

Time : 3 Hours
Maximum Marks : 80

English Language & Literature

CBSE
Sample Question Paper

Sample Question Paper (2020-21)

General Instructions :

1. This paper is divided into two parts: A and B. All questions are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

PART A [40 Marks]

READING [20 marks]

1. Read the passage given below. (10 marks)
 - (1) It is an indisputable fact that the world has gone too far with the innovation of new technologies such as mobile phones, internet and so on, due to which, people are able to tour the cosmos by virtually sitting at one place using their smart devices or other technological gadgets. Though, mobile internet access is ten times hurried and short, it can still provide common internet features like alerts, weather data, emails, search engines, instant messages, and games and music downloading.
 - (2) Due to the easy access of smart phones, communication had been very effective and instant. People are able to convey their message all around the globe to their loved ones without spending hefty sums of money. Adults are always fond of such gadgets and they always welcome and adopt such new technology readily. Further, young people have been able to broaden their minds and improve their skills by doing research on the Internet. For instance, they use smart phones to look up for any new word that they come across. We know that most of the universities have online teaching provisions and smart phones to assist the students to complete their assignments on time.
 - (3) The mobile phone has been a lifesaver for a lot of people in case of an emergency. Likewise, use of smart phones can be of vital importance in preventing crimes in the society by providing information to the security forces in time.
 - (4) Nonetheless, for the young, the use of mobile phone can be addictive and they can misuse it. Young people are also prone to getting involved in undesirable activities on the Internet. This might have adverse effect on their academic performance. Therefore, young people should always be mentored and made aware of its adverse/negative outcomes.
 - (5) Also a major contributor to its popularity is the availability of prepaid or pay-as-you go services from a phone shop or an online store. This allows subscribers to load text or airtime credits to their handsets by the use of their credit cards, debit cards or by buying a prepaid card from the network

they subscribe to. If prepaid card is not that appealing to you, then you can opt to subscribe using the pay-by-month plan.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the twelve that follow.

- (i) Smart phones have communication which is _____ .
 (a) effective (b) instant
 (c) cheap (d) All of these
- (ii) Internet does not help young ones to
 (a) learn and know more words (b) complete their assignment in time
 (c) broaden their mind by doing research (d) differentiate between good and bad
- (iii) Which of the following is the use of a smart phone ?
 Option 1. studying for some new topics
 Option 2. saving someone's life
 Option 3. involving in some illicit activities
 Option 4. loading text or some airtime credit
 (a) Both Option 1 & 3 (b) Option 1, 2 & 4
 (c) Option 1,2 & 3 (d) Option 1,2,3,4
- (iv) The word "guide" is the synonym of the word _____ used in para 4.
 (a) misuse (b) mentor
 (c) aware (d) opt
- (v) What does the author means when he says 'tour the cosmos' _____ .
 (a) seeing different parts of the universe
 (b) seeing as far as one can go
 (c) seeing things which were part of the dream
 (d) seeing relative from different parts of the world
- (vi) Mobile phone has been a lifesaver as
 (a) it helps students research things (b) it helps families connect with each other
 (c) many-a-times it prevents crimes (d) all of these
- (vii) Which services, out of these, does a mobile phone not provide ?
 (a) pre-paid plan (b) pay to go
 (c) daily plan (d) instant messaging
- (viii) In para 1, synonym of 'innovation' is _____ .
 (a) production (b) sincerity
 (c) invention (d) prevention
- (ix) Mobile internet can provide access to :
 (a) telegram (b) emails
 (c) schools (d) university
- (x) Grown-ups should _____ the use of new technology by the young people.
 (a) reject (c) criticise
 (c) mentor (d) accept
- (xi) Meaning of the word 'adverse' in para 4 is :
 (a) positive (b) negative
 (c) admirable (d) unguided
- (xii) According to the passage, one can opt for _____ plan if prepaid plan doesn't suit.
 (a) yearly (b) weekly
 (c) monthly (d) daily

