

# CBSE 12th 2024 Compartment English Core Set-1 (1/S/1) Solutions

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## SECTION A Reading Skills

**Q.1. Read the following passage carefully :**

**(1) Often, people are getting their news online as the convenience and accessibility of online news is difficult to compete with.**

**(2) Physical newspapers are typically large, need to be folded and aren't always free, making them an overall hassle. With virtual media outlets being available to nearly everybody at the click of a button, it comes as no surprise that it's grown to be a dominant form of news consumption. However, it's important for readers to consider exactly what they're consuming when getting their news through an app versus a paper, namely the influence of an algorithm.**

**(3) A search algorithm is a set of rules made to put forward content the reader is more likely to engage with and filter out what they will ignore. Based on one's viewing history, an app or service determines what kind of content the user enjoys, then recommends similar content from that point onwards. Algorithms give the viewer what they want, that's undeniable, but it's also the problem.**

**(4) Digital media experts warn readers to be cautious of how an algorithm processes content. These systems show a reader more of what they want, but in the process, they block out any pieces that aren't in sync with their observed beliefs for the sake of customer service. The result is a person who is always given the same type of content, rarely venturing outside of their own viewpoints.**

**(5) There is, fortunately, a way for readers to still get their news without risking the entrapment of an algorithm: classic print newspapers which are not limited by any ruleset constantly tailoring the words offered to the reader. News in print needs to satisfy every type of reader with only one copy, allowing it to offer a wide scope of topics. Printed news offers its viewership more freedom over what they choose to read.**

**(6) While an algorithm purposely chooses and narrows potential news, a physical paper's diversity grants its news a more exploratory nature. Taking the time to engage with every part of a physical paper puts a variety of subjects, views and information on display for readers.**

**(7) It'd be naive to believe that print newspapers are completely free from bias or a certain degree of filtering. Still, a physical newspaper will almost never be as narrow in scope as the suggestions of a digital media outlet will be.**

**Answer the following questions, based on the above passage:**

**(i) Online news is becoming popular because it's**

- (A) economically affordable.**
- (B) readily accessible.**
- (C) less cumbersome.**
- (D) more interesting.**

**(ii) The phrase 'venturing outside of their own viewpoints' in para 4 most nearly means**

- (A) stepping into someone's shoes.**
- (B) challenging others' opinions.**
- (C) combining traditional beliefs with modern ideology.**
- (D) moving away from one's personal opinions.**

**(iii) Complete the sentence with evidence from the text.**

**Online readers are unaware that the news they read on a digital platform is ..**

**(iv) Share evidence from the text in about 40 words to support the view that though algorithms give the reader what they want to read, they are also the problem.**

**(v) Why, according to the writer, is reading news online becoming increasingly popular?**

**(vi) State two reasons in support of why a newspaper is a better source of news than online apps.**

**(vii) From the passage we understand that the writer concedes that newspapers too are ...**

**(viii) The passage suggests that the reader while reading news online must be**

- (A) focused**
- (B) discerning**
- (C) indifferent**
- (D) attentive**

**(ix) Read the headlines A - E given below :**

**(A) NEWSPAPERS - FREEDOM OF SPEECH**

**(B) INTERNET THE NEWS ENTERTAINER**

**(C) ONLINE NEWS-A LIMITED PERCEPTION**

**(D) NEWSPAPER VS ONLINE NEWS APPS**

## (E) NEWS-A BIASED PERSPECTIVE

**Identify the option that displays the headline that does not correspond with occurrences in the passage.**

**Solution.** Let's address each question based on the passage provided:

(i) Online news is becoming popular because it's:

(B) readily accessible.

Explanation: The passage mentions the convenience and accessibility of online news, which contributes to its popularity.

(ii) The phrase 'venturing outside of their own viewpoints' in para 4 most nearly means:

(D) moving away from one's personal opinions.

Explanation: The passage explains that algorithms filter content based on what the user already likes, limiting exposure to differing viewpoints.

(iii) Complete the sentence with evidence from the text:

Online readers are unaware that the news they read on a digital platform is filtered to fit their observed beliefs, often blocking out content that doesn't align with their existing views (Para 4).

(iv) Share evidence from the text in about 40 words to support the view that though algorithms give the reader what they want to read, they are also the problem:

“Algorithms give the viewer what they want, that’s undeniable, but it’s also the problem. These systems show a reader more of what they want, but in

the process, they block out any pieces that aren't in sync with their observed beliefs" (Para 3 and 4).

(v) Why, according to the writer, is reading news online becoming increasingly popular?

Reading news online is becoming increasingly popular because of its convenience and accessibility, as it's readily available with just a click and doesn't require the physical handling of newspapers (Para 1).

(vi) State two reasons in support of why a newspaper is a better source of news than online apps:

1. Print newspapers offer a wider scope of topics because they are not limited by algorithms and need to cater to a diverse readership (Para 5).

2. Physical newspapers provide a more exploratory nature of news, presenting a variety of subjects and views that might not be featured in digital news filtered by algorithms (Para 6).

(vii) From the passage, we understand that the writer concedes that newspapers too are:

not completely free from bias or filtering. The writer acknowledges that newspapers might also have bias, though they are generally broader in scope compared to digital news (Para 7).

