



COMMON PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION 2022-23
Subject: ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)



Class: X

Date:

Time allowed: 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

- 1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.**
- 2. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.**
- 3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.**

SECTION A – READING SKILLS

20 Marks

I Read the passage given below.

Are We Happier Than Our Forefathers?

- 1 The conquest of happiness has meant different facts to different generations. Our forefathers took pride in scholarship, a spirit of sacrifice and solicitude for the welfare of others. Gone are those days. Today we live only for ourselves. We are jealous of the advancement of our neighbours. We end up tensed and unhappy.
- 2 The term 'happy' has a variety of meanings. It stands for the lucky, fortunate, content, glad or apt. Happiness lies within the mind of the individual. No amount of external wealth may be helpful in making him happy.
- 3 Our forefathers had lifestyles, very much different from those we have today. Their life was based mainly on the concept of "Simple living and high thinking." People were satisfied with whatever they obtained after working hard. Excessive material wealth did not mean much to them. They aimed at deriving mental satisfaction and enrichment from what they did.
- 4 The structural framework of our forefathers' families was different from that of ours. They lived in a cohesive joint family structure where they were happier than us. They cared for each other. The siblings grew up with their cousins. The bond of love which they shared can't be easily found in the nuclear family of today. The family provided an emotional cushioning effect against tension and stress. However, in the nuclear family, we are detached from the feelings towards our kith and kin. At times even the cousins do not recognise one another, when they happen to be self-centered. Disputes in the family may lead to divisions. This may finally destroy the family psyche.
- 5 The joint family system provided a proper environment for the child to grow up. The value of respect, tolerance, responsibility, integrity, etc. was internalised in the child. In the long run, they became better human beings, compared to those of the present generation. Our forefathers felt happier if their children became 'honest' human beings.

6 But today we are happy only if we attain our coveted material ends. We are ready to resort to any means to attain that end. Our philosophy of life has turned out totally Machiavellian.

7 Our forefathers had the vision to make India the best. To attain their ambitions, they were ready to make all sorts of personal sacrifices. Their happiness lay in that of the millions of Indian brothers and sisters. On the other hand, today people are ready to migrate to the west, to enjoy a comfortable life. They run away from the evils of the Indian society without trying to remedy them. Often, they become successful in foreign lands. But in the process, they become alienated from their motherland. The nostalgic feeling of their childhood and the relationship they left lingered on, which cannot make them happy. Distance from their ailing parents is a worrying factor and keeps them perturbed. It is not easy for them to return, as their children will not be able to adjust to the Indian environment and way of life. Thus, in our generation, tradition and modernity have intermingled to form our special system.

Based on the understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

1x10

i **What concept was our forefathers' life based upon?**

1

- A. Simple living and high thinking
- B. Satisfied with whatever they obtained after working hard
- C. Excessive material wealth did not mean much to them
- D. All of the above

ii **Choose the option which suggests the following meaning" We are jealous of the advancement of our neighbours."**

1

- A. Frog in the well
- B. Crab in the barrel
- C. green with envy
- D. Evil eye

iii **Select the option that displays what the writer projects, with reference to the following:**

1

Our forefathers had a vision to make India the best.

- A. Nostalgia
- B. Regret
- C. Despair
- D. Admiration

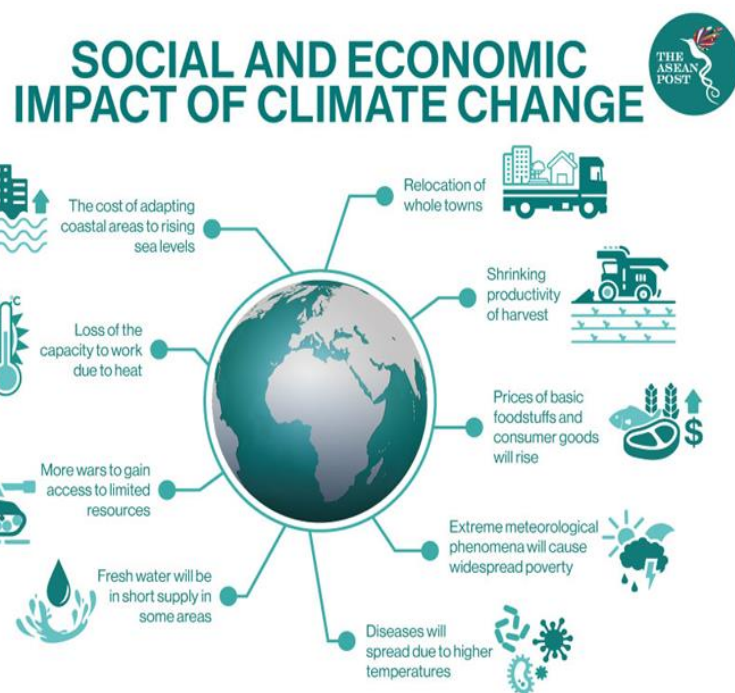
iv **Complete the following with a phrase from paragraph 2.**

