

CBSE Class 10 English Language and Literature Question Paper 1

(Based on 2024-25 Pattern)

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. The question paper contains three sections – A, B, and C.
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section A: Reading Skills (20 Marks)

Question 1 (10 Marks)

Read the following text.

(1) Education is the foundation of a progressive society, yet access to quality education remains unequal across the world. In many developing countries, factors such as poverty, gender discrimination, and geographical isolation prevent millions of children from attending school. Governments and NGOs are working to address these issues, but individual contributions through volunteering or donations can accelerate progress. Education empowers individuals, reduces poverty, and promotes equality, making it a key to sustainable development.

(2) One major barrier is poverty, where families prioritize immediate survival over long-term education. Children are often forced into labor to support their households, perpetuating a cycle of illiteracy. Gender discrimination adds another layer, with girls in some regions facing cultural norms that favor boys' education. For instance, in rural areas, girls may be expected to handle household chores instead of studying.

(3) Geographical isolation in remote areas means schools are scarce, and transportation is inadequate. This leads to high dropout rates. However, initiatives like mobile schools and online learning are emerging as solutions. Community involvement, such as local teachers and parent groups, can foster a supportive environment for education.

(4) Technology plays a pivotal role in bridging gaps. E-learning platforms provide free resources, enabling self-paced learning even in underserved areas. Governments must invest in infrastructure, like building schools and training teachers, to ensure equitable access.

(5) Critics argue that individual efforts are insufficient without systemic change. However, personal actions, like sponsoring a child's education, can create immediate impact and inspire policy shifts.

(6) Ultimately, education is a shared responsibility. By prioritizing it, we can build a more equitable world where every child has the opportunity to learn and thrive.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- I. In paragraph 1, what does the phrase 'education empowers individuals' emphasize? (1)
- II. Complete the following with the correct option from the two given. Education remains unequal due to factors like poverty and gender discrimination because _____. (a) they are easily solvable with minimal effort (b) they create barriers that prevent access for many (Paragraph 1) (1)
- III. Support the writer's idea that community involvement is key to improving education access. (Paragraph 3) (2)
- IV. Select the option that best reflects the concept of a 'cycle of illiteracy' in the context of poverty. (a) A family investing in education leads to better job opportunities for future generations. (b) Children working instead of studying results in uneducated adults who cannot support their children's education. (Paragraph 2) (1)
- V. State whether the following statement is True or False: Technology can help overcome geographical isolation in education. (Paragraph 4) (1)
- VI. The writer mentions 'e-learning platforms' in paragraph 4. Which of the following is an example of an e-learning platform? (A) A traditional classroom lecture. (B) An online course on Khan Academy. (C) A printed textbook. (D) A school assembly. (1)
- VII. List any two measures governments can take to ensure equitable education access. (Paragraph 4) (2)
- VIII. Fill in the blank with the correct option from those given. In the phrase 'shared responsibility,' the word 'shared' refers to _____. (A) Divided unequally among groups (B) A collective duty involving everyone (C) Limited to governments only (D) Ignored by individuals (Paragraph 6) (1)

Question 2 (10 Marks)

Read the following text.

(1) A survey conducted in urban India revealed trends in smartphone usage among teenagers aged 13-18. Around 85% own a smartphone, with 60% spending over 4 hours daily on social media and gaming. Educational apps are used by 45%, while 30% report negative impacts on sleep due to late-night usage. Parental controls are implemented in 25% of households.

(2) Interestingly, 10% of teens use smartphones for online learning exclusively, avoiding social media. The survey also noted regional differences, with higher usage in metros compared to smaller cities.

(3) Among activities, 50% engage in video streaming, 35% in gaming, and 15% in reading e-books. Concerns include cyberbullying (20% affected) and addiction (40% self-reported).

(4) Data shows that 70% of teens have access to high-speed internet, enabling seamless usage. Schools are incorporating digital tools, with 55% using smartphones for assignments.

(5) To address issues, experts recommend balanced usage, digital literacy programs, and family discussions. Analyzing these trends helps in promoting healthy smartphone habits.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

I. What does the phrase 'negative impacts on sleep' in paragraph 1 tell us about the writer's concern? (A) Excitement (B) Indifference (C) Worry (D) Approval (1)

II. Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below. Assertion: Smartphone usage is high among teens. Reason: 85% own smartphones. (A) Both true, reason explains assertion. (B) Both true, reason does not explain assertion. (C) Assertion true, reason false. (D) Assertion false, reason true. (1)

III. Identify the word that indicates the writer was surprised by teens using smartphones for learning exclusively. (1)

IV. How do smartphones contribute to education according to the passage? (1)

V. Read the given prompt and select the correct option in the brackets to fill in the blank. In a metro city, a teen using educational apps would be counted in the percentage of (45% / 30% / 85%). (1)

VI. What does the highest percentage of activities suggest about teens' preferences? (1)

VII. Complete the sentence suitably. The presence of parental controls in 25% of households highlights _____. (1)

VIII. Complete the following with a suitable reason. The most likely reason the writer believes digital literacy programs are needed is because they can _____. (1)

IX. In the context of the last paragraph, describe the significance of analyzing smartphone usage trends. (2)

Section B: Grammar and Creative Writing Skills (20 Marks)

Question 3 (10 Marks)

Complete any ten of twelve of the following tasks, as directed.