(viii) The passage suggests that the reader while reading news online must be:

(B) discerning

Explanation: The passage implies that readers need to be cautious and discerning about the news they consume online due to the influence of algorithms (Para 4).

(ix) Identify the option that displays the headline that does not correspond with occurrences in the passage:

**(A) NEWSPAPERS - FREEDOM OF SPEECH**

Explanation: The passage focuses on comparing online news with physical newspapers and discusses the influence of algorithms. It does not specifically address freedom of speech in newspapers.

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

**(1) In a rapidly changing world, transition from school to work has become more complex and challenging for young people, as finding employment is difficult for the youth. If academic studies may be an excellent path to successful career and lives, other types of education like 'Vocational Education and Training (VET) programmes are more than ever being emphasized by governments globally to support work-ready professionals with relevant on-the-job experience to match the needs of various industries.**

**(2) According to the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), India aims to skill 400 million people by 2025. Vocational training programmes, such as Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) provide training in fields such as engineering, health care, hospitality, construction and more. According to NSDC estimates, India is expected to witness significant job creation. With the help of this training, opportunities for self-employment have been enhanced. As of July 2021, over 1.5 million candidates have been placed in various jobs after acquiring vocational training.**

**(3) Vocational training programmes also encourage entrepreneurship by providing aspiring entrepreneurs with the knowledge and skills required to establish and operate their own businesses. The NSDC states that out of the 12 million people entering the workforce in India every year, only 4.5 million are skilled, highlighting the need for**

**further vocational training initiatives. Vocational training plays a significant role in India by addressing the skill gap, improving employability, fostering entrepreneurship, and driving economic growth. This contributes to the nation's overall development and individual prosperity.**

**Answer the following questions, based on the above passage:**

**(i) What are the problems faced by many young people when they shift from school to work?**

- (A) Finding employment**
- (B) Transition**
- (C) Loneliness**
- (D) Social anxiety**

**(ii) Why are governments promoting Vocational Education and Training programmes ?**

**(iii) Infer why the National Skill Development Corporation of India has increased its efforts to skill 400 million people in 2025. Answer in about 40 words.**

**(iv) Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words, to support the view that vocational training improves self-employment.**

**(v) Identify the entrepreneur from the three people who has acquired vocational training.**

**(A) Ravi: I am working as a carpenter and getting very high wages. (**

**(B) Narain: I have acquired the skill of cooking and will work for an established hotel.**

**(C) Bani: After doing a course in fashion designing, I have opened my own boutique.**

**(vi) How does vocational training help in bridging the skill gap?**

**(vii) Complete the sentence appropriately.**

**The NSDC states that less than half the people entering the workforce in India are skilled so**

**(viii) State True or False: The title 'Improve Your Skills, Gain Better Jobs' is appropriate for this passage.**

**Solution.** Let's address each question based on the passage provided:

(i) (A) Finding employment

The passage mentions that the transition from school to work has become more complex and challenging, primarily due to difficulties in finding employment.

(ii) Governments are promoting Vocational Education and Training (VET) programmes to support work-ready professionals by providing relevant on-the-job experience. This helps match the skills of individuals with the needs of various industries, ultimately improving employability and addressing skill gaps.

(iii) The NSDC aims to skill 400 million people by 2025 to address the significant skill gap in the workforce. This effort is crucial for improving employability, fostering entrepreneurship, and driving economic growth to support the nation's development and individual prosperity.

(iv) "With the help of this training, opportunities for self-employment have been enhanced. Vocational training programmes also encourage entrepreneurship by providing aspiring entrepreneurs with the knowledge



and skills required to establish and operate their own businesses" (Para 2 and 3).

(v) (C) Bani: After doing a course in fashion designing, I have opened my own boutique.

Bani's statement indicates that she has received formal vocational training in fashion designing and has used that training to start her own business.

(vi) Vocational training helps bridge the skill gap by providing practical, industry-specific skills and knowledge that align with job market needs. This improves employability, addresses shortages in skilled workers, and supports economic growth by preparing individuals for relevant careers.

(vii) The NSDC states that less than half the people entering the workforce in India are skilled, so **\*\*there is a pressing need for expanded vocational training initiatives to enhance skills and improve employability among new job seekers\*\***.

(viii) True

Explanation: The passage discusses how vocational training improves employability, bridges skill gaps, and supports career opportunities, aligning well with the theme of the title about improving skills to gain better job prospects.

## **SECTION B Creative Writing Skills**

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

**Q.3. Attempt any one of the two, (a) and (b), in about 50 words.**

**(a) The Trips and Treks Club of Ravindra High School is organizing a trip for grade 11 students to take them all to Paninagar. As Ravi/Reena, the Club Senior School Prefect, draft a notice for your school notice board informing the students to be seated at 5 pm in the auditorium to listen to the instructions for the event. Invent necessary details.**

**OR**

**Solution.** Notice

Trips and Treks Club

Date: August 15, 2024

Attention Grade 11 Students,

A trip to Paninagar is organized by the Trips and Treks Club. All students are required to attend a briefing session at 5:00 PM today in the school auditorium. Important instructions and guidelines for the trip will be shared. Please be punctual.

