



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



**SET: 3**

**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>
	<p>1. The growing enthusiasm for sustainable fashion signals a welcome change in the apparel industry, long criticized for its environmental and social impact. This movement champions clothing made with ethical production methods and eco-friendly materials, moving away from the fast-fashion model that encourages rapid consumption and disposal. It represents a conscious effort to make clothing choices that benefit both people and the planet.</p> <p>2. Central to sustainable fashion is its commitment to environmental responsibility. Unlike conventional manufacturing, which often relies on synthetic fabrics and resource-intensive processes, sustainable brands prioritize organic cotton, recycled polyester, hemp, and innovative materials like Tencel. Production methods typically consume less water and energy, minimize chemical use, and aim to reduce textile waste. This focus lessens the carbon footprint of clothing.</p> <p>3. Adopting sustainable fashion practices also offers benefits for consumers. Investing in high-quality, durable garments means clothes last longer, reducing the need for frequent replacements and ultimately saving money. Consumers become more aware of the stories</p>	

	<p>behind their clothes, fostering a deeper connection to their wardrobe rather than just chasing fleeting trends. This thoughtful approach encourages conscious consumerism.</p> <p>4. Shifting the fashion industry towards sustainability requires collective action from various stakeholders. Governments can implement stricter regulations on manufacturing practices and incentivize eco-friendly innovations. Brands must commit to transparency, ethical sourcing, and circular design principles. Consumers, crucially, empower this change by supporting sustainable brands, repairing clothes, choosing second-hand options, and demanding greater accountability from the industry.</p> <p>5. In essence, sustainable fashion offers a powerful pathway towards a more responsible and equitable future for clothing. It challenges the prevailing linear model of production and waste, proposing a circular system that respects natural resources and human labor. Embracing this mindful approach can transform our relationship with clothes, fostering a wardrobe that is both stylish and socially conscious.</p>																
	<b>Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.</b>																
i.	Sustainable fashion aims to reduce _____ (textile waste / chemical use). (Paragraph 2)	1															
ii.	<p>What are the main ideas of paragraph 4 and paragraph 5?</p> <p>(i) Sustainable fashion helps consumers save money in the long run.</p> <p>(ii) Consumers should only buy new clothes frequently.</p> <p>(iii) Shifting to sustainability requires collective action from various stakeholders.</p> <p>(iv) Governments alone can make the fashion industry sustainable.</p> <p>(v) Repairing clothes is not a sustainable practice.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Option</th> <th>Main idea of paragraph 4</th> <th>Main idea of paragraph 5</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>(a)</td> <td>i</td> <td>iii</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(b)</td> <td>ii</td> <td>iv</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(c)</td> <td>i</td> <td>v</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(d)</td> <td>iii</td> <td>v</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Option	Main idea of paragraph 4	Main idea of paragraph 5	(a)	i	iii	(b)	ii	iv	(c)	i	v	(d)	iii	v	1
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(a)	i	iii															
(b)	ii	iv															
(c)	i	v															
(d)	iii	v															
iii.	<p>According to paragraph 1, the sustainable fashion movement champions all of the following EXCEPT:</p> <p>(a) conscious clothing choices</p> <p>(b) eco-friendly materials</p> <p>(c) rapid consumption and disposal</p> <p>(d) clothing made with ethical production methods</p>	1															
iv.	Why is the growing enthusiasm for sustainable fashion considered a ‘welcome change’ in paragraph 1?	1															

