



**COMMON PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION**  
**English Language and Literature—Code No. 184**  
**CLASS-X-(2025-26)**



**SET: 2**

**Marking Scheme**

**Time allowed: 3 Hrs.**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

**General Instructions:**

Read the following instructions very carefully and follow them:

1. This question paper comprises 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper contains THREE sections –  
Section A – Reading Skills  
Section B – Grammar and Creative Writing Skills  
Section C - Literature
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

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| <b>SECTION A – READING SKILLS (20 Marks)</b> |   |           |
|--|---|-----------|
| <b>1.</b>                                    | <b>Read the following passage.</b>  | <b>10</b> |
| i.   | (b) fast fashion: low wages   | 1         |
| ii.  | (c) rapid consumption and disposal  | 1         |
| iii.   | Sustainable fashion offers a powerful pathway by challenging the linear model of production and waste, proposing a circular system. This new system respects natural resources and human labour, fostering a more responsible and equitable future for clothing and our relationship with it. | 2         |
| iv.  | (c) Fashion styles that are popular for only a short period.  | 1         |
| v.   | (a) i and iii   | 1         |
| vi.  | Textile waste   | 1         |
| vii.   | The growing enthusiasm for sustainable fashion is a ‘welcome change’ because it addresses the negative environmental and social impacts of the apparel industry, promoting ethical and eco-friendly clothing choices.   | 1         |
| viii.  | Beyond ecological concerns, the ethical treatment of garment workers forms the cornerstone of the sustainable fashion development. It advocates for fair wages, safe working environments, and respectful treatment throughout the supply chain, upholding human rights in production.        | 2         |

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|---|---|-----------|
| <b>2.</b>   | <b>Read the following passage.</b>  | <b>10</b> |
| i.  | Urban green spaces help promote public health by reducing the risk of mental health issues such as anxiety and depression and encouraging physical activity.  | 1         |
| ii.   | Cities have experienced a 30% decrease in public green areas over the past 20 years.  | 1         |
| iii.  | Sustainable urban planning is crucial because it ensures the preservation and expansion of green spaces, which are vital for reducing air pollution, moderating temperatures, and improving public health. Green spaces also help cities adapt to climate change and population growth. | 2         |
| iv.   | 40%   | 1         |
| v.  | (a) Both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.   | 1         |
| vi.   | 1. Vertical gardens<br>2. Rooftop parks<br>3. Developing green corridors  | 1         |
| vii.  | (c) 40%   | 1         |
| viii.   | Urban planners emphasize the importance of green spaces because they help mitigate climate change, improve air quality, and support mental and physical health.   | 1         |
| ix.   | 1. Reducing air pollution and urban temperatures<br>2. Promoting mental and physical health by providing spaces for recreation and relaxation   | 1         |
| <b>SECTION B – GRAMMAR &amp; CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (20 Marks)</b> |   |           |
| <b>GRAMMAR (10 Marks)</b>   |   |           |
| <b>3.</b>   | <b>Complete ANY TEN of the following tasks, as directed.</b>  |           |
| i.  | 1. Reducing air pollution and urban temperatures<br>2. Promoting mental and physical health by providing spaces for recreation and relaxation   |           |
| ii.   | (a) could not   |           |
| iii.  | his first novel would be out in a day.  |           |
| iv.   | developed   |           |
| v.  | have grown  |           |
| vi.   | (b) Neither, the  |           |
| vii.  | need - do   |           |
| viii.   | (c) had flared up   |           |
| ix.   | are - is  |           |
| x.  | each one of the students was given a nutritious mid-day meal every day.   |           |
| xi.   | (d) he didn't think that the reverse of that approach was more effective.   |           |

