Series FEG8D

Set – 1

Q.P. Code **2/8/1**

Roll No.

Candidates must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.

- Please check that this question paper contains **15** printed pages.
- Q.P. Code given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains **11** questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book at the given place before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the candidates will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

ENGLISH
(Language and Literature)

*Time allowed : **3** hours* *Maximum Marks : **80***

General Instructions :

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

*(i) This question paper comprises **11** questions. **All** questions are compulsory.*

*(ii) The question paper contains **THREE** sections :*

***Section – A :** Reading Skills*

***Section – B :** Grammar and Creative Writing Skills*

***Section – C :** Literature Textbook*

(iii) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section – A (20 Marks)

Reading Skills

1. Read the passage given below : **10 M**

(1) People have worn hats throughout history for practical reasons like protection from the elements, as well as social and cultural ones, such as displaying status, expressing individuality, and for religious or ceremonial purposes. Early headwear was for survival against the weather and injury, while later, hats became symbols of wealth, profession, and social rank. Today, reasons for wearing hats often include fashion, personal expression, and safety or comfort, with many of the old social pressures for wearing hats having faded.

(2) I do not remember how I came to like wearing a hat. Friends view it as an odd habit of mine, since few people wear hats today. I think my fondness for hats comes down to the desire to announce what type of person I am. Telling the world what kind of person resides below its brim is one of the principal jobs of any hat worth its name.

(3) Even if we are not supposed to judge a book by its cover, we very often judge a person by his or her hat. In a narrow sense, a top hat indicates to all that you are a magician, just as a mortarboard and tassel tells the world you just graduated. More generally a cowboy hat may say you are the strong silent type, while a beret suggests you are artistic and creative. We even use hats as a kind of code for moral character, letting 'white hats' and 'black hats' serve as metaphors for 'good guys' and 'bad guys'. Hats show up in our figures of speech as well. Home is where you hang your hat, while declaring your desire to win a position is throwing your hat into the ring. How could anyone not want to wear a hat, when it can do so much ?

(4) A hat can do even more in everyday life. When people deserve congratulations, I say that my hat is off to them – and then I can literally do exactly that. When someone has exciting news for me, he can tell me to hold onto my hat. If the news must be kept secret, I can promise to keep it under my hat. He can even tell me to remain calm and not be a mad hatter.

(5) Maybe the real reason I like wearing a hat, however, has to do with getting away from everyday life. What I find so interesting is the possibility of using a hat to make myself more like someone very different from my everyday self. A fedora helps me to think of myself as more of a street-smart tough-guy private eye. Another hat, appropriately battered, makes me feel like a daring adventurer whose search for fabulous treasures will succeed against all odds.

(6) On my last birthday my family gave me a Napoleon hat. I wonder what are they trying to tell me.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

(i) Support the writer's view how wearing a hat has been a journey of change over the years ? (paragraph 1) **2**

(ii) In paragraph 2, why does the author refer to his habit as 'odd' with reference to context ? **1**

(iii) State whether the following statement is True or False :

Telling a person what lies beneath the brim means motivations, and experiences that shape who we are. (paragraph 2) **1**

(iv) Complete the following with the correct option from the given two :

For people wearing a cowboy hat suggests that the person may be _____.

(a) hard-working and independent

(b) resilient and reserved (paragraph 3) **1**

(v) Select the option that best explains the code of moral character of white hats and black hats. (paragraph 3)

(a) It is a symbolic representation of good and bad character.

(b) It is a metaphor for wealth and poverty. **1**

(vi) List any two points that illustrate how a hat is representative of everyday life. (paragraph 4) **2**

(vii) The writer mentions that he likes wearing a hat to get away from everyday life. Based on the information given in the passage, which of the following illustrates this reason ? He wears it _____.

(A) to protect himself from the summer heat

(B) as it is part of his daily office attire

(C) to portray a good moral character

(D) as it makes him feel like a daring adventurer (paragraph 5) **1**

(viii) What does the phrase, 'succeed against all odds' mean ?

(A) achieve success despite facing extremely difficult circumstances.

(B) achieve success with the support of your adversities.

(C) to give up in the face of challenges.

(D) to collaborate with others for profit. **1**

2. Read the following passage carefully : **10 M**

(1) Woodsfield, a picturesque town surrounded by dense woods, is renowned for its rich wildlife biodiversity. Recent studies conducted in 2024 compared the variety of species in the Woodsfield region over the past two decades.