v.	Select the option that is True from (A)-(C) given for what the phrase, ‘fleeting trends’ suggests in paragraph 4. (a) Fashion styles that are environmentally friendly. (b) Fashion styles that remain popular for a very long time. (c) Fashion styles that are popular for only a short period.	1
vi.	Complete the analogy by selecting one of the two correct options (a), (b): organic cotton: eco-friendly :: _____ : _____ (Paragraph 2) (a) synthetic fabrics : sustainable (b) fast fashion : low wages	1
vii.	How does sustainable fashion offer a powerful pathway towards a more responsible and equitable future for clothing? Answer in about 40 words.	2
viii.	What forms the cornerstone of the sustainable fashion movement beyond ecological concerns? Answer in about 40 words.	2
<b>2.</b>	<b>Read the following passage.</b>	<b>10</b>
	<p>1. Urban green spaces, such as parks, gardens, and forests, are crucial for improving the quality of life in cities. These areas provide benefits like reducing air pollution, moderating urban temperatures, and offering recreational opportunities. Green spaces absorb approximately 40% more carbon dioxide than built-up areas, helping to mitigate the urban heat island effect, where cities can be 5-7°C warmer than nearby rural areas.</p> <p>2. Research shows that urban green spaces positively impact mental and physical health. People who live within 1 kilometer of a green space have a 15% lower risk of mental health issues like anxiety and depression. Additionally, access to parks promotes physical activity, reducing the risk of chronic diseases such as obesity and cardiovascular disorders.</p> <p>3. Despite their importance, many cities are losing green spaces due to rapid urbanization. Over the past 20 years, cities globally have experienced a 30% decrease in available public green areas, largely because of construction and development pressures.</p> <p>4. Urban planners are increasingly working to address this issue by implementing initiatives to protect existing green spaces and create new ones. These include vertical gardens, rooftop parks, and the development of green corridors. Cities that prioritize these solutions have seen improvements in air quality and overall public health.</p> <p>5. Experts emphasize the need for sustainable urban planning to ensure future cities remain liveable. By maintaining and expanding green spaces, cities can better cope with the challenges posed by climate change, air pollution, and population growth.</p>	
	<b>Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.</b>	

i.	Complete the following with a suitable reason. Urban planners emphasize the importance of green spaces because _____.	1
ii.	In the context of paragraph 5, why is sustainable urban planning essential for the future of cities? Answer in about 40 words.	2
iii.	What percentage of carbon dioxide do green spaces absorb more than built-up areas, as mentioned in paragraph 1? (a) 20%            (b) 30%            (c) 40%            (d) 50%	1
iv.	Complete the sentence suitably: Urban green spaces help promote public health by _____.	1
v.	Read the given prompt and select the correct option in the brackets to fill in the blank: Many cities are implementing creative solutions to restore urban green areas and counter the impacts of urbanization. The percentage of carbon dioxide absorbed more by green spaces compared to built-up areas is _____ (20% / 30% / 40%).	1
vi.	What are some of the methods mentioned in the passage that urban planners are using to protect and expand green spaces?	1
vii.	According to the passage, what are two major benefits of urban green spaces?	1
viii.	Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below: <b>Assertion:</b> Green spaces help reduce the risk of chronic diseases. <b>Reason:</b> Access to parks and natural areas encourages physical activity, improving overall health. (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.	1
ix.	What percentage decrease in public green areas have cities experienced globally over the past 20 years, as mentioned in the passage?	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.	Fill in the blank with the correct form of verb given in the brackets.	
	I'm so happy to see my plants again! They _____ (grow) so much since I last saw them.	





	city, in about 120 words, highlighting the significance of ecological awareness and suggesting the need to establish Eco-Clubs in these schools.																
	<b>OR</b>																
B	As Amitha, the Vice Head Girl of Vidya Mandir, you are aware of the increasing prevalence of cyber-attacks and unauthorised exploitation of systems, networks, and technologies affecting individuals across all demographics. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily in about 120 words, stressing the urgent need to promote digital security among all age groups. Highlight the challenges posed by cyber threats and propose practical solutions to address this growing issue.																
<b>5.</b>	<b>Attempt ANY ONE of the following tasks in 100-120 words.</b>	<b>5</b>															
A	<p>Look at the given bar graph which shows the result of a survey conducted in the public and government schools of Mathura. The graph depicts the types of activities the teenagers from the age of 14 years to 19 years are involved in during their leisure time. Write an analytical paragraph highlighting the result of the survey, including all the main points and relevant information.</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>Leisure Activities of Teenagers in Public and Private Schools</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Activity</th> <th>Public Schools</th> <th>Private Schools</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Watching TV</td> <td>28</td> <td>34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Net Surfing</td> <td>49</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Using Smartphones</td> <td>23</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hanging out with friends</td> <td>14</td> <td>27</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Activity	Public Schools	Private Schools	Watching TV	28	34	Net Surfing	49	10	Using Smartphones	23	12	Hanging out with friends	14	27	
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B	Global warming is primarily a result of the greenhouse effect caused by too much carbon dioxide in the atmosphere which acts as a blanket, trapping heat. Global warming is leading to Arctic meltdown. Study the following pie chart and write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words on factors affecting global warming.																