Thank you,

Ravi

Senior School Prefect

**(b) You are Pradeep/Pratibha Choube, Secretary of Arihant Housing Society, Dhol Nagar. Draft a notice for the society notice board informing the residents to send their children for swimming from 9 am to 1 pm in the society swimming pool, as the swimming coach and lifeguard will be present during these hours. Invent necessary details.**

**Solution.** Notice

Arihant Housing Society

Date: August 15, 2024

Dear Residents,

We are pleased to inform you that the society swimming pool will be open for children from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM daily. A qualified swimming coach and lifeguard will be present during these hours to ensure safety and instruction. Kindly send your children to take advantage of this opportunity.

Thank you,  
Pratibha Choube  
Secretary

**Q.4. Attempt any one of the two, (a) and (b), in about 50 words.**

**(a) You are Tisha/Trilok Swami, Student Head, Morning Star High School, Hawapur. Your school is organizing a 4-day health camp for parents and students of your school. Create a formal invitation card inviting the parents for the health camp where renowned doctors, nutritionists, and fitness experts will address the gathering. Invent necessary details.**

**OR**

**Solution.** Invitation Card

Morning Star High School

Date: August 15, 2024

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to invite you to a 4-day Health Camp organised by Morning Star High School from August 20th to August 23rd. Renowned doctors, nutritionists, and fitness experts will be addressing various health

topics. The camp will be held from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM daily at our school auditorium. Your presence will be greatly appreciated.

Warm regards,  
Trilok Swami  
Student Head

**(b) Your mother, Shagun Gupta has received an invitation from a nearby Women Wellness Center in Vayu town to participate in a two days Detox Programme at its Center. Draft an appropriate reply accepting the invitation. You are Vanya/Vineet. Invent necessary details.**

**Solution.** Reply to Invitation

Date: August 15, 2024

Dear [Organizer's Name],

Thank you for the invitation to the two-day Detox Programme at the Women Wellness Center in Vayu Town. I am pleased to confirm my mother, Shagun Gupta's participation in the program scheduled for August 25th and 26th. We look forward to the experience and the opportunity to improve her well-being.

Best regards,  
Vanya Gupta

**Q.5. Attempt any one of the two, (a) and (b), in 120-150 words.**

**(a) You are Anil/Anu Lamba, a fresh graduate. You come across an advertisement for a part time job which will give you time to pursue higher education. You wish to apply for the position advertised. Write to Retail Sales Associate, AJ Retailers, Gulab Nagar along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.**

**WANTED INTERNS  
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED**

**Part Time Job:**

**To facilitate and support the company's mission of helping clients  
with the best of our services.**

**Position: H.R. Recruitment Intern**

**Key Requisites :**

- **Good Communication Skills**
- **Troubleshooting Attitude**
- **Sincere Worker**

**Qualification : Graduate**

**Interested candidates can share the biodata on [ajretailers@gmail.com](mailto:ajretailers@gmail.com)  
OR**

**Solution.** To: Retail Sales Associate

AJ Retailers

Gulab Nagar

Email: [ajretailers@gmail.com](mailto:ajretailers@gmail.com)

Date: August 15, 2024

Subject: Application for Part-Time H.R. Recruitment Intern Position

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am writing to express my interest in the part-time H.R. Recruitment Intern position advertised by AJ Retailers. As a recent graduate, I am eager to apply my skills and gain practical experience while pursuing further education.

Please find attached my bio-data for your consideration. I possess good communication skills, a troubleshooting attitude, and a sincere work ethic, which align well with the key requisites outlined in the advertisement.

I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to contribute to your team and support the company's mission of delivering excellent client services. Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the possibility of discussing how I can contribute to your organization.

Sincerely,  
Anil Lamba  
[Contact Information]

**(b) You are Animesh/Anisha, a resident of Ambernath, Mompur. While walking you see a lot of construction debris dumped on the roadside claiming the footpaths and creating garbage dumps. As you are a concerned citizen, you decide to write a letter to the editor of a national daily, sharing your concern for the insensitive attitude of builders dumping their construction debris on roadsides endangering peoples' health and barring paths for walking. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter.**

**Problem Causes**

**Construction material dumped on roadside**

- No checks
- Can get away with irregularities

**Suggestions**

- Action by Municipal Corporation
- Stricter laws and their implementation

**Create awareness**

**Solution.**

To  
The Editor  
[National Daily]  
[Newspaper Address]

Date: August 15, 2024

Subject: Urgent Action Required to Address Construction Debris on Roadside

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to draw attention to a pressing issue in Ambernath, Mompur. Recently, I have observed that construction debris is being dumped indiscriminately on the roadside, obstructing footpaths and creating hazardous garbage dumps. This negligence not only poses a serious health risk to pedestrians but also diminishes the quality of life for residents.

The lack of proper regulation and monitoring allows builders to evade responsibility, leading to the accumulation of debris that clutters our streets. This problem is exacerbated by the absence of strict enforcement of existing laws and a general disregard for public welfare.

To address this issue, I urge the Municipal Corporation to implement stricter regulations and conduct regular checks to ensure compliance. Additionally, creating awareness among builders and the community about the importance of proper waste disposal is crucial.

