CBSE 2025 English — Set 2

English Medium

Time Allowed: 3 Hours | Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. This question paper contains 45 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. Section A — Reading Skills (20 marks).
3. Section B — Creative Writing Skills (16 marks).
4. Section C — Grammar (8 marks).
5. Section D — Literature (36 marks).

Section A — Reading Skills

Comprehension (1-2 marks each)

Q.1 [1 mark]

1(i) Complete the sentence appropriately.
The characteristic aroma and flavour of cinnamon originate from its essential oil, primarily composed of _____. (Paragraph 1)

Q.2 [1 mark]

1(ii) Based on the reading of the passage, examine, in about 40 words, how cinnamon derived from the trees is made fit to be used as a spice. (Paragraph 1)

Q.3 [1 mark]

1(iii) Mention one point of difference between Ceylon cinnamon and Cassia cinnamon. (Paragraph 2)

Q.4 [1 mark]

1(iv) Complete the sentence appropriately.
The author says that cinnamon was once more valuable than gold because _____. (Paragraph 3)

Q.5 [1 mark]

1(v) What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from paragraph (5)? Rationalize your response in about 40 words.
"Cinnamon is a spice that has been prized for its medicinal properties for thousands of years."

Q.6 [1 mark]

1(vi) The writer's use of the phrases 'modern science has started to confirm' in paragraph (5) and 'more evidence is needed to confirm' in paragraph (6)

suggests that the benefits of cinnamon are:

1. proven
2. scientific
3. uncertain
4. controversial
5. harmful

Select the correct option:

(a) 1 and 3
(b) 2 and 4
(c) only 3
(d) only 5

Q.7 [1 mark]

1(vii) Which of the following statements about cinnamon and its health benefits is true?

(a) Modern science has evidence to prove that cinnamon has many anti-diabetic properties, and it offers complete protection from cancer and cardiovascular disease.
(b) Cinnamon lacks antimicrobial and antifungal properties, making it unsuitable for dental hygiene products.
(c) Antioxidants found in cinnamon have no effect on free radicals in the body.
(d) Cinnamon's anti-inflammatory properties are being researched for its potential benefits in Alzheimer's disease, irritable bowel syndrome and colon cancer.

Q.8 [1 mark]

1(viii) Which of the following statements best describes the author's attitude toward cinnamon and its uses?

(a) Finds cinnamon to be a prized condiment which can be used in almost

all food items.

(b) Believes that cinnamon should be used by everyone, everyday.

(c) Recognizes that cinnamon has many useful properties, including health benefits.

(d) Believes that cinnamon should only be used as a medicinal supplement.

Q.9 [1 mark]

2(i) What does the use of the phrase 'prioritize domestic destinations' by the writer, in paragraph (1) imply?

(a) Indian tourists prefer places in the country itself.

(b) Indian tourists like to stay at home.

(c) Indian tourists mainly travel on low budgets.

(d) Indian tourists love to hike-and-trek.

Q.10 [1 mark]

2(ii) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of paragraph (2).

The statement that, World Migration Report highlights significant migration flows from India to the United Arab Emirates, the United States, and Saudi Arabia, is a/an _____ (fact/opinion) because it is a/an _____ (subjective judgement/objective detail).

Section B — Creative Writing Skills

Writing (3-5 marks each)

Q.11 [5 marks]

2(iii) Draw a comparative analysis of domestic tourist travelling within India with domestic tourists travelling outside India in 2022. Answer in about 40 words.

Q.12 [5 marks]

2(iv) Complete the following with a suitable reason.

Gulf states rank as popular destinations for Indians _____.

Q.13 [5 marks]

2(v) Select the option that is true for the Assertion and Reason given below:

Assertion: Indians prioritize Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh for domestic tourism.

Reason: These states are full of historical monuments.

(a) Both the Assertion and Reason are true and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.

(b) Both the Assertion and Reason are true but the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.

(c) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.

(d) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.

Q.14 [5 marks]

2(vi) Complete the sentence appropriately.

The fourthmost visited outbound destination for Indians to the Gulf is _____.

Q.15 [5 marks]

2(vii) Mention any two reasons for domestic tourism becoming popular.

Section C — Grammar

Grammar (1-3 marks each)

Q.16 [1 mark]

2(viii) What is the writer's view about the tourism industry in the west? Write any two points.

Q.17 [1 mark]

2(ix) Identify the word in paragraph (3) that indicates the 'preference' of people travelling to the Gulf.

Q.18 [1 mark]

3(i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the brackets, for the given portion of a letter.

I believe that with your support and _____ (cooperate), we can find a mutually agreeable solution that meets the expectations of all stakeholders involved.

Q.19 [1 mark]

3(ii) Read the given sentence from an electric cooker's instruction manual. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.

For avoid damaging the appliance, do not immerse the electric cooker in water or any other liquid.

