

English – Language and Literature (184)

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER 1 (TERM 1)

Class-X

Time allowed: 90 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 40

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains Three sections.
2. Section A: Reading has 18 questions. Attempt a total of 14 questions, as per specific instructions for each question.
3. Section B: Writing & Grammar has 12 questions. Attempt a total of 10 questions, as per specific instruction for each question.
4. Section C: Literature has 30 questions. Attempt 26 questions, as per specific instructions for each question.
5. All questions carry equal marks.
6. There is no negative marking.

READING

1. Read the passage given below.

1. Over 7000 years ago, the hunter-gatherers took to farming and irrigation and settled along river valleys. The earliest known examples of script originated around 3500 BCE in Sumer, the first-known civilization of the world.
2. Located on the flood plains of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, in the region which is now modern Iraq, Sumer was a collection of city-states ruled by priest-kings and inhabited by farmers, artisans and merchants.

Agriculture and trade prospered. How were trade transactions to be recorded? The ancient Sumerians used small clay objects in abstract shapes, called clay tokens, to keep track of agricultural and manufactured goods. In time, as they needed to keep these tokens safe, they began to seal them in hollow clay containers or envelopes. In order to remember what was inside these sealed containers, the Sumerians impressed pictures of the tokens on the containers. In time, the tokens and envelopes were done away with but the symbols of the tokens continued to be used. Thus, the earliest system of writing was invented – the cuneiform. The cuneiform script was written on soft clay tablets using reed pens called stylus. These clay tablets were then baked in a kiln. The name comes from the Latin word cuneus for ‘wedge’ owing to the wedge-shaped style of writing. The Sumerian tablets are the earliest examples of the cuneiform script.

3. Cuneiform was pictographic – the image of the sun signified the sun. Later, cuneiform writing embraced ideograms. For example, the sign representing a foot was also used to mean ‘stand’, ‘walk’, ‘run’, ‘bring’, and so on. Much later, cuneiform was used phonetically, with symbols representing sounds. With this, the script moved to its next stage – the

alphabet. All great Mesopotamian civilizations used the cuneiform before abandoning it in favour of the alphabetic script some time after 100 BCE. The great literary works of Mesopotamia such as the Atrahasis, The Descent of Inanna, The Myth of Etana, The Enuma Elish and the famous Epic of Gilgamesh were all written in cuneiform.

4. The discovery of ancient cuneiform tablets of Mesopotamia in the late 19th century overturned the traditional Biblical version of history. Until cuneiform was deciphered, many biblical texts were thought to be original pieces of work. The Fall of Man, the Great Flood, the story of the Garden of Eden were understood as events in human history told by God to the author or authors of Genesis. But with the translation of cuneiform, they are now recognized as Mesopotamian myths derived from works such as The Myth of Etana, The Atrahasis and The Enuma Elish!

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any eight out of the ten questions by choosing the correct option.

