

Pratap Public School, Karnal

Mid-Term Examination (2023)

Class - X

Subject - English

Time : 3 Hrs

M.M : 80

Name Roll No. Section

General Instructions:-

- i) This question paper has 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.
- ii) This question paper contains. Three sections - Reading, Grammar and Writing and Literature.
- iii) Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write correct questions number and part there of in your answer sheet.

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully. (10)

1. As a high school student, studying poetry can be a rollercoaster ride. This journey is punctuated by moments of profound appreciation for simpler pieces and intermittent frustration with more complex works. Let's be real here - some poems are just plain confusing and no amount of re-reading seems to help decipher the intended meaning. The puzzlement that results from such instances can be both vexing and demotivating. If solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing Sudoku is a better option. One is led to ponder if obscurity was the goal.
2. Conversely, some pieces resonate with the reader's soul. stirring feelings of warmth, happiness, and connection to the world. Often, these compositions centre on themes that are universally understood, such as love, nature, or faith. Being able to actually understand what the poet is trying to say can feel like a little victory and is a welcome relief after grappling with more perplexing poetry.
3. Then there are poems that are emotionally charged; the ones that make the reader curl up in a ball and cry or jump up and down with joy. One is left in awe of the poet's ability to convey emotion through words. Let's not forget the downright weird poems. These are the ones that defy categorization and leave the reader to their own devices in attempting to interpret meaning. The author's use of figurative language and unconventional imagery can create a sense of bewilderment that is either intriguing or off-putting. Regardless, the reader can appreciate the uniqueness of the work.
4. Despite the wide range of emotions and reactions that come with studying poetry, it can be a rewarding pursuit. Not only does reading poetry allow one to appreciate the artistic beauty of the written word but also enables one to develop crucial critical thinking and analytical skills. The process of unlocking a poem's meaning can feel like cracking a code or solving a puzzle but the sense of accomplishment derived from mastering a challenging piece can be deeply gratifying. Finally, impressing an English teacher with a well-analysed poem can be a source of pride and validation.
5. Overall, studying poetry is like a box of mixed chocolates, you never know what you're going to get. But whether it's complex, emotional, simple, or just downright weird, there's always something to be gained from the experience. So, let's applaud all the poets out there, for making us laugh, cry, scratch our heads, and occasionally feel like

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i) Which of the following statements best describes the author's attitude towards studying poetry? (1)
- A. Finds poetry to be a frustrating and meaningless endeavor.
B. Believes that the emotional roller coaster of studying poetry is not worth the effort.
C. Recognizes the challenges of studying poetry but also acknowledges the rewards it offers.
D. Feels that poetry is too obscure and abstract for the average person to appreciate.
- ii) What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from paragraph ? Rationalise your response in about 40 words. (2)
- If solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing Sudoku is a better option. One is led to ponder if obscurity was the goal. (1)
- iii) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)
- The author's use of vivid imagery in the paragraph (3), such as "curl up in a ball and cry" and "jump up and down with joy", greatly affects the reader because _____.
- iv) The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets (a)-(e) below, identify two sets of antonyms: (1)
- (a) intriguing and off-putting (b) deciphering and interpreting
(c) appreciate and applaud (d) simple and challenging
(e) emotions and feelings
- v) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)
- We can say that the author's tone becomes more neutral and objective when discussing weird poems, compared to other types of poetry because _____.
- vi) Based on the reading of the passage, examine, in about 40 words, how studying poetry can be like exploring a new city. (2)
- vii) What is the message conveyed by Hina's experience, in the following case? (1)
- Hina spends hours trying to analyze a poem for her assignment and finally feels a sense of accomplishment and pride, once she understands.
- A. Only those with natural talent for poetry should engage with it.
B. Persistence makes studying poetry a rewarding pursuit.
C. Study of poetry is guaranteed to impress others.
D. The efforts of studying poetry is inversely proportional to the rewards gained.
- viii) State whether the following lines display an example of a simple / complex / emotionally charged / downright weird, poem. (1)
- The sun rises in the east,
A new day begins, a fresh start.
Birds chirp, nature wakes up,
A peaceful feeling in my heart.

