



BK BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION
SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
SENIOR SECONDARY CO-ED DAY CUM BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION 3 - 2024-25
ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE (101)



Class: X
Date: 29.01.2025
Name:

Duration: 3 hrs.
Max Marks: 80
Exam No.:

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.

SECTION A
READING SKILLS

(22 marks)

1. Read the passage given below:

1. It is popularly believed that wireless technology was created in the year 1880, when Alexander Graham Bell and Charles Sumner Tainter invented the telephone. In that moment they changed the very course of human civilisation. Today you would be hard pressed to find an adult (or even a child) who does not have access to mobile technology.
2. Wireless communication is the transfer of information or power between two or more points that are not connected by an electrical conductor. The most common wireless technologies use radio waves. With radio waves, distances can be short, such as a few metres for Bluetooth, or as far as millions of kilometres for deep-space radio communications. It encompasses various types of fixed, mobile, and portable applications, including two-way radios, cellular telephones, personal digital assistants (PDAs), and wireless networking. In fact, all our Wi-Fi devices also emit radio waves.
3. Wireless networks are gaining popularity due to their convenience. This ease of connectivity comes at a price. On-going research has identified that signals from a wireless network are potentially dangerous to humans. The constant proximity to wireless signals can cause headaches, insomnia, cardiac arrest and other health issues. Researchers have established that Wi-Fi network signals predominantly affect the lower half of the human body and can trigger liver and pancreatic cancer.
4. In 2011, the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer classified wireless radiations from cell phones, baby monitors, tablets, cell towers, radar, WiFi etc. as Class 2B carcinogens. This Class 2B carcinogen classification applies to appliances with an operating frequency ranging from 30 kHz to 300 GHz. This means all this while, as we were scrolling through online entertainment, we have been sitting on a ticking time bomb.

5. With the rapid growth of mobile phone devices in the market, technology has developed in such a way that it has ended up creating a horrifying situation for the human body. The normal biological systems of the human body have not developed in any way to adapt to or protect against harmful radio waves.
6. This has led to a rise in serious ailments such as diseases of brain like cancer, brain tumours, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and so on. Not to forget the short - term effects like hormone disruption, loss of concentration, impairment of cognitive function, behavioural problems, and attention deficits; and the long-term effects like DNA damage, male infertility.
7. For children, the wireless devices have even more grave consequences because they have thinner bony skulls, more aqueous bodies/ brains, higher rate of cell turnover and, hence their neural systems are not completely developed. Beyond physical impairments, children are also vulnerable to stunted socio-emotional, cognitive and behavioural development.
8. Given the ubiquity of technology in today's society and the importance of this issue for policy and practice, it is essential to understand the impacts of technology use on the developing brains and bodies of children in the 21st century in order to guide policy delineating safe and effective use. Parents and guardians should be discerning when it comes to guidelines and research, while governments and groups with policy influence should be cautious of prescribing policy without exploring the evidence base in a holistic and thorough manner.
9. International exposure guidelines have been developed to provide protection against established effects from radio frequency fields by the International Commission on NonIonizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP, 1998) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE, 2005). It is up to national authorities to adopt these international standards to protect their citizens against adverse levels of radio wave exposure. They should restrict access to areas where exposure limits may be exceeded.
10. France has banned all wireless devices, including cell phones from all public schools starting September 2018, and California Public Health is actively educating their public regarding risk of harm from wireless radiation. Even in India, several eminent scientists have begun a crusade to caution the Government against the roll-out of 5G technology-based services in the country.
11. We can make smarter choices about the way we use technology by making changes in our everyday usage patterns. For instance, adults carrying cell phones (and other wireless devices) can either turn off the device or convert device to 'airplane mode' when servicing or interacting with children and pregnant mothers.
12. Precautionary measures for adults include increasing the distance, duration and frequency of wireless device use; reducing multiple device use; and reducing exposure to high wireless radiation areas. By making minor modifications to our daily routines and habits, we can try and minimise the harmful effects of wireless technology. (750 words)

Answer the following questions based on the above passage.