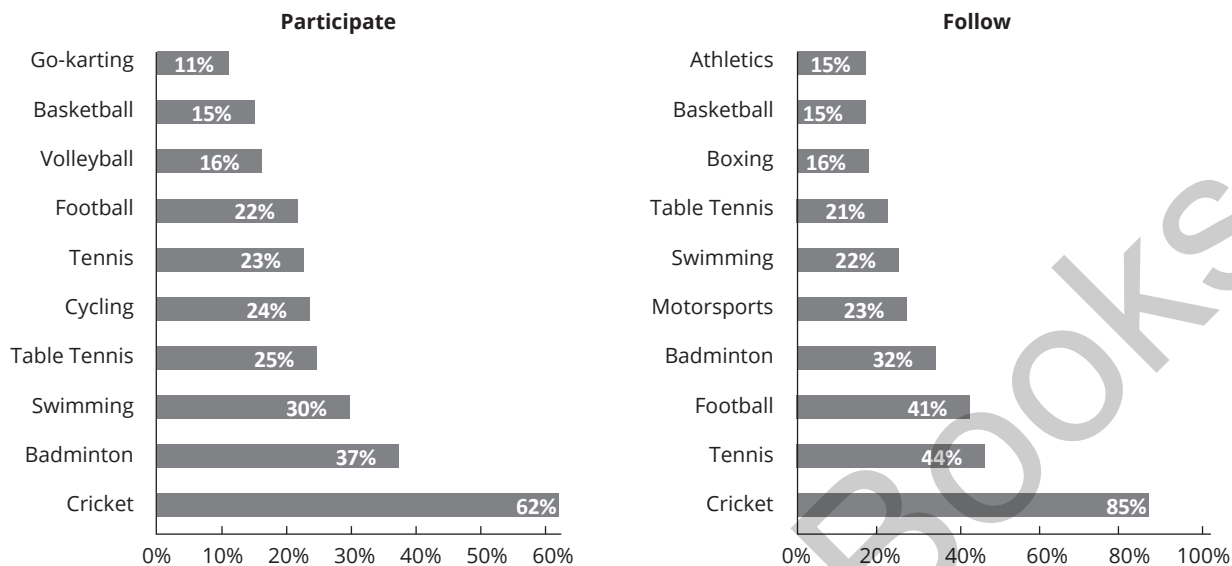
- The earliest occupation known to man was
 - farming.
 - mining.
 - hunting.
 - building.
- How were trade transactions recorded by the ancient Sumerians?
 - They used clay containers to keep the records of trade transactions safe.
 - They used seals on which they impressed information about the transactions.
 - They used clay tokens to keep track of agricultural and manufactured goods.
 - They used clay tablets with all information about the trade transactions.
- Which of the following sentences about cuneiform is NOT true?
 - Cuneiform is the method of writing developed in the valleys of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.
 - The cuneiform script was written on soft clay tablets using reed pens called stylus.
 - The cuneiform script enabled people to keep accurate records of day-to-day domestic transactions.
 - Distinguished by its wedge-shaped marks on clay tablets, cuneiform script is the oldest form of writing in the world.
- The earliest cuneiform was pictographic. This meant that
 - its script was a series of pictures in the form of a sentence.
 - each picture could also be used as a synonym of that particular object.
 - each picture or symbol could signify an idea or phrase.
 - it conveyed its meaning through its pictorial resemblance to a physical object.
- Cuneiform writing was the forerunner of the in which the great literary works of Mesopotamia were written.
 - alphabetical script
 - phonetic symbols
 - ideogram symbols
 - pictographic writing
- What happened when cuneiform was deciphered in the late 19th century?
 - Many stories from the Bible were verified as being genuine historic events of those times.

- B. The understanding that the Bible's version of historical events was authentic was overturned.
 - C. The information about historical events on these cuneiform tablets were found to have been taken from those of the Bible.
 - D. Historians were able to read about many myths which had not been mentioned in the Bible.
7. The antonym of 'abstract' as given in Paragraph 2 is
 - A. well-defined
 - B. vague
 - C. three-dimensional
 - D. square
 8. A 'sealed container' is a container that is
 - A. closed
 - B. open
 - C. zipped
 - D. stitched
 9. The Sumerians 'impressed' pictures of the tokens on the containers. In other words, they the pictures.
 - A. influenced
 - B. drew
 - C. stamped
 - D. painted
 10. The synonym of 'phonetically' as given in Paragraph 3 is
 - A. orally
 - B. used by Phoenicians
 - C. based on human voice
 - D. based on sound

II. Read the passage below.

1. According to a PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) survey conducted in 2017, close to 60% of the respondents agreed that more emphasis is given to education than to sports in India.
2. Every school has sports in its curriculum as they understand the importance of physical health. However, the importance given to sports ends there. It seems that its inclusion is just a formality.
3. It is a well-accepted fact that sports education instills qualities such as obedience, determination, willpower and discipline. The importance of adopting sports education for youth development was recognised by the Indian Government as early as 1984 when the National Sports Policy recommended making sports and physical education an integral part of school curricula.
4. School athletic activities provide enjoyable, supervised activities for youth. Student-athletes report healthier eating habits, higher levels of cardiovascular fitness, increased parental support, and decreased anxiety and depression. As such, school environments need to encourage students to be physically active.
5. Furthermore, a national study from 2014 showed a positive association between participating in school sports and lower rates of tobacco, drug, and alcohol use. The youth who participate in sports were also more likely to disapprove of their peers' use of such substances.

