

Sample Question Paper 3

English Core 12th

Time : 3 Hrs.

Max. Marks : 80

General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and follow them

- (i) This question paper has 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.
- (ii) The question paper contains Three sections

Section A Reading Skills

Section B Creative Writing Skills

Section C Literature

- (iii) Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
- (iv) Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
- (v) Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Section A Reading Skills (22 Marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully. (12)
From the moment a baby first opens its eyes, it is learning. Sight and sensation spark off a learning process that will significantly shape the person they become. Among all the tools of learning, language stands out as the most crucial. It gives humans an edge in intelligence over other creatures. No other species can assemble ideas, consider them, draw conclusions and then explain their reasoning. Man can do all this because of language.
2. Even very young babies respond to human voices uttering comforting words close to them. This emotional response provides early evidence that feeling is a vital component of language learning. Children learn to use language through interaction with other human beings especially against a backdrop of affectionate feedback from those closest to them. The interaction between parent and baby, with eyes locked together, sets the pattern for their relationship.
3. Before they can even speak, children engage in a two-way communication process that lays the foundation for their later use of language. Surrounded by language, they unconsciously build mental structures into which their speech and reading will later fit grammatical constructions, tense sequences and more. The forms of these structures depend on the complexity of the speech they hear. Children who listen to articulate adults expressing ideas and defending opinions are fortunate. They understand that relationships are forged through speaking and listening where warmth, humour and other emotions play a role.
4. Using books is essential for a child's language development. While adults can't endlessly initiate and maintain speech with very young children, books provide a rich source of language exposure. Through reading, children absorb vocabulary, grammar and various forms of expression. Thus, language plays a critical role in shaping thought and understanding making it a powerful tool for lifelong learning.

Stage II: Proficiency Level

Answer the following questions based on the above passage.

(i) Which textual evidence tells us that language gives humans an advantage over other species? (1)

(ii) Complete the following with a suitable reason.
The writer refers to language as 'a powerful tool' in order to tell the reader that (1)

(iii) The passage emphasises the importance of early language development in all of the following ways EXCEPT (1)

- (a) through the emotional connection between babies and parents
- (b) via mental structures formed before speech begins
- (c) through children's ability to read on their own
- (d) by observing adult communication and interaction

(iv) What type of statement is made in the phrase 'Man can do all this because of language'? (1)

- (a) Conclusion (b) Warning
- (c) Command (d) Question

(v) Based on paragraph 2, how can we say that emotional response is linked to language learning? (Any one reason) (1)

(vi) Which one of the following statements best explains the phrase 'language plays a critical role in shaping thought'? (1)

- (A) Language helps children learn to sing (B) Language supports emotional bonding
- (C) Language develops reasoning and understanding

(vii) The passage mentions that books are essential for language development. What does this suggest about the role of reading? (1)

(viii) What does the interaction between parent and baby with 'eyes locked together' suggest about early communication? (Answer in about 40 words) (1)

(ix) How does surrounding children with articulate speech influence their future communication? (Answer in about 40 words). (2)

(x) Complete the following with the most suitable option.
The main idea of the text is (2)

- (a) children begin learning language after they start speaking
- (b) language learning is automatic and needs no support
- (c) language plays a central role in shaping intelligence and communication
- (d) only books help in developing vocabulary

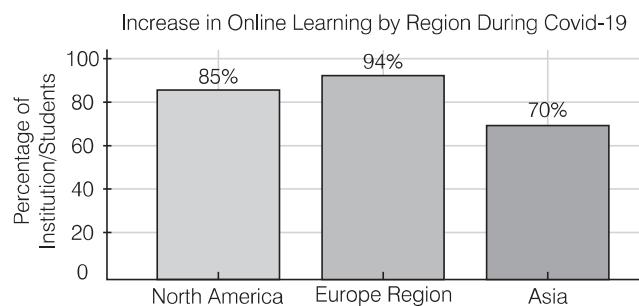
2. Read the following passage. (10)

1. The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the adoption of online learning worldwide, transforming the way education is delivered and accessed. With schools and universities forced to close their physical campuses to prevent the spread of the virus, educators and students have turned to digital platforms to continue teaching and learning.

2. Impact on Education

The shift to online learning has had profound implications for education at all levels

- (i) **Remote Learning** Schools and universities have implemented remote learning strategies using video conferencing tools learning management systems and online resources to deliver lectures, assignments and assessments remotely.
- (ii) **Access to Education** Online learning has expanded access to education allowing students from remote or underserved areas to participate in classes and access educational resources without the need for physical presence.