Your prompt action on this matter will greatly improve the safety and cleanliness of our public spaces.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

Animesh

[Contact Information]

**Q.6 Attempt any one of the two, (a) and (b), in 120-150 words.**

**(a) You are Hitesh/Henna, a 'blog' writer. You are also a voracious reader and keep yourself abreast with the current topics of the day.**

**Reading about the trends in Digital Marketing, you decide to write an article on "Digital Marketing has gained tremendous momentum in the past couple of years."**

**Use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose this article. Invent necessary details.**

**Digital Marketing  
Importance**

- **Connects with customers**
- **Allows you to get creative**

**Benefits**

- **Hands-on experience**
- **Easy to target right audience**
  - **Cost effective**
- **Access to global markets**

**OR**

**Solution.** Digital Marketing: The Rise of a New Era

In recent years, digital marketing has surged in prominence, revolutionizing how businesses connect with their audiences. Unlike traditional marketing, which relies on print and media, digital marketing leverages the internet and digital platforms to engage potential customers. This shift has been driven by the need for businesses to remain competitive in a tech-savvy world.

One of the key advantages of digital marketing is its ability to connect with customers in a more personalized and interactive way. Through social media, email campaigns, and targeted ads, companies can tailor their messages to specific demographics, making their efforts more effective.

Additionally, digital marketing offers a creative playground for marketers. With tools like video content, infographics, and interactive ads, businesses can experiment and innovate in ways that were not possible before.



The benefits are significant: it provides hands-on experience with real-time data, is cost-effective compared to traditional methods, and allows for precise targeting of the right audience. Furthermore, it opens doors to global markets, enabling businesses to expand their reach beyond geographical boundaries.

In conclusion, the momentum of digital marketing is a testament to its effectiveness and adaptability, making it an indispensable tool in modern business strategies.

**(b) You are Indrajeet/Indrani, Press Reporter of 'Daily News'. You were invited by Hotel Grand to witness a 'Foodie Women' contest where 25 women participated in a cooking competition. Some of them were renowned chefs. Write a report for 'Daily News' covering the event. Invent necessary details.**

**Support your ideas with the outline cues given below to craft your report:**

**Objective.**

**Showcase culinary skills and creativity**

**• Participants**

**• Venue**

**• Participants provided with ingredients, equipment**

**• Evaluation criteria - taste, flavor, texture, aroma and presentation**

**Results**

**Solution.** Daily News Report

Foodie Women Contest Lights Up Hotel Grand

Date: August 15, 2023

Venue: Hotel Grand, Downtown

In a vibrant display of culinary expertise and creativity, Hotel Grand hosted the much-anticipated 'Foodie Women' contest yesterday, showcasing the

remarkable talents of 25 women from diverse backgrounds, including several renowned chefs. The event aimed to celebrate and highlight the exceptional cooking skills and innovative flair of its participants.

Held at the luxurious Hotel Grand, the contest featured a wide array of dishes, each meticulously prepared by the contestants using the finest ingredients and state-of-the-art kitchen equipment provided by the organisers. The chefs were tasked with creating dishes that were not only delicious but also visually stunning.

The judging panel evaluated each entry based on taste, flavour, texture, aroma, and presentation. This rigorous criterion ensured that only the most exceptional dishes stood out.

The competition was fierce, with participants presenting a range of delectable cuisines, from intricate pastries to savoury main courses. The results were highly anticipated, with Chef Anjali Kapoor emerging as the winner for her exquisite fusion of traditional and modern flavours. The runners-up included Chef Meera Patel and home cook Neha Sharma, both of whom impressed the judges with their creative and mouth watering dishes.

The 'Foodie Women' contest was a resounding success, reflecting the rich talent and passion within the culinary community. It not only highlighted the participants' skills but also celebrated the joy of cooking and the artistry involved in creating memorable dishes.

Indrajeet Sharma  
Press Reporter, Daily News

### **SECTION C**

#### **(Literature Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)**

**Q.7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (a) and (b):**

**(a) "Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing A flowery band to bind us to the earth, Spite of despondence, of the inhuman death Of noble natures, of the gloomy days, Of all the unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways  
(A Thing of Beauty)**

**(i) The message in the above extract as per Keats is:**

**(A) For all earthly nuances, a thing of beauty is the cure.**

**(B) Beauty of the beloved lies in the eyes of the beholder.**

**(C) Nature provides ample objects to make us sad.**

**(D) There is beauty in death.**

**Solution.** The extract from John Keats' poem "A Thing of Beauty" reflects on the enduring nature of beauty in life despite its challenges. Here's a breakdown of the options:

(i) (A) The extract speaks about how beauty creates a "flowery band" that binds us to the earth, helping us endure difficulties and gloomy days. This aligns with the idea that beauty provides comfort and solace in the face of life's challenges.

**(ii) State whether 'True' or 'False':  
'Sweet memories bind us to this earth'.**

(ii) True: Explanation: The extract from Keats' poem "A Thing of Beauty" speaks about how beauty creates a "flowery band" that binds us to the earth despite life's difficulties. This aligns with the idea that "sweet memories" or beautiful things have the power to connect us to life and provide solace, thus supporting the statement.

**(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately:  
'Wreathing a flowery band...'**

'Wreathing a flowery band to bind us to the earth' means that despite the challenges and gloomy aspects of life, the beauty we find in nature and our surroundings creates a comforting and enduring connection to the world, offering solace and joy.