Q.20 [1 mark]

3(iii) Amit and Pullavi had a conversation about the inauguration of Pullavi's event. Report Amit's question.

Did you manage to get any sponsors for the inauguration event scheduled for the next month?

Q.21 [1 mark]

3(iv) Read the dialogue between Bharti and her mother, Geeta, regarding Geeta's birthday plans.

Bharti: Do you want to go to a hill station on your birthday?

Geeta: No, I want to stay at home and call my friends over.

Bharti asked Geeta if she wanted to go to a hill station on her birthday. Geeta replied in the negative and said that _____.

Select the correct option that reports the above dialogue.

(a) she wanted to stay home and call her friends for celebrating.
(b) I wanted to stay home and call my friends to celebrate.
(c) she wanted to stay at home and call her friends over.
(d) she wants to stay home by calling her friends to celebrate.

Q.22 [1 mark]

3(v) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the line of a notice placed on the notice board of a company.
Please be informed that there will be a staff meeting in the conference room on Friday, 29th June, at 10:00 a.m. It is _____ for all to attend.

(a) mandatory
(b) obligatory
(c) indispensable
(d) All of the above

Q.23 [1 mark]

3(vi) Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from a preface of a book.
Writing this book have been a journey of exploration and discovery.

Q.24 [1 mark]

3(vii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the opening line, from an analytical paragraph.
The advent of social media has revolutionized communication by connected people across the globe in unprecedented ways.

(a) Error: has | Correction: have
(b) Error: communication | Correction: communicating
(c) Error: connected | Correction: connecting
(d) Error: in | Correction: for

Q.25 [1 mark]

3(viii) Complete the given entry in a personal diary, by filling the blank with the correct option.

Today was a rollercoaster of emotions. It started off with a sense of excitement and anticipation as I _____ on a new project at work.

(a) embarking
(b) embark
(c) embarked
(d) have embarked

Q.26 [1 mark]

3(ix) Report the dialogue between a salesman and his customer, by completing the sentence.

Salesman: I have a wide range of sportswear.

Customer: Please show me something in cotton fabric, which is suitable for summers.

The salesman stated _____. The customer requested the salesman to show something in cotton fabric which would be suitable for summers.

Q.27 [1 mark]

3(x) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete an announcement on a flight.

In thirty minutes, our flight attendants _____ meal service.

(a) will begin
(b) will begun
(c) should begin
(d) can begin

Section D — Literature

Textbook Questions (2-5 marks each)

Q.28 [2 marks]

3(xi) Complete the line from a 'Save the Environment' song, by filling the blank with the correct option.

Pollution, pollution, its time to take a stand,
for the health of our planet, we've got to lend a hand,
Reduce, reuse, recycle, that's the key,
_____ our world for you and me.

(a) for preserve
(b) to preserve
(c) to preserved
(d) for preserved

Q.29 [2 marks]

3(xii) Identify the error and supply the correction for the following instruction put up for safe use of elevators.

Please refrain by standing near the door as it could lead to an accident.

Q.30(a) [2 marks]

4(a) As Sakshi/Sakshan Bedi of 864, Solar Apartments, Lajpat Street, Dipak Nagar, you feel that the lack of proper street lighting in several areas of your neighbourhood is a threat to safety. Residents, especially those who work late shifts or return home after dark, feel vulnerable due to poorly lit streets. Write a letter to the District Magistrate of your city area, in about 120 words, stating the problem and requesting him to take necessary action for installation of streetlights in those areas.

OR

Q.30(b) [2 marks]

4(b) OR: You are Dharti Pradhan/Balal Goyal, the head girl/boy of Pinnacle School, Ustahpur. You live in a culturally rich city with many historical monuments. You have observed that visitors have etched graffiti on these

monuments and littered the areas around. You are extremely disturbed at this irresponsible behaviour of the visitors. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, suggesting measures to stop such vandalism and creating awareness about the importance of these monuments.

Q.31(a) [2 marks]

5(a) Natural food, typically refers to food that has not been processed or preserved in any significant way before it is consumed, while ultra-processed food refers to food items that have been altered from their natural state through various methods. Given below is a table that differentiates between natural and processed foods. Study the description given and write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words, drawing a comparison between the two.

Natural Food: High fibre, Healthy nutrients, Healthy fats, Low sodium, Regulates blood sugar, blood pressure and provides healthy nutrients.

Processed Food: High sugar, Unhealthy nutrients, Unhealthy fats, High sodium, Tasty, ready to eat and additive nutrients.

OR

Q.31(b) [2 marks]

5(b) OR: Social Media has a lasting impact on our thought process and influences our thinking in both positive and negative ways. With the help of the given cues and using your own ideas, write an analytical paragraph on 'The Impact of Social Media on Teenagers' in about 120 words.

POSITIVE: connects peers, creative expression, access information, community building.
NEGATIVE: impacts self-esteem, cyber bullying, privacy intrusion,

distraction and addiction.