- (I) How do the lines of the passage contribute to the overall mood? 1
- (a) Positive and optimistic about the convenience of wireless technology.
 - (b) Neutral, providing information without expressing a specific mood.
 - (c) Concerned and cautionary about the potential health risks of wireless technology.
 - (d) Nostalgic and reflective about the historical development of wireless communication.
- (II) Analogize the impact of wireless communication on society to a double-edged sword. 2

- (III) What potential flaw in the author's argument can be identified concerning the health risks of wireless technology? **1**
- (a) The passage provides insufficient evidence to support the claim of health risks.
 - (b) The author fails to acknowledge any benefits of wireless technology.
 - (c) The passage lacks clarity on the historical development of wireless communication.
 - (d) The author exaggerates the severity of health issues associated with wireless signals.
- (IV) After which paragraph of the story, would the following paragraph most likely be placed? Set specific times for using devices and encourage breaks for physical activity or face-to-face interactions. **1**
- (V) Briefly explain (in 30-40 words) any two elements that classify the passage as expository passage. **2**
- (VI) Substitute the underlined word in the following sentence with a word/ phrase from paragraphs 1, that means the same. **1**
- “Despite being challenged by limited resources, the team worked diligently to complete the project on time.”
- (VII) What is the most significant lesson adults can learn from the passage? **1**
- (a) The passage emphasizes the benefits of wireless technology, urging adults to embrace it without concern.
 - (b) The passage suggests that adults should limit their use of wireless devices to prevent potential health risks.
 - (c) The passage advises adults to ignore international exposure guidelines and continue using wireless technology freely.
 - (d) The passage encourages adults to focus solely on the convenience of wireless communication, disregarding any associated health concerns.
- (VIII) Complete the following appropriately. **1**
- By making use of the word ‘harmful effects’ in ‘By making minor modifications to our daily routines and habits, we can try and minimise the harmful effects of wireless technology’, one can infer that
- (IX) Complete the following appropriately. **1**
- If the title, Incredible Benefits of Wireless Technology for Health and Happiness is given to this passage, it would be an inappropriate title, as compared to "Addressing Health Concerns in Wireless Technology Usage" because
- (X) State whether the given assertion is TRUE or FALSE. **1**
- The passage suggests that international exposure guidelines for radio frequency fields are unnecessary and should be disregarded by national authorities. 1

2. Read the following telephonic conversation between Kritika (Candidate) and Rohan (HR Manager).

Rohan: Hi! Is that Kritika?

Kritika: Kritika this side, indeed. Who is this, please tell me?

Rohan: Hello Kritika, Rohan here from ABC’s HR department. Is it the appropriate time for us to speak?

Kritika: Indeed, sir!

Rohan: had seen your Naukri.com profile. Tell me if you are still looking for work.

Kritika: Yes Sir, I am excited about a new job opportunity.

Rohan: I am calling you for the position of Tech Support for our Delhi office. Are you comfortable with the location and the profile?

Kritika: I am working as a tech support representative. So I would feel right at home there.

Rohan: What kind of schooling did you receive?

Kritika: I received an overall grade of 83% in Bachelor of Technology from Savitabai Phule, College Pune.

Rohan: That's fantastic. Tell me more about your professional background.

Kritika: I began working as a tech support six years ago.

Rohan: Alright. Which organisation do you work for right now?

Kritika: I work at Real Solutions Ltd., Delhi office in the tech support division.

Rohan: Could you briefly describe your position and duties at your present company?

Kritika: I can diagnose and fix problems, install and configure hardware and software, troubleshoot technical problems, and resolve network issues, among other things.

Rohan: Excellent! Let me know what is your reason for the job change?

Kritika: Although I have been employed here for the previous four years, I don't particularly enjoy the type of work I've been doing lately in the support profile. To be completely honest, I'm also searching for new opportunities to advance my skills and a decent hike in my salary. I want to evolve in a new environment.

Rohan: Alright. Could you tell me your expected salary and current salary?

Kritika: I make earning six lakh per annum at the moment. Expecting a minimum of 35–45% increase in my current CTC, in line with industry standards.

Rohan: Based on your interview, we will undoubtedly extend to you a respectable raise on your current CTC. Could you please share your learning experience at ABC with me?

Kritika: ABC is a top consulting company in the industry, quoting the top companies in the field. This company offers a plethora of limitless learning opportunities, utilizing cutting-edge technologies and methodologies. I'll have a fantastic opportunity to learn, develop, and explore while working with ABC.

Rohan: That's good to hear, Kritika. Are you available for tomorrow's Google Meet interview round?

Kritika: Of course, sir.