Challenges and Opportunities

- (i) **Digital Divide** The shift to online learning has highlighted existing disparities in access to technology and internet connectivity, exacerbating inequalities in education.
- (ii) **Adaptation and Innovation** Educators have embraced new pedagogical approaches and technologies fostering innovation in teaching methods and curriculum design.

3. Future of Education

The pandemic has prompted a reimaging of education with online learning likely to remain a prominent feature in the post-pandemic era. Blended learning models, combining online and traditional classroom instruction are expected to become more prevalent, offering flexibility and personalised learning experiences for students.

4. Conclusion

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the adoption of online learning, transforming education and shaping the future of learning. While challenges such as the digital divide persist, the pandemic has also provided opportunities for innovation and the exploration of new ways to deliver quality education to students worldwide.

Answer the following questions based on the above passage.

- (i) What was the main purpose of the global shift to online learning during the pandemic? (1)
 - (a) To reduce pressure on teachers in urban schools
 - (b) To introduce digital learning in rural schools only
 - (c) To continue education during physical campus closures
 - (d) To encourage blended learning models worldwide
- (ii) Fill in the blank with the correct option from those given in brackets. (1)

Online learning has helped students in remote areas by making education more (centralised/accessible/limited).
- (iii) Fill in the blank with reference to the given bar graph. (1)

The region where policymakers primarily need to increase digital infrastructure and access due to relatively lower adoption of online learning is
- (iv) Based on the bar graph, which of the following statements best reflects the correct trend in regional adoption of online learning during COVID-19? (1)
 - (a) Asia recorded the highest percentage of online learning adoption.
 - (b) Europe had a lower percentage of institutions shifting online than North America.
 - (c) North America had more institutions adopting online learning than Asia.
 - (d) All three regions had equal percentages of online learning adoption.
- (v) Shreya lives in a rural area with poor internet and no personal device. What challenge is she likely to face during online learning? (Ref: Paragraph 2, Challenges and Opportunities) (2)

(vi) When the passage refers to the 'digital divide', what does it imply? (1)
 (a) Students preferred books over screens
 (b) Students had too many online platforms to choose from
 (c) There was unequal access to digital tools and connectivity
 (d) Only urban areas had access to teachers

(vii) How might blended learning improve education in the post-pandemic world? (2)
 (Ref: Paragraph 3 - Future of Education)

(viii) Select the option that is NOT addressed in this passage. (1)
 (a) Rise in digital education platforms (b) Regional adoption rates of online learning
 (c) Challenges of internet access and devices (d) Use of AI in student evaluation
 (e) Future trends in blended learning

Section B Creative Writing Skills (18 Marks)

Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

3. Attempt ANY ONE of two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. (4)

A. Your school is organising a fete to collect funds for charity. Only school students are eligible to put up stalls. As the Head Boy/Head Girl of Meera International School, draft a notice for the school notice board announcing the sale of stalls. Invent all necessary details.
Or

B. Residents' Welfare Association (RWA) of Silver Crystals Society, Paschim Vihar is planning to organise a free hypertension check-up session for its residents. You are Ratna Sharma, the Secretary of the mentioned society. Draft a notice informing the residents about the time and venue of the upcoming session.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. (4)

A. You are Sachin Bansal, the Head Boy of Springdales Public School, Gurugram. On the occasion of Van Mahotsav function in your school, draft an invitation to invite a renowned environmentalist for a tree plantation drive in your school.
Or

B. You are Priyanka Bose, Life Skills Trainer. You are invited by Shiksha Public School Patel Nagar to be the keynote speaker at its Annual Conclave on 'Significance of honing 21st century life skills'. Draft a reply letter accepting the invitation and confirming your presence

5. Attempt ANY ONE of two, (A) or (B), in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. You are Karan/Kiran Bhardwaj. Draft an application for the post of an accountant, in response to the advertisement given below. Also, enclose your bio-data.

Need for Accountant

An Accountant is required to work at a reputed organisation. The candidate should meet the following criteria

- Bachelor's degree in accounting
- Hindi & English proficiency
- At least 3 years of experience in handling accounts
- Transferable Visa

Interested persons are requested to send their CVs to 2, Judges Court Road, Bhopal.

Or

B. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily suggesting possible ways to eliminate the 'Menace of Dowry' which has led to many deaths and suffering of women. You are Kamal/Komal. You can use the following clues

Clues

• Atrocities committed on women	• Multi-dimensional strategy required
• Mechanism of effective reporting	• In case of offence, strict action to be taken

6. Attempt ANY ONE of two, (A) or (B), in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. Places of pilgrimage have turned into tourist spots. As a result of this, they are losing their importance and grace, thereby disturbing nature too.

