



SAMPLE PAPER 2 2024-25

Class 12 - English Core

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:
2. This question paper has **13** questions. **All** questions are **compulsory**.
3. This question paper contains **three** sections - Section A : **Reading Skills**, Section B : **Creative Writing Skills** and Section C : **Literature**.
4. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
5. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
6. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A – READING SKILLS

1. **Read the passage given below:**

[12]

It is hard to think of an Indian snack that is not fried. However, we need to be aware of what happens to oil when it is heated. When oil begins to smoke, it is a good indicator that it has been heated too much. At this temperature, chemical changes begin to take place, which has many health risks. Of course, this is tricky. If the oil is not hot enough, then more of it is absorbed, and the resultant product is quite soggy and unfit to eat. Further, prolonged heating of oil at high temperature, i.e. at its smoking point, leads to its degradation. A substance called acrolein is formed which can irritate the stomach lining. The oil that has decomposed to acrolein is dark and viscous. Normally this does not happen when food is fried at home. But as oil is expensive we are not willing to put it down the drain after having used it only once. The common tendency is to set aside any oil that is left over to use another time. And repeated use of the same oil guarantees the formation of acrolein with all its undesirable effects.

In fact, some experts suggest that oil should not be held at its smoking temperature for more than 15 minutes at a time. This time span, as everyone knows, is hardly sufficient to prepare the poor is for even a small family of four. Sadly, olive and corn oils are not widely available in our markets. Both these oils can be heated to higher temperatures before they start smoking.

Even heart-friendly oils, like those made from sunflower, are also not spared from these effects. Another problem arises when oil is stored under less than satisfactory conditions. If the oil is not stored in an airtight container which, additionally, allows light to pass through, then it will deteriorate further because of the effect of oxygen and light on the oil.

By and large, these undesirable effects result when food is deep-fried. So, eat deep-fried food occasionally. This does not mean we can no longer enjoy the flavour and palatability of fried foods. Some food like tikkis lend themselves to both deep and shallow frying. Since every batch of frying requires fresh oil, there is no

problem with leftover oil.

The practice of heating small amounts of mustard, black grams chillies and the like in a little oil, before they are added to vegetables and curries, is called tempering. Tempering is not meant solely for flavour but has a nutritional benefit as well.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- i. Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option. **(1)**
_____ is a substance that irritates the stomach lining.
 - i. Acrolein
 - ii. Sunflower oil
 - iii. Acetic acid
 - iv. Corn oil
- ii. Comment on the degradation of oil due to prolonged heating as referred to in paragraph two. **(1)**
- iii. List any two ways one can opt to delish the flavours of deep-fried foods. **(2)**
(Clue: Think about the alternatives to curb its harmful effects)
- iv. Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'undesirable', from words used in paragraph five. **(1)**
 - i. flavour
 - ii. tempering
 - iii. palatability
 - iv. occasional
- v. What is the other consequence of improper storage of oil? **(1)**
 - i. Oxidisation of Oil when left in open/improperly stored
 - ii. Not storing it in air-tight container reduces freshness
 - iii. Oil used for Deep-frying is super unhealthy
 - iv. Light passes through it as Oil is transparent
- vi. Based on your understanding of paragraph six, list one major reason as to why tempering is done. **(2)**
- vii. Why do we have a tendency of reusing the oil once used? **(1)**
- viii. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following: **(1)**
According to the writer, a few healthy oils that can be heated to higher temperatures before they start smoking are not widely available in our markets. These oils are _____.
- ix. What happens to oil when it is heated? **(1)**
 - i. It begins to smoke
 - ii. Chemical Changes start taking place
 - iii. If not heated enough, more of it is absorbed
 - iv. Over-heating leads to its degradation
- x. What happens when cooking oil is heated too much, and why is it problematic if the oil is not hot enough? **(1)**

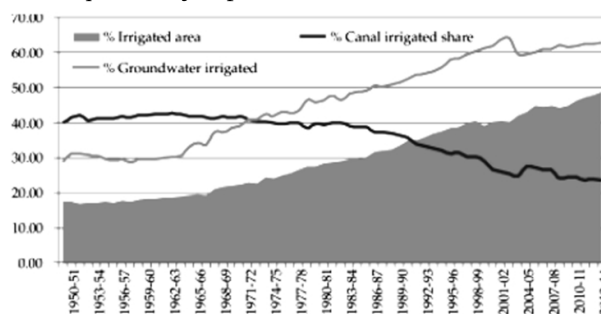
2. **Read the following passage carefully :**