Q.0 [0 mark]

6(a)(i) State any one inference about the parents of the baby seagull from the given statement.

"His father and mother had come around calling to him shrilly, upbraiding him, threatening to let him starve on his ledge unless he flew away."

Q.0 [0 mark]

6(a)(ii) Where did the little seagull sleep at night?

Q.0 [0 mark]

6(a)(iii) Which factors contributed to the young seagull's reluctance to fly despite the encouragement and threats from his parents? Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract.

Q.0 [0 mark]

6(a)(iv) Which phrase or word would correctly substitute 'muster up' in the given sentence from the extract?

"He failed to 'muster up' courage to take that plunge which appeared to him so desperate."

(a) resolve
(b) distribute
(c) gather
(d) All of the above

Q.0 [0 mark]

6(b)(i) Why had the author made his plans in advance?

(a) Mrs. Pumphrey was worried that Tricki would pine and die without her.
(b) The author was aware of the severity of Tricki's medical condition.
(c) The author knew about Mrs. Pumphrey's financial condition.

(d) The author had planned his own vacation.

Q.0 [0 mark]

6(b)(ii) The author firmly proposed the need to remove Tricki from the house for a specified period. Elaborate the reason for doing so in about 40 words.

Q.0 [0 mark]

6(b)(iii) Fill in the correct word from the brackets.

The word 'swooned' in the following sentence indicates almost _____ (tripped/fainted).

Q.0 [0 mark]

6(b)(iv) 'Mrs. Pumphrey was distraught.' What does this suggest about her character? Mention any one reason.

Q.0 [0 mark]

7(a)(i) The speaker offers evidence to support his preference for one theory over the other. Mention the evidence.

Q.0 [0 mark]

7(a)(ii) What is the prediction of the poet about how the world will come to an end? Answer in about 40 words.

Q.0 [0 mark]

7(a)(iii) "Fire" and "Ice" are used in the poem as _____.

(a) similes
(b) metaphors
(c) repetition
(d) oxymorons

Q.0 [0 mark]

7(a)(iv) Comment on the overall mood of the extract.

Q.0 [0 mark]

7(b)(i) How does the comparison between the boughs and newly discharged patients contribute to the theme or message of the poem? Answer in about 40 words.

Q.0 [0 mark]

7(b)(ii) Complete the sentence with the appropriate option.

The imagery and descriptions in the poem create a mood of _____.

(a) satisfaction and elation
(b) transition and uncertainty
(c) confusion and chaos
(d) pessimism and certainty

Q.0 [0 mark]

7(b)(iii) Fill in the blank with one word.

The stiff movement of the twigs in the above extract suggests the _____.

Q.0 [0 mark]

7(b)(iv) Why does the poet describe the bough as 'shuffling'?

Q.0 [0 mark]

8(i) The transition from the apartheid system in South Africa to a new era of equality reflects broader historical trends in the struggle for human rights and social justice. Elaborate. (Nelson Mandela -- Long Walk to Freedom)

Q.0 [0 mark]

8(ii) How does "The Ball Poem" by John Berryman explore the theme of loss

and its profound impact on an individual's emotional state and perception of the world? (The Ball Poem)

Q.0 [0 mark]

8(iii) How does the description of the baker's lifestyle in the past evoke a sense of nostalgia? (Glimpses of India -- A Baker from Goa)

Q.0 [0 mark]

8(iv) What role does each of Belinda's pets play in the narrative? Select any two of her pets. (The Tale of Custard the Dragon)

Q.0 [0 mark]

8(v) Valli found joy and fascination in the simple act of watching the bus pass through her village. What does this reveal about her perspective on life and her surroundings? (Madam Rides the Bus)

Q.0 [0 mark]

9(i) How did Ausable get rid of Max? (The Midnight Visitor)

Q.0 [0 mark]

9(ii) Why does Mme Loisel hastily depart from the ball when her husband places a modest wrap on her shoulders? (The Necklace)

Q.0 [0 mark]

9(iii) "In time you will be more learned than anyone else in the village. Then no one will ever be able to laugh at you." What effect did her teacher's words have on Bholi? Elaborate. (Bholi)

Q.36(a) [2 marks]

10(a) Analyse and evaluate the role of faith in 'A Letter to God' and 'The Sermon at Benares'.

OR

Q.36(b) [2 marks]

10(b) OR: Explore the contrasting images of the tiger in 'A Tiger in the Zoo' and the tiger in 'How to Tell Wild Animals'.

Q.37(a) [2 marks]

11(a) Anil's acceptance and forgiveness of the thief demonstrates empathy and generosity. Elaborate. (The Thief's Story)

OR

Q.37(b) [2 marks]

11(b) OR: Trace the transformation of Richard Ebright from a young man with potential to a respected and accomplished scientist. (The Making of a Scientist)