(2) The results were indeed startling. In 2024, a total of 250 species of birds were endangered. However, this number had dwindled to 210. A silver lining was the rise in the population of a certain winged warbler, once on the endangered species list. The red winged warbler on the brink of extinction, saw a population increase from just 20 in 2004 to 150 in 2024. The mammalian population count displayed mammal decreased fluctuations. While the overall from 95 in 2004 to 86 in 2024, the population of the elusive Woodsfield fox, native to the region, increased from 150 in 2004 to 400 in 2024.

(3) In 2004, region's freshwater lakes experienced the most drastic decline. There were 50 species of freshwater fish, a staple for the local fishing industry, in 2004 but this dropped to 40 in 2024. The blue-scaled trout saw a sharp decline in numbers with a reduction of 60% from 1000 to 400 over two decades.

(4) Deforestation and urbanization were identified as primary reasons for the decline in species count, while conservation efforts were credited for the resurgence of endangered species.

The data is summarized in the table below :

Species Category	2004	2024
Birds	250	210
Red-winged warbler	20	150
Mammals	95	86
Woodsfield fox	150	400
Freshwater fish	50	40
Blue-scaled trout	1000	400

The revelations from the study have prompted discussions on enhancing conservation measures in Woodfield to strike a balance between development and preserving its rich diversity.

Answer the following questions, based on the reading of the passage :

(i) What does the use of the phrase "Silver lining" by the writer, in paragraph 2 imply ? **1**

(A) The overall decline in bird species is irreversible.

(B) Despite the decline, there is a positive trend in the population of the red-winged warbler.

(C) The Woodsfield fox is the only species that has increased.

(D) Aquatic life has shown no signs of recovery.

(ii) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate options from those given in the brackets, based on your understanding of the paragraph 3. **1**

The statement that "the Woodsfield fox population increased from 150 in 2004 to 400 in 2024" is a/an _____ (fact/opinion) because it is a/an _____ (subjective judgment/objective detail)

(iii) Draw a comparative analysis of the bird species and mammal species count in Woodsfield between 2004 and 2024. **1**

(iv) What are the factors that are mainly responsible for decline in species count ? **2**

(v) Select the option that is true for the Assertion and Reason given below : **1**

Assertion : The blue-scaled trout population saw a sharp decline over two decades.

Reason : It is a staple for the local fishing industry.

(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.

(vi) Complete the sentence with a suitable reason :

The red-winged warbler's population rose from 20 to 150 because _____. **1**

(vii) Why were deforestation and urbanization identified as primary reasons for the decline in species count ? **1**

(viii) What is the writer's view about the aquatic life in Woodsfield ? **1**

(ix) Identify the word in paragraph 4 that indicates the 'revival' of wildlife. **1**

Section – B (20 Marks)

Creative (Writing and Grammar) Skills

Grammar 10 M

3. Complete any **ten** of the twelve tasks, as directed. Select the correct option to complete the given sentence from a recipe book : **10 × 1 = 10**

(i) To learn how to make a new dish, someone _____ to teach you how to go about it. **1**

(A) must (B) needs

(C) will (D) would

(ii) Fill in the blank by supplying the correct form of the verb given in the brackets.

She insisted that the documents be _____ (submit) without delay. **1**

(iii) Complete the line from a 'Plant More Trees' rhyme by filling in the blank with the correct option. **1**

Green leaves dancing in the breeze,

Homes for birds in all these trees,

Let's plant more now, _____ tomorrow bright.

(A) to make (B) for making

(C) make (D) for make

(iv) Rahul and Sneha were discussing a school project. Report Rahul's question. **1**

Have you completed the Science model for tomorrow's exhibition ?

(v) Fill in the blank with the correct article.

She is _____ university professor in London. **1**

(vi) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the given sentence. **1**

Neither of the options are suitable for our needs at the present moment.

Option No.	Error	Correction
(A)	options	option
(B)	are	is
(C)	needs	need
(D)	moment	moments

(vii) Arun talked to a journalist about his experience at the World Cup. Report the journalist's question to Arun.

"How do you feel after winning the 'Man of the Match' award ?"

The journalist asked Arun _____. **1**

(viii) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.

_____ he ran at breakneck speed he did not manage to catch the bus. **1**

(A) However (B) Although

(C) Whether (D) Because

(ix) Identify the error and supply the correction for the given sentence.

Access to quality learning and the development of skills is crucial for future jobs. **1**

Use the given format for your response.

Error	**Correction**

(x) Read the dialogue between two friends Rahul and Amit. **1**

Rahul : I am going to the store. Do you want me to buy anything for you ?

