

CBSE 12th 2024 Compartment English Core Set-2 (1/S/2) Solutions

SECTION A Reading Skills

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**

Solution. Here are the answers based on the passage:

(i) (B) readily accessible.

The passage mentions that "the convenience and accessibility of online news is difficult to compete with."

(ii) (D) The text refers to algorithms blocking out content not aligned with the user's beliefs, resulting in the reader rarely exploring outside their own viewpoints.

(iii) Online readers are unaware that the news they read on a digital platform is "filtered out what they will ignore" and "block out any pieces that aren't in sync with their observed beliefs."

(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."

(v) According to the writer, reading news online is becoming increasingly popular because it is "difficult to compete with" in terms of "convenience and accessibility."

(vi) 1. "News in print needs to satisfy every type of reader with only one copy, allowing it to offer a wide scope of topics."
2. "A physical newspaper will almost never be as narrow in scope as the suggestions of a digital media outlet will be."

(vii) The writer concedes that newspapers too are "not completely free from bias or a certain degree of filtering."

(viii) (B) discerning.

The passage implies that readers need to be cautious and discerning about how algorithms influence the content they see.

Q.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 employ 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.(i)(A) Finding employment, The passage states that "finding employment is difficult for the youth," indicating that this is a major challenge.

(ii) Governments are promoting Vocational Education and Training (VET) programmes to support work-ready professionals with relevant on-the-job experience that matches the needs of various industries. These programmes help address the skill gap, improve employability, and foster entrepreneurship.

(iii) The National Skill Development Corporation of India has increased its efforts to skill 400 million people by 2025 to address the skill gap, improve employability, and support economic growth by ensuring that a significant portion of the workforce is adequately skilled.

(iv) "With the help of this training, opportunities for self-employment have been enhanced." This shows that vocational training provides individuals with skills and knowledge that boost their chances of becoming self-employed.

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

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

Bani's statement indicates that she has used vocational training in fashion designing to start her own business, demonstrating entrepreneurship.

(vi) Vocational training helps bridge the skill gap by providing targeted education and practical experience that aligns with industry needs, thus improving employability and preparing individuals to meet the demands of the workforce effectively.

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

"There is a critical need for increased vocational training initiatives to enhance the skills of more individuals."

(viii) The title 'Improve Your Skills, Gain Better Jobs' is appropriate for this passage.

True

The passage emphasizes the importance of vocational training in improving skills, employability, and self-employment opportunities, which aligns with the title's focus on skill improvement and job enhancement.

SECTION B

Creative Writing Skills

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

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

(a) S.P. The Public School has decided to organize a carnival in the school grounds. Write a notice to be put up on the school notice board inviting students to participate in the carnival. Mention date, time, types of stalls. Invent other necessary details. You Mayank/Megha Sethi, Head boy/girl of the school. are

(b) You are Siddheshwar/Swati, Secretary of Pratik Housing Society. Write a notice for the society's notice board informing the residents about the demonstration session on 'Fighting Fire' organized by the City Fire Brigade. The session will be held on Sunday at 11 am. It would be very useful for everyone to attend the session. Invent necessary details.

Solution. (a) S.P. The Public School Notice

Carnival Extravaganza!

Date: September 15, 2024

Time: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Venue: School Grounds

Join us for a fun-filled carnival with food stalls, games, and live performances! Participate in exciting activities and enjoy delicious treats. Everyone is welcome!

Mayank Sethi
Head Boy

(b)Pratik Housing Society Notice

Fire Safety Demonstration

Date: Sunday, August 25, 2024

Time: 11:00 AM

Venue: Community Hall

The City Fire Brigade will conduct a demonstration on 'Fighting Fire.' This session is essential for everyone to learn how to handle fire emergencies effectively. Your participation is highly encouraged.

Swati
Secretary

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

(a) Global Public School, Hawapuri is organizing an inter-school mime contest. You are Jagjeet/Jyoti, Class XII, Cultural Secretary of the school. You have been asked to send an invite on behalf of the Principal to the renowned mime artist Arnold to be the Chief Guest. Draft a formal letter of invitation. Invent necessary details.