**(iv) Why has Keats used the phrase, 'Spite of despondence'?**

Keats uses the phrase "Spite of despondence" to emphasize that, regardless of the feelings of despair and the lack of noble qualities in the world, beauty still plays a crucial role in maintaining our connection to life. The phrase highlights the resilience of beauty and its ability to uplift and sustain us even in the face of life's challenges and gloomy conditions.

**(v) 'Gloomy days' - Which figure of speech is used here?**

The phrase **'gloomy days'** employs **personification**. By attributing human-like qualities such as "gloom" to days, it suggests that days themselves can exhibit emotions or states of being. This figure of speech helps convey the pervasive sense of sadness and darkness that can overshadow human experience.

**(vi) The poet attributes the trials and tribulations one encounters in the journey of life to.**

- (A) unhealthy and o'er darkened ways.**
- (B) a flowery band.**
- (C) we are breathing.**
- (D) on every morning.**

(A) unhealthy and o'er darkened ways in the extract, Keats refers to "unhealthy and o'er darkened ways" as the difficult and challenging aspects of life. These phrases symbolise the struggles and obstacles one faces,

contrasting with the "flowery band" of beauty that binds us to the earth despite these trials.

**(b) ... and realised with pain that she was as old as she looked but soon put that thought away, and looked out at Young Trees sprinting ... (My Mother At Sixty-six)**

**(i) What does the use of the word 'and' at the beginning of the line, 'and realised with pain...' suggest?**

**(ii) Why was the poetess's heart in pain ?**

- (A) She saw her enfeebled mother.**
- (B) The poetess herself was unwell.**
- (C) She did not want to go back to Cochin.**
- (D) The jerks of the car caused the pain.**

**(iii) What does the line but soon she put that thought away' mean?**

**(iv) She started 'looking out' because :**

- (A) she wanted to distract herself.**
- (B) she found interesting visuals.**
- (C) the colourful flowers caught her attention.**
- (D) she was feeling impatient.**

**(v) Which poetic device is used in 'Trees sprinting'?**

**(vi) There is a contrast between the images within the car and outside. What does the image of 'Young Trees' signify?**

**Solution.** (i) The use of "and" suggests a continuation of thoughts and emotions. It indicates that the realisation of her mother's age and frailty came as a natural extension of her previous reflections, emphasising a

sudden shift from her earlier thoughts to a poignant awareness of her mother's condition.

(ii) (A) She saw her enfeebled mother.

Explanation: The poetess's heart was in pain because she realised the frailty and ageing of her mother, which deeply affected her emotionally.

(iii) This line means that the poetess quickly dismissed or avoided dwelling on the painful realisation about her mother's age and frailty. She chose to shift her focus away from this distressing thought.

(iv) (A) she wanted to distract herself. The poetess looked out of the car window to distract herself from the painful realisation about her mother. The external view provided a temporary escape from her troubling thoughts.

(v) The poetic device used is **\*\*personification\*\***. Trees are described as "sprinting," attributing them with human-like qualities of speed and movement.

(vi) The image of 'Young Trees' signifies vitality, renewal, and the continuous movement of life. It contrasts with the stillness and frailty of the poetess's mother, symbolising the vigour and youth that stand in opposition to the ageing and decline represented within the car.

**Q.8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (a) and (b).**

**(a) "Antarctica, because of her simple ecosystem and lack of biodiversity, is the perfect place to study how little changes in the environment can have big repercussions. Take the microscopic phytoplankton - those grasses of the sea that nourish and sustain the entire Southern Ocean's food chain. These single-celled plants use the sun's energy to assimilate carbon and synthesise organic compounds in that wondrous and most important of processes called photosynthesis. Scientists warn that a further depletion in the ozone**

**layer will affect the activities of phytoplankton, which in turn will affect the lives of all marine animals."**

**(Journey to the End of the Earth)**

**(i) Antarctica is a perfect place to study ecological evolution because**

**(ii) Phytoplanktons can be defined as:**

**(A) microscopic grasses of the sea.**

**(B) plants at the bottom of the sea.**

**(C) multi-celled plants.**

**(D) small viruses in the ice-covered areas.**

**(iii) What, according to the scientists, will impact the activities of the phytoplankton?**

**(iv) What is the reaction of human beings when they come to Antarctica?**

**(b) "At midnight when the town slept in peace, the dewan and his aged wife dragged the tiger to the car and shoved it into the seat. The dewan himself drove the car straight to the forest where the Maharaja was hunting. When they reached the forest the tiger launched its satyagraha and refused to get out of the car. The dewan was thoroughly exhausted in his efforts to haul the beast out of the car and push it down to the ground.**

**On the following day, the same old tiger wandered into the Maharaja's presence and stood as if in humble supplication, "Master, what do you command of me?" It was with boundless joy that the Maharaja took careful aim at the beast. The tiger fell in a crumpled heap.**

**(The Tiger King)**

**(i) Complete the sentence appropriately:**

**The reason for the dewan and his aged wife to drag the tiger to the car was**

**(ii) The author described the tiger's action as 'satyagraha' because**

**(A) he was poor in health, old, and weak.**

**(B) he had become a man-eater, and only ate humans.**

**(C) he did not like the dewan and his wife's ways of handling him.**

**(D) he refused to comply with what the dewan wanted.**

**(iii) What is the role of the dewan ?**

**(iv) Explain the phrase 'in humble supplication'.**

**Solution.** (i) The reason for the dewan and his aged wife to drag the tiger to the car was **\*\*to transport it to the forest where the Maharaja was hunting. They needed to deliver the tiger to the Maharaja to fulfil his wish of hunting it.**

(ii) (D) he refused to comply with what the dewan wanted.