You are Swati/Sandeep Sharma, a columnist for an e-zine. Draft an article in about 120-150 words on the theme of maintaining the grace of places of pilgrimage. Explore possible reasons for the prevailing situation and include suggestions for addressing it.

You can use the clues given below

• Flooded with tourists	• Located on high mountains
• Construction of roads, hotels, etc.	• Excess footfall
• Litter and pollute pilgrimages	• Realise the real essence

Or

B. Once women were worshipped as goddesses in India but gradually their status has deteriorated. The crime against women are increasing day by day and today, the greatest number of crimes are committed against them.

Write a report on 'Crime Against Women'. You are Varsha/Siddhartha Malik, the junior correspondent of a Local Daily. The following clues may be used to frame the report.

• Due to patriarchal nature of society	• Burnt for dowry
• Female foeticide	• Eve-teasing
• Abduction and rape	• Exploitation at workplace
• Remedies are women's education and economic independence	

Section C Literature (40 Marks)

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the given two, (A) or (B). (6)

A.

*Those who prepare green wars,
wars with gas, wars with fire,
victory with no survivors,
would put on clean clothes
and walk about with their brothers
in the shade, doing nothing.*

(Keeping Quiet)

(i) What does the imagery of 'victory with no survivors' suggest about war? (1)

(ii) Which of the following expressions has the same literary device as used in "green wars, wars with gas, wars with fire". (1)

- And the fever called 'living' is over at last
- It was the best of times, it was the worst of times
- A lonely cab-horse steams and stamps
- But Custard cried for a nice safe cage

(iii) Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract. (1)

The phrase 'clean clothes' here symbolises

(iv) Select the correct option to fill in the blank. (1)

By green wars, the poet refers to (pollutions caused by/wars between) nations causing damage to the natural landscape.

(v) All of the following are true for the extract EXCEPT (1)

- (a) the poet condemns violence and warfare.
- (b) the poet dreams of a peaceful coexistence among people.
- (c) the extract portrays war as a necessary means for justice.
- (d) the poet advocates stillness and reflection over destruction.

(vi) What message do you infer from the given stanza? (1)

Or

B.

*I saw my mother, beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face ashen like that
of a corpse and realised with pain
that she was as old as she looked*

(My Mother at Sixty-six)

(i) Select the phrase that suggests the following. (1)

The author realised that her mother was nearing her death.

(ii) Select the option that has the same literary device used in the extract. (1)

(a) I am as happy as I can be.	(b) Life is a roller coaster ride.
(c) Nature is God's gift to us.	(d) The dazzling divas enchanted all.

(iii) Complete the following sentences with reference to the extract. (1)

The pain the poet is feeling is the pain of

(iv) Select the correct option to fill in the blank. (1)

The poet doesn't want to stay away from her mother she feels (guilty/ashamed) of leaving her mother behind, knowing that her mother might die soon.

(v) All of the following are true for the extract EXCEPT (1)

- (a) the speaker is deeply affected by her mother's ageing.
- (b) the mother is shown as energetic and full of life.
- (c) the imagery highlights the physical decline of the mother.
- (d) the poet uses visual detail to express emotional pain.

(vi) State in one sentence what the use of the words 'ashen face' indicates to you. (1)

8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the given two, (A) or (B). (4)

A. "Not by you, but by someone who does not know him. I have my own private assassins. Suppose I send two of them to your house tonight or better, any night. You need know nothing about it. It is now warm – what would be more natural than that you should leave the outer partition of the white man's room open to the garden while he sleeps?" *(The Enemy)*

(i) Complete the following sentence. (1)

The white man was hated because

(ii) The reference to the white man in the extract indicates a cultural disparity. Do you agree? What is this cultural disparity? (1)

(iii) Select the appropriate option. (1)

"I have my own private assassins. Suppose I send two of them to your house tonight or better, any night."

- (a) Describes the General's care and kindness
- (b) Indicates the ignorance and self-centred nature of the General
- (c) Shows the General's humanist and patriotic side
- (d) Creates a suspense air around the General

(iv) What do you infer from the last line of the extract? (1)

Or

B. Students on Ice, the programme I was working with on the Shokalskiy, aims to do exactly this by taking high school students to the ends of the world and providing them with inspiring educational opportunities which will help them foster a new understanding and respect for our planet. It's been in operation for six years now, headed by Canadian Geoff Green, who got tired of carting celebrities and retired, rich, curiosity-seekers who could only 'give' back in a limited way.

With Students on Ice, he offers the future generation of policy-makers a life-changing experience at an age when they're ready to absorb, learn and most importantly, act. (*Journey to the End of the Earth*)

(i) Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract.

Students on Ice is a programme which was started by Geoff Green to

(1)

(ii) List any one emotion that students must have felt in the Students on Ice Programme.

