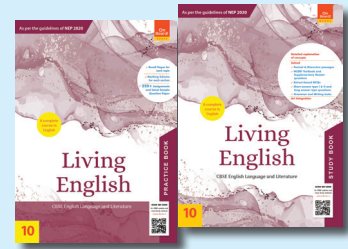


# Living English

CBSE English Language and Literature



## SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER (TERM 2)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)

Class X

Time allowed: 2 hours

Maximum Marks: 40

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains Three sections – Reading, Writing & Grammar and Literature.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

### Section A

READING

(10 marks)

#### 1. Read the passage given below.

1. If you have ever used a dictionary, you would know the name of one of those early schoolmasters very well – Noah Webster. Webster was a schoolmaster in the backwoods of New York. He saw that English would be the language of his country. He knew that it would be different in some ways from the English spoken in England, but he felt that it should have some standards so that people would use it correctly. He began, therefore, the gigantic task of compiling the *American Dictionary of the English Language*, the only one of its kind, published in 1828.
2. In the dictionary, Webster gave the spelling of words, their pronunciation and their definition. Since it was the only American dictionary, it was consulted whenever Americans wanted to know about a word. If a word was ‘according to Webster’, it was considered correct. Not only did Noah Webster write his dictionary, but since he was convinced that correct usage should be taught in all schools, he wrote his famous *American Spelling Book*. This came to be known as ‘The Blue-backed Speller’ because of the colour of its cover. For years it was used as a textbook, and all American schoolchildren were taught to spell, pronounce and define words ‘according to Webster’.
3. Noah Webster gave American English some rules and standards. But he did not, and could not, keep it from changing. In the early years of American history, the country was as busy as a beehive. So much was happening that language had to change to be useful to the people who spoke it. The language is still changing as it did in the days of the first settlers and pioneers. Would the early colonists have understood these

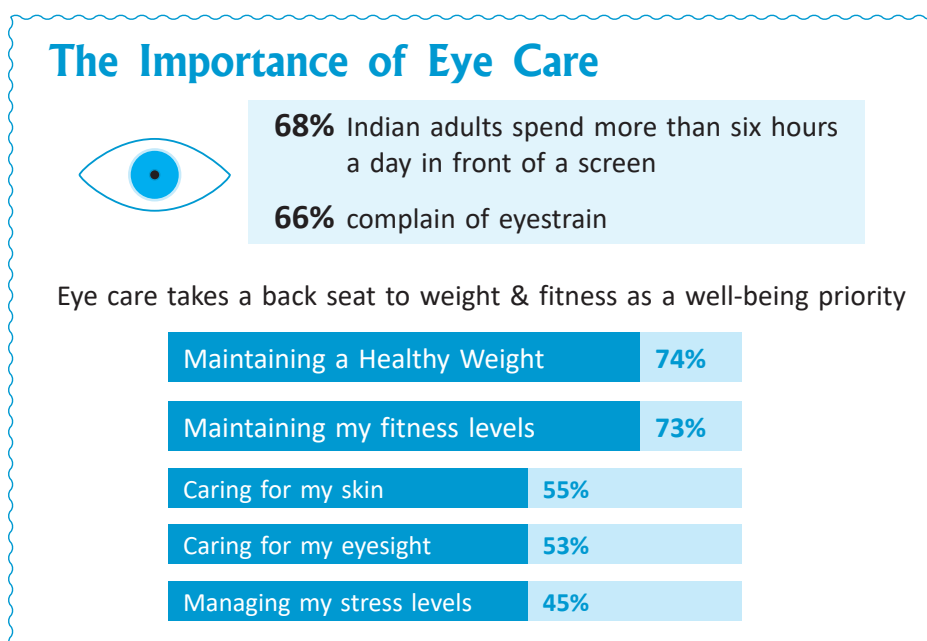
sentences? Which words would the pioneers have to look up in the dictionary if they were suddenly to come back to life? “I’ll phone you and let you know if I can go to the movies.” “A car had run out of gas and caused a huge traffic jam.” “They’re putting in a pinch-hitter.” “I watched the blast-off on TV yesterday.” Like the early settlers, people have continued to add words to American English. They do it in the same way as the colonists did.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any five questions from the six given below. (1 × 5)**

- i. What was the main reason that made Webster feel that he needed to compile a dictionary especially for Americans?.
- ii. In what two ways do you think Webster’s background would have helped him in his ‘gigantic task’.
- iii. How did the Americans react to Webster’s dictionary?
- iv. What was the importance of ‘The Blue-backed Speller’ in early American education?
- v. Rewrite the following sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with a word that means the same from paragraph 3.  
My father always spoke with my grandfather about any matter concerning the farm.
- vi. Despite giving American English some rules and standards, why could Webster not keep it from changing?

## 2. Read the following excerpt from a case study titled Importance of Eye Care in India.

1. In today’s stressful life, we fail to prioritise our eye health. Our eyesight is affected due to various reasons such as constant exposure to digital screens, work pressure and unhealthy eating habits.