2. Read the following passage carefully.

(10)

- Reduction in green areas has caused various environmental problems. People squeezed between concrete structures are looking for various ways to meet their longing for green. One of the ways to do so, is vertical gardens and green walls. Vertical gardening is a unique method of gardening where plants are grown in a vertical position or upward, rather than in the traditional method of planting them on the ground.
- The purpose of vertical gardens and green walls, which arises from the studies of different disciplines (landscape architects, architects, engineers, etc.), is to close the cold image of concrete and increase the visual value. In these systems, nature and

become intertwined.

3. Vertical garden case studies often show that, though functionality should be in the foreground, when vertical gardens are planned, they are generally made as aesthetic elements in the city's underpasses and city squares, and decorative elements in residences, without seeking functionality.
4. Experts support that the visual quality and evaluation of landscape architecture is determined based on the satisfaction of the users. Hence, a survey questionnaire was prepared for residents of varied age groups from of a metropolitan city. The given **Table 1**, displays these responses:

Table 1 Total number of participants 400 .

No.	Survey statements	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Vertical gardens-						
1	improve quality of life of people in urban areas	191	138	43	9	19
2	reduce noise pollution	128	164	77	25	6
3	increase air quality -indoors and outdoors	172	147	51	28	2
4	reduce energy and water consumption	58	47	125	68	2
5	positively impact global warming	114	144	106	30	6
6	have a relaxing and calming effect	161	177	44	7	11
7	cost too much	86	107	152	42	13
8	make plants look beautiful	195	139	44	6	16
9	add naturalness to the environs	135	173	55	25	12
10	are among the determining factor to visiting a place	59	133	141	54	13
11	are inconvenient indoors	9	84	123	126	48
12	can be applied in every place	71	132	97	77	23
13	have a functional feature	81	207	100	10	2
14	distract drivers	34	101	106	131	28
15	funds are best used for social issues	57	72	100	130	41

5. The study acknowledged that vertical gardening has the potential to transform urban spaces into green, sustainable areas, and further research should explore the impact of vertical gardening on the environment and human well-being.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

SECTION B - GRAMMAR AND WRITING SKILLS (20 Marks)

(GRAMMAR)

3. Attempt **ANY TEN** of the following questions. (10)

i) Read the conversation between a mother and her son. Complete the sentence by reporting the mother's reply correctly. (1)

Son: Mom, how do I become an artist?

Mother: You will need to learn more about the art you like and practice it every day.

A son asked his mother how he could become an artist. She told him _____.

ii) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete this advertisement. (1)

Are you looking for more books to read? Due to popular demand, we _____ back our 'Buy One Get One Free' offer next weekend!

A. brings

B. brought

C. will bring

D. were bringing

iii) Identify the error in the given newspaper headline and supply the correction. (1)

Athletics Star Helps State Stays Ahead of Competition

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

iv) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from a doorway sign. (1)

Caution! You _____ not enter.

Only employees are allowed beyond this point.

A. need

B. must

C. could

D. might

v) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a diary entry: (1)

Dear Diary,

Today I saw the most beautiful sunrise over the ocean. I wish I could _____ (painting) it to truly capture and preserve the beauty I witnessed.

vi) Select the option that identifies the error in a museum plaque and supplies the correction for the same. (1)

These building, inaugurated on 29 March 1954, was a former residence of a Maharaja.

Option no.	Error	Correction
A.	These	This
B.	building	buildings
C.	on	at
D.	of	by

vii) Fill in the blank with the correct option to complete the sentence below. (1)

You must have got good news. I could _____ you celebrating!

A. hear

B. hears

C. heard

D. hearings

viii) Read the conversation between a lawyer and his client. Complete the sentence by reporting the lawyer's reply correctly. (1)

Client: I am worried, this is a very complicated case.

Lawyer: Don't worry, I have never lost a case in my life.

The client was worried as it was a very complicated case, but his lawyer told him _____.

ix) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the text message below. (1)
 Let's meet another day since neither Kavi nor Samantha _____ free today as they have tennis practice.

- A. were
 C. be

- B. are
 D. is

x) Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Ayan and his mechanic, Vir. (1)

Ayan: By when do you think you can fix my car?

Vir: Probably by tomorrow. I don't think your car has any major issues.

Ayan asked his mechanic Vir when he thought he could fix his car. Vir replied that he could probably fix the car by _____ as it had no major issues.

- A. that day
 C. tomorrow

- B. one day
 D. the next day

xi) Identify the error in the advertisement given below and supply the correction for the same. (1)

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

Looking to Buy a Guitar?