Amit : Yes, please buy some milk.

Report the dialogue between the two friends by completing the sentence.

Rahul told Amit that he was going to the store and asked if _____.

Amit requested him to buy some milk.

(xi) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence. **1**

You are requested to _____ the workshop on time.

(A) decline (B) join

(C) approach (D) arrive

(xii) Select the correct option that reports the given sentence in indirect speech.

The teacher said, "The capital of France is Paris." **1**

(A) The teacher said that the capital of France was Paris.

(B) The teacher said that the capital of France is Paris.

(C) The teacher said that the capital of France will be Paris.

(D) The teacher said that the capital of France is being Paris.

Writing 10 M

4. Attempt any **one** from (a) and (b) given below : **5**

(a) You are Tanya/Vikram of 102 Bond Street, Patna.

You are troubled by the condition of the back lanes in your colony.

There are encroachments, patchwork repaired surfaces, and overgrown weeds.

Write a letter to the Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation drawing attention to the poor maintenance and requesting for a periodic cleanliness drive. Give suggestions on how residents too can partner in these efforts.

OR

(b) You are Saurabh/Surabhi of Bal Vikas Vidyalaya, Kailash Nagar. You have recently noticed that due to an increase in vehicular transfer during drop & pickup hours in the nearby school, residents have become vulnerable to road injuries and accidents due to the unplanned traffic flow.

Write a letter to the Traffic Commissioner highlighting the need to manage the traffic situation and make it safe for residents.

5. Attempt any **one** from (a) and (b) given below : **5**

(a) Read the following information :

Importance of learning a second language.

- Opens up cultural and professional opportunities.
- Helps establish connection and association with people from diverse backgrounds.
- Improves cognitive functions.

Write a paragraph in about 120 words analyzing the benefits of learning a second language and discussing its potential impact on personal and professional development.

OR

(b) The table below illustrates the sales trend of smartphones and computers from 2019 to 2024. Analyze the data and write a detailed paragraph in about 120 words highlighting the key observations, trends and comparisons between smartphone and computer sales.

Year	Smartphones	Computers
2019	200	100
2020	400	200
2021	600	300
2022	700	400
2023	700	700
2024	900	800

Section – C (40 Marks)

Literature

6. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two (a) and (b) : **5**

(a) It is from these comrades in the struggle that I learned the meaning of courage. Time and again I have seen men and women risk their lives for an idea. I have seen men stand up to attack and torture without breaking, showing a strength and resilience that defies the imagination. I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid but he who conquers that fear.

(Nelson Mandela : A Long Walk to Freedom)

(i) Who taught the real meaning of courage to Nelson Mandela ? **1**

(ii) According to the speaker, the men and women risk and sacrifice their lives for _____. **1**

(iii) Choose the most suitable option. **2**

What does courage mean to Mandela ?

(A) fearlessness (B) patriotism

(C) strength (D) diligence

(iv) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket. **1**

The use of the phrase 'stand up to attack' describes the _____ (resilience/resignation) of the people.

OR

(b) I think he knew I made a little money this way but he did not seem to mind. Anil made money by fits and starts. He would borrow one week, lend the next. He kept worrying about his next cheque, but as soon as it arrived, he would go out and celebrate. It seems he wrote for magazines – a queer way to make a living' !

One evening he came home with a small bundle of notes, saying he had just sold a book to a publisher. At night I saw him tuck the money under the mattress. I had been working for Anil for almost a month and apart from cheating on the shopping, had not done anything in my line of work. *(The Thief's Story)*

(i) Complete the following sentence. **1**

Anil made money by 'fits and starts' means that he _____.

(A) deemed it fit to start investing money.

(B) started earning money in the recent past.

(C) received money intermittently.

(D) put his money to use frequently.

(ii) What does the information in the given extract tell us about Anil's character ? **2**

(iii) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket.

The phrase 'in my line of work' in the given context implies _____. (robbing/publishing) **1**

(iv) What connotation does the phrase 'this way' have in relation to earning money ? **1**

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two (a) and (b) : **5**

(a) He should be lurking in shadow
Sliding through long grass
Near the water hole
Where the plump deer pass. *(A Tiger in the Zoo)*

(i) Complete the following suitably :

The phrase 'lurking in shadow' implies that the tiger _____. **1**

(ii) According to the extract, the poet wishes for the tiger to be 'sliding' through the foliage as this would : **1**

(A) assist in keeping the prey unsuspecting of the predator's sound.

