

DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL, JAMMU
HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION
(SAMPLE PAPER)
SESSION (2024-2025)

CLASS X

MM:80

SUBJECT ENGLISH

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *The paper is divided into three sections:*
 - Section A: Reading* (20Marks)
 - Section B: Grammar & Writing* (20 Marks)
 - Section C: Literature* (40 Marks)
2. *All questions are compulsory.*
3. *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.*
4. *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

SECTION-A (READING SKILLS)

(10 Marks)

Q1. I. Read the passage given below.

The smartphone has become an integral part of our daily lives. From communication to navigation, entertainment to productivity, it offers a wide range of functions. However, its convenience comes at a price. The constant connectivity it provides can lead to addiction, causing individuals to spend more time staring at screens than interacting with the real world.

2.A study conducted in 2021 revealed that the average person spends over 3 hours per day on their smartphone. This excessive screen time can lead to various health issues, including digital eye strain, poor posture, and disrupted sleep patterns. Moreover, smartphone addiction can have a negative impact on mental health, leading to feelings of anxiety and loneliness.

3.Despite these drawbacks, smartphones have also brought numerous benefits. They facilitate instant communication with loved ones, provide access to a wealth of information, and enable remote work and learning. In today's fast-paced world, they have become indispensable tools for many.

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5.Despite these drawbacks, smartphones have also brought numerous benefits. They facilitate instant communication with loved ones, provide access to a wealth of information, and enable remote work and learning. In today's fast-paced world, they have become indispensable tools for many.

On the basis of your reading answer the following questions:

- I. Why does the passage highlight the drawbacks of smartphone usage? (Paragraph 1) (1)
 - A. To promote smartphone addiction.
 - B. To emphasize the convenience of smartphones.
 - C. To warn about the negative consequences of excessive smartphone use.
 - D. To encourage more screen time.
- II. Select the option that corresponds to the following relation below: (1)

"However, its convenience comes at a price." (Paragraph 1)

 - A. The faster the car, the safer the ride.
 - B. The more you eat, the healthier you become.
 - C. The bigger the house, the cheaper the rent.
 - D. The greater the convenience, the higher the cost.
- III. Select the option that displays what the writer projects, with reference to the following (1)

"In today's fast-paced world, they have become indispensable tools for many." (Paragraph 3)

 - A. Nostalgia for simpler times.
 - B. Recognition of smartphones' importance in modern life.
 - C. A call to abandon smartphones.
 - D. Disapproval of technological .

- IV. Complete the following with a phrase from paragraph 1. (1)
 "The constant connectivity it provides can lead to _____."
- V. The writer compares smartphone addiction to what in the line "The constant connectivity it provides can lead to addiction." (Paragraph 1) (1)
 State 1 point of similarity between smartphone addiction and the compared entity.
- VI. What is the potential health issue mentioned in paragraph 2 that can result from excessive smartphone use? (30-40 words) (2)
- VII. The passage mentions that smartphone addiction can lead to feelings of anxiety and loneliness because..... (1)
- VIII. Supply 2 point to justify the following: (30-40 words) (2)
 "Despite these drawbacks, smartphones have also brought numerous benefits." (Paragraph 3)

Q2. Read the following passage :

10 MARKS

1. The rise of e-books and digital reading platforms has transformed the publishing industry. Traditional printed books now coexist with their digital counterparts, and this shift has significant implications for readers and authors alike.
2. E-books offer convenience and portability, allowing readers to carry an entire library on a single device. This accessibility has expanded reading opportunities for people worldwide.
3. A recent survey aimed to understand readers' preferences and habits in the digital age. Table 1 presents the responses of 600 participants:
 Table 1 - Total number of participants: 600

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1. Prefer reading printed books	245	210	85	40	20
2. enjoy the convenience of e-3	310	210	45	20	15
3. read more books since using e-books	280	220	60	25	15
4. still visit physical bookstores	180	250	100	40	30
5. believe e-books are more ecofriendly	150	140	160	90	60

4. The survey findings suggest that while many readers appreciate the convenience of ebooks, a significant portion still prefers printed books and values the experience of visiting physical bookstores.
- I. What transformation has occurred in the publishing industry due to the rise of e-books, as mentioned in paragraph (1)? (Answer in 1-2 sentences) (1)
- ii. According to Table 1, which survey statement received the highest number of "Strongly agree" responses, and what does this reveal about readers' preferences? (Answer in 1 sentence) (1)
- iii. Based on the survey's findings in paragraph (4), what key insight can be drawn regarding readers' attitudes toward e-books and printed books? (1)
- iv. If you were a publisher looking to cater to a wide readership, which survey statement's results in Table 1 would you find most informative, and why? (Answer in 1-2 sentences) (1)
- V. In paragraph (2), what does the word "portability" mean? (1)
- A. The quality of being heavy and difficult to move.
 B. The ability to be easily carried or transported.
 C. The act of reading in a specific location.
 D. The preference for traditional books over digital ones.
- vi. In paragraph (4), what does the term "eco-friendly" refer to? (1) A.
 Reading habits that are friendly towards the environment.
 B. The tendency to read books while outdoors.
 C. E-books that are more technologically advanced.