The brand new guitar is for sale. It comes with a wooden, velvet-lined guitar case.

If interested, contact me at 99889xxxxx for more details.

xii) Rishi asked Ali the question given below. Report Rishi's question. (1)

Could you give me some advice on how I could be a better school? *Captain*

CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (10 Marks)

4. Attempt **ANY ONE** from (A) and (B) given below: (5)

You are Bhaskar/Bindu of 76, Rose Avenue, Meerut. You are very disturbed to see young children begging at traffic signals which is very dangerous for their lives as well as for the commuters. Write a letter in 100 - 120 words to the editor of a national daily expressing your concern and suggesting ways and remedies to prevent this menace.

BEGGING -A CRIME SAVE THE CHILDREN- TAKE ACTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AT TRAFFIC INTERSECTIONS • AT MARKET PLACES
<u>THEY NEED CARE</u>
GIVE THEM BASIC NECESSITIES, FOOD, SHELTER, EDUCATION PREVENT CHILD ABUSE STOP CHILD EXPLOITATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEACH THEM SKILLS

OR

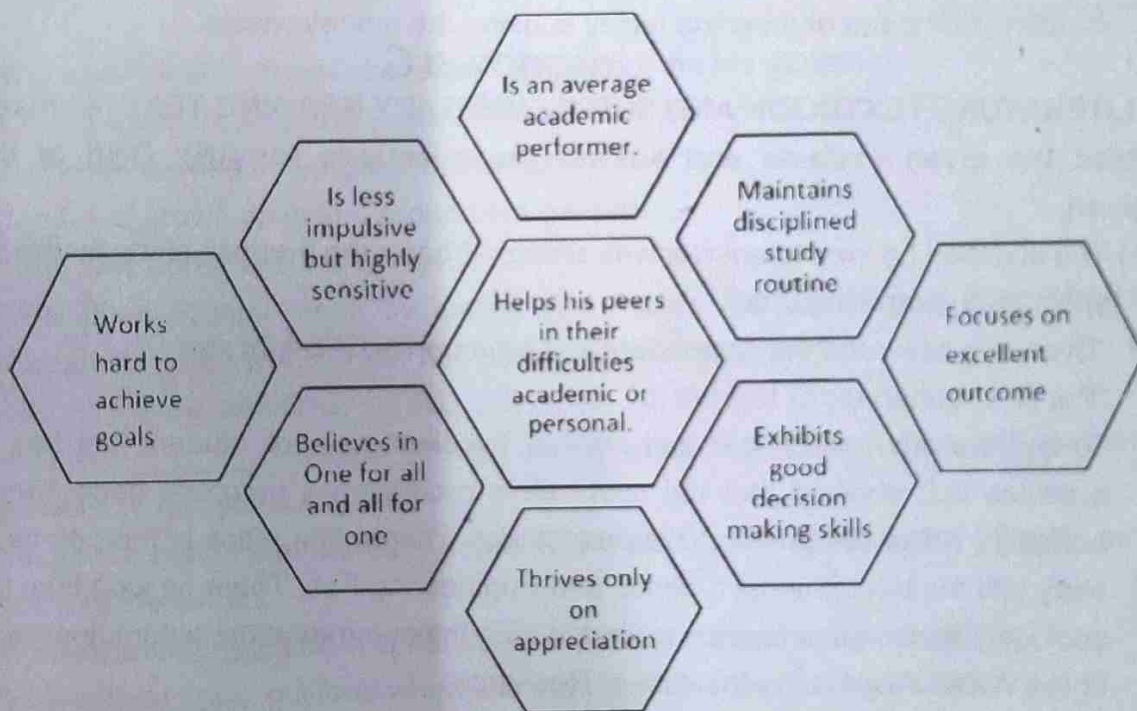
B) A foreign friend of yours is on a visit to India and is staying with you. Soon after arriving in India, she/he had to face harassment at the hands of a taxi driver. You and your friend have lodged a police complaint. Now, write a letter to the Union Minister of State for Tourism, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, New Delhi, to complain against the erring taxi-driver. (Word Limit: 100-120 words)

In your letter you should

- give details of the incident, including the name of the driver and the taxi number
- say how your friend and you have lodged a police complaint
- seek the Minister's intervention in the matter, for such incidents tarnish the image of the country as a tourist destination

5. Attempt any one from (A) and (B) given below: (5)

A) Tsering, of class X, is contesting for the post of the Junior School Captain, in the upcoming student council elections. Given below is her character traits' graphic, shared in the public domain, by the school counsellor, for the awareness of student voters, at school.