Explanation: The term 'satyagraha' is used humorously here to describe the tiger's stubborn refusal to leave the car. In this context, it means the tiger was steadfast in its resistance against the dewan's efforts to get it out of the vehicle.

(iii) The role of the dewan is to assist in fulfilling the Maharaja's desire to hunt a tiger. He is responsible for transporting the tiger to the forest where the Maharaja is hunting, and he attempts to manage the tiger's behaviour in the process.

(iv) The phrase 'in humble supplication' means that the tiger approached the Maharaja with a demeanour of submission and pleading, as if asking



for a favour or mercy. The tiger's posture and attitude suggested it was seeking leniency or a command from the Maharaja.

**Q.9. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (a) and (b):**

**(a) While I was thinking of all this, I heard my name called. It was my turn to recite. What would I not have given to be able to say that dreadful rule for the participle all through, very loud and clear, and without one mistake? But I got mixed up on the first words and stood there, holding on to my desk, my heart beating, and not daring to look up.**

**I heard M. Hamel say to me, 'I won't scold you, little Franz; you must feel bad enough. See how it is! Every day we have said to ourselves, "Bah! I've plenty of time. I'll learn it tomorrow." And now you see where we've come out. Ah, that's the great trouble with Alsace; she puts off learning till tomorrow. Now those fellows out there will have the right to say to you, "How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language?" But you are not the worst; poor little Franz. We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with.'**

**(The Last Lesson)**

**(i) What was the mental state of Franz when his name was called out?**

**(ii) 'My heart is beating and not daring to look up. The reason for this state of Franz was:**

**(A) The news that it was the last French lesson shocked him.**

**(B) He made the big mistake of coming late.**

**(C) He had not learned participles.**

**(D) He was guilty of standing in front of the billboard listening to his teacher.**

**(iii) What made M. Hamel say to Franz: "You must feel bad enough"?**

**(iv) Give one word for, 'Every day we have said to ourselves, 'Bah! I've plenty of time. I'll learn it tomorrow.'**

**(v) What makes M. Hamel says 'You pretend to be Frenchmen, - and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language'?**

**(vi) M. Hamel says, 'We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with' as:**

**(A) he was reproachful because he made them do his personal work, and went fishing when he felt like it.**

**(B) he was dissatisfied with their lack of interest in studies.**

**(C) he was unhappy with their lack of attendance.**

**(D) he was unhappy with their lackadaisical attitude.**

**OR**

**Solution.**(i) Franz was anxious and nervous. He was worried about reciting the participle rule correctly and was feeling the pressure of the moment, which made him hesitate and hold onto his desk, with his heart beating rapidly and not daring to look up.

(ii) (C) He had not learned participles.

Explanation: Franz was in a state of nervousness and fear because he had not prepared or learned the participle rule properly, making him anxious about reciting it correctly in front of the class.

(iii) M. Hamel said this to Franz because he understood Franz's feelings of regret and shame for not having studied and learned his lessons properly. M. Hamel acknowledged that Franz must be feeling particularly upset about his lack of preparation, especially given that it was the last French lesson.

(iv) Procrastination. Explanation: This word describes the act of delaying or postponing tasks, which is what the phrase signifies.

(v) M. Hamel says this to highlight the irony and failure of the students in mastering their own language. Despite being French, they were unable to speak or write it properly because they neglected their studies and learning.

(vi) (D) he was unhappy with their lackadaisical attitude.

Explanation: M. Hamel is expressing dissatisfaction with the general lack of seriousness and commitment from both the students and himself regarding their education. His statement reflects a broader sense of regret over the habitual neglect of their responsibilities.

**(b) "I sometimes find a rupee, even a ten-rupee note," Saheb says, his eyes lighting up. When you can find a silver coin in a heap of garbage, you don't stop scrounging, for there is hope for finding more. It seems that for children, garbage has a meaning different from what it means to their parents. For the children it is wrapped in wonder, for the elders it is a means of survival.**

**One winter morning I see Saheb standing by the fenced gate of the neighbourhood club, watching two young men dressed in white, playing tennis. "I like the game," he hums, content to watch it standing behind the fence. "I go inside when no one is around," he admits. "The gatekeeper lets me use the swing."**

**Saheb too is wearing tennis shoes that look strange over his discoloured shirt and shorts. "Someone gave them to me," he says in the manner of an explanation.**

(i) What reasons does Saheb give for children like him indulging in scrounging?

(ii) "When you can find a silver coin in a heap of garbage, you don't stop scrounging." The expression 'don't stop scrounging' in the context, denotes

(A) hope

(B) experimentation

(C) impossibility

(D) illusion

(iii) Explain the expression 'For the children it is wrapped in wonder.'