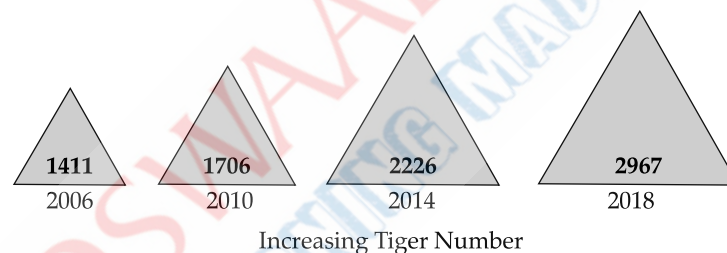
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2. Read the passage given below:

(10 marks)

- (1) The white tiger is an offspring of Bengal tiger, which has the necessary gene for white colouring. It has beautiful black stripes on a white coat. This species of animal has blue eyes and a pink nose.
- (2) A pure white tiger is totally white without any stripe, which is due to the presence of double recessive allele in the genetic code. It happens only in the Bengal tiger subspecies, and only one in 10,000 births can have it naturally. White tigers are rarely seen in the wild, and only twelve of them have been spotted in India since last one-hundred years. Tigers have a life-span of 10-15 years. They are solitary animals, and are fond of hunting at night. Their diet consists of any animal that they can catch, and can eat up to 40 pounds of meat at one time. After such a big meal, they usually remain away for several days from food.
- (3) They are slow runners, but good swimmers. They are poor climbers and cannot climb a tree easily. They live in an area ranging from 10 to 30 square miles depending upon the availability of prey, water and shelter. Habitat loss, poaching and expansion of human population have together contributed to their becoming endangered. They are widely hunted for their body-parts, which are used in traditional Chinese medicines.
- (4) Genetic inbreeding is another reason for their endangerment. Due to shortage in their number, this species of animal has been subjected to inbreeding. It has resulted in high mortality rates and severe disabilities. About 80 percent of the white tiger cubs are born with serious birth-defects related to inbreeding, and they soon die-off.
- (5) The critical condition of this animal has attracted the attention of conservationists worldwide. World Wildlife Federation (WWF), defenders of wildlife, and many other wildlife organisations are working with the support of the government for the cause of protecting them from becoming extinct. Once they become extinct, it will not be possible to bring them back to life.



On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the twelve that follow.

(i) The factors that have put tiger species in the category of endangered species are:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| (a) habitat loss | (b) poaching |
| (c) genetic inbreeding | (d) all the above |

(ii) Choose the statements which is NOT TRUE about tigers?

- A. The tigers are social animals.
- B. The tigers are slow runners.
- C. The tigers can climb a tree easily.
- D. The tigers have become endangered.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| (a) both A & B | (b) both A & C |
| (c) both B & C | (d) both B & D |

(iii) What is the life span of a tiger?

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| (a) 5-10 years | (b) 10-15 years |
| (c) 15-20 years | (d) 20-25 years |

- (iv) The White tiger is an offspring of
- (a) Rajasthan tiger (b) Chennai tiger
(c) Punjab tiger (d) Bengal tiger
- (v) Tigers are _____ climbers and cannot climb a tree easily.
- (a) expert (b) goat
(c) poor (d) worst
- (vi) A pure _____ tiger is totally white without any stripes.
- (a) white (b) yellow
(c) golden (d) brown
- (vii) _____ affects the tiger from remaining away for several days from food.
- (a) A big meal (b) sleep
(c) Rest (d) Thirst
- (viii) The number of tigers in 2018 shows an increase by almost _____ than in 2014.
- (a) one fifth (b) one third
(c) half (d) one tenth
- (ix) The report of the tiger census given above from 2014 to 2018 is _____ .
- (a) depressing (b) disgusting
(c) encouraging (d) decreasing
- (x) The year 2006 should the _____ number of tigers.
- (a) highest (b) average
(c) lowest (d) no change
- (xi) _____ agency is working for the conservation of tigers .
- (a) World Wildlife Forest (b) Wildlife Federation
(c) World Forest Federation (d) World Wildlife Federation
- (xii) Tigers are being conserved because they had become _____ .
- (a) rare (b) extinct
(c) endangered (d) average

LITERATURE [10 marks]

3. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE, by answering the questions that follow.