(1)

(iii) According to the extract, Green chose the high school students for the programme as

(1)

(a) he wanted candidates who were physically fit.

(b) he wanted them to have an opportunity to learn more about the planet.

(c) he wanted young minds that he could mould to his will.

(d) he wanted to start a colony on the Southern pole.

(iv) Why did Greene favour students against the rich for the Antarctica tour?

(1)

9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the given two, (A) or (B).

(6)

A. The news of Gandhi's advent and of the nature of his mission spread quickly through Muzaffarpur and to Champaran. Sharecroppers from Champaran began arriving on foot and by conveyance to see their champion. Muzaffarpur lawyers called on Gandhi to brief him; they frequently represented peasant groups in court, they told him about their cases and reported the size of their fee. (*Indigo*)

(i) Why is the reference to the lawyers' fee important?

(1)

(ii) Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank.

The cases referred to in the extract were the cases fought against

(1)

(East India Company/the British Landlords).

(iii) Complete the following suitably.

(1)

They told him about their cases. The phrase 'their cases' refers to

(iv) What does the fact that the sharecroppers from Champaran began arriving on foot show?

(1)

(v) Which of the following best reflects the villagers' perception of Gandhi's arrival in Muzaffarpur as referred to in the extract?

(1)

I. They saw him as a symbol of hope. II. They were indifferent to his mission.

III. They regarded him as their representative. IV. They were curious about his background.

V. They gathered in large numbers to meet him.

Select the most suitable option.

(a) II and IV

(b) I and III

(c) I, III and V

(d) II, III and V

(vi) What does the following line from the extract showcase?

(1)

The news of Gandhi's advent and of the nature of his mission spread quickly....

(a) seriousness of the problem

(b) popularity of the problem

(c) Gandhi's popularity

(d) importance of the event related to the problem

Or

B. When I saw who it was, I said, "Excuse me, but aren't you Danny Casey?" And he looked sort of surprised. And he said, "Yes, that's right. And I knew it must be him because he had the accent, you know, like when they interviewed him on the television. So I asked him for an autograph for little Derek but neither of us had any paper or a pen. So then we just talked a bit. About the clothes in Royce's window. He seemed lonely. After all, it's a long way from the West of Ireland." (*Going Places*)

(i) Why did Geoff doubt Sophie's claims about meeting Danny Casey? (1)
 (ii) Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank. (1)

Danny Casey could not give Sophie an autograph because they did not have any paper or pen.

This imagery is..... (vivid/vain) that it seems that Sophie had really met the athlete.

(iii) Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract. (1)

The speaker said, "It was nothing like that, Geoff" because

(iv) Rationalise to support the given opinion. (1)

Sophie – the speaker is a very imaginative girl.

(v) How did Sophie know that it was Danny Casey? (1)

(a) As he had a football in his hands

(b) As he was moving his feet like a footballer

(c) As his accent matched Casey's

(d) As he was wearing football dress

(vi) Which of the following best reflects Sophie's perception of her meeting with Danny Casey as described in the extract? (1)

I. She was excited to recognise him.

II. She tried to verify his identity based on his accent.

III. She felt suspicious about his intentions.

IV. She was happy to spend time chatting with him.

V. She believed he was feeling lonely.

Select the most suitable option.

(a) I, II and IV

(b) II and III

(c) III, IV and V

(d) I, IV and V

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 40-50 words each. (5 × 2 = 10)

(i) "If he knew its meaning – lord of the universe – he would have a hard time believing it." Describe the irony in Saheb's name? (*Lost Spring*)

(ii) "The reaction to Stephen Spender at Gemini Studios was no longer a mystery." Explain why Stephen Spender visited Gemini Studios. (*Poets and Pancakes*)

(iii) "but all I said was, see you soon, Amma"

Elucidate how the pain of separation is expressed both literally and metaphorically in 'My Mother at Sixty-six'.

(iv) What evidence from the last lines reveal that Aunt Jennifer's Tigers does not end on a note of hope? (*Aunt Jennifer's Tiger*)

(v) "We must guard it among us and never forget it"

What opinions did M Hamel hold with regards to one's mother tongue? (*The Last Lesson*)

(vi) 'From the beginning, however, I had an aversion to the water when I was in it.'

What does it reveal about Douglas' fear of water? (*Deep water*)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in about 40-50 words each. (2 × 2 = 4)

(i) Do you think an author who induces several instances of satire in a story faces the risk of being too cynical? Explain. (*The Tiger King*)

(ii) The conversation the two women had at the bus stop affected Derry deeply. Justify. (*On the Face of It*)

(iii) Sadao and Hana have a moral compass which wages them to save the prisoner's life. Do we all need this moral compass? Why? (*The Enemy*)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. 'Hardship often shapes courage and identity.'