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| xii.   | (c) so - as  |          |
| <b>WRITING (10 Marks)</b>  |  |          |
| <i>Note: All details presented in the questions in writing section are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.</i> |  |          |
| <b>4.</b>  | <b>Attempt ANY ONE of the following tasks in 100-120 words.</b>  | <b>5</b> |
| A  | Format – 1 mark, Content – 2 marks, expression – 2 marks   |          |
| <b>OR</b>  |  |          |
| B  | Format – 1 mark, Content – 2 marks, expression – 2 marks   |          |
| <b>5.</b>  | <b>Attempt ANY ONE of the following tasks in 100-120 words.</b>  | <b>5</b> |
| A  | Content – 2 marks, Organization of Ideas – 2 marks, Accuracy – 1 mark  |          |
| <b>OR</b>  |  |          |
| B  | Content – 2 marks, Organization of Ideas – 2 marks, Accuracy – 1 mark  |          |
| <b>SECTION C – LITERATURE (40 Marks)</b>   |  |          |
| <b>6.</b>  | <b>Read the given extracts and answer ANY ONE of the two questions given below.</b>  | <b>5</b> |
| A  |  |          |
| i.   | (b) frustrates   | 1        |
| ii.  | Hari Singh was planning to leave the city.   | 1        |
| iii.   | Anil would have given him two or three rupees to go to the cinema.   | 1        |
| iv.  | Hari Singh's mind was full of guilt. He felt that he had misused Anil's faith in him. Anil had trusted him. If he had not taken the money, Anil would have given him two or three rupees in the morning. | 2        |
| <b>OR</b>  |  |          |
| B  |  |          |
| i.   | (c) Every house has their own furnace in Goa.  | 1        |
| ii.  | A marriage gift would have no meaning if the sweet bread known as 'bol' is not served to the guests.   | 1        |
| iii.   | The traditional name of the bakers was 'pader' and since they were a prosperous community, they resembled a jackfruit in appearance.   | 2        |
| iv.  | indispensable  | 1        |
| <b>7.</b>  | <b>Read the given extracts and answer ANY ONE of the two questions given below.</b>  | <b>5</b> |
| A  |  |          |
| i.   | mood   | 1        |
| ii.  | (a) Emphasis   | 1        |

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| iii.      | A crow can be associated with something dark, black and foreboding. The hemlock tree is poisonous. The crow and the hemlock tree represent sorrow. Frost wanted to symbolize the feelings of sadness and regret. He has, therefore, used an unconventional tree and bird in order to contrast them with joy in the form of snow.  | 2              |
| iv.       | The poet's mood changed from regret to joy.   | 1              |
| <b>OR</b> |   |                |
| <b>B</b>  |   |                |
| i.        | All three words (clutter, clank and tangling) are examples of onomatopoeia because they portray sounds made by objects.   | 1              |
| ii.       | (a) To emphasise the boldness of Custard  | 1              |
| iii.      | The word 'irons' refers to the iron chains holding prisoners.   |                |
| iv.       | The poet has made the comparison in order to show that Custard was careful while he attacked the pirate. He attacked the pirate the way a robin catches a worm.   | 1              |
| <b>8.</b> | <b>Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in 40-50 words.</b>   | <b>3x4= 12</b> |
| i.        | Three things suggest that the fog is like a cat. The fog, like a cat, comes silently. The fog looks over the harbour and the city like a cat that looks here and there, sitting on its haunches. Finally, the fog moves on like a cat.  |                |
| ii.       | The postmaster was moved by Lencho's strong faith in God. So, he decided to send money to him. Moreover, he did not want to shake Lencho's faith in God. He signed the letter 'God' to make Lencho think that God had written the letter.   |                |
| iii.      | People like to possess all sorts of things in the world. Money can buy only material objects; it cannot buy everything that one loses or bring back one's long-lost memories.   |                |
| iv.       | The airhostess was extremely friendly and helpful. Maxwell took her into confidence about the events of the last half an hour. She very generously suggested to put the otter on his knees. Hearing this, Maxwell developed a profound admiration for her. She was able to understand the pain of both Maxwell and the otter.   |                |
| v.        | Anne felt lonely in the world. She had loving parents, an elder sister and a number of friends. But she was not intimate with anyone. So she decided to keep a diary. A diary, unlike a human being, has a lot of patience. One can express one's thoughts freely in a diary and the diary does not get bored. It is a true friend. That is why Anne says that paper has more patience than people. |                |
| <b>9.</b> | <b>Answer ANY TWO of the following five questions, in 40-50 words.</b>  | <b>3x2= 6</b>  |
| i.        | Bholi agreed to an unequal match. She felt lucky to get a well-to-do groom who owned a big shop, had a house of his own and had several thousands in the bank. He did not know about her  |                |