1

Option _____ Example _____
Every word had a different meaning in a _____
different context

- v **According to the writer, people are ready to migrate to the West. State one reason for this.** 1
- vi **According to the passage, state one aspect that brings out the difference between our forefathers and today's generation.** 1
- vii **How does the joint family system make a child a good human being?** 1
- viii **The intermingle of modernity and tradition is shown by:** 1
 A. Children helping their parents or grandparents use smart gadgets.
 B. Children staying away from their families
 C. Parents not going to live at their children's place
 D. None of the above
- ix **Supply one point to justify the following:** 1
The conquest of happiness has meant different facts to different generations.
- x **Identify the correct option that is underlined below to replace the phrase 'lingered on' in paragraph 7.** 1
 A. I knew I was going the wrong way, but I just moved on.
 B. Let us pass on to the next topic now.
 C. Marc admits he used to fool around in class.
 D. Undercover officers spend most of their time hanging around.
- II **Read the passage given below.**
- 1 India's average temperature has already increased by around 0.7 degrees Celsius during the 1901-2018 period due to Greenhouse gas emissions and by the end of 2100 it is expected to rise by approximately 4.4 degrees Celsius warns the first-ever climate change assessment report by the Indian Government.
- 2 The report assessment of Climate Change over the Indian Region prepared by the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) warned that the rapid changes in the temperature would mean increasing stress on India's "natural ecosystems, agricultural output and freshwater resources, while also causing escalating damage to infrastructure." This ultimately means a serious impact on the country's biodiversity, food, water, energy, security and public health.
- 3 It is said that several regions in India are global biodiversity hotspots with numerous endemic species of plants and animals and with the "climate changing more rapidly than usual, they may face increasing threats on account of these changes."

- 4 The MoES report cautioned that by the end of 2100, the “frequency of summer (April-June) heat waves over India is projected to be 3 to 4 times higher” and the “average duration of heatwave events is also projected to approximately double.” According to the report, the Sea Surface Temperature (SST) of the tropical Indian Ocean has also risen by one degree Celsius, on average, during 1951-2015.
- 5 The rise in temperature is playing havoc with India’s rainfall which is significant for India’s agriculture sector. The report noted that the summer monsoon precipitation (June to September) over India has declined by around six percent from 1951 to 2015, with notable decreases over the Indo-Gangetic Plains and the Western Ghats. It stressed that the overall decrease of seasonal summer monsoon rainfall during the last 6-7 decades has led to an increased propensity for droughts in India.
- 6 “In particular, areas over Central India, South West coast, Southern peninsula and North-Eastern India have experienced more than two droughts per decade. The area affected by drought has also increased by 1.3 percent per decade over the same period. Climate model projections indicate a high likelihood of an increase in the frequency, intensity and area under drought conditions in India by the end of the twenty-first century” said the MoES report.



Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

1x10=10

- i **Infer one reason for the following based on information in Paragraph 1.** 1
 India’s average temperature has already increased by around 0.7 degrees Celsius during the 1901-2018 period.
- ii **Select the appropriate option to fill in the blanks.** 1

From paragraph 5 we can infer that the ____ in temperature has wreaked havoc on the rainfall pattern. The overall ____ of seasonal summer monsoon rainfall during the last 6-7 decades has led to an increased tendency of droughts.