	daughter's engagement. Cakes and 'bor are a must for Christmas as well as other festivals. Thus, the presence of the baker in the village is absolutely essential."  <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(A Baker form Goa)</i></p>	
i.	Bread is a very important part of the culture of the people in Goa. Which of the given options does not corroborate the statement?  (a) Bols are central to marriage celebrations and festivals. (b) Festivals especially Christmas are incomplete without cakes. (c) Every house has their own furnace in Goa. (d) Special sandwiches are made on a daughter's engagement.	1
ii.	What makes the marriage gifts meaningless?	1
iii.	What is the traditional name of bakers in Goa and what made them different from other people in appearance? Answer in about 40 words.	2
iv.	Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket.  The word 'essential' in the line "the presence of the baker in the village is absolutely essential" indicates that the baker's role in the village was _____ (indispensable/optional).	1
<b>7.</b>	<b>Read the given extracts and answer ANY ONE of the two questions given below.</b>	<b>5</b>
A	The way a crow Shook down on me The dust of snow From a hemlock tree Has given my heart A change of mood And saved some part Of a day I had rued.  <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Dust of Snow)</i></p>	
i.	Fill the blank with one word.  The poet was out on the cold snowy day when the dust of snow fell on him and changed his sad _____.	1
ii.	The poetic device used in the line 'And saved some part' is Alliteration. What effect does the poet wish to create?  (a) Emphasis (b) Comparison (c) Humour (d) Personification	1
iii.	What do the crow and the hemlock tree symbolize? Why did Frost choose them? Answer in about 40 words.	2

iv.	What was the effect of the dust of snow on the poet?	1
	<b>OR</b>	
B	<p>Belinda paled, and she cried Help! Help!          But Mustard fled with a terrified yelp,          Ink trickled down to the bottom of the household,          And little mouse Blink strategically mouseholed.</p> <p>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.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(The Tale of Custard the Dragon)</i></p>	
i.	Complete the sentence appropriately. It is clear that the figure of speech used in ‘With a latter and a clank and a jangling Squirm’ is Onomatopoeia because _____.	1
ii.	What is the poet’s purpose in using the onomatopoeic words given in the extract?	1
	<p>(a) To emphasise the boldness of Custard          (b) To introduce the character          (c) To impress upon the readers          (d) To make Custard bold enough</p>	
iii.	The extract mentions ‘irons’ in dungeons. According to this extract, what does ‘irons’ refer to?	1
iv.	He went at the pirate like a robin at a worm. Why has this comparison been used here? Answer in about 40 words.	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in 40-50 words.</b>	<b>3x4= 12</b>
i.	How is the fog like a cat? What three things does the poem suggest?  <i>(Fog)</i>	
ii.	Why did the postmaster send money to Lencho? Why did he sign the letter ‘God’?  <i>(A Letter to God)</i>	
iii.	Why does the poet say that ‘Money is external’?  <i>(The Ball Poem)</i>	
iv.	Why did Maxwell call the airhostess “the very queen of her kind”?  <i>(Mijbil the Otter)</i>	
v.	‘Paper has more patience than people.’ Do you agree/disagree? Give reasons.	

	<i>(From the Diary of Anne Frank)</i>	
<b>9.</b>	<b>Answer ANY TWO of the following five questions, in 40-50 words.</b>	<b>3x2= 6</b>
i.	Why was Bholi's Father worried about her?  <i>(Bholi)</i>	
ii.	How did Monsieur Loisel manage to buy another necklace?  <i>(The Necklace)</i>	
iii.	"But there was one thing I could do-collect things". What collection did Ebright make? When did he start making collection?  <i>(The Making of a Scientist)</i>	
<b>10.</b>	<b>Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in 100-120 words.</b>	<b>6</b>
A	"So, in order not to shake the writer's faith in God, the postmaster came up with an idea to answer the letter".  What does this statement tell us about the postmaster? Was his idea successful? How did the receiver react?  <i>(A Letter to God)</i>	
	<b>OR</b>	
B	Gotami comes to Buddha praying to him to revive her dead son. Buddha asks her to bring a handful of mustard seeds from a house where no one has lost a child, husband, parent or friend. Through this simple act, Buddha communicates the most profound truth of life, not only to Gotami but also to the whole mankind.  What is the truth that Buddha communicates? What lesson does Gotami learn? What changes would take place in a common man's life if that truth is understood?  <i>(The Sermon at Benares)</i>	
<b>11.</b>	<b>Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in 100-120 words.</b>	<b>6</b>
A	Curiosity and motivation are the basic foundation for becoming a successful scientist. These qualities have brought the best out of Ebright. Comment.  <i>(The Making of a Scientist)</i>	
	<b>OR</b>	
B	Give a character sketch of Matilda Loisel.  <i>(The Necklace)</i>	