[10]

1. Manav Singh had been farming his land for the past 20 years . His father had also been farming in the same land. But now he is unable to irrigate the agricultural land as the ground water level has gone down and the monsoon rains are also irregular. He has an option to connect the canal irrigation that the Government has initiated but is finding it difficult to implement the process. He knows that farmers world wide will need to

increase crop production, either by increasing the amount of agricultural land to grow crops or by enhancing productivity on existing agricultural lands to meet the global demand.

2. However, the ecological and social trade-off of clearing more land for agriculture are often high, particularly in the tropics. And right now, crop yields the amount of crops harvested per unit of land cultivated are growing too slowly to meet the predicted demand for food. Even if some regions increase their output and traders reduce the mismatch between supply and demand, doubling food production by 2050 will undeniably be a major challenge.
3. Thus the last resort for farmers, Manav Singh thinks would be to grow more on the land they currently operate through what is called “sustainable intensification”. This means using precision farming tools, such as GPS fertiliser dispenser, advanced irrigation systems, and environmentally optimized crop rotations. These methods can help produce more crop, especially in parts of Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe with large yield gaps. They can also reduce the negative environmental impacts from over stressing resources -preventing groundwater depletion and the destruction of fertile lands through over-use of fertiliser.
4. Net irrigated area (%) of India has increased from nearly 18 to 48% in recent times due to government interventions at various levels (Fig. 1). Although the government has given much emphasis on improving canal system in various five year plans but it has declined over years (Fig. 1). People have identified groundwater irrigation as much reliable and independent source of irrigation. Groundwater irrigation has taken quantum jump since 1965.



5. Fig. 1. Percent net irrigated to net sown area and per cent canal irrigated & per cent groundwater irrigated to net irrigated area (Source: based on data from DES, 2017-18); NIA %: Net Irrigated area to net sown area, GW %: Groundwater share in net irrigated area, SW %: Surface water share in net irrigated area October-December 2019]
6. In order to attract more investments in agriculture, the risks need to be reduced by governments. Regulators need to overhaul policies that is affecting the inclusion of small, rural farmers into the financial system. More supportive policies, laws and public spending on infrastructure would help create a favourable investment climate for agriculture.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- i. Does the following statement agree with the information given in paragraph 1? **(1)**

Manav Singh is aware that in order to meet the demand for food on a global scale, farmers must reduce crop production either by reducing the amount of land used for farming or by decreasing the productivity of the land already used for farming.

Select from the following:

True - if the statement agrees with the information

False - if the statement contradicts the information

Not Given - if there is no information on this

ii. Do you think using precision farming tools and methods can intensify the negative environmental effects of overstressing resources? Support your answer with reference to the text. **(2)**

iii. Which of the following is /are true according to the passage? **(1)**

- i. Paragraph 2 only highlights how food demand can easily be met in the near future.
- ii. Rising food demand is likely to affect developed countries more severely than developing countries.
- iii. Increasing land under agriculture can impact the ecology negatively.

- A. Only i & ii
- B. Only ii
- C. Only iii
- D. Both i & iii

iv. Complete the sentence based on the following statement. **(1)**

Recent years have seen an increase in India's net irrigated area from about 18% to 48%. This improvement is a result of _____

v. The graph indicates that the irrigation of agricultural land in India using a canal system has _____ **(1)**

- A. Increased through the years
- B. Decreased through the years
- C. Equal all these years
- D. None of the above

vi. Doubling food production by 2050 will undeniably be a major challenge. What last option do farmers have according to Manav Singh? **(2)**

vii. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option. **(1)**

Governments must reduce risks in order to _____ more agricultural investments.

- A. discourage
- B. attract
- C. repulse
- D. buy

viii. Complete the sentence appropriately with one/ two words. **(1)**

Doubling food production by 2050 will undoubtedly be a difficult task, even if some regions increase their output and traders reduce the gap between _____.

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

3. The RWA is organizing a two-hour workshop on Digital De-addiction and JOMO - The Joy of Missing Out. **[4]**
Draft a notice informing residents about it and requesting them to attend, along with their children. Invent necessary details. You are Kiran/Krishna, Secretary of the RWA.

