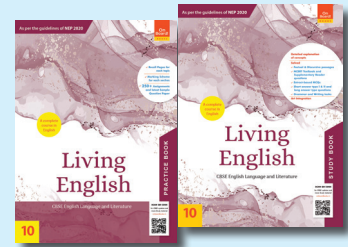


Living English

CBSE English Language and Literature



SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER (TERM 2)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)

Class X

ANSWERS

1.

- i. What was the main reason that made Webster feel that he needed to compile a dictionary especially for Americans?

Ans. Webster realized that since American English would be in some ways different from that spoken in England, it should have some standards in order to be used correctly. Therefore, he felt 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'?

Ans. Webster was a schoolmaster, and as an early settler, he would have been proficient in the language as spoken in England.

Besides this, with his school being in a remote area, he probably had enough time to take on his 'gigantic task.'

- iii. How did the Americans react to Webster's dictionary?

Ans. Since it was the only American dictionary, it was very popular amongst Americans. They considered everything in it as correct.

- iv. What was the importance of 'The Blue-backed Speller' in early American education?

Ans. For years Webster's book was used as a textbook in American schools, to teach children how to spell, pronounce and give the definitions of words.

- 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.

Ans. My father always consulted 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?

Ans. With time, American English naturally started to change in order to be useful to the speakers. New words began to be added to the language. Hence despite some rules and standards, Webster could not control it from changing.

2.

i. Comment on: We have failed to prioritise our eye health.

Ans. This fast pace life that we are leading today has become very stressful. Constant exposure to digital screens, work pressure and unhealthy eating habits affect our eyesight. Yet we pay minimal attention to our deteriorating eye health. All the before-mentioned and other activities gain importance at the cost of our eye health, which we neglect always.

ii. What is the significance of the research study published in the Indian Journal of Ophthalmology?

Ans. According to the research study, 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 2021, as compared to previous year. Patients were therefore unresponsive to treatment, when they sought help at advanced stages.

iii. What is the flip side of work-from-home culture prevalent today?

Ans. With work-from-home adoption, time spent on screens by people has exponentially increased. With prolonged time spent in front of screens, eye strain has also increased, which leads to dry eyes. But still this is overlooked by most of the people as the damage to eyes may not be immediately apparent and may show effects in the long run.

iv. Justify: During COVID, focus on eye care has taken a back seat.

Ans. Habits during pandemic such as smoking, drinking, lack of exercise and unhealthy dietary habits can impact overall eye health. But COVID has also resulted in deteriorating mental health in people. So focus has shifted from eye care towards other side effects of COVID that are more apparent at this stage.

v. What do the percentage data 68% and 66% signify in the given data?

Ans. According to the data, more than 68% adults spend more than six hours a day in front of a screen. And 66% complain of eye strain. This data points towards the narrow margin of the declining eye health in people who watch screens for long duration. Almost all of them are prone to eye disease.

vi. What is the alarming fact about eyes in well-being priority according to the given data?

Ans. Caring for eyesight comes on the fourth position after “maintaining a healthy weight”, “maintaining fitness levels” and “caring for skin”, which are actually seemingly unimportant when considered in relation to eye care. But more importance is attached to these three factors, which reveals a very alarming health trend.

3.

- i. Answer yourself
- ii. Answer yourself

4.

- a. hour – hours
- b. these – this
- c. larger – large

5.

- a. if he would buy him a laptop.
- b. that he would not buy it then and added that he would wait for

6.

- i. What lends credence to the theory that the Coorgis are probably descendants of Alexander's army?

Ans. There is a theory that the fiercely independent people of Coorg are descendants of a part of Alexander's army which settled here. Their culture is apparent in their martial, marriage and religious traditions. Coorgi men are known for their valour, and the Coorg Regiment is one of the most decorated in the Indian army.

- ii. How does weeping and grieving harm a person? What should he do instead?

Ans. No person obtains peace of mind by weeping and grieving. On the contrary, his pain becomes greater and his body suffers by becoming sick. Instead, the person should seek the peace of mind by becoming composed, and not lament, complain or grieve.

