

CBSE Class 12 English Core
Sample Paper 10 (2020-21)

Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allowed: 3 hours

General Instructions:

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

Section A

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions follow:

It has been compared to a set of intricately carved Chinese workboxes: within each opened box lies another, similar. Even today, when the Forbidden City is open to western eyes it retains a sense of mystery. Just as it is impossible to know exactly what may be hidden within a given box, so many of the secrets of Beijing's stately place complex may never be revealed.

The building of the Forbidden City was undertaken by the third Ming emperor, Young Lo, who ruled between 1403 and 1423 after he had finally ousted the Mongols from Beijing. An estimated workforce of 100000 craftsmen and a million labourers set to work, fashioning the city's 800 palaces, 75 halls, numerous temples, pavilions, libraries, and studios, all linked by gardens, courtyards, and pathways: in the city, which from its inception was forbidden to outsiders, 24 emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties reigned, shielded behind a moat and a wall 35 ft high-until the republican revolution begin in 1911.

The Forbidden City is an architectural masterpiece whose beauty lays not so much in any one building as in the ordered layout of the whole and the exquisite combination of colours used in its decoration. Altogether, it reflects the Chinese view that the emperor was the son too. Heaven was the mediator responsible for order and harmony on earth. The formal entrance to the city is the Meridian Gate, where a drum and bell were

sounded whenever an emperor passed by. The vast courtyard beyond the gate contains a section of the Golden River. Shaped like an archer's bow and spanned by five marble bridges, it leads to the Gate of Supreme Harmony—deemed centre of the Chinese world. In this splendid chamber, the emperor presided over the Dragon Throne and grand ceremonies were held on festive occasions. Behind it stand the Hall of Complete Harmony, where the emperor prepared for audiences with envoys from abroad. No emperor ventured from the Forbidden City at all if he could avoid it. He entertained visitors in the most northerly of the three-state imperial buildings, the Hall of Preserving Harmony.

North of these halls and repeating their layout is a group of three places that comprise the imperial residential quarters. Two of these, the Place of Heavenly Purity and the Place of Earthly Tranquillity, were the residences of the emperor and empress respectively. Between them, lie the Hall of Union, symbolically uniting the emperor and empress, Heaven and Earth, yang and yin, male and female. Beyond the places lie the imperial gardens, where pools, rockeries, temples, libraries, theatres, pavilions, and pine, and cypress trees complement the symmetry of the buildings.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the eleven given below:

- i. By whom was the Forbidden City built and in what period did he rule?
 - a. 24 different emperors until 1911
 - b. The rule of republics after 1911
 - c. Yong Lo – 1403-23
 - d. Various Ming Emperors in the 15th century
- ii. Which out of the following describes the Forbidden City?
 - a. It is similar to a Chinese workbox
 - b. It is open to western eyes and retains a sense of mystery
 - c. The city has palaces, halls, temples, and all other utilities.
 - d. It is an architectural masterpiece built with an exquisite colour combination
- iii. What Chinese view does the Forbidden City reflect?
 - a. Heaven was a mediator
 - b. Emperor was too the son
 - c. The dragon theme is instilled
 - d. Ordered Layout showcasing discipline

- iv. There were festive ceremonies held by the Chinese emperor?
 - a. Gate of Supreme Harmony
 - b. Courtyard
 - c. Meridian Gate
 - d. Golden River
- v. What is the symbolic significance of the hall of Union?
 - a. Unites the emperor and the empress
 - b. Union of all the halls in the palace
 - c. A hall uniting all forces of nature
 - d. All of these
- vi. Where did the Empress reside?
 - a. Place of Heavenly Purity
 - b. Place of Earthly Tranquillity
 - c. Imperial Residential Quarter
 - d. Hall of Empress
- vii. Where were the visitors entertained by Chinese emperors?
 - a. Forbidden City
 - b. Hall of Complete Harmony
 - c. Hall of Preserving Harmony
 - d. Place of Heavenly Purity
- viii. In the chamber following the gate of supreme harmony, the emperor presided over the _____.
 - a. Grand Ceremonies
 - b. Festivities
 - c. Dragon Throne
 - d. Empress
- ix. Find a word similar in meaning to "establishment" from the passage.
 - a. inception
 - b. complex
 - c. undertaken
 - d. workforce
- x. Find a word similar in meaning to "magnificent" from the passage.
 - a. masterpiece

- b. decoration
 - c. exquisite
 - d. intricate
- xi. Find a word opposite in meaning to "asymmetrical" from the passage.
- a. imperial
 - b. symmetry
 - c. yang and yin
 - d. quarter