(iv) Why does Saheb stand and watch the two men playing tennis?

(v) The gatekeeper, in allowing Saheb to use the swing shows:

(A) empathy

(B) greed

(C) cynicism

(D) indifference

(vi) Saheb explained that someone had given the shoes to him because

**Solution.** (i) Saheb explains that children like him scrounge through garbage because there is a chance of finding something valuable, like money. The excitement and hope of discovering more valuable items keep them engaged in this activity.

(ii) (A) Hope Explanation: In this context, 'don't stop scrounging' reflects the persistent hope and possibility of finding more valuable items in the garbage, which motivates Saheb and others to keep searching.

(iii) The expression 'For the children it is wrapped in wonder' means that children see garbage with a sense of curiosity and excitement, imagining it as a treasure trove with potential surprises. Unlike adults who view it as a mere means of survival, children find fascination and possibility in it.

(iv) Saheb stands and watches the two men playing tennis because he enjoys the game and likes to observe it. He finds pleasure in watching the game despite not being able to participate. He also occasionally goes inside when no one is around to use the swing.

(v) (A) empathy

Explanation: The gatekeeper shows empathy by allowing Saheb to use the swing. Despite Saheb's socio-economic status, the gatekeeper's gesture reflects understanding and compassion towards the child's situation.

(vi) Saheb explained that someone had given the shoes to him because\*\*

Explanation: Saheb mentioned that someone had given him the tennis shoes as a way to explain their presence. It indicates that the shoes were not something he could afford on his own but were a gift from someone, which explains why they looked out of place with his discoloured shirt and shorts.

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

**(i) How did the Champaran episode change the plight of the peasants?  
(Indigo)**

**(ii) Why did Douglas use the metaphor 'Deep Water' as the title to his autobiographical account ?**

**Solution.**(i) The Champaran episode, led by Mahatma Gandhi, significantly improved the plight of the peasants. Gandhi's intervention in 1917 exposed the exploitative conditions under which they were forced to grow indigo. His nonviolent agitation led to the abolition of the oppressive system and the reduction of the rent and compensation. This event empowered the peasants, leading to improved living conditions and greater autonomy.

(ii) Douglas used the metaphor "Deep Water" to describe the overwhelming fear and anxiety he felt while learning to swim. The "deep water" represents both the literal challenge of swimming in deep water and the figurative depth of his fear. The title encapsulates his struggle to overcome his terror and gain confidence in swimming.

**Q.11. Answer any two of the following three questions in 40-50 words each:**

**(i) Why does Zitkala-sa feel, 'Spirit tore itself in struggling for its lost freedom, all was useless'? (Memories of Childhood)**

**(ii) Mr. Lamb believes in the oneness of all the creations of God. Give an example to support this statement.  
(On The Face Of It)**

**(iii) You also cannot throw him back to the sea, Hana said. The above statement infer some qualities of Hana.  
(The Enemy)**

**Solution.** (i) Zitkala-Sa felt this way because she was forcibly stripped of her cultural identity and freedom when she was sent to a boarding school.

The strict rules and suppression of her Native American heritage made her feel that her struggle to maintain her freedom and cultural practices was futile, leading to a sense of deep despair and loss.

(ii) In "On the Face of It," Mr. Lamb exemplifies his belief in the oneness of all creations by showing kindness to Derry, a boy with a disfigured face. He treats Derry with respect and compassion, emphasising that everyone, regardless of their appearance or condition, is part of the same human family and deserving of love and understanding.

(iii) Hana's statement reveals her compassion and moral integrity. She shows empathy towards the wounded enemy soldier, demonstrating her belief in human dignity and the value of every life. Hana's refusal to abandon the soldier reflects her kindness, bravery, and adherence to humanitarian principles, even in a time of conflict.

**Q.12. Answer any one of the following two questions in 120-150 words:**

**(a) You are Pablo Neruda, the poet of 'Keeping Quiet'. After reading the poem of Frost you discovered that you and he share the same passion, to help the have-nots of the society.**

**"Sometimes I feel myself I can hardly bear  
The thought of so much childish longing in vain,  
The sadness that lurks near the open window there,  
That waits all day in almost open prayer"**

**Write a letter to Mr. Robert Frost expressing your desire to start a blog with him to appeal to the masses to help the 'have-nots' in their personal capacity. They can start by gradually selecting small pockets of neighbourhood localities and extending help to them. Begin your letter to Frost like this:**

**Dear Robert,**

**I recently read your poem 'A Roadside Stand and ..... You may end this way: I hope we will make it together and rock the neighbourhood.**

**Warmly,**

## Pablo Neruda

**Solution.** Dear Robert,

I recently read your poem "A Roadside Stand" and found myself deeply moved by your portrayal of the sadness and longing of the less fortunate. Your words, "Sometimes I feel myself I can hardly bear / The thought of so much childish longing in vain," resonate with me profoundly, as they reflect the very essence of our shared concern for those who are left behind.

As a fellow poet committed to social justice, I am writing to propose a collaborative effort to address this issue more directly. I would like us to start a blog dedicated to appealing to the masses to support and uplift the 'have-nots' in their communities. Our goal would be to encourage people to engage with their local neighbourhoods, beginning with small, manageable efforts. By focusing on specific localities, we can foster a spirit of giving and solidarity that can make a tangible difference.