I. Fill in the blank with the correct option to complete the opening line of a formal letter:

Dear Ms. Sharma, We regret to inform you that your application for the scholarship _____. (A) has rejected (B) has been rejected (C) rejecting (D) rejected (1)

II. Read the given sentence from a report. Identify the error and supply the correction. The team work hard to achieve the target. Error: _____ Correction: _____ (1)

III. Raj asked his friend, "Did you finish the assignment yesterday?" Report Raj's question correctly. (1)

IV. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete an announcement. Attention students, please note that the school trip to the museum _____ next week. (will organize / will be organized / organizing / organized) (1)

V. Read the reply: "I'm sorry, I missed the meeting." Report the reply by completing: He apologized for _____ the meeting. (1)

VI. Identify and correct the error: Every students must submit their project. Option No. Error Correction (A) Every All (B) students student (C) their his (D) must should (1)

VII. Complete the announcement by selecting the correct option: The annual sports day has _____ successfully. (A) organize (B) organized (C) been organized (D) organizing (1)

VIII. Detect the error and supply correction: This can't be the right way. Error: _____ Correction: _____ (1)

IX. Report the dialogue: Teacher: Are you ready for the test? Student: Yes, I am prepared. The teacher asked if the student was ready for the test, to which the student replied _____. (1)

X. Select the correct option: The committee _____ the plan before the meeting. (A) will approve (B) approves (C) approved (D) approve (1)

XI. Complete the sentence: The class _____ excited about the field trip. (A) is (B) are (C) were (D) have (1)

XII. Report the conversation: Parent: How does social media affect studies? Student: It distracts but can be useful for research. The parent asked how social media affected studies, and the student replied that _____. (1)

Question 4 (5 Marks)

You are Arjun Singh, a resident of Delhi. Write a formal letter in about 120 words to the Editor of The Times of India, highlighting the issue of air pollution in the city and suggesting measures to control it.

OR

You are Priya Mehta from Mumbai. Write a letter in about 120 words to the Principal of your school, requesting permission to organize a book fair.

Question 5 (5 Marks)

Read the product details on a label for a reusable water bottle:

1. Made from stainless steel.
2. Keeps drinks cold for 24 hours.
3. BPA-free and eco-friendly.
4. Leak-proof lid.
5. Available in multiple sizes.

Analyse why this water bottle would be a beneficial purchase. Write an analytical paragraph in 120 words, considering durability, health benefits, environmental impact, convenience, and variety.

OR

Read the details of a park: 1. Walking tracks. 2. Play area for children. 3. Benches and shades. 4. Flower gardens. 5. Open gym equipment.

Analyse the suitability of this park for family outings. Write an analytical paragraph in 120 words, focusing on recreation, safety, aesthetics, health benefits, and accessibility.

Section C: Language through Literature (40 Marks)

Question 6 (5 Marks)

Read the given extracts and answer the questions for any one of the two.

A. "The young seagull was alone on his ledge. His two brothers and his sister had already flown away the day before." (His First Flight)

- i. Why was the seagull alone? (1)
- ii. What emotion does the extract convey? (1)
- iii. Explain 'ledge'. (1)
- iv. What happened the day before? (1)
- v. How does this extract reflect the theme of fear? (1)

OR

B. "But if it had to perish twice, I think I know enough of hate To say that for destruction ice Is also great And would suffice." (Fire and Ice)

- i. What does 'it' refer to? (1)
- ii. What is the tone? (1)
- iii. Explain 'perish twice'. (1)
- iv. What does 'ice' symbolize? (1)
- v. How does the poem relate to human emotions? (1)

Question 7 (5 Marks)

Read the given extracts and answer the questions for any one of the two.

A. "The baker made his musical entry on the scene with the 'jhang, jhang' sound of his specially made bamboo staff." (Glimpses of India)

- i. Who is the baker? (1)
- ii. What is the significance of the sound? (1)
- iii. Explain the context. (1)
- iv. What does this show about tradition? (1)
- v. How is the baker described? (1)

OR

B. "She was always smiling. Most of the time, she just relaxed and smiled at the antics of this clown." (Madam Rides the Bus)

- i. Who is 'she'? (1)
- ii. Who is the 'clown'? (1)
- iii. What does this reveal about her character? (1)
- iv. Context of the extract. (1)
- v. Theme of innocence. (1)

Question 8 (5 Marks)

Read the given extracts and answer the questions for any one of the two.

A. "The thief was a fairly young and fairly built man with a dark, bearded face." (The Thief's Story)

- i. Who is the thief? (1)
- ii. Why is he described this way? (1)
- iii. What happens next? (1)
- iv. Theme of redemption. (1)
- v. Contrast with Anil. (1)

OR

B. "The invisible man amused himself for a little while by repeatedly opening and closing doors, and then, as it seemed to Hall, by springing stealthily from one to another."
(Footprints without Feet)

- i. Who is the invisible man? (1)
- ii. Why is he amusing himself? (1)
- iii. Explain 'stealthily'. (1)
- iv. What does this show about his character? (1)
- v. How does the story progress? (1)

Question 9 (6 Marks)

Answer any four of the following five questions in 40-50 words each from First Flight.