1. rise
 2. sufficient
 3. exaggerated
 4. elaborate
 5. significant
 6. decrease
- A. (1) and (6)
B. (2) and (4)
C. (3) and (2)
D. (1) and (4)

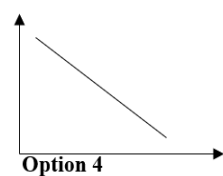
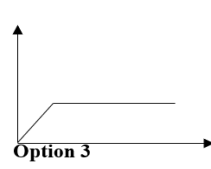
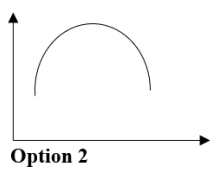
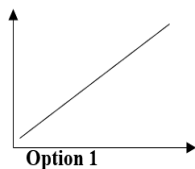
- iii **Complete the analogy correctly with a word/phrase from Paragraph 4** 1
Rainfall: Monsoon :: _____ Summer
- iv **Select the correct option to complete the following sentence.** 1
As per reports, an overall decrease in seasonal summer monsoon rainfall has led to _____ (Paragraph 5)
A. an increased tendency for droughts
B. heavy snowfall in winters
C. severe wildfires
D. decline in air quality
- v **With the rise in droughts occurring every year, there has been _____ in the area affected by droughts by 1.3 per cent per decade.** 1
A. decrease
B. increase
C. no change
D. none of these
- vi **How will the rise in temperature affect the rainfall in India? (Paragraph 5)** 1
- vii **From the figure given in the above extract, list any two social and economic impacts of climate change.** 1
- viii **Select the option that titles Paragraph 1-3 appropriately with reference to the information in the text.** 1
A. Effect of greenhouse gases
Loss of biodiversity
Stress on ecosystems

- B. Heatwaves
 - Drought trends
 - Agriculture and droughts
- C. Decreasing rainfall
 - Winds of Change
 - Climate Change
- D. Droughts in India
 - Decreasing rainfall
 - Climate Change

ix **Substitute the word 'warned' with one word similar in meaning in the following sentence from paragraph 4.** 1

"The newspaper warned its readers against buying shares without getting good advice first."

x **Select the chart that approximately represents the drought trends with Climate in India from the year 1951-2015 as per paragraph 5.** 1



- A. Option 1
- B. Option 2
- C. Option 3
- D. Option 4

SECTION B GRAMMAR

III **Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions.** 10

i **Select the correct option to fill in the blank.** 1

During my college days, I _____ beat them all in the race!

- A. could
- B. should
- C. can
- D. might

ii **Complete the notice by filling in the blank with the correct option:** 1

The swimming pool _____ at 6.a.m daily.

- A. open
- B. is opening

- C. opens
- D. opened

iii **Select the right option to complete the following sentence.** 1

When we hear any commentary on the radio we easily _____ what is happening at a particular moment.

- A. visualizing
- B. visualized
- C. will visualize
- D. visualize

iv **Identify the error in the given sentence from a book review and supply the correction.** 1

Money is certainly necessary to survive. But is money the more important part of life?

Error	Correction

v **Select the correct option to complete the given sentence.** 1

Either Shravan or the girls _____ going to prepare dinner tonight.

- A. is
- B. are
- C. was
- D. were

vi **Choose from the options to fill in the blank suitably.** 1

You _____ use mobile phones inside the aircraft.

- A. had to
- B. should
- C. could
- D. mustn't

vii **Complete the given sentence, by filling in the blank with the correct option :** 1

The mechanic _____ the vehicle since morning.

- A. repaired
- B. repairs
- C. has been repairing
- D. will be repairing

viii **Report the dialogue between Aneena and Seema by completing the narration.** 1

Aneena : Do you know to swim?

Seema : Yes I know. I have learnt it during this summer vacation.

Aneena asked Seema if she knew to swim. Seema replied in affirmative and added that _____

ix **Choose the correct option to complete the given sentence.** 1

A number of students _____ late for the class yesterday.

- A. are
- B. is
- C. was
- D. were

x **Report the dialogue between the sports teacher and the students by completing the sentence.** 1

“Let us go and look at the school ground,” said the sports teacher.

“Are we going to play the final match today?” asked the students.

When the sports teacher invited the students to have a look at the school ground, they asked him _____

xi **Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line:** 1

Goals provides direction to our behaviour and guide our actions and thoughts.

Option No.	Error	Correction
A.	provides	Provide
B.	to	Our
C.	behaviour	behaviours
D.	guide	Guides

xii **Report the dialogue between Tanya and Astha, by completing the sentence :** 1

Tanya: How did you spend your vacation?