All Tsering's peers have been asked to write a paragraph in about 120 words, analysing these traits, to either support or oppose her candidature. As one of her peers, write this analytical paragraph, by selecting some of the traits that support your analysis.

You may begin like this:

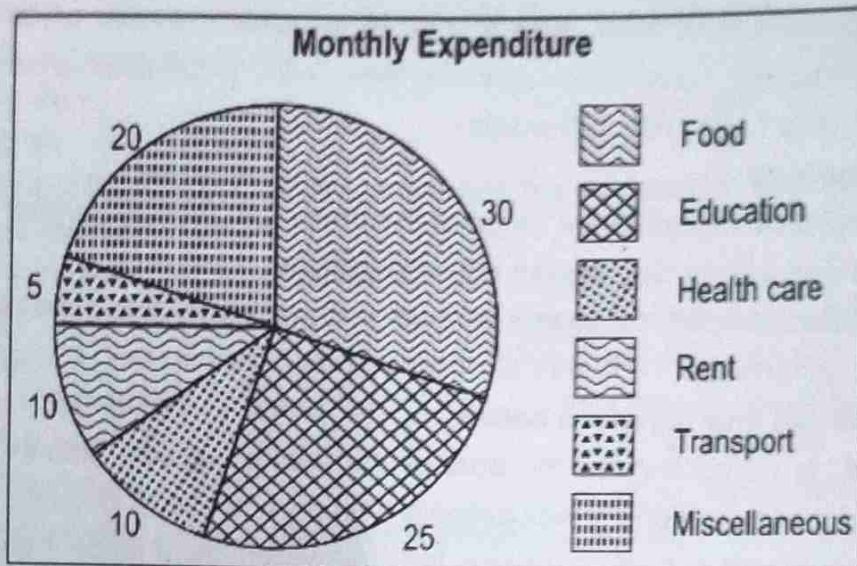
As a responsible student voter, I believe Tsering possesses / does not possess the necessary traits to be a School Captain.

You may end like this:

For these reasons, I believe she has / does not have the potential to be a good School Captain and I support / oppose her candidature.

OR

B) The monthly expenditure of a family is represented in the pie chart shown below



Write a paragraph in about 100-120 words, analysing the information in the pie chart to support your stand on how the family is using the money wisely.

SECTION - C

LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (5)

A) The question he tried to answer was simple: What is the purpose of the twelve tiny gold spots on a monarch pupa?

"Everyone assumed the spots were just ornamental," Ebright said.

"But Dr Urquhart didn't believe it."

To find the answer, Ebright and another excellent science student first had to build a device that showed that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly's full development. This project won Ebright first place in the county fair and entry into the International Science and Engineering Fair. There he won third place for zoology. He also got a chance to work during the summer at the entomology laboratory of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

(The Making of a Scientist)

i) State any one inference about Dr Urquhart from the given context: (1)

Everyone assumed the spots were just ornamental," Ebright said.

"But Dr Urquhart didn't believe it."

ii) State TRUE or FALSE. (1)

None of the terms (a)-(d) below, can be applied to the question - what is the purpose of the twelve tiny gold spots on a monarch pupa?

(a) A hypothesis - a proposed explanation for a phenomenon

(b) An assumption - something that is taken for granted or assumed to be true without proof

(c) A premise - a proposition that forms the basis of an argument

(d) A theory - a well-substantiated explanation for a natural phenomenon.

was highly effective. Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract. (2)

- iv) Which phrase would correctly substitute 'a chance', in the given sentence from the extract. (1)

He also got a chance to work during the summer at the entomology laboratory of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

OR

- B) "Hey, a tea garden!" Rajvir cried excitedly.

Pranjol, who had been born and brought up on a plantation, didn't share Rajvir's excitement.

"Oh, this is tea country now," he said. "Assam has the largest concentration of plantations in the world.

You will see enough gardens to last you a lifetime!"

"I have been reading as much as i could about tea," Rajvir said. "No one really knows who discovered tea but there are many legends."