- iii. Why did Amanda wish to live like Rapunzel? What would she not do?

Ans. Like Rapunzel, Amanda would love to live without a care in a tower, cut-off from everyone, and where she would enjoy peace and silence. But unlike Rapunzel, she is definite she would never let down her bright hair and allow any prince or any other human into her peaceful world.

- iv. Which are the 'tokens' animals have kept for him?

Ans. The poet says that he sees in the animals the true values of human nature that man once possessed, and has now dropped over time. Here he is referring to the qualities of innocence, kindness and simplicity – values which have degenerated in today's modern world.

- v. What qualities of Ebright do you think helped him to become a scientist?

Ans. Ebright was a passionate and eager learner from his very childhood. He had tremendous curiosity and he showed exceptional determination. He was bright and never tired of learning. He had a competitive, driving spirit and he liked to research and experiment. These qualities helped him to become a scientist.

vi. Education is the key to liberation. How does this hold true for Bholi?

Ans. Bholi's parents had decided to marry her off to a man who was not only old, but also mean and greedy. Bholi had the courage to refuse to marry him because she had gained confidence in herself all because she was educated. Thus, she liberated herself from a life of indignity and subjugation.

vii. Why did Chubukov shout for champagne in the end?

Ans. Chubukov shouted for champagne in the end because he had heard enough of the argument between Natalya and her prospective bridegroom, Lomov. He thought the idea of drinking champagne might put a stop to it.

7.

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?

Ans. From vivid glimpses of bread-making in coastal Goa to the coffee plantations in the Coorg mountain to tea estates in the undulating plains of Assam, the lesson takes the reader on a virtual tour across India. Apart from the commonality of reference to food as in bread and beverage, the three places share a foreign heritage, namely the Portuguese in Goa to Arabs and Greeks in Coorg and the unmistakable British colonial presence in Assam.

All three places have much to tell about the folklore which is intricately woven with the prevalent culture of the place. When in Goa, one can experience warm Goan hospitality, and a trip to picturesque Coorg promises endearing interactions with chivalrous Coorgi men and beautiful women. The tea tales of Assam are quite an imaginative 'brew' and together these places afford a mini view of Incredible India.

ii. Valli narrates her experience to a friend, Maya. Write an imaginary conversation they may have had.

Ans. *Maya*: You actually rode to town alone on the bus? That was such a foolish thing to do.

Valli: Why was it foolish? I enjoyed my little escapade and till now have been able to keep my secret. I think it was very clever of me!

Maya: No, Valli. You took a big risk. We have been told to not go anywhere alone and you went off to the town by yourself. What if you had got lost in the town or someone had kidnapped you?

Valli: Well, no one did. And I didn't get off the bus but came back on its return trip.

Maya: So did you enjoy it?

Valli: Riding on the bus was the most exciting thing! The scenery was so beautiful, and the conductor was so friendly. Do you know he called me 'Madam?'

Maya: He must have been teasing you. You are no 'Madam!' And what beautiful scenery did you see? Just boring fields and sky!

Valli: I think you are jealous I had this adventure and you didn't. Well, I am not going to tell you anything more.

Maya: Proud! Proud!

iii. The story 'The Necklace' is about the futility of trying to keep up appearances.
Comment.

Ans. In trying to keep up appearances, Matilda borrowed a diamond necklace from her rich friend Mme Forestier to wear to a party. The necklace got lost. Matilda never imagined the diamonds could be anything but real. She bought an expensive lookalike and returned it to her friend who put it away without even looking at it. Matilda's husband spent all his savings and took a loan to buy it. It took the couple ten years of hard work to repay the loan. They lowered the level of their lifestyle; Matilda did all the household chores and her husband worked extra hours in the evenings and at night. Matilda began to look old due to the hard life she was forced to lead. Finally one day on meeting Mme Forestier the latter commented on Matilda's changed appearance. Matilda told her about the necklace being lost, its replacement, and the loan repayment. Her friend then revealed the shocking truth that the lost necklace was an artificial one. Matilda had wasted ten years of her life in an effort to keep up appearances.