OR

(b) You are Chandrajeet/Chandni. Your father Colonel Jai Singh is a retired army officer who was also an ace swimmer. Your housing

society is organising a swimming competition and invites your father to preside over the function. He accepts it and asks you to draft a reply accepting the invitation on his behalf. Write an appropriate formal letter of acceptance. Invent necessary details.

Solution. (a)

Global Public School
Halwa Puri, 12345

August 20, 2024

Mr. Arnold Smith
Renowned Mime Artist
123 Art Lane, Creativity City

Dear Mr. Smith,

We are delighted to invite you to be the Chief Guest for our Inter-School Mime Contest on September 10, 2024, at Global Public School, Hawapuri. Your presence would greatly inspire the participants.

We look forward to your positive response.

Sincerely,
Jyoti Sharma
Cultural Secretary

(b)

Global Housing Society
123 Green Avenue, Cityville

August 20, 2024

Colonel Jai Singh
Retired Army Officer

Dear Colonel Singh,

We are pleased to invite you to preside over our upcoming swimming competition on August 30, 2024. Your participation would be an honor for us and would greatly inspire the competitors.

We are grateful for your acceptance.

Sincerely,
Chandrajeet Mehra

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

OR

Solution. Anil Lamba
123 Green Lane
Cityville, 67890
Email: anil.lamba@email.com
Phone: (123) 456-7890

August 20, 2024
Retail Sales Associate
AJ Retailers
Gulab Nagar

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my interest in the part-time H.R. Recruitment Intern position at AJ Retailers, as advertised. I recently graduated with a degree in Business Administration and am eager to gain practical experience while pursuing further studies.

My strong communication skills, troubleshooting attitude, and dedication make me a suitable candidate for this role. I am confident that I can contribute effectively to your team and support the company's mission of delivering excellent client services.

Enclosed is my bio-data for your review. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss how my background and skills align with your needs.

Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,
Anil Lamba

(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

- **Construction material dumped on roadside**

Causes

- **No checks**
- **Can get away with irregularities**

Suggestions

- **Action by Municipal Corporation**
Stricter laws and their implementation
Create awareness

Solution.Anisha Rao
456 Elm Street
Ambernath, Mompur
Email: anisha.rao@email.com

August 20, 2024

The Editor
National Daily
123 Newspaper Lane
Cityville, 56789

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my grave concern regarding the increasing problem of construction debris being irresponsibly dumped on roadways in

Ambarnath, Mompur. This issue has led to significant obstacles on footpaths, creating unsafe and unsightly conditions for pedestrians.

The primary cause of this problem appears to be the lack of stringent enforcement and oversight. Builders can easily bypass regulations due to the absence of effective checks, endangering public health and obstructing walking paths.

I urge the Municipal Corporation to take immediate action by implementing stricter laws and ensuring rigorous enforcement. Additionally, creating awareness among the public and builders about the consequences of such negligence could help address this issue more effectively.

Thank you for highlighting this urgent matter.

Sincerely,
Anisha Rao

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

(a) Parents may consider giving their teenagers mobile phones for security purposes, but it results in "possible misuse and side effects". You are Amrit/Amrita. Write an article for your school magazine on 'Possible Misuse and Side Effects of Mobile Phones Used by Teenagers'. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this article.

Temptation for teenagers to spend time on the phone

Impact of spending more time on mobile phones

More prone to stress, anxiety and sleep deprivation

Lack of focus

Impact on health

OR

Solution. Possible Misuse and Side Effects of Mobile Phones Used by Teenagers

As teenagers, the allure of mobile phones is undeniable. While these devices can offer security and connectivity, their misuse can lead to significant side effects.

One major concern is the temptation for teens to spend excessive time on their phones. Whether it's scrolling through social media, playing games, or chatting, this constant engagement can lead to a host of issues. Prolonged screen time often results in stress and anxiety, as teens are bombarded with unrealistic standards and pressures. This digital overload also contributes to sleep deprivation, as the blue light from screens interferes with natural sleep patterns.