(B) aid in camouflaging the presence of the predator before it rushes in.

(C) help the predator pounce on the prey comfortably without getting tired.

(D) support the predator's vision as it eyes its prey.

(iii) What would the tiger do in the forest ? **2**

(iv) Pick the phrase that suggests that the forest in the extract is lush. **1**

(A) long grass (B) the water hole

(C) plump deer (D) lurking in shadow

OR

(b) The leaves strain toward the glass
small twigs stiff with exertion
long-cramped boughs shuffling under the roof
like newly discharged patients
half-dazed, moving
to the clinic doors. *(The Trees)*

(i) Complete the following suitably :
The phrase that implies that moving out was tedious for the small twigs is _____. **1**

(ii) What is the poet's attitude towards the tree's movement, as described in the extract ? **1**

(iii) Fill in the blank :
The boughs are likened to newly discharged patients, suggesting that the tree is recovering from a state of _____. **1**

(iv) How does the image of the clinic doors contribute to the overall meaning expressed by the poet ? **2**

8. Answer any **four** of the following five questions in **40-50** words each :

4 × 3 = 12

(a) The "yellow hair" is a symbol in the poem. Briefly support the statement with reference to the poem "For Anne Gregory". *(For Anne Gregory)*

(b) 'Paper has more patience than people.' Why did Anne write this in her diary ? *(From the Diary of Anne Frank)*

(c) A parent should try to be a companion to a child for a better relationship. Explain with reference to Amanda's mother. *(Amanda)*

(d) Valli was a mature girl and ahead of her age. Justify the statement with evidence from the text. *(Madam Rides the Bus)*

(e) How according to the Buddha can one obtain peace of mind ? *(The Sermon At Benaras)*

9. Answer any **two** of the following questions in **40-50** words each :

2 × 3 = 6

(a) Why did the police arrest Horace Danby when he had not kept the jewels stolen from the Grange safe ? *(A Question of Trust)*

(b) Compare and contrast the characters of Noodle and Think Tank. *(The Book That Save the Earth)*

(c) Richard Ebright's mother played a huge role in making him a great scientist. Elaborate. *(The Making of a Scientist)*

10. Answer any **one** of the following two questions in **100-120** words : **6**

(a) Compare how the texts of 'A Letter to God' and 'Dust of Snow' use nature to either test or transform human emotion and belief.

OR

(b) How does the tone and style of 'Mijbil the Otter' contrast with that of 'How to Tell Wild Animals' when it comes to depicting the human-animal relationship ?

11. Answer any **one** of the following two questions in **100-120** words : **6**

(a) How did Ausable outsmart and outwit the crafty Max and get rid of him ? *(The Midnight Visitor)*

OR

(b) In what way did Bholi's mother's attitude towards her make Bholi an introvert ? How did her teacher help her to overcome her handicap ? *(Bholi)*

Marking Scheme
Strictly Confidential
(For Internal and Restricted use only)
Secondary School Examination, 2026 (2nd Board Examination)
SUBJECT NAME : English Language & Literature
(Q.P. CODE / Set No. 184/2-8-1)

General Instructions: -

1	You are aware that evaluation is the most important process in the actual and correct assessment of the candidates. A small mistake in evaluation may lead to serious problems which may affect the future of the candidates, education system and teaching profession. To avoid mistakes, it is requested that before starting evaluation, you must read and understand the spot evaluation guidelines carefully.
2	**"Evaluation policy is a confidential policy as it is related to the confidentiality of the examinations conducted, evaluation done and several other aspects. Its leakage to public in any manner could lead to derailment of the examination system and affect the life and future of millions of candidates. Sharing this policy/document to anyone, publishing in any magazine and printing in Newspaper/Website, etc. may invite action under various rules of the Board and IPC."**
3	Evaluation is to be done as per instructions provided in the Marking Scheme. It should not be done according to one's own interpretation or any other consideration. Marking Scheme should be strictly adhered to and religiously followed. **However, while evaluating, answers which are based on latest information or knowledge and/or are innovative, they may be assessed for their correctness otherwise and due marks be awarded to them. In Class-X, while evaluating two competency-based questions, please try to understand given answer and even if reply is not from marking scheme but correct competency is enumerated by the candidate, due marks should be awarded.**
4	The Marking scheme carries only suggested value points for the answers. These are in the nature of Guidelines only and do not constitute the complete answer. The students can have their own expression and if the expression is correct, the due marks should be awarded accordingly.
5	The Head-Examiner must go through the first five answer books evaluated by each evaluator on the first day, to ensure that evaluation has been carried out as per the instructions given in the Marking Scheme. If there is any variation, the same should be zero after deliberation and discussion. The remaining answer books meant for evaluation shall be given only after ensuring that there is no significant variation in the marking of individual evaluators.
6	Evaluators will mark (√) wherever answer is correct. For wrong answer CROSS 'X' be marked. Evaluators will not put right (**✓**) while evaluating which gives an impression that answer is correct and no marks are awarded. **This is most common mistake which evaluators are committing.**
7	If a question has parts, please award marks on the right-hand side for each part. Marks awarded for different parts of the question should then be totaled up and written in the left-hand margin and encircled. This may be followed strictly.
8	If a question does not have any parts, marks must be awarded in the left-hand margin and encircled. This may also be followed strictly.
9	If a student has attempted an extra question, answer of the question deserving more marks should be retained and the other answer scored out with a note **"Extra Question"**.
10	No marks to be deducted for the cumulative effect of an error. It should be penalized only once.