OR

In collaboration with the Municipal Health Department your school is organizing a Health Camp with an emphasis on fit living and healthy eating for the benefit of students between the ages of 12 years to 17 years. Draft a notice in 50 words informing students of the event. Also state the day, date, time and venue. You are Amit/Amita - Secretary, Student Council.

4. You are Manoj/Meena. You have received an invitation from your friend Vijay to a party to celebrate his **[4]**
admission in a prestigious Management Institute. Write an informal letter in about 50 words accepting the invitation. Mention day, date, time and venue.

OR

You are Sachin Bansal, the Head Boy of Springdales Public School, Gurgaon. Your school is holding an inter-school T-20 championship from 2 Oct. to 8 Oct 2018. Write a formal invitation to Sh. B.S. Bedi, the legendary cricketer, to inaugurate the championship on 2 Oct. 2018 at 10 a.m. at your school grounds.

5. After passing the secondary school examination, a candidate has to make a very difficult choice from a number of streams available to him at the senior school level for further studies. There is not a valid mechanism to assess the suitability of a candidate for a particular stream. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily emphasising the need for educational counsellors for guidance in this matter in each school. You are Vinita/Vinay, 48, Agra Fort, Agra. [5]



OR

You are Ketan Pandey of 63, Civil Lines, Delhi. You saw an advertisement in 'The Hindu' for the post of Accountant in a reputed school. Write an application in 120-150 words to the Jindal Public School, New Delhi, giving your detailed bio-data.

ACCOUNTANT

Qualification: B.Com. with 5-8 years experience of handling work of accounts Independently & having Knowledge of Tally.

Walk-in Interview from 18 to 24 Dec., 12 between 09:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. (except Sunday)

JINDAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Dashrathpuri, Dwarka-Palam Road, New Delhi-110 045

6. Recently you read a newspaper report of an attempted robbery at the residence of an elderly lady. She was living alone in her apartment. She feels concerned and decides to write an article on **Safety of the Elders**. Write the article in 150 - 200 words. You are Sartaj/Savita. [5]

OR

Your school conducted a seminar on 'How to prevent cruelty towards animals', in which 40 city CBSE schools took part. As coordinator of the programme, write a report in 100-125 words for the school magazine. You are Vikram/Vidhi of CPS Senior Secondary School, Bangalore.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

7. Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:

[6]

Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
The massive weight of wedding band
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

- i. Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract? (1)
 - A. The maturity of adulthood
 - B. The glory of femininity
 - C. Victim of male domination
 - D. The superficial beauty
- ii. State whether the following statement is True or False, with reference to the extract. (1)

Aunt Jennifer is nervous and traumatized because of the constraints of her marriage.
- iii. Complete the following sentence appropriately: (1)

The fingers fluttering through her wool symbolize _____.
- iv. The use of the words **massive weight** creates a powerful image of _____. (1)
- v. Based on the rhyme scheme in lines 3 and 4, which word would rhyme with **band** and **hand**? (1)
 - A. stand
 - B. wind
 - C. bent
 - D. tent
- vi. The heavy wedding ring is a source of: (1)
 - A. joy
 - B. freedom
 - C. dignity
 - D. burden

OR

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

A thing of beauty is a joy forever
Its loveliness increases, it will never
pass into nothingness: but will keep
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep
Full of sweet dreams, and health and quiet
and breathing.
Therefore, on every morrow are we wreathing
A flowery band to bind us to the earth;
Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth
Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,
Of all the unhealthy and o'er darkened ways
Made for our searching.

- i. Keats defines beauty as

- a. transient
 - b. eternal
 - c. illusionary
 - d. short lived
- ii. 'will keep a bower quiet for us' means all of the following EXCEPT
- a. create a peaceful, shady place
 - b. provide a shelter
 - c. will decrease noise pollution
 - d. nature's canopy
- iii. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below:
1. Beautiful things uplift the soul.
 2. Beauty is everchanging.
- a. 1 can be inferred from the extract but 2 cannot.
 - b. 2 can be inferred from the extract but 1 cannot.
 - c. both 1 and 2 can be inferred from the extract.
 - d. both 1 and 2 cannot be inferred from the extract.
- iv. The things that cause unhappiness are
- (1) lack of noble nature
 - (2) old tunes
 - (3) dull days
 - (4) calm mind
 - (5) a flowery band
 - (6) strong relationships
- Choose the most appropriate option:
- a. (1) and (2)
 - b. (1) and (3)
 - c. (4) and (5)
 - d. (3) and (6)
- v. Complete the analogy. Do not repeat from used example:
- flowery band : metaphor :: _____ : alliteration
- vi. According to the poet **every morrow** we are _____.