2. Read the passage below:

1. I've always held the belief that rationale or logic has no place in faith. If you have faith in the Supreme then you must also accept that you are not out there to defend your faith based on any scientific evidence. Those who don't share your belief have an equal right to their opinion. What matters is your personal stand. If you feel peaceful and joyous if you feel inspired to do good deeds by having your faith, then, by all means, keep it, there's no reason to abandon it.
2. Einstein once got a letter asking if he believed in the Supreme. Einstein sent a telegram in response stating, "I believe in Spinoza's idea of the Supreme who reveals himself in the orderly harmony of what exists, not in someone who concerns himself with the fates and actions of human beings." In case you are not familiar, Baruch Spinoza (1632 – 1677) was a Dutch philosopher (yes, not just brilliant engineers, they have philosophers too). An unorthodox and independent thinker, his views were revolutionary at the time. His philosophy is thought-provoking. So, where does that leave us in regards to faith?
3. To me, faith is a sentiment, it's an emotion. Just like you fall in love and you surrender in love and you find yourself willing to do anything for the person you love, the same is with faith. Faith is love. When you have faith, you let go of your worries of the future, you let go of your guilt of the past because you have surrendered to the divine will. You remain committed to a life of goodness and action. But, you also recognize that there are other bigger forces, of immense scale, in play in the grand scheme of things and it'll do you much good to play along.
4. You gain this courage, zest and zeal to work hard, to excel, to serve. Life looks beautiful and everything looks priceless then because it truly is. Even our suffering is priceless. It gives you strength, it makes you reflect on you. It is priceless because you

appreciate life more, it brings you closer to you, the real you. Don't limit yourself by asking petty things from the Supreme. Trust the immensity of nature. Faith does not mean all your dreams will come true, it simply means you look upon everything that's granted to you as a blessing. Just focus on your needs, and before long, you'll be filled beyond measure.

5. Accepting the transient nature of this world, and its eternal impermanence is the definitive path to inner peace. Either live in complete surrender or exercise total control. If your boat is neither anchored nor guided, it'll just drift then. It'll drift in the direction of your thoughts, desires and emotions. Here today, there tomorrow.
6. Cosmic intelligence is infinitely more subtle, smart, organized and selfless than individual intelligence. Anchor your ship if you are tired of rowing. Have faith.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the eleven given below.

- i. Faith:
 - a. does not depend on rationale and logic
 - b. is a personal stand
 - c. fills us with joy and peace
 - d. All of these
- ii. 'Here today, there tomorrow' (Para 5) refers to:
 - a. our thoughts
 - b. our faith
 - c. our emotions
 - d. our desires
- iii. What was Einstein's belief about faith?
 - a. Believed in the Supreme
 - b. Concerned himself with the fates and actions of humans
 - c. Believed in the orderly harmony of what exists
 - d. Not had any belief
- iv. What does one gain from having faith?
 - a. Courage
 - b. Hatred
 - c. Emotion
 - d. Guilt

- v. In what way does suffering become priceless?
 - a. You start limiting yourself
 - b. You start appreciating yourself
 - c. You lose focus in life
 - d. You become disillusioned
- vi. Why does the writer say that logic has no place in faith?
 - a. One can never be rational if having faith
 - b. Personal stand is all that matters
 - c. Everything can be scientifically proven
 - d. People have a right to their opinion
- vii. What is the definitive path to inner peace?
 - a. Being afraid of the changing world
 - b. Realizing that life is permanent
 - c. Accepting the impermanence of life
 - d. Living in complete surrender
- viii. How is cosmic intelligence superior to individual intelligence?
 - a. Smart and Organized
 - b. Less subtle
 - c. Selfish
 - d. All of these
- ix. The synonym of "give up" in paragraph 3 is:
 - a. guilt
 - b. worries
 - c. surrender
 - d. immense
- x. The antonym of "permanent" in paragraph 5 is:
 - a. drift
 - b. definitive
 - c. impermanence
 - d. transient
- xi. What object does the writer use to personify faith?
 - a. Einstein's telegram
 - b. Boat

- c. Anchor
- d. A sentiment

3. **Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY TWO of the three given by answering the questions that follow. (4+4=8)**

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

I jumped over the bench and sat down at my desk. Not till then, when I had got a little over my fright, did I see our teacher had on his beautiful green coat, his frilled shirt, and the little black silk cap, all embroidered, that he never wore except on inspection and prize days. Besides, the whole school seemed so strange and solemn. But the thing that surprised me most was to see, on the backbenches that were always empty, the village people sitting quietly like ourselves.