Astha : I visited Bengaluru with my parents.

Tanya asked Astha how she had spent her vacation. Astha replied that _____.

- A. she has visited Bengaluru with her parents.
- B. she had visited Bengaluru with her parents.
- C. she have visited Bengaluru with her parents.
- D. she hadn't visited Bengaluru with her parents.

IV **SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (10 marks)**

All the names and addresses used in the questions are fictitious. Resemblance, if any, is purely coincidental.

1. Attempt **ANY ONE** from A and B given below.

5

A. You are Prakash Rai of 129, Palm Avenue, Jamshedpur. While walking home from school, you noticed several posters around your school premises with the following message.

“Learn to swim- the best exercise for your body”

College Square Swimming Club, Jamshedpur

You are interested to join the swimming club of repute in your town. Write a letter to the Secretary, College Square Swimming Club, Jamshedpur enquiring about the details of membership, timings, instructors and other terms and conditions of the club.(120 words)

OR

B. You are Sushanthi Dev, Science Club Secretary, Bal Vidya Bhavan. You come across the following lines in a daily newspaper.

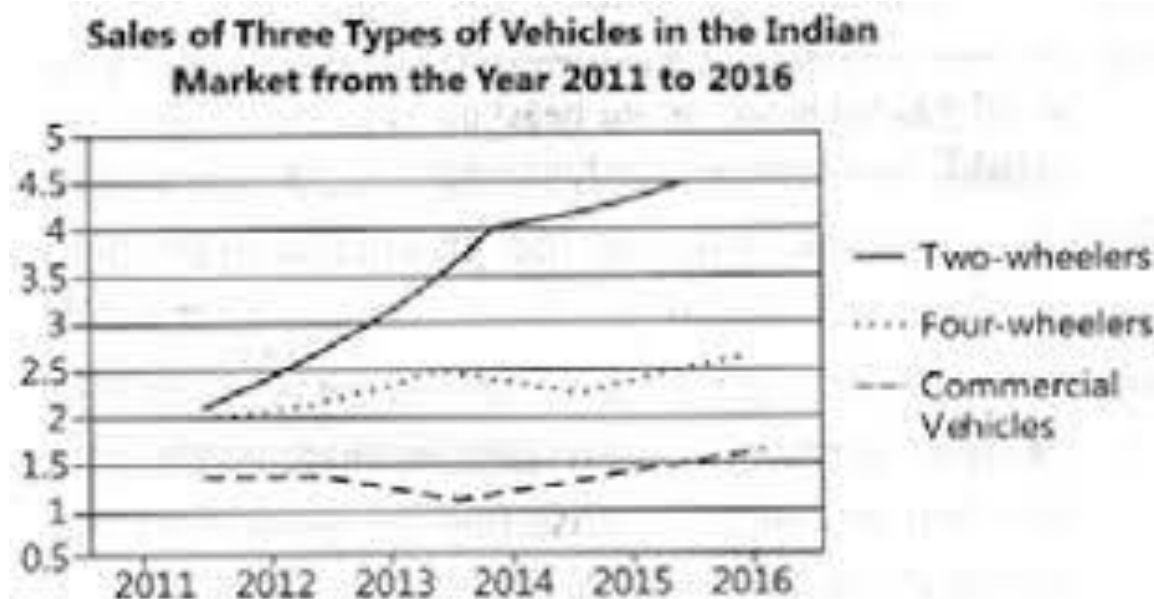
“In an ever-expanding high-tech environment, some individuals who are overly preoccupied with technology and online activity may need a counsellor’s help.”

Write a letter to the Editor, The Deccan Chronicle, in not more than 120 words, drawing attention to the harm caused (especially the youth) due to excessive technological addiction. Suggest ways to curb the use of electronic gadgets and make use of them in an effective way. (120 words)

2. Attempt **ANY ONE** from A and B given below.

5

A. Study the given line graph carefully which shows the sale of three types of vehicles in the Indian market between 2011-2016. Summarise the information and write an analytical paragraph in not more than 100-120 words.



OR

- B. “The ban on single-use plastic is impractical. The purpose of articles like bags and packaging is ultimately to make human life easier. Plastic articles do this well, so they shouldn’t be banned.” Write an analytical paragraph in 100-120 words to analyse the given argument. You could think about what alternative explanations might weaken the given conclusion and include rationale/evidence that would strengthen/counter the given argument.

