

**CBSE Class 12 English Core**  
**Sample Paper 04 (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:**

High-altitude climbing is still a very dangerous task despite the availability of oxygen masks and other protective equipment which modern climbers take with them. These, of course, are indispensable accessories of climbing, but more important than these is the stamina of the climber which ultimately determines the success of his attempt.

Throughout his journey, death is his constant companion which he can keep at a distance only with his superb presence of mind. He has to tread every inch of the ground with the utmost care, for a false step may not only strike him a fatal blow but also bring disaster to the whole expedition. That is why all expeditions invariably take with them local guides who are experienced climbers and who have a thorough knowledge of the nature of the terrain. Moreover, a huge amount of capital is needed for financing these expeditions, and this is generally provided by governments or rich private organizations.

The primary objective of the mountaineering expedition is to get to the top of a high mountain, which, in the past has withstood all attempts to conquer it. But it should not be presumed that the expedition is a complete failure if it does not reach its destination.

Sometimes operations are temporarily suspended because of bad weather, loss of some valuable equipment, or the sudden death of a very important member of the party.

Every big expedition takes with it men who are interested in botany, geology & various other branches of science, and these men carry with them equipment for recording their

observations concerning the weather, the terrain & different forms of life in higher altitudes. Other scientists, explorers & expeditionists utilize the fruits of their observations. Thus, every unsuccessful expedition contributes to the success of later expeditions. The British Expedition led by colonel Hunt would have found their way to Everest much more difficult had not earlier expeditions armed them with useful knowledge about the death-dealing weather which they had to encounter in the Vicinity of the summit.

To ordinary people, mountaineering need not be a fearful journey in the land of snowstorms, where the brave adventurer is always face to face with death. They can scale less ambitious heights, rest their weary limbs under a quiet shelter and feast their eyes on the distant landscape. In the company of friends, they can enjoy an outing near a waterfall or cross into the next Valley with haversacks full of provisions dangling from their shoulders. All those who can afford to go to a hill station should seek this innocent pleasure, for it can be had without any risk to life or limb.

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

- i. What is the factor that determines the success of the climbers?
  - a. Availability of protective equipment
  - b. Availability of oxygen masks
  - c. The stamina of the climber
  - d. Height and weight of the climber
- ii. What precaution should the climbers take during their journey?
  - a. Have a subtle presence of mind
  - b. Avoid causing a disaster
  - c. Have a good sponsor
  - d. Take local guides along
- iii. In what way does a mountaineering expedition contribute to the wealth of Knowledge?
  - a. People interested in different branches of science accompany climbers
  - b. You learn to conquer the biggest hurdles of life
  - c. Even a failed expedition contributes to the success of later expeditions
  - d. Mountaineers carry equipment to record observations about weather and terrain
- iv. How is an ordinary mountaineer's experience different from that of a regular



expedition?

- a. They don't have to be face to face with death
  - b. They can savour the landscape from a distance
  - c. They don't have to worry much about finances
  - d. All of these
- v. How does a local guide help an expedition?
- a. They know about the place they live in
  - b. They know the local language
  - c. They help clean the environment on the way
  - d. They can help in case of fatalities
- vi. Why can an expedition not be a failure?
- a. Reaching the destination does not mark its success
  - b. Temporarily suspending operations become a necessity at times
  - c. Recorded observations of incomplete expeditions still stand useful
  - d. All of these
- vii. How are recorded observations of mountaineers useful to others?
- a. They give an insider's outlook to mountaineering
  - b. They are not of much help as nature keeps evolving
  - c. It would otherwise not be possible to know about Everest
  - d. It prepares future mountaineers for what they're going to deal with
- viii. What is the primary objective of a mountaineering expedition?
- a. Climb up and down; alive
  - b. Unfurl your flag at the peak
  - c. Reach to the top
  - d. Experience nature in its vicinity
- ix. Find the synonym of "neighbourhood" in paragraph 3:
- a. Terrain
  - b. Summit
  - c. Altitude
  - d. Vicinity
- x. Find the antonym of "opponent" in paragraph 1:
- a. Companion
  - b. Climber

c. Guide

d. Death

xi. One word that describes a mountaineer is:

a. Eccentric

b. Adventurous

c. Coward

d. Environmentalist

**2. Read the passage:**

1. 'There is no need to define morality, let a man be simply compassionate'. This sentence expresses the basic essence of morality, the extent to which it relies on compassion for its definition. For when we think about it, is not that truly human feeling of compassion the basis of all morality?
2. Morality rests for its very meaning on the concepts of 'good' and 'bad' where 'good' refers to all thoughts and deeds that do not aim at or accomplish any harm or injury or do not involve an attempt to inflict suffering on others. Thus morality is based on man's ability to understand, being able to sympathize, feel kindness and sorrow for, and identify himself with the sufferings of his fellow men. So, only compassion can give rise to oral thoughts and feelings.
3. Depriving a person of what is his or what must belong to him – what is called stealing – for selfish ends, taunting or insulting others through words or actions for self – gratification, violence – expressed verbally or as acts of torture, Killing, etc. – for the sake of violence contradict morality as well as an inner feeling of kindness and compassion.
4. When we talk about social morality of any kind, what comes into play is our ability to feel for the well-being of our society. A certain moral code of conduct is ultimately necessary to ensure that the society does not fall prey to degeneration of values, which would lead to rampant suffering and ultimately chaos. It is a concern to help the society by safeguarding it from unwanted ills and malaises and ensuring its well – being. Society's concerns are our concerns; anything capable of causing a detrimental impact on it in the short term or in course of time is ultimately bound to affect us and our children.
5. There is the need to realize that man must continue to feel compassion for the sake of himself as well as society. But like any other human trait, compassion ought to be



continually exercised if it is to remain a dormant force. Unfortunately, in modern society what we witness is the complete lack of kindness and sympathy between fellow beings. One can only shake one's head and say that just like other cherished values even compassion is getting eroded in the hustle and bustle of the mechanical existence of these times. What remains is material values that look only towards immediate personal gains and in the process rid man of whatever 'humanness' is left in him.