- i. Who is the teacher?
 - a. M.Hamel
 - b. Franz
 - c. Hauser
 - d. Alphonse Daudet
- ii. Why was he dressed in his formals?
 - a. For he had to attend a wedding
 - b. For it was his last lesson in French
 - c. For he had to attend an award ceremony
 - d. For he had to juggle an inter-school competition
- iii. How did the whole school seem?
 - a. Strange
 - b. Solemn
 - c. Quiet
 - d. All of these
- iv. Which subject did the teacher profess?
 - a. French
 - b. German
 - c. English
 - d. Spanish

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

Poor man! It was in honour of this last lesson that he had put on his fine Sunday

clothes, and now I understood why the old men of the village were sitting there in the back of the room. It was because they were sorry, too, that they had not gone to school more. It was their way of thanking our master for his forty years of faithful service and of showing their respect for the country that was theirs no more.

- i. Who is referred to as the poor man?
 - a. M. Hamel
 - b. Franz
 - c. Hauser
 - d. Alphonse Daudet
- ii. Why is the expression 'poor man' used for him?
 - a. For he was very poor
 - b. For he was injured
 - c. Because he was delivering his last lesson in French
 - d. Because he was wrongly accused of a crime
- iii. Why was the country theirs no more?
 - a. For it came under the dictatorship
 - b. For it was split
 - c. For it was captured by the Prussian army
 - d. For they left their country
- iv. For how long did the teacher teach?
 - a. A decade
 - b. Four decades
 - c. A fortnight
 - d. Five decades

3. Read the passage and answer the following questions:

The corridor I was in began angling left and slanting downward and I thought that was wrong, but I kept on walking. All I could hear was the empty sound of my own footsteps and I didn't pass a soul. Then I heard that sort of hollow roar ahead that means open space and people talking.

- i. Who is "I" referred to here?
 - a. Jack Finney
 - b. Sam
 - c. Charley

- d. Louisa
- ii. The corridor takes "I" to:
 - a. Second level, Grand Central Station
 - b. Third Level, Grand Central Station
 - c. Times Square
 - d. Vanderbilt Avenue
- iii. Who is the author of the given lines?
 - a. Charley
 - b. Pearl S. Buck
 - c. Jack Finney
 - d. Sam
- iv. Why did "I" think that he was wrong?
 - a. Had never seen that place
 - b. Many times, he had missed the way
 - c. It was complete silence.
 - d. He could hear only footsteps of people passing through

4. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE of the two given by answering the questions that follow. (1x4=4)

1. Read the extract given below and answer the following questions:

.....I saw my mother,
beside me,
doze, open-mouthed, her face
ashen like that
of a corpse and realised with
pain.....

- i. Who is "I"?
 - a. The poetess
 - b. A little girl
 - c. A young boy
 - d. A doctor
- ii. What did she realise with pain?
 - a. She had lost their bag
 - b. She suffered from an injury

- c. She had to leave her house
- d. Her mother had grown very old
- iii. How did the poetess feel on this realization?
 - a. Enraged
 - b. Delighted
 - c. Sad
 - d. Enthusiastic
- iv. Name the poet of the given lines?
 - a. Kamala Das
 - b. Sarojini Naidu
 - c. Ruskin Bond
 - d. Vikram Seth

2. **Read the extract given below and answer the following questions:**

.... and felt that old familiar ache, my childhood's fear, but all I said was, see you soon,
Amma, all I did was smile and smile and smile...

- i. What was the childhood fear that now troubled the poet?
 - a. Fear of losing her mother
 - b. Examination fear
 - c. Fear of undergoing a surgery
 - d. Fear of leaving her home town
- ii. What do the poet's parting words suggest?
 - a. Optimism
 - b. Reassurance
 - c. Nostalgia
 - d. All of these
- iii. Why did the poet smile and smile?
 - a. To conceal her pain
 - b. She was very happy
 - c. Her mother had asked her to smile
 - d. She remembered something funny
- iv. Name the poetic device used in the line, "**all I did was smile and smile and smile**".
 - a. Simile