(5 × 1 = 5)

- (A) Both young and old, both those who are fools and those who are wise all fell into the power of death, all are subject to death of those who, overcome by death, depart from life, a father cannot save his son, nor kinsmen their relation.

Mark ! while relatives are looking on and lamenting deeply, one by one mortals are carried off, like an ox that is led to the slaughter. So the world is afflicted with death and decay, therefore the wise do not grieve, knowing the terms of the world.

- (i) Who are carried off one by one?

- (a) Rocks (b) Mortals
(c) Immortals (d) Stones

- (ii) Who have accepted the truth that death is common to all ?

- (a) The wise (b) The foolish
(c) The literates (d) The illiterates

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(iii) Choose the option that tells who all are subject to death

1. Both young and old

2. Immortals

3. Those who are foolish

4. Those who are wise

5. Both foolish and wise

(a) Option 1 & 2

(b) Option 1 & 3

(c) Option 3 & 4

(d) Option 1 & 5

(iv) Which of the following words means 'expressing sorrow'?

(a) lamenting

(d) decay

EXPRESSING SORROW

(b) slaughter

(c) afflicted

(v) Who is the speaker here

(a) Kisa Gotami

(b) a villager

(c) Gautama Buddha

(d) an old man

OR

It was slack time of the day, and there were only six to seven passengers in the bus. They were all looking at Valli and laughing with the conductor. Valli was overcome with shyness. Avoiding everyone's eyes, she walked quickly to an empty seat and sat down. "May we start now, madam?" the conductor asked, smiling. Then he blew his whistle twice and the bus moved forward with a roar. It was a new bus, its outside painted a gleaming white with some green stripes along the sides. Inside, the overhead bars shone like silver. Directly in front of Valli, above the windshield, there was a beautiful clock. The seats were soft and luxurious.

(i) Who was laughing at Valli's remark of being grown up ?

(a) Bus driver

(b) Bus conductor

(c) All the passengers

(d) The Policeman

(ii) Who was going on a bus journey, just to fulfil her dream ?

(a) Valli

(b) Valli's mother

(c) Valli's aunt

(d) The old women

(iii) Which out of the following options is NOT TRUE?

(a) Valli was conscious as it was her first journey.

(b) The inside of the bus was painted white and green.

(c) The seats of the bus were comfortable.

(d) There was a clock above the windshield.

(iv) Which word in the passage means the same as 'shining'.

(a) stack

(b) gleaming

(c) shone

(d) overhead

(v) Where was 'She' going ?

(a) city

(b) market

(c) grand mother's house

(d) school

4. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :

(5 × 1 = 5)

Belinda tickled him, she tickled him unmerciful,
Ink, Blink and Mustard, they rudely called him Percival,
They all sat laughing in the little red wagon
At the realio, trulio, cowardly dragon..

**Belinda giggled till she shook the house,
And Blink said Weeck! which is giggling for a mouse,
Ink and Mustard rudely asked his age,
When Custard cried for a nice safe cage.**

- (i) Which of the following option is TRUE about Belinda?

(a) Belinda is an old woman. (b) Belinda is a little girl.
(c) Belinda is a married woman. (d) Belinda is ugly.

- (ii) Who tickled the dragon ?

(a) Ink (b) Blink
(c) Mustard (d) Belinda

- (iii) Where did all sit laughing?

(a) in little room (b) in library
(c) in little red wagon (d) in study room

- (iv) Find the word in the passage that means the same as 'unkind'.

(a) unmerciful (b) rudely
(c) percival (d) cowardly

- (v) Name the poet.

(a) William Butler Yeats (b) Robert Frost
(c) Carl Sandburg (d) Ogden Nash

OR

Read the following extracts and answer the questions/complete the sentences that follow:

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!

- (i) Which of the following option is NOT TRUE about Amanda.

(a) The speaker wants Amanda to learn good habits.
(b) The speaker is not concerned about Amanda.
(c) Amanda lives in a world of imagination.
(d) Amanda can be called a day dreamer.

- (ii) Who loved freedom?