Compare and contrast the experiences of Saheb (Lost Spring) and Sophie (Going Places) to explain how they handle the realities of life and how their dreams reflect their inner strength.

Or

B. In 'My Mother at Sixty-six' and 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', the poets explore the theme of womanhood under emotional and social pressure.

Compare how both poems reflect the inner struggle and strength of women through imagery and tone.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. Mr. Lamb in 'On the Face of It' displays exceptional emotional strength despite his physical disability.

Discuss how his attitude towards life and his interaction with Derry highlight the theme of inner strength over physical appearance.

Or

B. The statement 'Where there is oppression, there will be resistance' reflects the spirit of individuals who stand up against injustice. Based on your reading of the stories of Zitkala-Sa (The Cutting of My Long Hair) and Bama (We Too Are Human Beings), explain how both writers resisted the unfair treatment they faced. How do their stories inspire us to speak up against oppression?

Answers

1. (i) The textual evidence that tells us that language gives human an advantage over other species is, "It gives humans an edge in intelligence over other creatures."
 - (ii) language shapes thought and understanding, allowing for lifelong learning and intellectual development
 - (iii) (c) through children's ability to read on their own
 - (iv) (a) Conclusion
 - (v) We can say that emotional response is linked to language learning because young babies respond emotionally to comforting human voices, showing that feeling is an essential part of language learning.
 - (vi) (C) Language develops reasoning and understanding
 - (vii) It suggests that reading exposes children to vocabulary, grammar and various forms of expression that support language acquisition.
 - (viii) It shows that communication starts with emotional bonding and eye contact. This mutual gaze forms the basis of a trusting relationship and helps the baby begin associating words with feelings and responses, even before actual speech begins.
 - (ix) When children hear articulate adults expressing thoughts and opinions, they unconsciously learn language structures. This exposure enhances their ability to speak, understand and connect ideas clearly, supporting confident communication and deeper relationships later in life.
 - (x) (c) language plays a central role in shaping intelligence and communication
2. (i) (c) To continue education during physical campus closures
 - (ii) accessible (iii) Asia
 - (iv) (c) North America had more institutions adopting online learning than Asia
 - (v) Shreya would face difficulties due to a lack of internet access and digital devices, a challenge referred to as the digital divide. This limits her participation in online classes and creates inequality compared to students in better-connected urban areas.
 - (vi) (c) There was unequal access to digital tools and connectivity.
 - (vii) Blended learning models will give students flexibility to learn at their own pace. Combining traditional and online methods can improve accessibility, enable personalised learning and ensure education continues even in crisis situations like a pandemic
 - (viii) (d) Use of AI in student evaluation

3. A.

Meera International School, New Delhi**NOTICE**

10th August, 20XX

School Fete

All students are hereby informed that the school is organising a fete on 24th August, 20XX on school grounds from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to collect funds for charity. Only school students are eligible to put up their stalls.

Stalls can be of the following categories

- Lucky Draw
- Games
- Eatables
- Handicrafts

Interested students are requested to contact their class teachers or the undersigned latest by 5th August, 20XX.

Arunima Gautam
(Head Girl)

A. Mistake Alert

Students often miss basic format elements in notices like heading, date or designation.

Or

B.

Residents' Welfare Association, Silver Crystals Society, Paschim Vihar**NOTICE**

14th March, 20XX

Free Hypertension Check-up Session

This is to inform all the residents of our society that our organisation is going to conduct a free hypertension check-up session on 17th March, 20XX at the gathering hall. The timing for the said event will be from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. All the residents who are above thirty years old are requested to participate in the session and obtain its benefits. For further details about the session, please contact the undersigned.

Ratna Sharma
Secretary, RWA

4. A.

Springdales Public School
Gurugram-142301

25th June, 20XX

Sunita Narain
2/27, Jorbagh
New Delhi-143301

Subject Invitation to the Tree Plantation Drive

Respected Ma'am

It is a matter of great pride to inform you about the 'Tree Plantation Drive' that our school, Springdales Public School is organising on the occasion of Van Mahotsav. It would be our honour if you grace the occasion with your presence and share your views on environment and the importance of trees. We hope you will accept our invite.

Yours faithfully
Sachin Bansal
Head Boy

Or

B. B- 66, Tagore Garden
New Delhi – 110028

9th April, 20XX
Shiksha Public School
Patel Nagar
New Delhi

Subject Acceptance of Invitation

Respected Sir/Ma'am

I am honoured to be on the receiving end of your invitation as the keynote speaker at your esteemed school on the topic 'Significance of honing 21st century life skills'. I would be delighted to share critical insights and tactics with the students of Class XII.