TOP 10 FAVOURITE SPORTS IN INDIA



6. More recently, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports launched the Khelo India Programme in 2018 for the development of sports in India. The following are the highlights of the programme:
 - Reviving sports culture in India at the grass-root levels.
 - Building a strong framework for all sports played in the country and making it a global sporting powerhouse.
 - Twelve areas have been identified under this scheme, which will impact the entire sports ecosystem. Among others, they include sports infrastructure, talent identification, coaching for excellence, promotion of indigenous and tribal sports, and physical fitness of school children.
7. The realisation of the negative impact of today's lifestyle on children has led to a shift in the mindset of parents too. They have become more proactive in their search for options for their children's fitness. They now encourage their children to take up some form of sports or physical activity along with their studies.
8. The given graphs show the top 10 sports played as well as followed in India.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any six out of the eight questions by choosing the correct option.

11. The need to include sports in the school curriculum was felt because
 - A. parents protested against the old curriculum.
 - B. children prefer sports to academics.
 - C. it improves physical health.
 - D. most children would rather be outdoors than indoors.
12. With reference to the graphs, identify the statement which is False.
 - A. The number of respondents who preferred to play basketball is nearly the same as the number who played volleyball.

- B. Cricket is the most preferred sport with approximately the same number of people playing it as those playing basketball, volleyball and football put together.
 C. Close to 50% of the respondents collectively played tennis and table tennis.
 D. The number of people who follow the most popular game exceeds the number who actually play it.
13. In India, the need for incorporating sports with education was recognised in the year
 A. 2011. B. 1984.
 C. 2014. D. 1994.
14. Select the statement that is NOT correct.
 According to the passage, children who play regularly are more likely to
 A. resist drug abuse. B. disapprove of drug abuse.
 C. abstain from drug abuse. D. succumb to drug abuse.
15. The word 'integral' in Para 3 is NOT the same as which of the following words?
 A. Necessary B. Essential
 C. Incidental D. Important
16. A child who is engaged in sports is usually
 A. a fussy eater. B. less anxious.
 C. deprived of parental support. D. restless.
17. Tick the statement that is NOT true.
 Sports is an important aspect of school life as it
 A. promotes mental health. B. fosters team spirit.
 C. promotes heart health. D. encourages unhealthy competition.
18. According to the passage, a sportsperson will most probably not be
 A. determined. B. obedient.
 C. disciplined. D. self-centred.

GRAMMAR and WRITING

GRAMMAR

III. Answer any five out of six questions by selecting the most appropriate option for each.

19. I attend the class as I was unwell.
 A. cannot B. would not
 C. must not D. could not
20. Rahul spent money on this event, yet it failed to take off.
 A. many B. much
 C. plenty of D. little
21. The termites the house by next year.
 A. will have destroyed B. will be destroying
 C. destroyed D. destroy

22. Which option displays the correct change of the following to reported speech?
“India has the largest deposits of mica in the world,” our teacher said.
- A. Our teacher said that India is having the largest deposits of mica in the world.
 - B. Our teacher said that India had the largest deposits of mica in the world.
 - C. Our teacher said that India was having the largest deposits of mica in the world.
 - D. Our teacher said that India has the largest deposits of mica in the world.
23. Which option displays the correct change of the following to reported speech?
Mr Dutt said, “Where were you all this while?”
- A. Mr Dutt asked where I was all this while.
 - B. Mr Dutt asked where I was all that while.
 - C. Mr Dutt asked where I had been all that while.
 - D. Mr Dutt asked where I am all that while.
24. My grandfather on the verandah for two hours now.
- A. has been dozing
 - B. is dozing
 - C. was dozing
 - D. had been dozing

WRITING

IV. Answer any five out of the six questions given, with reference to the context below.

You are Anisha, resident of Shahdara, New Delhi. Write a letter of complaint to the Municipal Officer of your locality, drawing his attention towards the menace of garbage dumping in your locality.

25. Which of the following phrases would Anisha use in her letter of complaint.
- 1. I am writing to express my dissatisfaction with...
 - 2. Please let me know...
 - 3. I am shocked to find...
 - 4. It would be helpful to know when...
- A. 1. and 2.
 - B. 2. and 4.
 - D. 1. and 3.
 - D. 2. and 3.
26. Select the appropriate subject for this letter.
- A. Drawing attention towards improper dumping of garbage
 - B. Garbage dumping – a menace
 - C. Suffering of residents due to improper garbage dumping
 - D. Inaction by the municipality department in controlling garbage dumping.
27. Which of the following options best describe the woes of the residents.
- A. • Garbage comprises both degradable and biodegradable components.
• Garbage is sifted through by ragpickers.
• Garbage becomes breeding ground for diseases
 - B. • Garbage dumped randomly on service lane and not collected for days together.
• Garbage becomes breeding ground for diseases
• Waterlogging near the garbage in the rainy season makes the matter worse.