11	A full scale of marks _____ (example 0 to 80/70/60/50/40/30 marks as given in Question Paper) has to be used. Please do not hesitate to award full marks if the answer deserves it.
12	Every examiner has to necessarily do evaluation work for full working hours i.e., 8 hours every day and evaluate 20 answer books per day in main subjects and 25 answer books per day in other subjects (Details are given in Spot Guidelines).This is in view of the reduced syllabus and number of questions in question paper.
13	Ensure that you do not make the following common types of errors committed by the Examiner in the past :- ● Leaving answer or part thereof unassessed in an answer book. ● Giving more marks for an answer than assigned to it. ● Wrong totaling of marks awarded on an answer. ● Wrong transfer of marks from the inside pages of the answer book to the title page. ● Wrong question wise totaling on the title page. ● Wrong totaling of marks of the two columns on the title page. ● Wrong grand total. ● Marks in words and figures not tallying/not same. ● Wrong transfer of marks from the answer book to online award list. ● Answers marked as correct, but marks not awarded. (Ensure that the right tick mark is correctly and clearly indicated. It should merely be a line. Same is with the X for incorrect answer.) ● Half or a part of answer marked correct and the rest as wrong, but no marks awarded.
14	While evaluating the answer books if the answer is found to be totally incorrect, it should be marked as cross (X) and awarded zero (0) Marks.
15	Any unassessed portion, non-carrying over of marks to the title page, or totaling error detected by the candidate shall damage the prestige of all the personnel engaged in the evaluation work as also of the Board. Hence, in order to uphold the prestige of all concerned, it is again reiterated that the instructions be followed meticulously and judiciously.
16	The Examiners should acquaint themselves with the guidelines given in the "**Guidelines for Spot Evaluation**" before starting the actual evaluation.
17	Every Examiner shall also ensure that all the answers are evaluated, marks carried over to the title page, correctly totaled and written in figures and words.
18	The candidates are entitled to obtain photocopy of the Answer Book on request on payment of the prescribed processing fee. All Examiners/Additional Head Examiners/Head Examiners are once again reminded that they must ensure that evaluation is carried out strictly as per value points for each answer as given in the Marking Scheme.
19	**If a candidate attempts both alternatives/options in a question where only one option/alternative is required to be attempted, the Evaluator shall award marks in both the options. The system will take the higher of two scores and disregard the other response.**
20	**In a question having two options/alternatives, if a candidate has attempted only one, then the evaluator shall mark "NA" (Not attempted) against the option that has not been attempted by the candidate.**

MARKING SCHEME
English Language & Literature (Subject Code - 184)
(PAPER CODE: 2/8/1)