D. The promotion of physical bookstores.

vii. Based on the passage, how might the rise of e-books impact the traditional publishing industry? (2)

viii. Considering the survey results and the preferences of readers, what recommendations could be made to publishers in order to adapt to the changing landscape of book consumption? (2)

SECTION B : WRITING SKILL & GRAMMAR

Q3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed: (10)

i. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter:

Dear Sir This is with reference to committee's letter of recommendation that _____ (highlight) the nominations for 'Safe Residential Area' award for this current year.
--

ii. Read the given sentence from a recipe review article. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.

This delightful recipe must keep your hunger pangs at bay with its balanced spices and *oriental* flavour. Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction
...

iii. Abhilash and Neha had a conversation about the inauguration of Neha's Dance Academy. Report Abhilash's question: Is your best friend helping you in this venture?

iv. Read the dialogue between Shabnam and her mentor, Sara, regarding her summer internship programme. Sara: Why did you choose to participate in this internship programme? Shabnam: Ah! I am convinced this programme has the potential to enhance my abilities. Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.

Sara asked Shabnam _____ in that internship programme.

Shabnam sighed and exclaimed that she was convinced that programme had the potential to enhance her abilities.

- A. why to choose to participate
- B. to choose participation
- C. about her choice to participate
- D. with her choice in participating

v. Fill the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the concluding line of an issued circular by an Organisation, to its Managers.

A copy of the plan is enclosed and _____ (that/ then/ this) may be communicated to all Team Leaders for compliance.

vi. Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from a commercial company's current marketing strategy. The company aimed at increasing authority in areas frequently visited by the clients.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction
...

vii. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the closing line, from an analytical report.

In conclusion, this study explores the association among short-sleep pattern and overweight youngsters.

Option No.	error	correction
A	explores	explore
B	and	or
C	among	between
D	In	for

viii. Complete the given narrative, by filling the blank with the correct option.

The experience of nursing an injured bird left me _____ grateful for knowing the importance of being kind and compassionate to all creatures.

- A. feeling
- B. having felt
- C. felt
- D. feels

ix. Report the dialogue between a vendor and his customer, by completing the sentence:

Vendor: It is nice to see you, Sir!

Customer: Yes, indeed! Unlike last month, I have been away for quite some time this month.

The vendor greeted his customer respectfully and mentioned that he was pleased to see him.

The customer answered in the affirmative and explained that

x. Fill the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the live feed on a school news channel.
Congratulations Change Makers!

The regional competition awards have been announced and our school music club _____ the first prize.

- A. had been won
- B. will win
- C. was winning
- D. has won

xi. Complete the line from a self-awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option.

The river runs through your veins

The trees and mountains _____ your name

The moon and stars watch over You're guiding your

way back home To dream the night away.

- A. will call
- B. call
- C. had called
- D. calls

xii. Identify the error and supply correction for the following note in a passengers' flight instructions manual:

Note- Passengers will not reach the airport late in order to avoid a fine equivalent to 5% of the basic fare
--

Use following format to answer:

Error	Correction

WRITING

Q4. Attempt any one

(5)

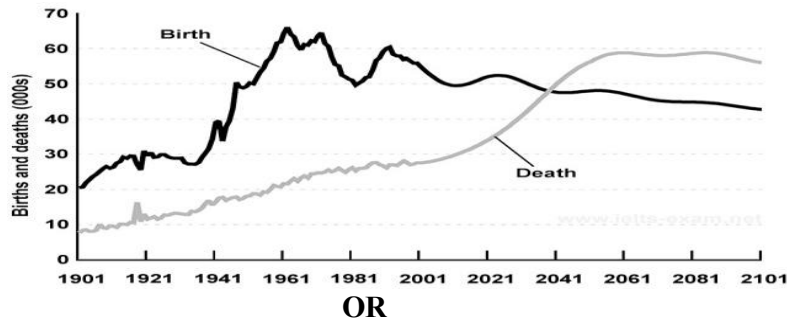
A. You are Kanika / Karun of 214, sector 19, Chandigarh, awaiting your class X results. Meanwhile you would like to do a short-term course in French language. Write a letter to the Director, French institute, PU, Chandigarh inquiring about the details about the course.

B. You are Chahat / Chetan, an IT Professional. You want to raise awareness about the rising incidences of cyber crimes. Write a letter to the editor of Cyber magazine "Info news", highlighting the issue and suggesting measures to prevent such happenings.