- B.
 - Stray animals are always found near the garbage.
 - Plastic garbage is a big menace.
 - Garbage dumped randomly on service lane and not collected for days together.
 - D.
 - Garbage is eaten by stray animals.
 - Garbage is sifted through by ragpickers.
 - Waterlogging near the garbage in the rainy season makes the matter worse.
28. Anisha shares some suggestions to end the menace of garbage dumping. Select the most appropriate suggestions of the following.
- A. Different colour bins should be kept for biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste.
 - B. Municipal workers should collect the garbage every day.
 - C. People should be made aware of the hygienic practices of dumping garbage.
 - D. All of the above.
29. How should Anisha conclude her letter.
- 1. Looking forward to a suitable solution from your end to address this menace of garbage disposal and ending residents' woes.
 - 2. Hoping for an appropriate action soon.
- A. Yes to Option 1. for assuming a polite tone.
 - B. No to Option 1. for assuming a very formal tone.
 - C. Yes to Option 2. for assuming an authoritative tone.
 - D. No to Option 2. for assuming a rude tone.
30. Which of the following phrases should Anisha use in her concluding remarks.
- A. Hope you will come up with a suitable action.
 - B. Hope we will together fight this menace of garbage dumping.
 - C. Hope to hear from you soon on this.
 - D. Hope you will take it in a positive spirit.

LITERATURE

This section has sub-sections V, VI, VII, VIII & IX. There are a total of 30 questions in this section. Attempt any 26 questions from the sub-sections V to IX.

V. Read the given extract to attempt the questions that follow:

“Ga, ga, ga,” he cried, begging her to bring him some food. “Gaw-col-ah,” she screamed back derisively. But he kept calling plaintively, and after a minute or so he uttered a joyful scream. [His First Flight]

31. By not giving the young seagull food since the previous night, shows that his mother was a mother.
- | | |
|----------|----------------|
| A. cruel | B. selfish |
| C. tough | D. indifferent |
32. The word ‘derisively’ as used in the passage is closest in meaning to
- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| A. tauntingly. | B. Jokingly. |
| C. sarcastically. | D. reverentially. |

33. "Gaw-col-ah," she screamed back derisively.
What do you think she was saying to the hungry seagull?
A. "Don't talk to me!" B. "Ask your brother!"
C. "Come and get it!" D. "You little coward!"
34. 'But he kept calling plaintively.' The one way the young seagull was calling to his mother was not in a manner.
A. piteous B. fretful
C. sorrowful D. jubilant
35. What did the young seagull see which made him scream joyfully?
A. He saw his mother tearing at a piece of fish just the way he liked it.
B. He saw his mother pick up a piece of the fish and come flying to him.
C. He saw his elder brother catch a herring for the first time and devour it.
D. He saw his mother looking at him from across the plateau where they were resting.

VI. Read the given extract to attempt the questions that follow:

The first period was a study period. Maddie tried to prepare her lessons, but she could not put her mind on her work. She had a very sick feeling in the bottom of her stomach. True, she had not enjoyed listening to Peggy ask Wanda how many dresses she had in her closet, but she had said nothing. She had stood by silently, and that was just as bad as what Peggy had done. Worse. She was a coward. At least Peggy hadn't considered they were being mean but she, Maddie, had thought they were doing wrong. She could put herself in Wanda's shoes. [The Hundred Dresses – II]

36. Why did Maddie have a 'very sick feeling in the bottom of her stomach?'
A. She had not eaten anything due to tension.
B. She could not concentrate on her work.
C. She was feeling bored while preparing her lesson.
D. She was feeling repulsed thinking about her behaviour.
37. Her overwhelming feelings at this time were of
1. guilt
2. boredom
3. shame
4. mourning
5. surprise
6. disgrace
7. regret
8. embarrassment
9. liability
10. pity

Choose the correct option from the following:

- A. 1., 2. and 9. B. 4., 6. and 10.
C. 1., 3. and 7. D. 4., 5. and 8.