- b. Alliteration
- c. Metaphor
- d. Transferred Epithet

5. Attempt ANY EIGHT questions from the ten given below. (1x8=8)

- i. Little Franz thought of running away and spending the day outdoor because:
 - a. The birds were chirping
 - b. The weather was warm
 - c. Franz could hear the sound of the Prussian soldiers exercising outside in the open
 - d. Franz was afraid of scolding as M. Hamel would ask questions on 'Participles'
- ii. Which water sport's adventure had led to William's aversion of water as mentioned in the prose **Deep Water**?
 - a. Surfing
 - b. Rafting
 - c. Water polo
 - d. Canoeing
- iii. In the prose **Indigo**, where did Fischer visit Gandhi in 1942?
 - a. At his ashram in Chandrapur
 - b. At his ashram in Sevagram
 - c. At his ashram in Ahmedabad
 - d. At his ashram in Bangladesh
- iv. What is the moral of the poetry **my mother at sixty-six**?
 - a. Time and ageing spares none
 - b. No one can escape from the childhood fear
 - c. The human becomes vulnerable with the passage of time
 - d. Life is short and skeptical
- v. The poet asks the reader to count up to _____. (**keeping quiet**)
 - a. Fifteen
 - b. Twenty
 - c. Forty
 - d. Twelve
- vi. Why do Aunt Jennifer's fingers find the ivory needle hard to pull in the poem **Aunt Jennifer's Tigers**?
 - a. Because of the wedding band's massive weight on her fingers

- b. Because of the weight of the ivory needle
 - c. Because her fingers are hurt
 - d. Because she does not know to use an ivory needle
- vii. In **The Third Level**, why was Charley unable to buy the tickets for Galesburg from the counter of the third level?
- a. He did not know the cost of the tickets
 - b. He didn't have sufficient bills
 - c. He did not have any money
 - d. He didn't have the old currency
- viii. How should people be judged?
- a. By their profession
 - b. By their disabilities
 - c. By their attitude
 - d. By their actions
- ix. The statement "I may surprise everybody" means _____.
- a. that he was sure that he would clear the exam
 - b. that his efficiency in writing the paper will surprise everybody
 - c. that he had some other plan
 - d. that he is warning his teacher that he might fail in the exam
- x. How did Jo want the story to end?
- a. With changing mother skunk into another animal
 - b. With wizard killing mother skunk
 - c. With the wizard hitting back the mother skunk with his magic wand
 - d. With Forgiving everyone

Section B

6. The firm Bhatia and Bhatia, Industrial Area, Bengaluru wants two Engineers for their Chennai office. Draft an advertisement for the 'Situations Vacant' column of a local newspaper giving all the necessary details. Write the advertisement in not more than 50 words.

OR

Every year in the central park of the city a flower exhibition is held in the month of February. Your school has received a circular from the District Collector inviting your

students to visit it. Write a notice in about 50 words informing the students about the exhibition and advising them to go and enjoy it. You are Navtej/Navita, Head Boy/Head Girl, Sunrise Public School, Surat.

7. Write a letter to your friend inviting him to the house-warming-ceremony of your newly constructed house.

OR

Your friend, PV Sathish, has invited you to attend the wedding of his sister, Jaya. You find that you have an important paper of pre-board examination on the day of the wedding. Thus you cannot attend the event. Write in about 50 words a formal reply to the invitation expressing your regret. You are Puneet / Puneeta Vij, M-114, Fort Road, Chennai.

8. Despite all the incentives the government is providing to encourage education of the girl child, the number of girls in rural schools is not rising to the desired level. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily giving your views on the problem. List a few suggestions on how the situation can be improved. You are Rani/Raj, 121 Main street, Kanpur.

OR

You are Prem/Parul of 16, TT Nagar, Bhopal. You would like to apply for the post of Marketing Manager in a reputed firm in Mumbai. Write a letter to the Public Relations Officer, Chantac Enterprises, Mumbai, applying for the job. Write the letter in 120-150 words giving your bio-data.

9. Midday meal scheme in the schools introduced by the government serves several purposes. Millions of children from the deprived sections of society get nutritious food leading to good health, are attracted to the schools, kept from going astray and developed into good citizens. The scheme may have some drawbacks too. Write an article in 150-200 words on all aspects of the scheme. You are Navtej/Navita.

OR

The Social Club of Chitra Senior Secondary School, Sahibabad organised cultural activities to collect funds and clothes especially for old widows living in abject poverty at such

places as Vrindavan etc. Write a report in 100-125 words for your school newsletter about the activities and how you utilised the funds. You are the Secretary of the Club.

10. **Attempt ANY FIVE out of the six questions given below, in 30-40 words each.**

(2x5=10)

- i. According to the poet, what is it that human beings can learn from nature?
- ii. What spreads the pall of despondence over our dark spirits? How is it removed?
- iii. Why was Saheb not happy with his new job?
- iv. What is Mukesh's dream? Do you think he will be able to fulfil his dream? Why/Why not?
- v. In what sense was the world a big rattrap according to the peddler?
- vi. Why did Gandhiji decide to go to Muzaffarpur? Where did he stay there?

11. **Attempt ANY TWO out of the three questions given below in 30-40 words each.**

(2x2=4)

- i. Why was Dr Sadao not sent abroad along with the troops?
- ii. Why did Charley think that Sam could not practice psychiatry in Galesburg?
- iii. What ugly middle position was Jack caught in?