The table with cues is given below:

BIODEGRADABLE		PLASTIC	
Advantage	Disadvantage	Advantage	Disadvantage
knowledge of the biodegradable packaging	cost of research	durable	Toxic chemicals leach out of plastic and are present virtually in everybody’s blood and tissue
manufacturing process to make biodegradables	development of new or improved biodegradable packaging	Water-resistant Rust- resistant	Plastics serve like a sponge, soaking up many ocean-borne toxic chemicals and pollutants.
No licensing fee	low profit	Low cost Lightweight	Human bodies absorb chemicals which are applied to plastics

SECTION C – LITERATURE

40

V Reference to the Context

10

1 Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

5

1.A This, I was to learn, is a characteristic of otters; every drop of water must be, so to speak, extended and spread about the place; a bowl must at once be overturned, or, if it will not be overturned, be sat in and splashed in until it overflows. Water must be kept on the move and made to do things; when static it is wasted and provoking. Two days later, Mijbil escaped from my bedroom as I entered it, and I turned to see his tail disappearing round the bend of the corridor that led to the bathroom. (Mijbil the Otter)

i. Why was Mijbil adamant about not keeping the water static?

1

- A. He disliked water and thus kept on disturbing it.
- B. It is a characteristic of otters.
- C. He saved water by splashing it.
- D. It is not made clear in the story.

- ii. **What does the author mean by saying that water must be made to do things according to Mijbil?** 1
- iii. **Mijbil's _____ comes through clearly when the author mentions his habit of constantly keeping water on the move.** 1
 A. naughtiness
 B. haughtiness
 C. arrogance
 D. pride
- iv. **How according to the author does Mijbil react to a bowl of water?** 1
 A. sitting and bathing in it
 B. refilling it
 C. throwing it and running away from it
 D. overturning or sitting in it until it overflows
- v. **Select the option that correctly captures the application of the word 'round' as used in the extract.** 1
 A. Gautam lives round the corner of our school neighbourhood with his parents.
 B. The best quality pearls are the ones that are lustrous and perfectly round in shape.
 C. We were lost for an hour on the road and just driving round and round on the expressway.
 D. The kids were insistent on riding a merry go round in the amusement park.

OR

- 1.B "That night when Ramlal consulted his wife, she cried, "Are you crazy? If girls go to school, who will marry them?" But Ramlal had not the courage to disobey the Tehsildar. At last, his wife said, "I will tell you what to do. Send Bholi to school. As it is, there is little chance of her getting married, with her ugly face and lack of sense. Let the teachers at school worry about her." The next day Ramlal caught Bholi by the hand and said, "Come with me. I will take you to school." Bholi was frightened. (Bholi)
- i. **Select the option that correctly captures the usage of the word 'hand' from the extract** 1
 A. Ankit asked for her hand in marriage but she refused him in front of everyone.
 B. The toddler learnt to walk by holding his mother's hand.
 C. The younger siblings usually have to wear the hand-me-downs of the elder ones.
 D. It is not in my hand to predict the future of our company.
- ii. **Complete the following analogy by selecting the suitable word from the extract :** 1
 obey : disobey :: beautiful : _____.
- iii. **Select the option that displays the reason why the Tehsildar asked Ramlal to send his daughter to school.** 1
 A. To instill confidence in Bholi by educating her
 B. Because Bholi was ugly and no one would marry her
 C. To fight the custom of dowry by educating girls.
 D. To set an example for others in the village.