Additionally, excessive phone use can diminish focus. Teens might find it challenging to concentrate on studies or other important activities, leading to academic and personal setbacks. The impact on physical health cannot be ignored either; poor posture and reduced physical activity are common consequences of prolonged phone use.

In light of these concerns, it's crucial for parents and educators to guide teens towards a balanced approach to technology, ensuring it serves as a tool for growth rather than a source of harm.

OR

(b) You are Kritin/Kritika of H.N. Public School, Shripur. Your school recently organised a Science symposium on the topic 'Important Discoveries of Science and how they have helped Mankind'. Write a report on the event for your school magazine.

Solution.Report on the Science Symposium: Important Discoveries and Their Impact

On August 15, H.N. Public School, Shripur, hosted an enlightening Science Symposium centred on the theme, "Important Discoveries of Science and How They Have Helped Mankind." The event, held in our school

auditorium, was a resounding success, attracting students, teachers, and local scientists.

The symposium featured a series of engaging presentations highlighting key scientific breakthroughs. Topics ranged from the discovery of penicillin by Alexander Fleming, which revolutionised medicine by introducing antibiotics, to the development of the internet, which has transformed global communication and access to information.

Students actively participated in discussions, showcasing how these discoveries have advanced various fields, improved quality of life, and addressed global challenges. The event concluded with a thought-provoking Q&A session, where attendees explored future scientific horizons.

Overall, the symposium was a testament to the power of science in shaping human progress and sparked enthusiasm for future scientific endeavours among our school community.

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 dearth 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.

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

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

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

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

(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 morrow.
OR

Solution. (a) (i) The message in the above extract as per Keats is:
(A) For all earthly nuances, a thing of beauty is the cure.

(ii) True: 'Sweet memories bind us to this earth.'

(iii) 'Wreathing a flowery band to bind us to the earth...'

(iv) Keats uses the phrase 'Spite of despondence' to emphasize that even though there are feelings of hopelessness and sadness, beauty still provides a comforting and uplifting force.

(v) 'Gloomy days' - The figure of speech used here is imagery.

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

(A) unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways.

(b) ... and realized 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. (b) (i) The use of the word 'and' at the beginning of the line suggests a continuation of the poetess's emotional state, reflecting a stream of consciousness where she moves from one thought to another.

(ii) The poetess's heart was in pain because:

(A) She saw her enfeebled mother.

(iii) The line 'but soon she put that thought away' means that the poetess chose to push aside her painful realization about her mother's aging and focused instead on something more uplifting.

(iv) She started 'looking out' because:

(A) she wanted to distract herself.

(v) The poetic device used in 'Trees sprinting' is personification, as it attributes human qualities (sprinting) to trees.

(vi) The image of 'Young Trees' signifies vitality and renewal. It contrasts with the ageing and frailty inside the car, highlighting the difference between the poetess's mother's decline and the youthful energy and growth symbolised by the trees outside.

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?
OR

Solution. (a) (i) Antarctica is a perfect place to study ecological evolution because of her simple ecosystem and lack of biodiversity, which makes it easier to observe how small environmental changes can lead to significant impacts.

(ii) Phytoplanktons can be defined as:
(A) microscopic grasses of the sea.

(iii) According to the scientists, a further depletion in the ozone layer will impact the activities of the phytoplankton.

(iv) When human beings come to Antarctica, they are often struck by its stark beauty and isolation, which leads to a deep appreciation for the planet's untouched environments and the profound effects of climate change.

(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. (b) (i) The reason for the dewan and his aged wife to drag the tiger to the car was to present it to the Maharaja, who was hunting in the forest.

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

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

(iii) The role of the dewan is to facilitate the delivery of the tiger to the Maharaja for the hunt, despite the tiger's resistance.

(iv) The phrase 'in humble supplication' means that the tiger approached the Maharaja with a submissive attitude, as if begging or asking for a command.