12. **Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words (1x5=5)**

- i. Everybody during the last lesson was filled with regret. Comment.
- ii. The story 'The Rattrap' focuses on human loneliness and the need to bond with others. Explain.

13. **Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words (1x5=5)**

- i. Both Derry and Lamb are victims of physical impairment, but much painful for them is the feeling of loneliness. Comment.
- ii. While we condemn the crime, we are sympathetic to the criminal. Is this the reason why prison staff often develops a soft corner for those in custody? (Evans Tries an O-Level)

CBSE Class 12 English Core
Sample Paper 10 (2020-21)

Solutions

Section A

1.
 - i. (c) Young Lo – 1403-23
 - ii. (d) It is an architectural masterpiece built with an exquisite colour combination
 - iii. (b) Emperor was too the sun
 - iv. (a) Gate of Supreme Harmony
 - v. (a) Unites the emperor and the empress
 - vi. (b) Place of Earthly Tranquillity
 - vii. (c) Hall of Preserving Harmony
 - viii. (c) Dragon Throne
 - ix. (a) inception
 - x. (c) exquisite
 - xi. (b) symmetry
2.
 - i. (d) all of these
 - ii. (b) Our faith
 - iii. (c) Believed in the orderly harmony of what exists
 - iv. (a) Courage
 - v. (b) You start appreciating yourself
 - vi. (b) The personal stand is all that matters
 - vii. (c) Accepting the impermanence of life
 - viii. (a) Smart and organized
 - ix. (c) Surrender
 - x. (d) Transient
 - xi. (b) Boat
3. **Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY TWO of the three given by answering the questions that follow. (4+4=8)**
 1.
 - i. (a) M. Hamel
 - ii. (b) For it is his last lesson in French.
 - iii. (d) All of these

- iv. (a) French
- 2. i. (a) M. Hamel
 - ii. (c) Because he was delivering his last lesson in French
 - iii. (c) For it was captured by the Prussian army
 - iv. (b) Four decades
- 3. i. (c) Charley
 - ii. (b) Third Level, Grand Central Station
 - iii. (c) Jack Finney
 - iv. (c) It was complete silence
- 4. **Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE of the two given by answering the questions that follow. (1x4=4)**
 - 1. i. (a) The poetess
 - ii. (d) Her mother had grown very old
 - iii. (c) Sad
 - iv. (a) Kamala Das
 - 2. i. (a) Fear of losing her mother
 - ii. (d) All of these
 - iii. (a) To conceal her pain
 - iv. (b) Alliteration
- 5. **Attempt ANY EIGHT questions from the ten given below. (1x8=8)**
 - i. (d) Franz was afraid of scolding as M. Hamel would ask questions on 'Participles'
Explanation: Franz was afraid of M. Hamel because he was very strict. M. Hamel had told them that he would ask questions on 'Participles' and he did not know even the first word about them. He was afraid that his teacher would scold him for coming late to school and also not reciting the 'participles', so he thought of running away and spending the day outdoor.
 - ii. (a) Surfing
Explanation: William developed an aversion to water when he was around three or four years old. His father had taken him to a beach in California in an attempt to tutor him to surf on the waves. William was knocked over by the waves although he had clung to his father, the waves swept over him giving birth to the fear of water in his mind.
 - iii. (b) At his ashram in Sevagram

Explanation: Louis Fischer visited Mahatma Gandhi in 1942 at his ashram in Sevagram, in central India. This was the first time Fisher met him in person.

iv. (a) Time and aging spares none

Explanation: It is true to say that time spares no one. The poet Kamala Das's mother was the victim of time. Ageing is an inevitable part of our life.

v. (d) Twelve

Explanation: The poet asked the human race to count up to twelve in the poem. The number twelve signifies the existence of twelve months of a year and also the twelve hours on the face of the clock.

vi. (a) Because of the wedding band's massive weight on her fingers

Explanation: The phrase reflects the subdued nature of Aunt Jennifer due to the constant domination and oppression which leaves her immobilized with fear, meek, and draining away her minimal strength if any, to protest against her master, Uncle, who is her husband. Even after her death would she be bound by the unpleasant experiences that she was mastered by which is indicated by the massive weight of Uncle's wedding band.

vii. (d) He didn't have the old currency

Explanation: The third level was what many of us believe to be a time machine that went backwards in time. Hence, the currency too was old-styled bills and unlike the twentieth century post-War bills. Charley, who belonged to the twentieth century, didn't have the old-styled bills with him which prevented him from buying the tickets.

viii. (d) By their actions

Explanation: People should be judged by their actions and not by their looks because appearance might be deceptive.

ix. (c) that he had some other plan

Explanation: Evans seems to be telling his teacher that he may surprise everyone by his master-minded perfect escape plan.

x. (c) With the wizard hitting back the mother skunk with his magic wand

Explanation: She wanted the story to end with the wizard hitting back the mother skunk with his magic wand and chopping off her arms forcibly.