(Glimpses of India)

- i) Why was Pranjol not as excited as Rajvir about the tea gardens? (1)
- A. He disliked looking at tea gardens.
B. He had worked in tea gardens himself.
C. He had grown up in and around tea gardens.
D. He was bored with tea gardens.
- ii) What does Pranjol mean by saying that Assam has the largest concentration of plantations in the world? How has he aquired this knowledge? (2)
- iii) Fill in the blank with ONE WORD only. (1)
- Pranjol's _____ comes through clearly when he exclaims, "You will see enough gardens to last you a lifetime!"
- iv) Select the option that correctly captures the application of the word 'cried' as used in line 1 of the extract. (1)
- A. Jaspreed cried a lot in spite of winning second place in a competition.
B. Jaspreed cried out loud when she saw a white tiger in the sanctuary.
C. Jaspreed cried for hours when the police were unable to find her lost pet.
D. Jaspreet has barely cried since she was three years of age.

OR

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (5)

- 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) Fill the blank with one word.

When the speaker says that ice could also bring about the end of the world, he refers to _____ as the means for destruction.

ii) What does the speaker's alignment with those who favour ice, suggest? (1)

iii) Which of the following best describes the speaker's attitude towards destruction caused by ice? (1)

A. Indifferent

B. Fearful

C. Dismissive

D. Respectful

iv) Comment on the poet's use of language in these lines. (Hints: tone, Poetic devices etc) (2)

OR

B) (I am Rapunzel, I have not a care;

life in a tower is tranquil and rare;

I'll certainly never let down my bright hair!)

Stop that sulking at once, Amanda!

You're always so moody, Amanda!

Anyone would think that I nagged at you, Amanda!

(Amanda!)

i) Which of these reflects the speaker's tone in the second stanza of the extract? (1)

1. critical

2. worried

3. concerned

4. sympathetic

5. commanding

A. 1, 5

B. 2, 3

C. 2, 4

D. 4, 5

ii) Why has line 6 of the extract been referred to as ironical? (2)

iii) Complete the analogy with a word from the extract. (1)

life: death:: grinning: _____

iv) _____ imagines herself to be Rapunzel who would like to live a _____ life free from all care. (1)

8. Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words. (4x3=12)

i) What epistemology of loss does the poem contain?

ii) How does Leslie Norris use vivid imagery and metaphorical language in A Tiger in the Zoo, to effectively depict the confinement and oppression, experienced by the captive tiger. (The Ball)

iii) Explain how the description of the devastation caused by the hailstorm reflects the sadness within Lencho, in A Letter to God?

Refer to the given lines, from the text.-

Not a leaf remained on the trees. The corn was totally destroyed. The flowers were gone from the plants. Lencho's soul was filled with sadness.

iv) Kitty was a trusted friend to Anne. Elaborate. (From the Diary of Anne Frank)

v) "If he roars at you as you're dyin'/you'll know it is the Asian Lion"

Do you find these lines to be serious or ironical?

Give reasons for your answer. (*How to Tell Wild Animals*)

9. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.

- i) The story, A Triumph of Surgery is a powerful example of the importance of saying "no". Explain. (3)
- ii) The various elements of Robert Arthur's writing style work together to create a sense of tension, uncertainty, and suspense, well-suited to the mystery and suspense genre of the story, The Midnight Visitor. Comment, with reference to any one element. (3)
- iii) "Toil the brain, not the muscle" Justify this quote with reference to 'A question of Trust'. (3)

10. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (1x6=6)

(A) You have been asked to present an evaluation of the approaches of the mothers of both, the baby seagull and Amanda, towards helping their children. Write this presentation draft including your insights, in about 120 words, comparing the approaches of both parents.

You may begin this way:

One acknowledges that both parents, Amanda's mother and the baby seagull's mother both....however, ... (Reference -Amanda! & His First Flight)

OR

(B) At the beginning of his speech, Mandela mentions "an extra-ordinary human disaster." What does he mean by this? What is the "glorious... human achievement" he speaks of at the end?

11. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.(1x6=6)

A) "Brilliant scientist though he was, Griffin was rather a lawless person." Do you agree? Give examples from the story in support of your view.

OR

(B) A character arc is the transformation or development of a character throughout a story and refers to the changes a character undergoes as a result of their experiences, challenges and interactions with other characters,

In the light of the above information, trace the character arc of the thief in Ruskin Bond's 'The Thief's Story', in about 120 words.