8. **Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:**

[4]

To make sure, I walked over the newsboy and glanced at the stack of papers at his feet. It was The World and The World hasn't been published for years. The lead story said something about President Cleveland. I've found that front page since, in the Public library files, and it was printed June 11, 1894.

I turned toward the ticket windows knowing that here - on the third level at Grand Central - I could buy tickets that would take Louisa and me anywhere in the United States we wanted to go. In the year 1894. And I wanted two tickets to Galesburg, Illinois.

- i. The newspaper that covered the lead story about President Cleveland was
- a. The Pioneer
 - b. The New York Times

- c. The World
 - d. The Times
- ii. The narrator wanted to buy tickets to _____.
- iii. Which of the following in the extract most nearly means the opposite of **stare**?
- a. glance
 - b. peek
 - c. ignore
 - d. examine
- iv. Charley wanted two tickets because he wanted to go with
- a. Sam
 - b. Cleveland
 - c. Louisa
 - d. the Psychiatrist

OR

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

Derry : What do you do all day?

Mr. Lamb : Sit in the sun. Read books, Ah, you thought it was an empty house, but full. Books and other things. Full.

Derry : But there aren't any curtains at the windows.

Mr. Lamb : I'm not fond of curtains, shutting things out, shutting things in. I like the light and the darkness, and the windows open, to hear the wind.

- i. The description of the house indicates that Mr. Lamb _____.
- ii. The expression 'does not like shutting things out, shutting things in' suggests Mr. Lamb's
 - a. welcoming nature.
 - b. poverty-stricken existence.
 - c. lack of resources.
 - d. confused state of mind.
- iii. Mr. Lamb spends his time _____.
 - I. reading books
 - II. cooking meals
 - III. shutting things out
 - IV. enjoying beauties of natureWhich of the following options are appropriate?
 - a. I and IV
 - b. II, III and IV
 - c. I and II
 - d. I and III

- iv. On the basis of the extract, study the two statements, I and II given below:

- I. Mr. Lamb liked meeting people.
- II. Mr. Lamb accepted life as it came.

Choose the most appropriate option:

- a. I can be inferred from the extract, but II cannot.
- b. II can be inferred from the extract, but I cannot.
- c. Both I and II can be inferred from the extract.
- d. Neither I nor II can be inferred from the extract.

9. **Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:**

[6]

Then all effort ceased. I relaxed. Even my legs felt limp; and a blackness swept over my brain. It wiped out fear; it wiped out terror. There was no more panic. It was quiet and peaceful. Nothing to be afraid of. This is nice... to be drowsy... to go to sleep... no need to jump... too tired to jump... it's nice to be carried gently... to float along in space... tender arms around me... tender arms like Mother's... now I must go to sleep...

I crossed to oblivion, and the curtain of life fell.

i. With reference to the given extract, according to the narrator death was:

- a. Brutal
- b. Peaceful
- c. Merciless
- d. Frightening

ii. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

- (1) The author stopped making efforts to save himself.
- (2) The author was very anxious in water.

- a. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.
- b. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.
- c. (1) is true but (2) is false.
- d. (2) is the reason for (1).

iii. Rewrite the sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with its inference.

At one moment the author thought that the curtain of (his) life fell.

iv. List the author's purpose of using ellipses (...) in this extract.

v. Select the phrase that matches the given inference appropriately.

Which phrase indicates that the poet lost consciousness?

- a. 'It was quiet and peaceful.'
- b. 'I crossed to oblivion.'
- c. 'Tender arms like Mother's.'
- d. 'It wiped out fear.'

vi. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.

He was not afraid of drowning anymore because _____.