Section B

6.

SITUATIONS VACANT Bhatia and Bhatia company is looking for experienced and

qualified Civil Engineers for its Chennai office on a contractual basis. The candidates should be B.Tech(Civil Engineering) with at least 10 years of experience working with an MNC. Salary will not be a constraint for the right candidate. Attend walk-in-interview with resume, attested testimonials and two passport-size photographs on Sunday, 4th April, 20XX at 10 AM at any of the following addresses.
Head office 62, Neelkanth Industrial Area, Bengaluru Ph: 6210343X
Regional office 42, Gagan Industrial Area, Chennai Ph: 2312456X

OR

SUNRISE PUBLIC SCHOOL, SURAT

NOTICE

Flower Exhibition in the Central Park

11th February 20XX

This is to notify all the students that a beautiful flower exhibition is going to be held in Central Park from 14th February to 22nd February. The exhibition timings are 11 AM to 5 PM and the entry is free. The exhibition will showcase different varieties of flowers.

All students and staff are recommended to visit the exhibition and enjoy the wide variety of flowers on display.

Navtej
(Head Boy)

7. 27, Urban Estate,
Sector 15,
Karnal.
29 March 2019.

Dear Vineet,

I cordially invite you to the house warming ceremony of our newly constructed house in Urban Estate. With God's grace, the Hawan Ceremony is scheduled to be at 10 a.m. followed by lunch at 1.00 p.m. Kindly join us with your family on this auspicious day. I'll introduce you to my parents and close relatives. My family will be glad by your presence.

With regards,
Kartik Verma

OR

M-114, Fort Road

Chennai - 600009

16th March 20XX

Dear Satish,

It was indeed a pleasure to receive an invitation to your sister's wedding. I would have loved to attend this great event. However, it will not be possible for me to do so, as my pre-board exams are going on and I have Chemistry paper on the wedding day.

Therefore, I regret I would not be able to join you in the celebration. Best wishes to your sister for her future life .

Yours faithfully,

Puneet Vij

8. 121, Main street

Kanpur

16th February, 20XX

The Editor

The Hindustan Times

Kanpur

Subject: Need to encourage the education of girl child

Sir,

Through the columns of your esteemed daily, I would like to draw attention to the lack of girl education which is still prevailing in the remote areas of our modernising and westernising country. The fact that the number of girls in rural schools is not rising to the desired level disturbs me from within. For many past years, the government of India has been planning, launching and implementing various schemes to attract more and more girls to get basic education but it is rather unfortunate that despite all the incentives the government is providing to encourage the education of the girl child, their number has not risen to the desired level in rural areas. Although there are many obstacles to overcome, issues like gender disparity need to be addressed over and over again. There should be schemes like awarding the villages which show the largest proportional enrolment and an average attendance of girls in school. Such families who send their daughters to school can also be rewarded. Moreover, a strong public opinion on girls' education needs to be created in rural India. I am sure that by taking up these few simple steps, the situation of education of girls in rural India will come up to the desired level.

Yours sincerely
Ram

OR

16, TT Nagar
Bhopal - 462002
12th February, 20XX
The Public Relations Office
Chantac Enterprises
3rd Cross Road, Khar
Mumbai - 400052

Sir,

Subject: Application for the post of Marketing Manager

This is in response to your advertisement in 'The Times of India' dated 10th January, 20XX. I hereby wish to apply for the post of Marketing Manager in your reputed firm. I have a post-graduate Diploma in Marketing (equivalent to MBA) from a reputed institution. In addition, I have a total of 7 years' experience in the Marketing function in the line similar to yours, i.e Automobile Marketing Currently. I am working as a Dy Marketing Manager in a well-known company.

I am enclosing my bio-data and attested copies of my certificates.

Thanking you!