- iv. **According to the extract, what is likely to be Bholi's parents' attitude towards the notion of sending her to school?** 1
1. inspiring
 2. to educate their daughter for a bright future
 3. to get her married as soon as possible
 4. to get rid of her for a while
 5. hesitant
- A. 2 and 3
B. 1 and 5
C. 4 and 5
D. 3 and 4
- v. **Bholi's parents, however reluctantly, pave the way for Bholi's bright future in the given extract. Explain.** 1
- 2 **Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.** 5
- 2.A "But up jumped Custard, Snorting like an engine,
Clashed his tail like irons in a dungeon,
With a clatter and a clank and a jangling squirm,
He went at the pirate like a robin at a worm."
(The Tale of Custard the Dragon)
- i **Pick the option that DOES NOT display a simile from the extract.** 1
- A. Clashed his tail like irons...
 - B. ...at the pirate like a robin at a worm.
 - C. ...Custard, snorting like an engine...
 - D....trickled down to the bottom...
- ii **The extract mentions 'irons' in dungeons. According to this extract, 'irons' is a reference to _____** 1
- A. iron racks for keeping books
 - B. iron cases housing treasures
 - C. iron chains holding the prisoners captive
 - D. iron coffins for burying the dead
- iii **What is the poet's purpose of using the onomatopoeic words given in the extract?** 1
- A. It is to emphasise the might and boldness of Custard
 - B. It is to introduce the character Custard to the readers
 - C. It is to make Custard look timid
 - D. It is to impress the readers that Custard was ready
- iv **Select the option that fits with the reaction of the characters in the context of the extract.** 1
- Pirate: Petrified:: Custard:___
- A. shocked
 - B. undaunted
 - C. upset

D. dazed

- v **'He went at the pirate like a robin at a worm.' Why has this comparison been used here? Just like the robin catches the worm,** 1
- A. Custard attacked the pirate after careful observation
 - B. Custard attacked the pirate without delay
 - C. Custard attacked the pirate stealthily
 - D. Custard attacked the pirate cowardly

OR

2.B "He should be lurking in shadow,
Sliding through long grass
Near the water hole
Where plump deer pass.
He should be snarling around houses
At the jungle's edge,
Baring his white fangs, his claws,
Terrorising the village!"

- i **What is the poet's tone in the extract?** 1
- 1. Placid
 - 2. Authoritative
 - 3. Argumentative
 - 4. Regretful
 - 5. Suppressed Anger
- A. 1,4
B. 3,4
C. 2,5
D. 4,5
- 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 **The antonym of 'protecting' as given in the extract is:** 1
- A. lurking
 - B. terrorizing
 - C. fearing
 - D. annoying
- iv **Complete the following analogy about the tiger's actions.** 1
snarling : growling :: exposing : _____.

v	Pick the option that DOES NOT appropriately use 'lurking' in the following sentences.	1
	A. The thug was _____ in the alley late evening, for unsuspecting passers-by.	
	B. The hyena was _____ in its den after a good meal.	
	C. The detective cautioned her team about the _____ dangers likely to impact the case.	
	D. She didn't see the figure _____ behind the bushes.	
VI	Answer ANY FOUR of the following in about 40-50 words each.	4x3=12
i	What 'twin obligations' does Nelson Mandela mention? (Nelson Mandela - Long Walk to Freedom)	3
ii	What is the message of the poem "Fire and Ice" by Robert Frost?	3
iii	How can you differentiate between a hyena and a crocodile? (How to Tell Wild Animals)	3
iv	Why did Valli find the elderly woman on the bus repulsive? (Madam Rides the Bus)	3
v	The people of Coorg have a tradition of courage and bravery. How has it been recognized in modern India? (Glimpses of India)	3
VII	Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each.	2x 3= 6
i	"Horace Danby was good and respectable — but not completely honest". Why do you think this description is apt for Horace? (A Question of Trust)	2
ii	Why did Hari Singh think that Anil's job was queer? (The Thief's Story)	2
iii	Why does Mrs. Pumphrey think the dog's recovery is 'A Triumph of Surgery'?	2
VIII	Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100-120 words.	1x 6= 6
i	"According to Gautama Buddha, the world is affected by suffering, death, and decay. Therefore, wise men do not grieve, knowing the terms of the world. "Do you think this statement is appropriate even for today's life? Comment.	6
OR		
ii	Freedom is the basis of happiness for all creatures, be they living beings or plants. The basic theme of the poems 'Amanda' and 'The Trees' is the urge to be free. Explain.	6
IX	Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100-120 words.	1x 6= 6
i	'Pride comes before a fall'. Justify the statement by giving relevant points regarding Think-Tank's reaction to the reading of 'Mother Goose'. (The Book That Saved the Earth)	6
OR		
ii	"We are too involved in materialistic things, and they don't satisfy us. The loving relationships we have, the universe around us, we take these things for granted." – Matilda was never satisfied with her life and desired more. The given quote reflects her character. Justify. (The Necklace)	6