OR

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

They had merely heard that a Mahatma who wanted to help them was in trouble with the authorities. Their spontaneous demonstration, in thousands, around the courthouse was the beginning of their liberation from fear of the British. The officials felt powerless without Gandhi's cooperation. He helped them regulate the crowd. He was polite and friendly. He was giving them concrete proof that their might, hitherto dreaded and unquestioned, could be challenged by Indians. The government was baffled. The prosecutor requested the judge to postpone the trial. Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors.

i. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.

The officials felt powerless because the crowd _____.

ii. Rationalise, to support the given opinion:

The demonstration in front of the courthouse proved that the dread instilled in their heart had begun to lessen.

iii. The tone of the author when he writes: **Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors** is _____.

- a. humourous
- b. dramatic
- c. sarcastic
- d. persuasive

iv. Gandhiji's behaviour towards the British prior to the proposal of postponement of the trial was that of:

- a. indifference
- b. calm acceptance
- c. ignorance of consequences
- d. polite helpfulness

v. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

(1) The government was bewildered.

(2) The situation was getting tougher.

- a. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.
- b. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.
- c. (1) is true but (2) is false.
- d. (2) is the reason for (1).

vi. Select the suitable word from the extract to complete the following analogy:

Apparent: Evident :: Solid: _____

10. **Answer any five of the following questions in 40-50 words each:** [10]

- (a) How did the peddler show his gratitude to Edla? [2]
- (b) What is the kind of pain and ache that the poet feels? Write your answer in the context of My Mother at Sixty-Six Change. [2]
- (c) Why are the poor people angry with the city men when they ask for gas? Answer in reference to the poem **A Roadside Stand**. [2]
- (d) Jansie, knowing they were both earmarked for the biscuit factory, became melancholy. [2]
What inference about Jansie's character is drawn from the above line? (Going Places)
- (e) Why were all the people at the Gemini Studios averse to the term communism? [2]
- (f) What is the belief in some primitive cultures about being photographed? [2]

11. **Answer any two of the following questions in 40-50 words each:** [4]

- (a) Tishani Doshi considered the programme **Student on Ice** a success. Do you agree with her? [2]
Why/Why not? (Journey to the End of the Earth)
- (b) **Don't thank me too early**. Sadao said coldly. What inference is drawn about Sadao's state of mind [2]
from the above line? (The Enemy)
- (c) How was Antarctica a chilling prospect for a South Indian, Tishani Doshi? (**Journey to the End of the Earth**) [2]

12. We find different portrayals of young children in the texts **Going Places, Lost Spring, Deep Water, and Last** [5]

Lesson, which offer an assortment of diverse experiences of children in society. It ranges from being a rag-picker like Saheb from **Lost Spring** to a truant schoolboy Franz from **The Last Lesson** and romantic dreamer Sophie in the story **Going Places**.

You have been asked to address your peers and share (any three)-

- the ways these portrayals highlight making the optimum use of their constrained opportunities.
- the cause of our sadness due to our imaginary expectations in our minds.
- not giving up and winning over your fear even after an awful experience.
- the importance of understanding the value of our privileges like coming to school, having someone to share your pain with or having a loving family that we already have without making any effort.

Compose this draft, with reference to any three of these prescribed texts listed above.

You may begin this way:

Good morning, everyone.

As I analysed the allotted texts...

You may end this way.

To conclude, I'd like to say that

OR

In an analytical paragraph, explain drawing a comparison of how the word **quiet** has different implications in the given context:

Now I'll count up to twelve

and you keep quiet and I will go. (Keeping Quiet)

...that day everything had to be as quiet as Sunday morning. (The Last Lesson)

13. The king of Pratibandapuram was warned of danger from the hundredth tiger and so he kills them in order to avoid dying. In his tiger killing feat he used dewan at many places. [5]

As the dewan of Pratibandapuram, create a diary entry, as a testimony of your reluctant cooperation in the heedless tiger-killing episode due to your administrative limitations.

You may begin like this:

Being in an administrative position, I could be held equally responsible for the wrong done to the tigers and the people of Pratibandapuram by the most conceited king. The Tiger King had resolved...

OR

In the story, **Memories of Childhood** two autobiographical accounts are presented based on two distant cultures. But there runs a commonality of theme in both of them.

As a reader, express your observation of this commonality in a diary entry commenting on the culture of oppression that it brings forth.

You may begin this way:

The **Memories of Childhood** presents autobiographical accounts of two women from socially marginalized sections in two distant cultures of the world...

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