Yours faithfully,

Prem

Bio-data

Name: Prem Pal Singh

Father's name: D.K Singh

Date of birth: 2nd March 1992

Address: 16, TT Nagar, Bhopal - 462002

Academic Qualifications:

| Degree | Board/ University | Year | Division |
|------------|-------------------|------|----------|
| Graduation | CBSE | 2010 | Second |

| | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------|-------|
| B.Sc (PCM) | Barkatullah University, Bhopal | 2013 | First |
| PG Diploma in Marketing and Management | ITS, Delhi | 2015 | First |

Experience:

| Name of Employer | Post held | From | To | Nature of Duties |
|--|-----------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| Bajaj Auto, Pune (Working in Regional office, Bhopal) | Dy Mktg Mgr | Dec 2017 | Current | Managing a division of the MP region |
| Hero Motors, Dharuher (working in Zonal office, MP) | Mktg Officer | Mar 2016 | Nov 2016 | Marketing high-end bikes |

Expected salary: Rs. 65,000 per month

Languages fluency: English, Hindi

Hobbies and Interests: Athletics, travelling

Marital Status: Unmarried

Contact information: 8059XXXXXX / premXX@gmail.com

9. **Midday Meal Scheme— Benefits and Drawbacks
by Navtej**

The Midday Meal Scheme is a big success story. It has drastically reduced the school dropout rate wherever it has been implemented properly. In fact, children belonging to poor families are now able to get a decent education, at least till they are 14 years of age, only because their parents send them to attend school because of the meal available there. Millions of children from the deprived sections of society get nutritious food leading to good health, are attracted to the schools, keep from going astray and develop into good citizens. Thus, the midday meal scheme in the schools introduced by the government serves several purposes. However, the scheme may have some drawbacks too. The implementation of the scheme by the schools is not constant. In some cases, the food is not properly cooked or adequately nutritious as required by the scheme. This is due to either the carelessness or the outright corruption of the principal/teacher-

in-charge of the scheme in the school. Sometimes it is found that sub-standard material is used to prepare the meal or the condition under which the meal is prepared leads to contamination of the foodstuffs. This causes illness among the children consuming the food. The real beneficiaries of the scheme are the children. Thus, in order to make sure that the children accrue true benefits, the relevant authorities must carry out regular inspections in the schools to ensure that the scheme is implemented properly in letter and spirit.

OR

Funds for Poor and Old Widows
by XYZ, Secretary, Social Club

Sahibabad, 27th November, 20XX: Our school organised various cultural activities between the 17th and 22nd of November, 20XX with a goal to collect funds for the old widows living in abject poverty at places such as Vrindavan, Benaras, etc. Our Social Club was extremely keen to help these poor and old widows who live in most pathetic and miserable conditions. Keeping in view the onset of winters, the focus was on collecting warm and woollen clothes, blankets and quilts.

As the part of our initiative, we organised a music and dance extravaganza, in which an entertaining show was put up by students and local singers and musicians. Our Club also put up a fete in which the members sold artifacts made by them. Through our sincere endeavour, we managed to collect three lakh rupees. We presented the cheque together with the collected clothes and other articles to the local NGO, which is doing serious work to uplift these widows. In order to help such women lead a better life inhumane conditions, our Club has pledged to work for their welfare on a regular basis.

10. **Attempt ANY FIVE out of the six questions given below, in 30-40 words each.**

(2x5=10)

- i. Life under apparent stillness is the thing which man can learn from nature. The Earth is never in a state of total inactivity. Nature carries on its work even where there is stillness all around. Everything on Earth grows through a cycle of life and death. It teaches us the art of preserving and resurrecting life on Earth.
- ii. Man makes his life miserable and full of suffering because of his own actions. The pall of despondency is the sadness that is a result of what he does. A thing of beauty works

wonders by removing the cover of gloom that engulfs man. We weave a flowery wreath to remind us of our connection to nature. But one often forgets this connection in the turmoil of life. Beauty lies in the lap of nature that can replenish our soul.

- iii. Sahab was a garbage picker residing in Seemapuri. He took up work at a tea stall after quitting garbage picking. At the tea stall, he had to perform several odd jobs, including getting milk from the milk booth. He was not happy, as he had lost his independence. Though he earned Rs.800 and got all his meals free, he was no longer his own master. As a garbage picker, he was free but at the tea stall, he had to carry a heavy canister.
 - iv. Mukesh's dream is to become a motor-mechanic. His dream certainly appears to be a mirage as he belongs to a very poor family of bangle makers of Firozabad. It is difficult for him to achieve his dream, as he is forced to follow his family tradition, it is ironical that this family profession is not lucrative. However, his will to work hard and his strong determination could make him achieve his dream.
 - v. According to the peddler, the world was a big rattrap as it offered riches and joys, shelter and food, heat and clothing, just like the rattrap offered cheese and pork. It had never existed for any other purpose than to set baits for people. As soon as anyone touched the bait, he got trapped in it forever.
 - vi. Gandhiji decided to go first to Muzzafarpur, on his way to Champaran, to obtain complete information about the conditions of sharecroppers of Champaran than Shukla was capable of imparting. Gandhiji stayed there in the home of Professor Malkani, a teacher in a government school. At that time it was a crime to harbour advocates of Home-Rule, especially for a government employee.
11. **Attempt ANY TWO out of the three questions given below in 30-40 words each. (2x2=4)**
- i. Dr. Sadao was not sent abroad with the troops because the ailing General trusted no other surgeon but Dr Sadao. He knew he could need Sadao's medical assistance anytime. Dr. Sadao had proven himself to be a genius by his skills in surgery and by perfecting a discovery that would render wounds entirely clean.
 - ii. The Galesburg of 1894 was a peaceful town with no fear of war and no unhappy people. As long as there was no worry and fear of war, a psychiatrist was out of the question and therefore Sam the psychiatrist could not practice it in Galesburg.