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|            | pockmarks. Moreover, he did not ask for any dowry. If the proposal was not accepted, she might remain unmarried all her life.  |          |
| ii.        | Loisel possessed 18000 francs, which he had inherited from his father. He borrowed the rest of the money from moneylenders. He made ruinous promises for this. To repay the debt, the Loisels had to change their lodgings. Mme Loisel had to do all the tedious jobs like washing, shopping and carrying water up by herself.   |          |
| iii.       | Ebright was inclined towards collecting butterflies, rocks, fossils and coins. He began as early as when he was in kindergarten. His mother, of course, was a driving force and remained his sole reason for his success.  |          |
| <b>10.</b> | <b>Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in 100-120 words.</b>  | <b>6</b> |
| A          | <p>When the postmaster saw the letter addressed to God, he broke out laughing, but almost immediately he turned serious. He was amazed at the faith of the writer and wished that he too could have the faith of the man who wrote the letter. This shows that he was an appreciative and amiable person.</p> <p>He was kind, therefore in order not to shake the writer's faith, he decided to answer the letter. He was empathetic also. But, when he read the letter he realised that only goodwill wouldn't do. He would need money too. Still, he did not give up the idea of replying to the letter. He was determined and trustworthy and thus stuck on his resolution. He asked for some money from his employees and he even himself gave a part of his salary. Several friends of his were obliged to give something for an act of charity. The postmaster was generous too. In the end, he sent 70 pesos to Lencho but he did not reveal his identity. He did not want to break Lencho's trust, hence signed the letter as God. This shows how selfless he was.</p> |          |
|            | <b>OR</b>  |          |
| B          | <p>The Buddha communicates the truth of life that death is common to all. The life of mortals, i.e. human beings, is troubled, brief and combined with pain and untold sufferings. Nobody can escape death. So, those who are born, will certainly die one day. Hence, we should not grieve on death.</p> <p>Kisa Gotami learns the lesson that death is the ultimate truth of life. She could not find any house where no one had ever died. She now realized that death comes to all. No one can escape death. The lights of the city flicker and resemble the fate of men.</p> <p>If a common man realizes that death is common to all, he will not weep on death and never grieve on sorrows. He can get peace of mind by drawing out the arrow of lamentation from his heart. He who has overcome sorrows will be free from sorrows and be blessed.</p>   |          |
| <b>11.</b> | <b>Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in 100-120 words.</b>  | <b>6</b> |

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| A         | <p>Ebright would never have been successful as a scientist if he would not have been curious and motivated. He never slackened his efforts. Success was not always by his side but that did not dishearten him. His research on butterflies did not pay many dividends but that was not a deterrent. His advanced studies on butterflies enabled him to achieve the achievable and then there was no looking back. There were laurels all his way. Curiosity is infectious and gives way to one after the other point. From his basic and simple research he reached the zenith of his career. Had he got disheartened with his earlier failures he would not have reached where he could. This is the real spirit of being a true scientist and has worked for Ebright as well.</p>   |  |
| <b>OR</b> |  |  |
| B         | <p>Griffin was a man without conscience. It is true he was not a law abiding citizen of his country. He broke one law after another and made himself an undesirable person. He did not hesitate robbing the vicar at Iping for money he needed. He should have left a religious priest. He burnt down the house at Great Portland Street when the landlord and his sons found about his experiments and were horrified. He was only worried about covering his trail. After becoming invisible he committed one brutal act after another, not because they were necessary for his survival, but simply because he enjoyed doing them. The way he looted the owner of a small costume shop and left him helpless after striking him on his head, spoke volumes about his inhumanity.</p> <p>All the bad and immoral things that Griffin did could have been avoided if he had abided by the law of his country.</p> |  |