(a) Amanda's friends (b) Amanda's classmates
(c) Amanda's parents (d) Amanda

- (iii) Who would have thought that Amanda was nagged by her parents?

(a) anyone (b) everyone
(c) someone (d) no one

- (iv) Which word in the passage means the same as 'bad tempered' ?

(a) moody (b) slouching
(c) sulking (d) hushed

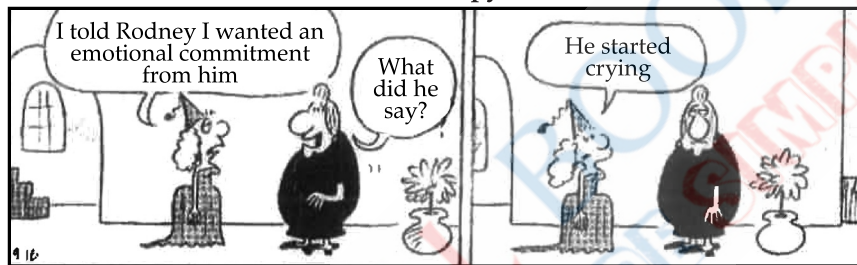
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- (v) The poetic device used in line 1 is _____ .
- (a) metaphor (b) repetition
(c) pun (d) alliteration

GRAMMAR [10 marks]

5. Choose the correct option to fill in the blanks to complete the note about Belgium. (3 × 1 = 3)
- Belgium is considered to (i) _____ a country (ii) _____ chocolates. It is a big business and employs nearly 72,000 people. Most Belgian chocolate makers (iii) _____ their craft at vocational school. Then they set up their own business.
- (i) (a) been (b) be (c) as (d) for
(ii) (a) of (b) for (c) from (d) to
(iii) (a) are learning (b) have learnt (c) will learn (d) learn
6. Read the comic strip and complete the passage given below. Write the correct answers in your answer sheet against the correct blank numbers. Do not copy the whole sentences. (3 × 1 = 3)



Mrs. Pickle told Mrs. Weakly that she had told Rodney that (i) _____ an emotional commitment from him. At this Mrs. Weakly asked her what (ii) _____. Mrs. Pickle replied that (iii) _____ .

- (i) (a) she wanted
(b) she had wanted
(c) she has wanted
(d) she have wanted
- (ii) (a) he said
(b) did he say
(c) had he said
(d) he had said
- (iii) (a) he had started crying
(b) he started crying
(c) he starts crying
(d) he cried
7. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct options for ANY FOUR of the six sentences given below: (4 × 1 = 4)
- (i) Choose the correct sentence.
_____ makes up these language rules anyway?
- (a) Who (b) Whom
(c) Whose (d) Where
- (ii) I am asking if you _____ to rollerblade together tomorrow?
- (a) will like to (b) would like to
(c) have like to (d) can like to
- (iii) Who do you think you are, to give me _____ about studying?
- (a) advising (b) advised
(c) advice (d) adviced

(iv) Select the sentence that models correct pronoun-antecedent agreement:

- (a) Everyone must carry their own bags at the airport.
- (b) The woman finished his lunch.
- (c) The football team celebrated its Victory.
- (d) Every mother loves their child.

(v) Complete the sentence.

What sports do you practice _____ cricket ?

- (a) apart from
- (b) more over
- (c) Inaddition
- (d) Added with

(vi) Choose the correct sentence.

- (a) Many of us have been invited to the party.
- (b) Many of us has been invited for the party.
- (c) Much of us have been invited for the party.
- (d) All of us has been invited to the party.

PART B [40 Marks]
WRITING [10 marks]

