sammy. He was nervous, unsure of how to start the conversation. "Sammy," he began awkwardly, "I... I'm sorry for what I did. I've been mean to you, and I took your pen because I was jealous. You're always so good at everything, and I couldn't stand it." Sammy smiled warmly and said, "It's okay, Timmy. Everyone makes mistakes. What's important is that you learn from them. We can still be friends if you want." Timmy couldn't believe his ears. Sammy was offering him friendship despite everything that had happened. For the first time in a long while, Timmy felt a sense of warmth in his heart.
- (6) From that day forward, Timmy started changing. He tried harder in his studies, stopped bullying others, and even began to treat his parents with more respect. Sammy's kindness had inspired him to become a better person. Over time, the two boys became good friends, helping each other in class and playing together after school. The other students noticed the change in Timmy and began to like him as well. Through his kind heart and forgiving nature, Sammy not only gained a friend but also helped Timmy find a better path in life.

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

- I How does Timmy's action contribute to the overall mood and atmosphere of the story? **1**
- (a) A sense of joy
- (b) Tension and conflict
- (c) Regret and depressed
- (d) Excitement and adventure
- II List two ways, how the disappointment felt by Timmy towards the end of the story is analogous to starting a new life **2**
- III What is the main flaw in the teacher's approach to deal with the situation? **1**
- (a) Not trying to know the reason behind Timmy's actions
- (b) Inconsistency in enforcing rules
- (c) Ridiculing Timmy's misbehaviour
- (d) Not involving Sammy in the resolution
- IV After which paragraph of the story, would the following paragraph most likely be placed? **1**
- He wanted to explain why he had stolen the pen but he feared that the teacher would inform his parents.
- V Briefly explain (in 30-40 words) any two elements that classify the story as inspirational. **1**
- VI Substitute the underlined word in the following sentence with a word/ phrase from paragraph 3, that means the same. **1**
- "They had great sympathy for the flood victims."
- VII What is the most significant lesson that Timmy learned from the experience? **1**
- (a) The importance of discipline
- (b) The importance of hard work and dedication
- (c) The significance of having big goals
- (d) The consequences of jealousy

- VIII Complete the following appropriately. Based on the word ‘accolades’ used in the line ‘Sammy kept getting accolades from everywhere’, one can infer about Sammy that ..... **1**
- IX Complete the sentence appropriately. If the title, ‘Punishment in the Face of Betrayal’ is given to the passage, it would be inappropriate as compared to ‘Importance of second chances’ because ..... **2**
- X State whether the given assertion is TRUE or FALSE. **1**  
Sammy was wrong in requesting the teacher not to take action against Timmy.

**2. Read the following report. 10**

Year	Televisions	VCRs	DVD Players	Microwave Ovens	Refrigerators	Washing Machines	Clothes Dryers
1996	98.70%	88.50%	0.50%	95.20%	99.20%	98.30%	85.40%
1997	99.00%	87.20%	2.30%	95.50%	99.30%	98.40%	85.70%
1998	99.20%	85.70%	5.80%	95.80%	99.40%	98.50%	86.00%
1999	99.40%	84.10%	11.40%	96.00%	99.50%	98.60%	86.30%
2000	99.50%	82.30%	19.20%	96.20%	99.50%	98.70%	86.60%
2001	99.60%	80.40%	29.30%	96.40%	99.60%	98.80%	86.90%
2002	99.70%	78.30%	41.80%	96.60%	99.60%	98.90%	87.20%
2003	99.80%	76.10%	56.20%	96.80%	99.70%	99.00%	87.50%

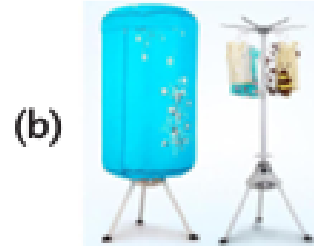
**Answer the following questions, based on the report above.**