- iii. Jack was telling a bedtime story to Jo. Clare, his wife, who was six months pregnant was rearranging the living room downstairs. She wanted his help in doing the work. Jack was caught in an ugly middle position whether to stay with his daughter until she sleeps or go downstairs to help his wife.

12. Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words (1x5=5)

- i. Yes, it is true that everybody in the Last Lesson is filled with regret. We begin with the narrator. As soon as he heard that it was his last lesson he immediately realized the value of learning French and wished he had done his studies properly. He even wished he had learned his participles properly. Mr. Hamel, the teacher regretted that he did not devote all his time to teaching them, French. There were times when he had given them a day off as had gone fishing or he had sent them to water his plants. Now he wished he had utilized each of those moments. The villagers and the elderly people of the village also regretted that they had never made an effort to study. They had paid less heed to learn their language. They regretted that they had sent their children to fields or factories to work instead of sending them to school more often. They all sat on the last benches in the last class of Mr. Hamel, wishing they had not wasted their time and had studied. The order had aroused patriotic feelings in them. All of them wished they had taken their classes seriously.
- ii. It is appropriate that the peddler suffers from loneliness and he longs for companionship and understanding. First of all, the tramp appears to be blaming the humans around for his monotonous existence, he longs for affection yet is pathetically ignored. He is always greeted by sour faces and cold words. On the other hand, the old crofter's fate has been somewhat kinder to him. Bereft of his wife and children, he lives all alone in a cottage by the roadside and is rather happy to have visitors around so he is glad to receive the peddler as a guest. We also have the ironmaster and his daughter, Edla, who have no company for Christmas as the ironmaster's wife is dead and his sons are settled abroad. Edla wants to make the peddler happy to give pleasure to him for a short while. Thus, all of them have a strong desire for bonding and comradeship. The crofter is happy to be friends with the peddler, although only for a night. It is the bonding with the ironmaster's daughter that transforms the peddler. The love, understanding and dignity that he gets from the girl makes him leave his dishonest ways and redeem himself. He is completely transformed from a thief to a gentleman.

13. Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words (1x5=5)

i. Mr Lamb and Derry both are victims of physical impairment. Mr Lamb has an artificial leg made of tin and Derry has a scarred face. Most often a sense of alienation affects the disabled persons. The people react sharply over their physical defence and impairment. Undoubtedly, both have suffered humiliations in life on account of their handicaps.

However, loneliness and a sense of alienation are also experienced by Derry and Mr Lamb on account of disability. The actual pain and inconvenience caused by disabilities are often much less than the sense of alienation felt by the disabled person. To overcome his loneliness and disappointment, Mr. Lamb sits in the sun and reads books. His garden gate and heart is open for the people. Derry suffers from severe negative complexes because of his burnt face. He becomes a pessimistic loner as people get scared of him and stay away from him. So, he indulges in self-pity and is always suspicious of the intention of others. His anger and frustration make him withdrawn.

Mr Lamb, on the other hand, is a loner who craves for company and acceptance. He enjoys people and the buzzing of the bees in the garden. He feels lonely and withdraws with a sense of inferiority complex. Negative feelings towards life creep in. Derry and Mr Lamb's physical disabilities cause pain and suffering not only to their body but also to their mind and soul.

ii. 'Crime' and 'criminals' are usually considered synonymous. However, our perception changes when we see criminal suffering or serving his punishment. This is what happens with the prison staff. Noticing a criminal suffer in the prison, they unwittingly develop a soft corner for him in their hearts. They look at them as a human being and not as a mere criminal. They start noticing and appreciating their mental capabilities rather than just remembering their crime.

In the story, Jackson lets Evans keep his hat after knowing that he considered it to be his lucky charm. Evans knew of the emotional side of Jackson and so hit it directly through his talk about "lucky charm", and managed to befool the strict and practical officer. Even the Governor could not help noticing his intelligence when he caught him in the hotel. Thus, he was not cruel with Evans, and regrettably, took him leniently.