I, hereby, confirm my availability and acceptance of the invitation to speak on 12th April, 20XX at 10 a.m. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity. I look forward to the interaction with the students.

Best regards
Priyanka Bose

Life Skills Trainer, N.J. Public School

 **Mistake Alert**

Students often fail to match the tone and form at of the response to the type of invitation.

5. A. 439, Bhardwaj House,
Shivpur, Bhopal-462003

12th August, 20XX
The HR Manager
HMT Limited
2, Judges Court Road
Bhopal - 462003

Subject Application for the Post of Accountant

Sir/Ma'am

In response to your advertisement in the 'The Navbharat Samay' dated 10th August, 20XX, I would like to offer my candidature for the post of Accountant in your organisation. My qualifications and experience are as required in your advertisement. My special experience in auditing of accounts will be an additional expertise which may be of use to your Accounts Department.

I am enclosing my bio-data in support of my application. I am available for interview at your convenience. I hope to receive a positive response from your side.

Thanking you in advance.

Yours sincerely

Karan Bhardwaj

Enclosed : Bio-data

Bio-Data

Name	Karan Bhardwaj
Father's Name	Mr. Nishant Bhardwaj
Address	439, Bhardwaj House, Shivpur, Bhopal
Contact No	98930XXXX
E-mail	karanb19XX@gmail.com
Date of Birth	12th October, 19XX

Educational Qualification

S. NO	Name of Course	College/Board/University	Year of Passing	Percentage/GPA received
1.	M. Com	Barkatullah University, Bhopal	20XX	65%
2.	B. Com	Barkatullah University, Bhopal	20XX	67%
3.	Senior Secondary	CBSE	19XX	72%
4.	Secondary	CBSE	19XX	75%

Languages Known English, Hindi and Urdu**Work Experience** Working as an Accountant with M/s Parvati Foods Ltd, Jabalpur since July, 2009 in the Internal Audit Section of their Accounts Department.

References

1. Dr. Shravan Kumar (Mobile no. 99876XXXXX)
HOD (Commerce)
Barkatullah University, Bhopal
2. Mr. RN Yadav (Mobile no. 96438XXXXX)
General Manager (Accounts)
Parvati Foods Ltd, Jabalpur

Or

B. 83/7, Shastri Square
Karol Bagh
New Delhi - 110005

6th October, 20XX

The Editor
The Times of India
KG Marg, New Delhi-110005

Subject Fight Against the Social Evil of Dowry

Sir/Ma'am

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to suggest some possible ways to eliminate the menace of dowry in our society.

Every day, we come across stories of atrocities committed against women in the name of tradition. One such atrocity is dowry, a social evil prevalent in both urban as well as rural areas of our country.

To stop it, a multi-dimensional strategy has to be adopted by the government and people alike. The government should make dowry laws more stringent and should hold the police and district level officials accountable for the implementation. Also, a mechanism of effective reporting without affecting the image of the girl's family should be devised.

The public should be educated and empathised towards the cause. They must take a pledge against demanding or giving dowry. Moreover, if they see anyone asking for it, the matter should be immediately brought to the notice of the relevant authorities. Only when we take strict and holistic action, will this menace be rooted out completely. The defaulter should be punished and no bail should be allowed. The offence can be reduced only by good education and strict penalty or punishment.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely
Komal/Kamal

6. A.

Maintain the Grace of Pilgrimages*by Sandeep Sharma*

In the present world with tourism and travel spreading like wildfire, temples or places of pilgrimages have become a great place for satisfying the wanderlust. Throughout the year, the location of the temples and its nearby places are flooded with tourists from all over the world to marvel the ancient beauties of the Indian culture.

These epitomes of grace were popular places earlier as well. However, they were not easily approachable as most of them are located on high mountains. Without proper roads and any other facilities, people used to

visit these pilgrimages after facing a lot of hardships. In complete contrast is today's scenario wherein, with the construction of roads, hotels, etc., reaching these places have become a lot easier.

Known for their holy and sacred nature, the pilgrimages are full of natural bounty. But, with excess footfall, this nature is also exploited. The grace and dignity of the temples is polluted by the littering left behind by the tourists. At such a juncture, it is our moral responsibility to understand the real essence of our architectural bounty and appreciate its true worth.

Or

B. **Crime Against Women**

by Varsha Malik, Junior Correspondent, The Pune Bhaskar

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In a country where a woman is worshipped as goddess, it comes as a great surprise when we get to know that the rate of crimes against women is increasing day by day. Due to the patriarchal nature of the society, one half of the country's population is subjected to the worst of crimes. They are harassed, tortured and ill-treated. Brides are burnt alive and constantly traumatised for not fulfilling the outrageous demands of dowry.