Rohan: Tell me your email address

Kritika: kritika123@gmail.com

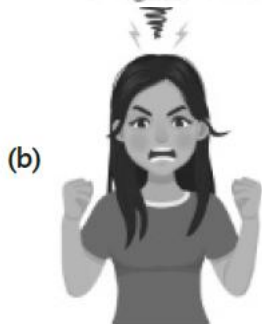
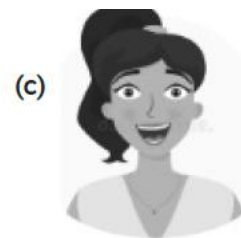
Rohan: Thank you.

Answer the following questions, based on the conversation above.

(I) Determine who is most likely to ask "why" questions. Provide one argument in favour of your decision. **1**

(II) What draws Kritika to ABC above all else? **1**
(a) cooperative employees

- (b) limitless learning opportunities
 (c) encouraging supervisors
 (d) jobs that aren't very challenging
- (III) Rohan says "excellent" after finding out about Kritika's responsibilities and role in his current position. Provide any two likely explanations for his answer. **2**
- (IV) Fill in the following analogy based on the communication modalities mentioned in the text.
 telephone: oral communication: ::.....: written communication. **1**
 (a) pen (b) speech
 (c) e-mail (d) meeting
- (V) State two most likely questions that would be asked to Kritika in her online selection round. **2**
- (VI) Using the conversation as a guide, complete the following sentence. **1**
 From their last conversation, it is clear that Rohan would talk to Kritika again because of.....
- (VII) Based on the conversation, which of the following claims can be upheld? **1**
 (a) The HR made the decision to hire Kritika.
 (b) Kritika was persuaded that HR possesses a strong background and skill set.
 (c) Kritika firmly believed she had been chosen for the position.
 (d) The HR was persuaded that Kritika possesses a solid background and skill set.
- (VIII) Which expression would define Rohan's thoughts towards the candidate? **1**



SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS (22 marks)

3. Write an email, addressed to the class teachers of the school for classes IX to XII, regarding their meeting with the Disciplinary Department, to discuss the ways to make sure that the students follow School rules and maintain decorum. **3**
4. Write a description of a unique item from your travels abroad and the culture it represents in about 100 words. **4**
5. A. You are Parth/Prerna. You have observed that there is a craze for keeping pet dogs. People take them out on roads for defecation causing nuisance on roads and streets. Write a letter in 100 – 120

words to the editor of a local newspaper, drawing the attention of the local authorities, and also of the people in general to take appropriate action to make the city a better place to live in. **7**

OR

B. Write a formal letter to the principal of your school in not more than 120 words. requesting the introduction of a "Green Path" initiative to promote environmental preservation. Suggest activities such as tree planting drives, recycling programs, and awareness campaigns that the school can implement to encourage students to participate in preserving the environment.

6. A. EVs or Electric vehicles have now become a necessity, keeping in mind how the rise in economic activity and burgeoning population has led to a tremendous demand of electric vehicles in the transport sector, especially in urban India, write an article on 'A' World with Smog-free and Clean Air.' Use the given clues (150 words) **8**

- India's ever-growing population
- EV - Lower running costs
- Critical issues of air and noise pollution
- Zero tailpipe emissions
- Low maintenance costs.

OR

B. Write an article for your school magazine in about 150 words, on the theme "The Impact of Sports on Global Unity." Discuss how sports as serve a platform for bringing people from different cultures and backgrounds together, fostering mutual understanding and cooperation. Include examples of international sports events that have demonstrated this unity.

Clues:

- * International Events: Mention how events like the Olympics or the FIFA World Cup promote unity among nations.
- * Cultural Exchange: Discuss how athletes from various countries interact and learn from each other.
- * Common Goals: Describe how competing nations often share common goals and values.
- * Media Influence: Note the role of media in broadcasting these events and their impact on global perception.
- * Personal Stories: Include anecdotes or stories of sportsmanship that exemplify unity.

SECTION C: GRAMMAR (10marks)

7. Fill the blanks (A) -(C) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets.

A. The students (i) (was/were/have) talking to Miss Rinni as she (ii) (entering/entered/enters) the classroom. All the kids observed her to find out what sort of (iii) (a/an/the) person she was. **3x1=3**

B. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each of the lines. Write the incorrect word and the correction in the space provided. **4x1=4**

S. no.	Text	Incorrect	Correct
(A)	Poverty is the route cause of		
(B)	All evil. The poor suffers because		

(C)	They do not want to take a first		
(D)	Step. They feel happy and they are		

C. Do as directed.

3

a) Rearrange the following jumbled words/ phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence. **1**

Customer: I'm interested in upgrading my Internet plan for faster speeds.