I hope we will make it together and rock the neighbourhood.

Warmly,  
Pablo Neruda

**(b) Aunt Jennifer, Sophie's mom, Mukesh's grandmother, and the poet's mother meet in a park nearby. They discuss one another's lives. You are Kamala Das and are sitting with your mother and listening to their discussion. You decide to give a speech in the women's forum about the 'Responsibility of being a Woman'. With reference to the above text, compose this draft. Give suggestions.**

**You may begin this way:**

**Good morning everyone. Based on the lives of these women..... You may end this way:**

**To conclude, I'd like to say that**

**Solution.** Good morning everyone,



Based on the lives of these women—Aunt Jennifer, Sophie’s mom, Mukesh’s grandmother, and my own mother—I see a tapestry of challenges and responsibilities that define the essence of being a woman. Each of their stories illustrates the diverse roles and burdens women carry in different contexts.

Aunt Jennifer, for instance, symbolises the struggle against the constraints imposed by societal norms. Her embroidered tigers represent a wish for freedom and empowerment in a world that often seeks to confine women within rigid roles. Similarly, Sophie’s mom’s life reflects the everyday struggles and sacrifices made for the sake of family and the difficulties faced in breaking out of economic and social limitations.

Mukesh’s grandmother epitomises resilience and the courage to overcome traditional obstacles, while my own mother exemplifies the sacrifices and unwavering support that often go unnoticed. Each of these women, in her own way, bears the weight of expectations and responsibilities with remarkable strength.

As we discuss the 'Responsibility of being a Woman', it is crucial to recognize that our responsibilities extend beyond ourselves. They encompass nurturing the next generation, challenging unjust norms, and advocating for equal opportunities. We must support each other, embrace our strengths, and work towards creating a more equitable world for future generations.

To conclude, I'd like to say that our collective experiences as women are not merely personal; they are a shared journey towards empowerment and change. Let us honour these experiences by continuing to strive for a society where every woman can fully realise her potential.

Thank you.

**Q.13. Answer any one of the following two questions in 120-150 words:**

**(a) Louisa, the protagonist's wife in 'The Third Level' is amazed at Sam's suggestions that her husband is unhappy.**

**In her state of anger, she expresses her feelings by writing in her diary. As Louisa, Charley's wife, write this diary entry. Support your response with reference to the story.**

**You may begin this way:**

**"I have been married to Charley for a few years now and I have always known him to be an intelligent man with an imaginative mind.**

**However, his recent obsession with finding the Third Level has  
OR**

**Solution.**Diary Entry:

I have been married to Charley for a few years now and I have always known him to be an intelligent man with an imaginative mind. However, his recent obsession with finding the Third Level has left me both bewildered and distressed.

Charley's fixation on this mysterious, elusive place seems to have taken over his life. His constant talk about escaping to a past era and his endless quest to find this so-called "Third Level" make me wonder if he is truly content with his life. Sam's comments only heightened my concerns, suggesting that Charley's search might be an escape from some underlying dissatisfaction.

I am troubled by how deeply Charley is engrossed in this fantasy. Despite his reassuring smiles and lively conversations, I cannot shake the feeling that something is amiss. It's as if he is searching for something that our present life cannot offer him—a sense of peace or fulfilment that he believes exists somewhere in the past.

I worry that this obsession might be a way for him to avoid confronting his true feelings about our life together. I hope that by writing this, I can find

some clarity and perhaps encourage Charley to talk about what is really troubling him.

Louisa

**OR**

**(b) Zitkala-Sa, after growing up and completing her education, goes to teach in a girls' school. On the first day she is overwhelmed by the sight of so many happy girls. Her mind flies back to when she entered her own school on the first day. She comes back and writes in her diary how she felt on her first day at school and how the situation has changed in modern times with 'Democracy' as the buzz word and a girl child getting special attention.**

**As the grown up Zitkala-Sa, create a diary entry, expressing these thoughts and concluding with... "Let that which has happened in the past now be forgotten as it has gone now."**

**You may begin like this: "I find myself reflecting on an event that happened many years ago....."**

**(Memories of Childhood)**

**Solution.** Diary Entry:

I find myself reflecting on an event that happened many years ago, as I stand here today, overwhelmed by the sight of so many joyful girls in their school uniforms. It feels like a world away from my own first day at school, when the experience was marred by fear and confusion. I remember the sharp, unfamiliar environment, the alien language, and the stark absence of the warmth and comfort of home. The stern faces of the teachers, the rigid rules, and the sense of being a stranger in a new land are all so vivid in my memory.

Today, however, as I observe these girls, I see a stark contrast. The environment is warm, encouraging, and designed to nurture rather than to alienate. The concept of 'Democracy' and the special attention given to the education of the girl child reflect a significant shift from the past. The girls

are confident, their voices are heard, and they have the opportunity to grow and learn in an inclusive environment.

It is heartening to witness how times have changed and how much progress has been made in providing equal educational opportunities. The hardships and struggles of the past have paved the way for these bright, happy faces that now embody the spirit of modern education.

Let that which has happened in the past now be forgotten as it has gone now. The future is bright, and I am hopeful that these girls will continue to build on the progress we have made.

Zitkala-Sa