38. Maddie thought she was a coward because
- she had not run away when Wanda was being teased by Peggy and the other girls.
 - she had not spoken up even when she knew what was being done to Wanda was wrong.
 - She had not made friends with Wanda even though she knew her to be friendless and lonely.
 - She had not reasoned with Peggy because she knew Peggy never listened to anyone.
39. What does the idiom 'putting yourself in someone else's shoes' referred to in the given extract mean?
- To imagine yourself in someone else's situation
 - To try and behave like somebody else
 - To be quick to judge someone for their action
 - To make an effort to dress like someone else
40. "Bystanders who do nothing give bullies permission inadvertently to go on being bullies. Most are afraid they'll lose friends or be bullied themselves if they help victims or report." The above lines reflect Maddie's state of mind. Which line is the one that gives the reason for her silence when Wanda was being teased?
- 'Bystanders who do nothing give bullies permission'
 - 'Most are afraid they'll lose friends'
 - 'Be bullied themselves if they help victims'
 - 'Some feel guilty for years afterward'

VII. Read the given extract to attempt the questions that follow:

He should be snarling around houses
 At the jungle's edge,
 Baring his white fangs, his claws,
 Terrorising the village! [A Tiger in the Zoo]

41. Which option shows the least probability of happening once the tiger enters the village?
- People will lock themselves up in their houses.
 - People will feed it some food so that it does not harm them.
 - The tiger will kill a goat or a calf it finds for its food.
 - Some people will try to trap or kill the tiger.
42. Besides the snarling of the tiger, what other of its characteristics strikes terror in the villagers?
- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| A. Its vivid stripes | B. Its velvet claws |
| C. Its quiet rage | D. Its long sharp teeth |
43. The 'white fangs' and 'claws' of the tiger are symbols of its
- power
 - hatred
 - fierceness

4. nature
5. malice
6. cruelty

Choose the correct option from the following:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| A. 1., 2. and 5. | B. 3., 5. and 6. |
| C. 2., 4. and 5. | D. 1., 3. and 6. |
44. The poet has compared the tiger in the cage to the majestic animal of the wild through the use of
- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| A. imagery. | B. similes. |
| C. metaphors. | D. oxymorons. |

45. Read the following extract from a report about tigers in India:

Attacks are relatively rare, with around 40 to 50 people annually killed by tigers – compared to around 350 people killed each year by elephants. But while getting killed by an elephant is typically viewed as something that just “happens”, like a car accident, deaths caused by tigers tap into a primordial fear that, if left unresolved, can drive communities to extremes. In many places, traditional tolerance is beginning to fray, leading to riots and targeted killing of tigers.

[Bbc.com The Problem with India’s Man-eating Tigers]

Identify the statement about the report which is not true:

- A. Elephants kill more people than tigers annually in India
- B. People have a much more deep-rooted fear of tigers than of elephants
- C. The government needs to teach people not to have needless fear of tigers
- D. People have started targeting and killing tigers to keep themselves safe

VIII. Read the given extract to attempt the questions that follow:

I made up a bed for him in a warm loose box next to the one where other dogs slept. For two days I kept an eye on him, giving him no food but plenty of water. At the end of the second day he started to show some interest in his surroundings and on the third he began to whimper when he heard the dogs in the yard. [A Triumph of Surgery]

46. Who is ‘he’ being referred to here?
- | | |
|------------|----------------------|
| A. Tricki | B. Joe |
| C. Tristan | D. None of the above |
47. Why did the narrator made up a bed for Tricki?
- A. Because he was very sleepy.
 - B. Because he had undergone a surgery.
 - C. Because he was unwell.
 - D. Because he needed a special type of bed to sleep.
48. How did the narrator know that Tricki was healing. Select the best option.
1. He started barking loudly.
 2. He started eating lots of food.

57. 'A dime, another ball, is worthless' because
- A. he needs a dime to buy a new ball.
 - B. another ball costing a dime will be of bad quality.
 - C. no other ball will compensate him for the loss he feels.
 - D. no other ball will be the same as the one he has lost.
58. How was Tricki treated by his rich mistress?
- A. He was not given enough to eat.
 - B. He was frequently beaten.
 - C. He was pampered and overfed.
 - D. He was not allowed to go out.
59. According to the thief, how would Anil react on knowing about the theft?
- A. He would be angry.
 - B. He would complain to the police.
 - C. He would accept this resignedly.
 - D. He would be sad for the loss of trust.
60. Which of the following incidents shows that Griffin was a lawless person?
- A. He set the house of his landlord on fire.
 - B. He broke into a big London store.
 - C. He stole money from the clergyman.
 - D. All of the above.