Some families do not desire a female child because of the sheer responsibilities the society has attached to the birth of a girl child. As a result, female foeticide and infanticide has become common in the country.

The notion that women are the weaker section of the society results in cases of eve-teasing, abduction, rape and molestation, at times, taking place openly and in broad daylight. In fact, even when a female desires to work, they are exploited and assaulted at their workplaces.

The only solution to this problem is upliftment and empowerment of the female stratum of the society.

Education and economic independence can make a woman aware enough to retaliate and live a dignified life.

7. A. (i) It suggests the futility and devastation of war, where even victory is meaningless because it results in massive destruction and loss of life.
 (ii) (b) It was the best of times, it was the worst of times
 (iii) a new ideal and peaceful approach
 (iv) wars between
 (v) (c) the extract portrays war as a necessary means for justice.
 (vi) The message that can be inferred from the given stanza is that, no matter what the consequences of war are, there are no winners since the destruction, which is brought upon a war, is immeasurable. Hence, we should stop wars and promote brotherhood and peace.

Or

B. (i) The phrase that indicates that the author realised that her mother was nearing her death is- 'realised with pain that she was as old as she looked' or 'ashen like that of a corpse'.
 (ii) (a) I am as happy as I can be. (iii) loss and separation
 (iv) guilty (v) (b) the mother is shown as energetic and full of life.
 (vi) The use of the words 'ashen face' indicates that the face of the poet's mother is pale and lifeless, showing old age and changes in physical appearance.

8. A. (i) he was an enemy prisoner of war and represented a nation hostile to Japan during World War II.
 (ii) Yes, I agree that the reference to the white man in the extract indicates a cultural disparity. The speaker of the extract is a Japanese while the white man is American.
 (iii) (b) Indicates the ignorance and self-centred nature of the General
 (iv) From the last line of the extract, we can infer that the white man was going to be assassinated.

Or

B. (i) make youngsters realise the gory reality of planet Earth and to provoke them into thinking about their planet earnestly
 (ii) The students must have felt wonder at looking at the huge expanse of Antarctica in the Students on Ice Programme.
 (iii) (b) he wanted them to have an opportunity to learn more about the planet.

(iv) Greene favours students against the rich for the Antarctica tour because he feels that students would learn from the journey and act to protect their planet with appropriate policies. In contrast, the rich people will act to protect the planet in a limited way.

9. A. (i) The reference to the lawyers' fee is important as it indicates that the lawyers did not care for the plight of the poor peasants. They were not driven by any national or communal feeling but were charging for doing something in their line of work.

(ii) the British Landlords
 (iii) the case that the lawyers are fighting for the sharecroppers against the tyrannical British landlords.
 (iv) The fact that the sharecroppers from Champaran began arriving on foot shows that they were becoming aware of the rights and powers they possessed.
 (v) (c) I, III and V
 (vi) (c) Gandhi's popularity

Or

B. (i) Geoff doubted Sophie's claims about meeting Danny Casey because he was aware of her active imagination.
 (ii) vivid
 (iii) she wanted to rebuff Geoff's claims that Danny Casey was messing around with her. The speaker, Sophie, defends Danny Casey's character from Geoff's belief that Casey was not a good boy.
 (iv) The given statement is true because Sophie did not meet Danny Casey in reality, rather just imagined it. However, the descriptions that she gave are so vivid that the readers can picture the meeting. This shows how imaginative she is.
 (v) (c) As his accent matched Cassey's
 (vi) (d) I, IV and V

10. (i) Saheb is a poor ragpicker who lives in Seemapuri. His full name is 'Saheb-e-Alam' which means 'Lord of the Universe'. The irony lies in the meaning of his name itself. According to his name, he is a king and enjoys all the luxuries of life. But, unfortunately, he is a barefoot ragpicker who lacks even the basic necessities.
 (ii) Stephen Spender was an anti-Communist similar to the people at Gemini Studios. He had been invited by the Boss who had no knowledge of Spender's background to talk about his journey into Communism and his return after being disillusioned with Communism.
 (iii) The pain of separation in 'My Mother at Sixty-six' is one of physical separation since the poet was leaving her mother in Cochin while catching her flight. The metaphorical separation is one that the poet fears. She fears an eternal separation from her mother because of her nearing death.
 (iv) 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' does not end on a note of hope. The end of the poem talks about her death and that, even then, she will still be subdued by patriarchal forces. This indicates that even death does not provide any relief to the Aunt.
 (v) The mother-tongue is representative of a nation's true identity and character. It acts as a binding force creating unity among the countrymen. M Hamel said that when people are enslaved, as long as they hold fast to their languages, it is as if they have the key to their prison.
 (vi) At the age of 3 or 4, Douglas had gone to a beach in California with his father. He was standing with his father holding him when a powerful wave had struck him and knocked him down. He was submerged in water and was filled with fear. This terror stayed with him till he got older. Hence, Douglas's fear of water comes from his childhood experience before the YMCA pool.