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 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 a 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 say - You pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language'?

Solution. (a) (i) The mental state of Franz when his name was called out was one of intense anxiety and fear.

(ii) The reason for this state of Franz was:

(C) He had not learned participles.

(iii) M. Hamel said to Franz, "You must feel bad enough" because Franz was embarrassed and remorseful for not having studied, especially given that it was the last lesson.

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

(v) M. Hamel says, "You pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language" to highlight the irony that despite their identity as French citizens, they have neglected their own language and failed to learn it properly.

OR

(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. (b)

(i) Saheb explains that children like him indulge in scrounging because finding even small amounts of money, like a silver coin, in the garbage brings hope for finding more. This hope drives them to continue 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 this context denotes:
(A) hope.

(iii) The expression "For the children it is wrapped in wonder" means that children see the garbage with a sense of curiosity and possibility, finding excitement and potential in what adults might see as mere refuse.

(iv) Saheb stands and watches the two men playing tennis because he is interested in the game and enjoys observing it. He also occasionally sneaks inside to use the swing, which gives him a small sense of belonging to a world beyond his usual experience.

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

(vi) Saheb explained that someone had given the shoes to him because he wanted to clarify that they were a gift, not something he had bought or earned himself, which helps him make sense of their incongruity with his otherwise modest appearance.

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

(i) Why did Gandhiji visit Muzaffarpur on his way to Champaran ? Who received him there? (Indigo)

Solution. Gandhiji visited Muzaffarpur on his way to Champaran to meet with the local leaders and understand the situation in the region. He was received by a large crowd, including prominent local figures like Rajendra Prasad and other leaders who supported his cause. Their reception demonstrated their solidarity and support for his mission to address the grievances of the indigo planters.

(ii) What complex did Douglas have when he had to get into the pool? What did he do about it? (Deep Water)

Solution. Douglas had a deep-seated fear of water after nearly drowning as a child, which made him anxious about getting into the pool. To overcome this, he gradually faced his fear through persistent practice. He took swimming lessons and built his confidence step by step until he could swim without fear.

(iii) Why did the peddler respect the confidence reposed in him by the crofter? (The Rattrap)

Solution. The peddler respected the confidence reposed in him by the crofter because he was deeply touched by the crofter's trust and kindness. The crofter not only offered him shelter but also shared his food and money, which made the peddler feel valued and respected, leading him to reconsider his own behaviour.

(iv) How do 'denizens' and 'chivalric' add to our understanding of the tigers' attitudes ? (Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

Solution. In "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers," the words 'denizens' and 'chivalric' highlight the tigers' regal and fearless nature. 'Denizens' suggests that the tigers are inhabitants of a noble realm, while 'chivalric' implies they possess a knightly, courageous spirit. These descriptions emphasise the tigers' confident and untamed attitudes, contrasting with the constraints and fears of Aunt Jennifer's own life.

(v) What are some of the positive views on Interviews? (The Interview)

Solution. Positive views on interviews include their role in assessing a candidate's suitability for a job beyond just their resume. They provide an opportunity to evaluate personality, communication skills, and fit within the company culture. Interviews also allow candidates to learn more about the

organisation and ask questions, leading to a more informed decision for both parties.

**(vi) What does 'The God That Failed' refer to ?
(Poets and Pancakes)**

Solution. In "Poets and Pancakes," "The God That Failed" refers to the disillusionment with communism that the author experienced. The title symbolises the collapse of ideological faith and the realisation that the promises of the ideology did not live up to expectations, leading to a profound sense of betrayal.

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

**(i) Why did Zitkala-Sa not want her hair to be cut ?
(Memories of Childhood)**

Solution. Zitkala-Sa did not want her hair cut because, in her Native American culture, long hair was a symbol of pride and identity. She associated the cutting of her hair with a loss of cultural heritage and personal dignity, reflecting her resistance to the forced assimilation imposed by the boarding school.