Service representative: That's a great idea! How will the upgraded plan improve my internet experience?

Customer: higher/ offer/ speed/ the/ and/ plan/ reliable/ more/ connectivity/ will/ upgraded/ your/ internet/ experience/ improve/ to

b) Report the dialogues to complete the paragraph that follows. **2**

Julie: When is the fancy dress competition in your school?

Mona: It is after two weeks.

Julie: Are you taking part in it?

Mona: Yes, I am taking part as an engine driver.

Julie: Why have you chosen that?

Mona: So that I can reach late.

Julie asked Mona when the fancy dress competition in her school was. To that Mona replied that (i) Julie enquired whether (ii) Mona said that she was taking part as an engine driver.

SECTION D: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK (26 marks)

8. Read the given excerpts and answer the questions briefly, for any *two excerpts*, of the three, given. **4x2=8**

(A) The rifle flashed out with a loud report, and the great tawny beast sprang to one side and then rolled over in the stillness of death. In a moment a crowd of excited natives had swarmed onto the scene, and their shouting speedily carried the glad news to the village, where a thumping of tom-toms took up the chorus of triumph. And their triumph and rejoicing found a ready echo in the heart of Mrs. Packletide; already that luncheon-party in Curzon Street seemed immeasurably nearer. *(Mrs. Packletide's Tiger)*

(A) What were the consequences of the tiger's actual death?

(B) What does Mrs. Packletide's reaction to the tiger's death reveal about her character?

(C) What does the writer mean by 'And their triumph and rejoicing found a ready echo in the heart of 'Mrs. Packletide'?

(D) How does the theme of the passage revolve around social validation?

(B) 'As far as I can see, the part isn't a big one. I'll be paid, of course, but that's not the main thing. The thing is - remember how I started on the stage? Remember my first part? I played a dead soldier! All I had to do was lie still on the stage with my arms and legs spread. And remember how I rose from that position? Remember Mr. Watts shaking me by the hand? And the silver medal which the chairman of our municipality gave me? Remember? This is only the first step on the ladder, my dear better-half! Yes --the first step that would--God willing--mark the rise to fame and fortune of your beloved husband!' *(Patol Babu, Film Star)*

- (A) How does Patol Babu's first acting role as a "dead soldier" influence his perspective on his current part?
- (B) What does the small role in the film remind Patol Babu?
- (C) Why is Patol Babu remembering all these experiences?
- (D) What type of conversation did Patol Babu and his wife had?

(C) **CAESAR:** Calpurnia here, my wife, stays me at home:

She dreamt to-night she saw my statue, Which, like a fountain with an hundred spouts,
 Did run pure blood: and many lusty Romans Came smiling, and did bathe their hands in it:
 And these does she apply for warnings, and portents,
 And evils imminent; and on her knee

(*Julius Caesar*)

- (A) Select the line that indicates the use of visual imagery to convey her fears about the omens.
- (B) What is the significance of the statue running pure blood in Calpurnia's dream?
- (C) What does the phrase "O Caesar! these things are beyond all use." tell us about Calpurnia's tone?
- (D) What does the reference to the graves yielding up their dead signifies about the severity of the omens?

9. Answer **ANY FIVE** of the following questions in 30-40 words: **5x2=10**

- (I) How does the portrayal of *snake*'s departure emphasis the speakers feeling of regret?
- (II) What does the writer wish to convey through "a ghostly whisper in the dead of night" in "*A Shady Plot*"?
- (III) Discuss the use of irony in the *Dear Departed* by Stanley Houghton to reveal the characters attitude towards their deceased relative?
- (IV) Evaluate how the sailor's actions toward the Albatross reveal the conflict between belief in omens and the practical outcomes of those beliefs.
- (V) Discuss how Shelley's "*Ozymandias*" conveys the theme of immortality through the poem's depiction of a ruined monument.
- (VI) Evaluate the role of technology in shaping the characters experience in '*Virtually True*'.

10. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions in about 150 words. **1x8=8**

(I) In "*Not Marble, nor the Gilded Monuments*" and "*The Frog and the Nightingale*", analyse how the poets use imagery and tone to convey their perspectives on the nature of true worth and artistic achievement.

OR

(II) How do the contrasting themes and narrative style in Dhumaketu's "*The Letter*" and A.J. Cronin's "*Two Gentlemen of Verona*" contribute to the overall tone and meaning of each story?