Q. No.	EXPECTED OUTCOMES/VALUE POINTS	Marks
	SECTION-A **READING SKILLS**	**20 Marks**
Q1	Answer the following questions based on the reading of the passage.	**10 marks**
Q1. (i)	**(Any Two)** • Protection from the elements • Displaying status, expressing individuality • For religious or ceremonial purposes • Early headwear- for survival against weather and injury; whereas later symbols of wealth, profession and social rank- Today, fashion, personal expression and safety or comfort • Many of the old social pressures have faded	**1+1**
(ii)	It is strange because very few people wear hats in today's time	**1**
(iii)	False	**1**
(iv)	(b) resilient and reserved	**1**
(v)	(a) It is a symbolic representation of good and bad character	**1**
(vi)	**(Any Two)** • Congratulations – hat is off to them • Exciting News- hold onto my hat • To keep secret – under my hat • Restless or worked up - mad hatter	**1+1**
(vii)	(D) as it makes him feel like a daring adventurer	**1**
(viii)	(A) achieve success despite facing extremely difficult circumstances	**1**
Q2.	Answer the following questions based on the reading of the passage.	**10 Marks**
(i)	(B) Despite the decline, there is a positive trend in the population of the red-winged warbler	**1**
(ii)	a fact, an objective detail	**1**
(iii)	**(Any One)** • The bird species in Woodsfield declined from 250 in 2004 to 210 in 2024 while mammals decreased from 95 to 86 • Red winged warbler (birds) and Woodsfield fox (mammals) saw significant population increases during the same period	**1**
(iv)	deforestation & urbanisation	**1+1**
(v)	(B) Both the Assertion and Reason are true but the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion	**1**
(vi)	of conservation efforts	**1**
(vii)	**(Any One)**	**1**

	Because they lead to habitat destruction reducing the natural living spaces and resources for wildlife/ population explosion/ industrialisation/ human greed **(Any other relevant answer)**	
(viii)	**(Any One)** • The writer highlights a severe decline in freshwater fish species, particularly the blue – scaled trout • The passage suggests that aquatic ecosystems have suffered the most drastic changes compared to other wildlife categories	**1**
(ix)	Resurgence	**1**
	SECTION-B **Creative Writing and Grammar Skills Grammar**	**20 Marks**
Q3.	Complete any **ten** of the twelve tasks, as directed.	**10x1=10**
(i)	(B) needs	**1**
(ii)	Submitted	**1**
(iii)	(A) to make OR (B) for making	**1**
(iv)	Rahul asked Sneha if/whether she had completed the science model for the next day's/following day's exhibition.	**1**
(v)	a	**1**
(vi)	(B) are - is	**1**
(vii)	how he felt after winning the 'Man of the Match' award.	**1**
(viii)	(B) Although	**1**
(ix)	ERROR: is — CORRECTION: are	**1**
(x)	he wanted him to buy anything for him.	**1**
(xi)	(B) join	**1**
(xii)	(B) The teacher said that the capital of France is Paris.	**1**
	WRITING	**10 Marks**
Q4.(a) &(b)	❖ **Content - 2 marks** • Any Two value points from the headers ❖ **Format - 1 mark** • Full credit if all aspects are included. • Partial credit ½ mark if one or two aspects are missing. • No credit if more than two aspects are missing. • No mark for format alone if content is irrelevant or missing. ❖ **Organisation of ideas - 1 mark** • effective style, orderly sequence, paragraphed structure, formal tone and vocabulary	**5 Marks**

	❖ **Accuracy - 1 mark** • Spellings, punctuation, grammar • ½ mark to be deducted if there are three or more spelling errors.	
Q4(a)	**VALUE POINTS** ❖ **Problem:** • Poor condition of back lanes • Inconvenience to residents • Encroachments, patchwork, traffic congestion due to narrowing lanes, uneven roads. • Overgrown weeds- breeding of mosquitoes, unhygienic conditions, difficulty for pedestrians especially elderly and children. ❖ **Suggestions:** • Removal of encroachments • Proper road repair and re-surfacing • Periodic cleaning drives • Removal of weeds • Inspection and supervision by officials • RWA participation and cooperation **(Any other relevant point)**	**2+1+1+1**
	OR	
Q4 (b)	**VALUE POINTS** ❖ **Problem:** • Increase in number of vehicles • Clogged roads, chaos during peak hours • Residents vulnerable to accidents and road injuries • Rash driving • Increase in number of e-rickshaws and two wheelers • Over honking and unplanned parking • Overlooking of traffic rules • Delays and inconvenience to local residents • Risk for school children ❖ **Suggestions:** • Deployment of traffic police during peak hours • Proper parking arrangements • Speed breakers, zebra crossing and traffic signals • Installation of closed circuit cameras • Action against violators • Staggered timings and volunteers to help in traffic management • Awareness amongst parents and students **(Any other relevant point)**	**2+1+1+1**
Q5. (a) & (b)	**Analytical Paragraph** ❖ **Content - 2 marks**	**5 Marks**