- I Identify the type of consumer durable that would most likely prompt people to ask too many 'why' questions before buying, based on the data from the year 2001. **1**
- II Which product will be struggling the most in the year 2004? **1**  
(a) Televisions (b) VCRs  
(c) DVD Players (d) Microwave Ovens
- III Which product has shown a steep rise in the year 1998? What could be the reason? **2**
- IV Select the correct option to fill the blank and complete the analogy. **1**  
.....: a device for visual entertainment: Washing Machine: cleans clothes through mechanical processes.  
(a) Televisions (b) DVD Players  
(c) VCR (d) Washing Machine
- V Based on the understanding of technology, what do you think is the importance of a television? **1**
- VI Complete the sentence appropriately: **1**  
We can infer that televisions and microwave/ovens have been increasingly used because .....
- VII Give a brief explanation of how, out of the three scenarios provided, situation (2) best illustrates the consumer's attitude toward consumer durables. **2**  
(a) Every product makes daily living easier.  
(b) Users have assessed a product's usefulness and longevity.

(c) People purchase items because it's in style to do so.

VIII Identify a device which was owned by 95% or above home owners in 1996.

1



### SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS (22 marks)

3. You are Roshni/Rohan of class X<sup>th</sup>. Write an e-mail to your math teacher to arrange extra classes for math for the entire class during assembly time since your class could not cope with the topics.

3

4. Describe a piece of furniture in your home and its material, style, and purpose in about 100 words.

4

5 A. You are Nirmal Pillai, a concerned citizen from Aluva, Kochi. Compose a letter in about 120 words, to the Project Head of the E-Waste Management Cell at Electronics Vatika, New Delhi, highlighting the adverse effects of e-waste\* pollution. Suggest measures for addressing its management through community engagement and government initiatives.

7

**\*Discarded electronic devices such as smartphones, computers, telephones which are no more in use.**

**OR**

B. You are Chhavi Pathak of Ranchi, Bihar. Write a letter in about 120 words addressing the Secretary of the City Municipal Authority. Detail the problem of overgrown trees and shrubs in the neighbourhood and request the delegation of personnel for regular pruning.

6 A. Write an article on the following topics:

8

Space tourism, though in its early stages, is a reality. As Jagmeet Singh of class X-D, write an article for your school magazine, in about 150 words, discussing the opportunities and challenges of space tourism, the ethical considerations surrounding it and how it might impact

society. Use the given cues, along with your own ideas:

- Safety concerns and potential accidents in space tourism
- Space debris and the need for responsible space traffic management
- Turning space into a commodity: the ethics of commercializing space
- Ensuring equality and access to space tourism opportunities
- Promoting responsible and sustainable practices in space tourism
- Balancing economic opportunities with environmental and social responsibility

**OR**

**B.** India represents a harmonious oneness in spite of distinctions. Taking ideas from the unit 'National Integration, and using the given cues along with your own ideas, write an article in 150 words for your school Culture". India - a land embracing many cultures.

Clues:

India - festivals dedicated to seasons and harvests.

India - multitude of castes, creed, color, convictions, culture, cuisines, costumes and customs.

India - national festivals - pride, sense of patriotism-promote national integration.

**SECTION C: GRAMMAR (10 marks)**

**7. Complete the tasks (A) to (C), as directed:**

**3x1=3**

- A.** Fill the blanks (i) -(iii) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets.  
 Ram heard that the concert (i)..... start at 8 p.m. (**might/would/may**) After a few hours, he got a call from his friend (ii) ..... (**whom, who, that**) told him that the concert hasn't (iii) ..... (**began/ begin/begun**) yet.

- B.** In the following paragraph, one word has been omitted in each line. In your answer sheets, remember to write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, as shown below. The first one has been done as an example.

**4x1=4**

S.No.	Text	Word before	Omission	Word after
Eg.	I ten minutes late	I	was	ten
(A)	For work morning. The exhaust pipe			
(B)	Fell the bus, Mr. Brown was entirely			
(C)	Unsympathetic . He said, 'You get			
(D)	yourself, bicycle, Robin.'			