11. (i) No, I do not think that the instances of satire in the story face the risk of being two cynical. The satire in the story highlights the reality of the authority and power possessed as well as misused by influential people.
 (ii) It is true that, on hearing the conversation of the two women at the bus stop, Derry was affected deeply and upset. They were talking about his burned face which, according to them, was terrible. They further added that only a mother could love such a face. For Derry, it was a cruel thing to say.
 (iii) Yes, like Sadao and Hana in 'The Enemy', we all need a moral compass. The moral compass would help us in judging what is right and wrong and would direct us ethically. This is all the more important in the modern world wherein humans have become selfish and self-centered. With a moral compass, we would retain all those ethics and values that make us good.

12. A. Saheb, from 'Lost Spring', is a ragpicker who belongs to a poor family of migrants. Despite his poverty, he is cheerful and curious. His desire to go to school and search for something better in the garbage shows his inner strength. Even though his reality is harsh, Saheb doesn't give up on hope. When he gets a job at a tea stall, he loses his freedom but represents the sacrifice of dreams in poverty.

In contrast, Sophie from 'Going Places' lives in a world of fantasies. She dreams of becoming a fashion designer or meeting a football star, despite her working-class background. Her dreams are unrealistic but they reflect her need to escape her dull surroundings. Unlike Saheb, she is not grounded in reality.

Both characters show how hardship shapes a person. Saheb with silent endurance, Sophie with dreamy escape. Their stories reflect different ways of coping with limitations.

Or

B. Both poems explore the emotional struggles of women in different ways. In 'My Mother at Sixty-six', Kamala Das captures the pain of seeing her mother age and move closer to death. The poet uses gentle and emotional imagery, 'wan, pale as a late winter's moon', to reflect both her mother's physical weakness and her own emotional fear of losing her. The tone is tender, reflective and full of quiet sorrow.

In contrast, Aunt Jennifer's Tigers by Adrienne Rich uses bold imagery and symbolism to represent a woman's inner desire for strength and freedom. Aunt Jennifer is burdened by her marriage but she embroiders tigers that are fearless and proud. The contrast between her real life and her art highlights her silent rebellion.

While Kamala Das focuses on emotional vulnerability, Rich celebrates creative strength. Both poems show how women endure silently but express their strength one through memory, the other through art.

★ Value Points

- Kamala Das expresses emotional pain through tender imagery and the fear of separation.
- Adrienne Rich portrays silent rebellion and strength through symbolic art and fearless tigers.
- Both poems highlight how women endure challenges and express strength. One through emotion, the other through creativity.

13. A. Mr. Lamb, in 'On the Face of It', is a symbol of emotional strength and positivity. Though he has lost a leg and wears a tin prosthetic, he does not let his disability define him. Instead of isolating himself, he keeps his garden open to everyone and welcomes conversations. His encounter with Derry, a boy who hides due to his burned face, brings out his compassionate nature. Mr. Lamb encourages Derry to look beyond appearance and societal judgement. He teaches him that life is about how you view yourself, not how others see you.

Through this interaction, Mr. Lamb's inner strength becomes evident. He transforms Derry's outlook by showing him that acceptance and confidence come from within. His character teaches the reader that emotional courage and a positive attitude can overcome even the harshest physical or social challenges. Thus, his moral resilience makes him truly admirable.

Or

B. The stories of Zitkala-Sa and Bama reflect the truth that where there is oppression, there will be resistance. Zitkala-Sa, a Native American girl, was taken from her culture and forced to follow the customs of white people. She was not allowed to speak her language or wear traditional clothes. The cutting of her hair, a disgrace in her culture, was a painful moment and she tried to resist by hiding. Bama, a Dalit girl from India, witnessed caste discrimination when a man from her community had to carry food in a humiliating way. Instead of accepting this, Bama chose education as a tool of resistance. Both girls, though young, stood up against injustice in their own ways. Their stories show that resistance can be silent or strong but always powerful. They inspire us to fight discrimination with courage, education and belief in equality.

My Reflection & Problem Points

Write down any difficulties, doubts, or mistakes you faced in this paper.

Discuss these points with your teacher and sort them out.

Concept (s) I got stuck on

Question (s) I couldn't complete

What confused me most

Time issue faced in