8. Attempt ANY ONE of the following in 100-120 words. (5 marks)

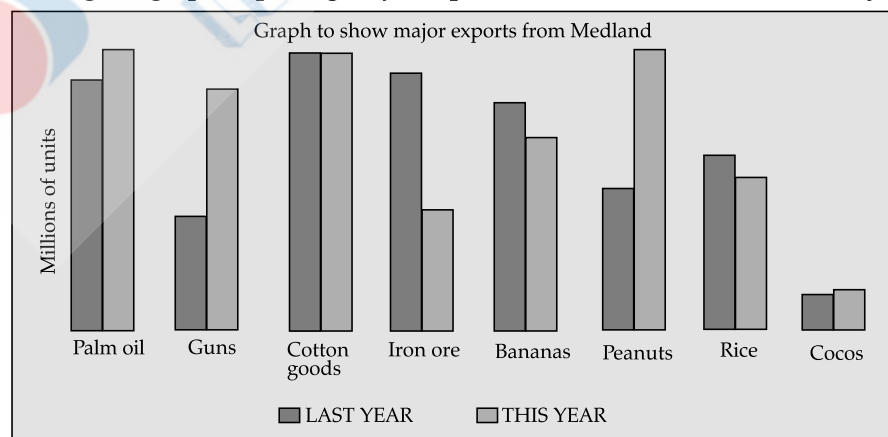
(A) You are Kapil/Komal, living at C-424, Sector-18, Green Park, New Delhi. You bought a washing machine from Balaji Electricals Private Limited, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi. It started giving trouble within a few days. Write a complaint letter to the Sales Manager seeking immediate repair or replacement. Invent the details of defects.

OR

(B) Slums are spreading more than the planned townships. The life in the slums is miserable. Crowded living, lack of drinking water, insanitary conditions, poor power supply, etc. are causing a lot of suffering to the people. Write a letter to the editor of a national newspaper drawing attention of the concerned authorities to this problem and asking for a proper solution. You are Udit/Udita, 26 Latouche Road, Kanpur.

9. Attempt ANY ONE of the following in 100-120 words. (5 marks)

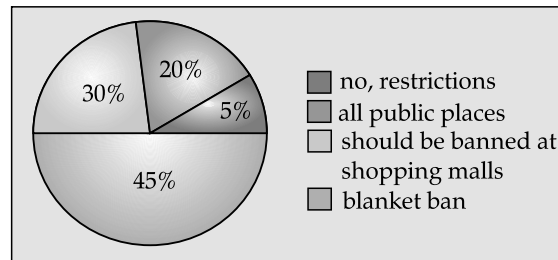
(A) Study the following bar graph depicting major exports from Medland in the current year.



Write a paragraph analysing the data given above.

OR

A survey was conducted in a town where the views of people were collected on cigarette smoking. Giving below is a pie-chart showing the results of the survey. Write a paragraph interpreting the data.



LITERATURE [30 marks]

10. Answer ANY TWO questions in 20-30 words each, from (A) and (B) respectively. (2 × 4 = 8)

(A) (i) Describe the appearance of the dragon. (any two) (2×2=4)

(ii) Which season is the best to visit Coorg?

(iii) How did Valli react when she saw the dead cow by the roadside?

(B) (i) What did Griffin, the scientist, do to escape after setting the fire to the house of his landlord?

(ii) Who was Oliver Lutkins ? How did he try to fool the young lawyer?

(iii) Why was Hari Singh grateful to Anil? (any two) (2×2=4)

11. Answer ANY TWO questions in 40-50 words each, from (A) and (B) respectively. (3 × 4=12)

(A) (i) How did Kisa Gotami realise that life and death is a normal process? (any two) (3×2=6)

(ii) Anne justified her being a chatterbox in her essay. Do you agree that she had the courage to fight injustice? What values do you learn from Anne's character through this?

(iii) Who won the drawing contest ? What had the winner drawn?

(B) (i) Describe Ebright as a young scientist. (any two) (3×2=6)

(ii) Was Tricky also to be blamed in more ways than one? How ?

(iii) What changes came into the life of the Loiseles after borrowing money?

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following in 100-120 words. (5 marks)

(A) A young seagull is too afraid to fly. His father and mother threaten him and cajole him to fly. Don't you think that such type of strategy is followed by almost all parents to make their children learn ? Substantiate your answer with examples.

OR

(B) What deep meaning does the poem 'Fire and Ice' carry in it ?

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following in 100-120 words. (5 marks)

(A) Mme. Forestier proved to be a true friend of the Loiseles. Elaborate.

OR

(B) Sometime deception is a way of life. Explain this statement by citing facts from the lesson 'The Thief's story'.

□□□