	• Full credit of two marks will be awarded if a minimum of four trends/points which are included in the question are duly analysed and synthesised. • Partial credit of one mark will be awarded if only two value points are included. ❖ **Organisation of ideas - 2 marks** • Effective style, orderly sequence, single paragraphed structure, formal tone and functional vocabulary. • Linking words and phrases/cohesive devices such as however, in addition to, in contrast to, therefore etc., should be used. ❖ **Accuracy - 1 mark** • Spellings, punctuation and grammar. • ½ mark to be deducted if there are three or more spelling errors.	
Q5 (a)	**VALUE POINTS** • Learning a second language- opens up cultural and professional opportunities • Helps establish connection and association with people from diverse backgrounds • Improves cognitive functions • Increases confidence and communication skills • Helps creativity and critical thinking in this era of globalization **(Any other relevant point)**	**2+2+1**
	OR	
Q5 (b)	**VALUE POINTS** • Data shows trends and comparisons between smartphone and computer sales • Data shown for years- 2019 to 2024 • Sale of smartphones higher than computers • Sale of Smartphones rose from 200 in 2019 to 900 in 2024 • Sharp rise in the use of smartphones and computers • In 2023, sale of smartphones and computers was the same • Sale of smartphones was constant in 2022 and 2023 • Growing demand for technology shown by the trend **(Any other relevant point)**	**2+2+1**
	SECTION-C **LITERATURE**	**40 Marks**
Q6.	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **Any ONE** of the two given.	**5**
(a)		
(i)	Comrades who were fighting for freedom struggle.	**1**
(ii)	an idea/freedom	**1**

	(Any other relevant point)	
(iii)	(C) Strength	**2**
(iv)	resilience	**1**
	OR	
(b)(i)	(C) received money intermittently	**1**
(ii)	**(Any Two)** • appears to be a kind and generous person • willing to lend money and support people • poor financial management • not possessive about money • values relationships over material possessions • did not have a fixed income	**1+1**
(iii)	robbing	**1**
(iv)	**(Any One)** negative connotation/stealing/robbing/cheating/duping/being unlawful **(Any other relevant point)**	**1**
Q7.	Read the following extracts and answer the questions for **Any ONE** of the given two (a) and (b) :	**5**
7(a) (i)	is hiding /waiting to ambush prey or the tiger's natural predatory behaviour **(Any other relevant point)**	**1**
(ii)	(A) assist in keeping the prey unsuspecting of the predator's sound. OR (B) aid in camouflaging the presence of the predator before it rushes in.	**1**
(iii)	**(Any Two)** • lurk in the shadow • slide through long grass • move stealthily • wait for prey • approach the prey quietly	**1+1**
(iv)	(A) long grass	**1**
	OR	
(b)(i)	twigs stiff with exertion.	**1**
(ii)	**(Any One)** • attitude towards the tree's movement is one of gentle observation • using words like 'strain' or 'shuffle' to convey a sense of slow and laboured movement. **(Any other relevant point)**	**1**
(iii)	Confinement and restriction **(Any other relevant point)**	**1**
(iv)	**(Any Two)** • The image of the clinic doors - as a symbol of confinement and recovery	**1+1**

	• Highlights the idea - the tree is moving back to its natural habitat to a healthy space • Like patients recovering from illness • They leave the place they don't want to be in, similar to hospital patients **(Any other relevant point)**	
Q8.	Answer **Any FOUR** of the following five questions in **40-50** words each. **Content-2 (At least two value points)** **Expression-1 (coherence, cohesion, effective style)**	**4x3=12 Marks**
(i)	**(Any Two)** • The phrase "yellow hair" - a symbol of physical beauty • Highlights how people often judge others based on their physical appearance • Anne Gregory's suitors are more interested in her physical beauty than in getting to know her as a person. **(Any other relevant point)**	**2+1**
(ii)	**(Any Two)** • Found it easier to express herself through writing • It allowed her to process her emotions and thoughts without fear of judgement and rejection. • Provided Anne with a sense of comfort and solace during a difficult time. **(Any other relevant point)**	**2+1**
(iii)	**(Any Two)** • Children need guidance, support and understanding from their parents to develop emotionally and psychologically • "Amanda"- the speaker's mother- overly critical and controlling • Over critical behaviour led Amanda to become emotionally cut off/ aloof from her parents. **(Any other relevant point)**	**2+1**
(iv)	**(Any Two)** • Valli - mature girl demonstrated confidence and independence by planning a bus ride alone • Planned and executed her bus ride alone- saved 60 paisa for her bus ride • Showed her maturity and ability to take care of herself - unusual for her age • Sacrificed merry go round and candies for saving money- shows maturity/self control • Self-Respect- refused free drink and seat offered by the conductor • Self-Realisation- Life and Death **(Any other relevant point)**	**2+1**
(v)	**(Any Two)**	**2+1**