Source: <https://www.onmanorama.com/lifestyle/health/2021/10/12/exposure-digital-screens-eye-health.html>

2. According to a research study published in the Indian Journal of Ophthalmology, eye care centres in India reported a 96.5% to 98.7% decrease in patients visiting clinics for their routine care and follow-ups, including cataract surgeries, eye injections and retinal laser procedures as of May 2021, as compared to the previous year. Several patients sought help at advanced stages, at which point they were unresponsive to treatment.
3. With the large-scale adoption of work-from-home, the time people spend on screens has exponentially increased. With prolonged hours spent in front of laptops, mobile phones or television screens, one's eyes have had to endure a lot more strain, which can lead to dry eyes. Yet eye care continues to be the most neglected, overlooked topic within one's list of healthcare priorities, often as the damage may not be immediately apparent.
4. For much of India's elderly population with pre-existing lifestyle diseases such as diabetes – which is a major cause of glaucoma, a degenerative nerve disease – the pandemic only aggravated their condition. Habits such as smoking, drinking, lack of exercise and unhealthy dietary habits can impact overall eye care. With deteriorating mental health during COVID, focus on eye care has also taken a back seat.
5. Eyes are precious organs. To counter these growing problems that can cascade into poor eye health outcomes, ophthalmologists advise that from a young age people must learn to maintain optimal eye health.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any five questions from the six given below. (1 × 5)**

- i. Comment on: We have failed to prioritise our eye health.
- ii. What is the significance of the research study published in the Indian Journal of Ophthalmology?
- iii. What is the flip side of work-from-home culture prevalent today?
- iv. Justify: During COVID, focus on eye care has taken a back seat.
- v. What do the percentage data 68% and 66% signify in the given data?
- vi. What is the alarming fact about eyes in well-being priority according to the given data?

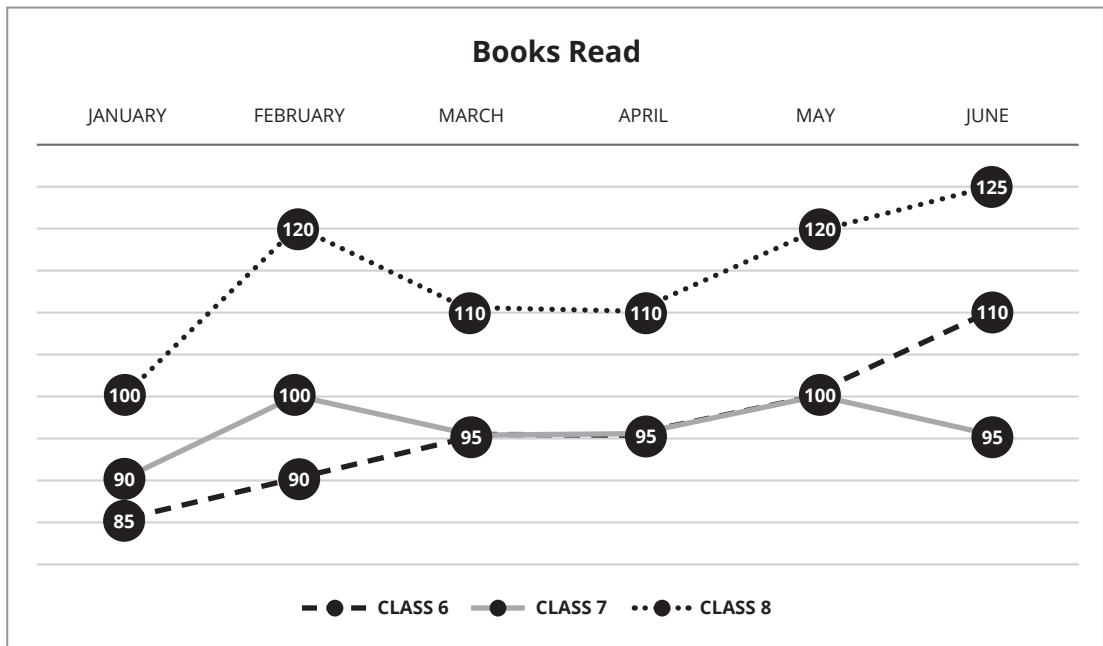
## **Section B**

### **WRITING and GRAMMAR**

**(10 marks)**

#### **3. Attempt any one from i and ii.**

- i. Study the line graph below. It shows the average number of storybooks read by students of three classes over six months. Write an analytical paragraph in not more than 120 words based on your observation. (5)



- ii. You are Multi Sharma of Kanpur. You have come across an advertisement of a coaching centre that prepares students for the Pre-Medical Test.

(5)



Write a letter in about 120 words to the director of the institute asking for information that you require before you decide to join it.

4. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Identify the error and write its correction against the blank number. Remember to underline the correction. The first one has been done for you. (1 × 3)

	<i>Error</i>	<i>Correction</i>
Before astronauts can fly <u>on</u> space, they have to undergo	e.g. on	in/into
hundreds of hour of training. The complete training lasts	(a)	
about two years. During these time the candidates read	(b)	
larger volumes of books and study material in order to	(c)	
qualify for the training.		

5. Read the conversation between son and father and complete the passage that follows. (1 × 2)

Son: Dad, will you buy me a laptop?

Father: Not now. I shall wait for your Class 12 Board results.

A son asked his father (a) \_\_\_\_\_ The father replied

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ his Class 12 Board results.

## Section C

### LITERATURE

(20 marks)

6. Answer any six questions in 30-40 words each. (2 × 6)

- i. What lends credence to the theory that the Coorgis are probably descendants of Alexander's army?
- ii. How does weeping and grieving harm a person? What should he do instead?
- iii. Why did Amanda wish to live like Rapunzel? What would she not do?
- iv. Which are the 'tokens' animals have kept for him?
- v. What qualities of Ebright do you think helped him to become a scientist?
- vi. Education is the key to liberation. How does this hold true for Bholi?
- vii. Why did Chubukov shout for champagne in the end?

7. Answer any two of the following in about 120 words each. (2 × 4)

- i. Each of the three places mentioned in 'Glimpses of India' have their own uniqueness. What do you find different or similar in all three?
- ii. Valli narrates her experience to a friend, Maya. Write an imaginary conversation they may have had.
- iii. The story 'The Necklace' is about the futility of trying to keep up appearances. Comment.