(ii) Why does Mr. Lamb feel Derek should not detach himself from people? (On The Face Of It)

Solution. Mr. Lamb feels Derek should not detach himself from people because isolation can deepen his sense of loss and misery. Mr. Lamb believes that engaging with others and participating in life can help Derek find new meaning and support, making it easier to cope with his challenges and enjoy life more fully.

(iii) How did Dr. Sadao succeed in an atmosphere of war and narrow nationalism?(The Enemy)

Solution. Dr. Sadao succeeded in an atmosphere of war and narrow nationalism by prioritizing his ethical duty over nationalistic fervor. Despite the war, he chose to treat an injured enemy soldier, driven by his commitment to humanity and medical ethics, which ultimately led to his personal and professional triumph.

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

OR

Solution. Dear Robert,

I recently read your poem "A Roadside Stand," and I was deeply moved by its reflection on the plight of the underprivileged and the yearning for empathy that resonates through your verses. Your portrayal of the struggles

faced by those in need, coupled with the sense of despair and longing, aligns with my own feelings expressed in "Keeping Quiet."

Inspired by our shared passion for uplifting the 'have-nots' in society, I propose that we join forces to start a blog dedicated to this cause. Through this platform, we can appeal directly to the masses, encouraging them to take small, meaningful actions within their local communities. By focusing on individual neighbourhoods and gradually expanding our efforts, we can create a ripple effect of compassion and support.

I believe that together, we can inspire real change and make a significant impact on those who need it most. 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, who struggles with the constraints imposed by her husband; Sophie's mother, who faces the challenges of raising her family; Mukesh's grandmother, who contends with the hardships of poverty; and my own mother, who navigates her roles with

resilience—I have been deeply inspired to speak about the 'Responsibility of Being a Woman.'

Each of these women embodies a different facet of the complex journey women undertake. Aunt Jennifer's craft reflects her inner strength amidst oppression. Sophie's mother demonstrates dedication and sacrifice in her daily life. Mukesh's grandmother, though burdened by poverty, shows unwavering resolve. My own mother, through her sacrifices and nurturing spirit, exemplifies the quiet strength of womanhood.

Being a woman often means balancing personal dreams with the demands of family and society. It is about embracing responsibilities with grace, fighting for one's rights, and supporting others in their struggles. It is about nurturing hope and perseverance, even when faced with adversity.

To conclude, I'd like to say that the true responsibility of being a woman lies in embracing these roles with courage and compassion, supporting one another, and forging paths of resilience and empowerment. Together, we can uplift each other and create a world where every woman can thrive.

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, wrote 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. "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 caused me great concern and confusion. Sam's suggestion that Charley might be unhappy struck me with disbelief. How could he be unhappy when he has so much—an interesting job, a loving wife, and a comfortable life?"

Charley's fixation on this elusive Third Level, which he believes exists in some alternate reality, seems to have taken over his thoughts and actions. He has been increasingly distant, spending hours at the train station in a futile search for this mythical level. I worry that his preoccupation with escaping to a different world might be a reflection of deeper dissatisfaction.

Despite my anger and frustration, I can't help but wonder if Sam might be right. Maybe Charley is searching for something he feels is missing in his life. I hope he can find a way to confront these feelings and reconcile with reality before this obsession consumes him completely."

(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 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. "I find myself reflecting on an event that happened many years ago as I stand here in this vibrant girls' school. Today, seeing these happy,

eager faces fills me with a sense of overwhelming joy and nostalgia. I remember my own first day at school, when I was thrust into a world so different from my own—a world of foreign customs and strict discipline, where my long hair was cut and my cultural identity seemed stripped away.

Back then, the experience was harsh and disorienting, a stark contrast to the warmth and encouragement these girls receive today. The buzzword 'Democracy' has indeed brought significant changes, granting every child, especially girls, the right to an education and special attention. It is heartening to see how times have evolved, with greater respect for individuality and cultural heritage.

Let that which has happened in the past be forgotten as it has gone now. What matters is the present, where each girl has the opportunity to flourish, embracing both her heritage and the promise of a brighter future."