	• According to Buddha- Peace of mind can be obtained by understanding the nature of grief and sorrow • Accepting the reality of death and loss • Letting go of worldly attachments • Cultivating wisdom and compassion **(Any other relevant point)**	
Q9.	Answer **Any TWO** of the following questions in about **40-50** words. **Content-2 (At least two value points)** **Expression-1(coherence, cohesion, effective style)**	**2x3=6 Marks**
(i)	**(Any Two)** • Horace Danby broke into Grange's house and stole the jewels • Lady in red tricked him into opening the safe- without wearing the gloves • His fingerprints were found all over the place • The evidence left at the crime scene led to his arrest **(Any other relevant point)**	**2+1**
(ii)	**(Any Two)** • Noodle and Think Tank differ in personality • Think Tank – arrogant, over confident, proud, boastful whereas Noodle - humble and cautious, logical and practical. • The contrast is shown when he corrects Think Tank's mistakes • Noodle provides a more logical solution whereas Think Tank is illogical • Both are intelligent and resourceful but their approaches to problem solving are distinct **(Any other relevant point)**	**2+1**
(iii)	**(Any Two)** • Ebright's mother's encouraged and supported him • Nurtured his curiosity, provided opportunities to explore and helped him develop his skills and knowledge • Fostered his interest in science by taking him to trips • Bought him microscope and telescope • Bought him the book "The Travels of Monarch X" which changed Ebright's path to success **(Any other relevant point)**	**2+1**
Q10.	Answer **Any ONE** of the following two questions in **100-120** words. **Content − 3 marks (At least three value points)** **Expression − 2 marks (coherence, cohesion, effective style)** **Accuracy − 1 mark(spellings, punctuation, grammar)**	**6 Marks**
(a)	**(Any Three - One from Each Aspect)** ❖ **Letter to God:** • Nature is a powerful, dual-edged force- it brings both sustenance and destruction leading to hardship and despair.	**3+2+1**

	❖ **Dust of Snow:** • Nature is a gentle positive force that brings an unexpected moment of renewal and relief from sadness, poet's mood transformed instantly. ❖ **Synthesis:** • In Letter to God- nature is a source of both livelihood and devastation directly impacting a person's fate whereas 'Dust of Snow' uses a simple, minor event in nature to represent a positive shift in mood and perspective. • In Letter to God- Nature is shown destructive whereas in Dust of Snow it is shown as healing and comforting. **(Any other relevant point)**	
	OR	
(b)	**(Any Three -One from Each Aspect)** ❖ **Mijbil- The Otter** • Focuses on a close, personal bond between the narrator and his pet. • They share travel experiences with a relationship of empathy, companionship and responsibility. • Narrator uses an emotionalP7, affectionate and personal tone while talking about Mijbil • Mijbil- often unknown to people, playful and intelligent animal, loves water. ❖ **How to Tell Wild Animals** • Tone- Humorous, light and ironic. • Animals- shown as dangerous yet amusing. • More focus on wild animals than pets. ❖ **Synthesis:** • Mijbil the Otter shows human relations with pets whereas How to Tell Wild Animals shows human relations with wild animals. • One deals with sympathy and the other with danger. **(Any other relevant point)**	**3+2+1**
Q11.	Answer **Any ONE** of the following questions in **100-120** words. **Content − 3 marks (At least three value points)** **Expression − 2 marks (coherence, cohesion, effective style)** **Accuracy − 1 mark(spellings, punctuation, grammar)**	**6 Marks**
11(a)	**(Any Three)** • Used his presence of mind to outwit Max by making the story about balcony believable • Two stories about the balcony below his window and the police convinced Max • Max jumped out of the window believing there was a balcony • Ausable- got rid of his crafty rival by fooling him	**3+2+1**

	• Ausable - showed presence of mind in calling the waiter as police. **(Any other relevant point)**	
	OR	
(b)	**(Any Three)** • Bholi's mother- treated her indifferently due to her physical appearance and speech defect • Bholi- often neglected, never given love and was seen as a burden • Constant disregard affected Bholi deeply, made her feel unwanted and unworthy, turned her into a shy and withdrawn child • Teacher- kind, patient and encouraging • Helped Bholi build confidence and self-respect • Teacher's support and affection enabled Bholi to overcome her fear of speaking and gained the courage to stand up for herself • Transformed a timid girl into a brave and confident young woman **(Any other relevant point)**	**3+2+1**
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