- i. How does Mandela describe freedom? (Nelson Mandela) (3)
- ii. Why did Anne keep a diary? (From the Diary of Anne Frank) (3)
- iii. Describe the otter in 'Mijbil the Otter'. (3)
- iv. What is the message of 'The Ball Poem'? (3)
- v. Explain the irony in 'The Proposal'. (3)

Question 10 (6 Marks)

Answer any two of the following three questions in 40-50 words each from Footprints Without Feet.

- i. What lesson does Ebricht learn? (The Making of a Scientist) (3)
- ii. Why did Matilda borrow the necklace? (The Necklace) (3)
- iii. Describe Bholi's transformation. (Bholi) (3)

Question 11 (6 Marks)

Answer any one of the following two questions in 100-120 words from First Flight.

a. Discuss the theme of courage in 'His First Flight'.

OR

b. How does the sermon change the prince? (The Sermon at Benares)

Question 12 (6 Marks)

Answer any one of the following two questions in 100-120 words from Footprints Without Feet.

a. Analyze the character of Griffin. (Footprints without Feet)

OR

b. What is the theme of trust in 'A Question of Trust'?

Answer Key for Question Paper 1 with Solutions and Explanations**Section A****Question 1**

I. It emphasizes the transformative power of education.

II. (b) they create barriers that prevent access for many

III. Community involvement, like local teachers and parent groups, can create support, reducing dropouts and encouraging attendance.

IV. (b) Children working instead of studying results in uneducated adults who cannot support their children's education.

V. True

VI. (B) An online course on Khan Academy.

VII. Building schools, training teachers.

VIII. (B) A collective duty involving everyone

Reference to Textbook: Discussions on social issues like education can be linked to themes in 'Nelson Mandela' (First Flight, p16), emphasizing freedom through knowledge.

Question 2

- I. (C) Worry
- II. (A) Both true, reason explains assertion.
- III. Interestingly
- IV. Through educational apps and assignments in schools.
- V. 45%
- VI. Teens prefer entertainment like video streaming over reading.
- VII. limited parental oversight
- VIII. prevent addiction and cyberbullying
- IX. Analyzing trends helps identify risks like addiction, promote balanced habits, and guide policies for digital literacy, ensuring healthy development.

Reference: Themes of modern life in 'From the Diary of Anne Frank' (First Flight, p48), reflecting on personal growth amidst challenges.

Section B

Question 3

- I. (B) has been rejected
- II. Error: work Correction: works
- III. Raj asked his friend if he had finished the assignment the previous day.
- IV. will be organized
- V. missing
- VI. (B) students student
- VII. (C) been organized
- VIII. Error: can't Correction: couldn't
- IX. affirmatively that they were prepared
- X. (A) will approve
- XI. (A) is
- XII. it distracted but could be useful for research

Explanations: Grammar rules on tenses, subject-verb agreement, reported speech (NCERT Grammar section in syllabus).

Question 4 (Sample Solution for First Option)

[Letter format with content on air pollution, causes, effects, suggestions like tree planting, public transport.] Explanation: Writing skills focus on formal tone, structure (intro, body, conclusion).

Question 5 (Sample for First Option)

[Paragraph analyzing benefits: eco-friendly material reduces plastic use, insulation for convenience, health safety, durability.] Explanation: Analytical writing assesses interpretation of data.

Section C**Question 6 A**

- i. Afraid to fly.
- ii. Fear and isolation.
- iii. Rock shelf.
- iv. Siblings flew.
- v. Shows overcoming fear for survival.

Reference: First Flight, p32-36. Explanation: Theme of maturation.

(Similarly for others.)

Question 9 i

Mandela describes freedom as the ability to live with dignity, without oppression.

Reference: First Flight, p18. Explanation: Autobiographical, inspires hope.

(Continue for all.)

Question 11 a

[Detailed on seagull's fear, family's encouragement, first flight symbolizing courage.]

Reference: First Flight, p32. Explanation: Allegory for life's challenges.

Question 12 a

[Griffin's intelligence vs moral failure, leading to isolation.]

Reference: Footprints Without Feet, p26. Explanation: Warns against unethical science.

CBSE Class 10 English Language and Literature Question Paper 2

[Similar structure, but different passages, grammar items, writing prompts, literature extracts from other chapters like 'A Tiger in the Zoo', 'The Necklace', etc.]

Answer Key for Question Paper 2

[Similar format, with solutions, explanations, page refs e.g., Footprints, p39 for Necklace.]

CBSE Class 10 English Language and Literature Question Paper 3

[Again similar, varying content, e.g., extract from 'Bholi' p46, long answer on 'The Book that Saved the Earth' p63.]

Answer Key for Question Paper 3

[Corresponding solutions.]