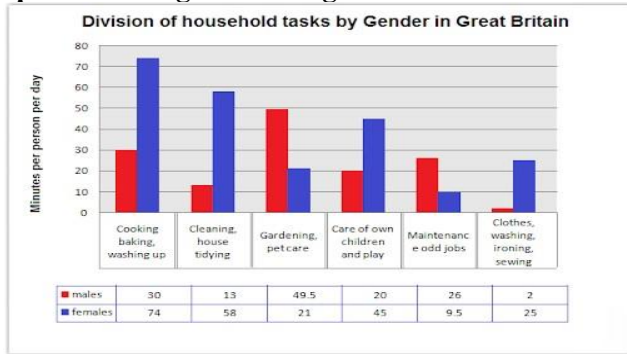
Q5 . Attempt any one:

(5)

A. Below is a graph given showing birth and death rates in a country from 1901 to 2101. Write an analytical paragraph (100-150 words).



B. The chart shows the division of household tasks by gender in Great Britain. Write an analytical paragraph describing the chart given in not more than 200 words.



SECTION D : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)

Q6. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow: (5)

A. It was only when I began to learn that my boyhood freedom was an illusion, when I discovered as a young man that my freedom had already been taken from me, that I began to hunger for it. At first as a student I wanted freedom only for myself, the transitory freedoms of being able to stay out at night, read what I pleased and go where I chose. Later, as a young man in Johannesburg, I yearned for the basic and honourable freedoms...

- I. What is the basic and honourable freedom?
- II. Why do you think the speaker mentions some freedoms as ‘transitory’?
- III. Nelson Mandela yearned for freedom for himself only. (true/false)
- IV. The speaker says, ‘at first as a student I wanted freedom only for myself.’ Why do you think he only thought about himself?
 - a) He didn’t want to think about the freedom denied to others
 - b) He was being selfish and was only bothered about himself
 - c) He didn’t think that freedom denied to him was important for others
 - d) He was too young to realise that freedom was denied to others as well.

OR

B. In the end Jaffers was knocked unconscious as he made a last hold on to the unseen scientist. There were nervous, excited cries of “ Hold him ! “. But this was easier said than done Griffin had shaken himself free, and no one knew where to lay hands on .

- I. Why was it difficult to hold him ?
 - (A) He was transparent
 - (B) He was partially visible
 - (C) He had muddy clothes on
 - (D) He had a pistol in his hand
- II. There was a frisson of excitement in the crowd. (True/false)
- III. Jaffers was
- IV. Why was this easier said than done ?

Q7. Read the given extract and answer the questions : (5 marks)

A. *Sliding through the long grass*
Near the water hole
Where plump deer pass .

- I. The tiger here is visualized in a forest. (True/false)
II . The tiger hides in the long grass to
(A) Escape being caught
(B) Frighten the villagers
(C) Hunt his prey
(D) Rest
III . The figure of speech in line 1 is
IV . Why should he hide ?

OR

B. *What, what is he to do? I saw it go Merrily bouncing, down the street, and then Merrily over – there it is in the water!*

- I . ‘what , what is he to do?’ What does this Expression denote II. Where did the ball go?
III . Which poetic device is used in line 2?
IV .The poem “The Ball Poem” is written by
(A) Leslie Norris
(B) Robin Klein
(C) John Berryman
(D) Robert Frost

Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words: (3×4=12)

- I. Justify the opinion that the traditional baker and his bread play a significant role in the cultural and social fabric of Goan society. (*Glimpses of India-I*)
II. How does Leslie Norris use vivid imagery and metaphorical language in -A TIGER IN THE ZOO to effectively depict the confinement and oppression, experienced by a captive tiger.
III. Explain how the description of the devastation caused by the hailstorm reflects the sadness within Lencho in “A letter to God” refer to the given line from the text .
“Not a leaf remained on the trees the corn was totally destroyed from the plants. Lencho’s soul was filled with sadness.”
IV. Kitty was a trusted friend to Anne. Elaborate.
V. How does poem “Amanda” challenge the notion that parents should give space and freedom to children?

Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words(3×2=6)

- I. The story , ATriumph of Surgery is a powerful example of the importance of saying “no”. Explain.
II. How did Anil’s trust transformed Hari Singh?
III. Why did Griffin burn his landlord’s house?

Q10. Answer ANY One of the following three questions, in about 100-120words: (6)

A. You have been asked to present an evaluation of the approaches of the mothers of both, the baby seagull and Amanda, towards helping their children. Write this presentation draft including your insights, in about 120 words, comparing the approaches of both parents.

B. How has the poet used humour and satire to explain wild animals in the poem – How to tell wild animals?

Q11 Answer ANY One of the following three questions, in about 100-120words: (6)

A. “Looks can be deceptive.” Evaluate Ausable's character on the basis of this Expression.

B. Imagine you are Horace Danby . Write a diary entry of the day when police had caught you for the theft where actual culprit was the lady in red dress.