- C. Do as directed.** **3**
- a) Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence. **1**  
 Person X: We, as a nation are integrated into one unit. You know this, right?  
 Person Y: Er... I do but I'd appreciate knowing a little more please.  
 Person X: A NATION INTO / NATIONAL INTEGRATION, / UNIFYING DIVERSE COMMUNITIES / A COHESIVE WHOLE, /REFERS TO /IS ESSENTIAL FOR / WITHIN / FOSTERING SOCIAL HARMONY /THE PROCESS OF/ AND STABILITY /WHICH/
- b). Report the dialogues to complete the paragraph that follows. **2**  
 Patient: Doctor, I have a terrible toothache.  
 Doctor: Well, sit down. I need to examine your teeth. Please open your mouth wide. Patient: Is there any serious problem, doctor?  
 The patient told the doctor (i) .....  
 The doctor told him to sit down as (ii) .....

**SECTION D: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK**

**(26 marks)**

8. Read the given excerpts and answer the questions briefly, for any *two excerpts*, of the three, **4+4** given.
- A** Like a king in exile, uncrowned in the underworld,  
 Now due to be crowned again.  
 And so, I missed my chance with one of the lords  
 Of life.  
 And I have something to expiate  
 A pettiness.
- (A) What does the term 'pettiness' reflect about the poet's feelings?  
 (B) The poet refers to the snake as 'lords of life'. Elaborate.  
 (C) What mood is created from the use of 'underworld' in line 1?  
 (D) Identify the poetic device used in 'And so, I missed my chance with one of the lords Of life.'
- (Snake)*
- B** I'd done it! I'd rescued Sebastian at last! Before I had a chance to say anything to him though, the helicopter flew into the thick cloud. It turned everything blinding white. I couldn't see a thing until 'GAME OVER' flashed up. I'd hit the jackpot. I'd finally cracked the game. At least that was what I had thought then.
- (A) Identify the expressions that indicate the success achieved by Michael in the game he was playing.  
 (B) What can you infer about Michael's feelings when he says, "I'd hit the jackpot. I'd finally cracked the game."  
 (C) How would you describe the tone of the sentence "It turned everything blinding white"?  
 (D) Why does Michael say, "At least, that was what I had thought then"?

*(Virtually True)*

C ABEL: I'll tell you what I've got to do. On Monday next I've got to do three things. I've got to go to the lawyer's and alter my will; and I've got to go to the insurance office and pay my premium; and I've got to go to St. Philip's Church and get married.

BEN and HENRY: What!

MRS. JORDAN: Get married!

MRS. SLATER: He's out of his senses. (General consternation.)

ABEL: I say I'm going to get married.

MRS. SLATER: Who to?

ABEL: To Mrs. John Shorrocks who keeps the 'Ring-o'-Bells. We've had it fixed up a good while now, but I was keeping it as a pleasant surprise. (He rises.) I felt I was a bit of a burden to you, so I found someone who'd think it a pleasure to look after me.

(A) How has the playwright portrayed humour in the given extract?

(B) How do Ben and Henry's reactions contribute to the mood of the scene?

(C) What does Abel's statement, "I felt I was a bit of a burden to you, so I found someone who'd think it a pleasure to look after me," reveal about his intentions and feelings?

(D) State a synonym of pleasant in the word "pleasant surprise."

(*Dear Departed*)

9 Answer **any five** of the following six questions in about 40 words each. **5x2**

- I What does the writer wish to convey via the use of the metaphor for Albatross as a mental burden or curse?
- II John compares the process of a ghost taking shape to watching a moving picture cartoon being put together. What is the writer trying to convey with the use of a simile?
- III Explain how, according to Shakespeare and P. B. Shelly, time proves to be more powerful?
- IV What were the special touches that Patol Babu gave to his role to make it more authentic?
- V You can feel other's pain only when you go through it yourself. Validate this statement with reference to the story, 'The Letter' and why it took place?
- VI In the story, 'Mrs. Packletide's Tiger', when Louisa Mebbin said, "How amused everyone would be if they knew what really happened," explain what she meant.

10 Answer **any one** of the following questions in about 150 words: **1x8**

I Discuss the theme of betrayal as depicted in Act 3, Scene 1 of "**Julius Caesar**" and in "**The Frog and the Nightingale**." How do the authors illustrate the effects of betrayal on both the betrayers and the betrayed?

OR

II Compare how the theme of familial relationships is explored in "**Dear Departed**" and "**The Two Gentlemen of Verona**." How do the characters' interactions reflect their understanding of love and duty towards family?