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

- i. To define morality, one relies on:
  - a. Values
  - b. Compassion
  - c. Human Feelings
  - d. All of these
- ii. Morality is based on:
  - a. Differences between good and bad
  - b. Man's ability to understand and sympathize
  - c. Inducing sufferings for others
  - d. Giving rise to oral thoughts
- iii. The good in morality deals with:
  - a. Not inflicting suffering on others
  - b. Men being able to sympathize
  - c. Feel kindness and sorrow for others
  - d. All of these
- iv. What is gratification?
  - a. Depriving a person of his necessities
  - b. Killing inner feelings of morality
  - c. Pleasing oneself by insulting others
  - d. Taunting people for fun
- v. How can one ensure that society does not suffer?
  - a. By teaching them the lesson of morality
  - b. By preaching the lessons of Buddha
  - c. By following a model code of conduct

- d. By feeling for the well-being of society
- vi. How society's concerns are our concerns?
  - a. Capable of having a detrimental impact immediately
  - b. The world is a small place; one has to bear the consequences
  - c. What goes around, comes around; our karma
  - d. In due course of time, these concerns are bound to affect everyone
- vii. Man must continue to feel compassion for:
  - A. His family
  - B. His friends
  - C. Himself
  - D. The society
  - a. Only A and B
  - b. Only C and D
  - c. Only A, C and D
  - d. All of these
- viii. What does one witness in modern society?
  - A. Material Values hold importance
  - B. There is no humanness left in society
  - C. Complete lack of sympathy between fellow beings
  - D. Compassion being eroded by machines
  - a. Only A and B
  - b. Only C and D
  - c. Only A, B and C
  - d. All of these
- ix. Find a word similar in meaning to "impose" in paragraph 2:
  - a. inflict
  - b. accomplish
  - c. attempt
  - d. identify
- x. Find a word similar in meaning to "widespread" in paragraph 4:
  - a. degeneration
  - b. malaises
  - c. rampant

d. concern

xi. Find a word opposite in meaning “active” to paragraph 5:

a. hustle

b. trait

c. dormant

d. eroded

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 following questions:**

Presently, the landlords learned that Germany had developed synthetic indigo. They, thereupon, obtained agreements from the sharecroppers to pay them compensation for being released from the 15 percent arrangement.

i. What product was endorsed by Germany?

a. Synthetic indigo

b. Herbal tea

c. Coffee beans

d. Synthetic fibre

ii. What percentage of land were the peasants compelled to plant indigo?

a. 50 percent

b. 100 percent

c. 15 percent

d. 33 percent

iii. What did the British want the peasants to do instead?

a. To surrender their lands

b. To work for free

c. To work at a reduced price

d. To compensate for being released from 15 percent arrangement

iv. What would be the impact of synthetic indigo on the prices of natural indigo?

a. Price of natural indigo would fall

b. Price of natural indigo would rise marginally

c. Price of natural indigo would be doubled

d. Price of natural indigo would be stagnant

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 given passage and answer the questions that follow:**

I...there...I thought this was an empty place. I didn't know there was anybody here....

- i. From which lesson, the following excerpt has been taken?
  - a. The Third Level
  - b. The Enemy
  - c. On the Face of It
  - d. Should Wizard hit Mommy
- ii. Who is the speaker of these lines?



- a. Mr. Lamb
- b. Susan Hill
- c. Derry's Mother
- d. Derry

iii. With whom, "I" is talking?

- a. Derry's Mother
- b. Derry
- c. Mr. Lamb
- d. Susan Hill

iv. Why did "I", think that was an empty place?

- a. I couldn't see anyone there
- b. I ignored the presence of anyone
- c. I knew, that place always remains empty
- d. I was telling a lie

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:**

On their slag heap, these children  
Wear skins peeped through by bones and  
spectacles of steel  
With mended glass, like bottle bits on stones.

- i. Who are these children?
  - a. Students of an elementary school in a slum
  - b. Students of a convent in the city
  - c. Students of a boarding school
  - d. Students of a reputed primary school
- ii. Name the poet of the given lines.
  - a. Pablo Neruda
  - b. Robert Frost
  - c. Stephen Spender
  - d. John Keats
- iii. Why were their bones peeping through their skins?
  - a. They were malnourished

- b. Their bones got fractured
  - c. Their skin got damaged
  - d. They had a skin allergy
- iv. Of what material were their spectacles made up of?
- a. Plastic
  - b. Steel
  - c. Rubber
  - d. Gold

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

The paper seeming boy, with rat's eyes.

The stunted, unlucky heir

Of twisted bones, reciting a father's gnarled disease,

His lesson, from his desk.

- i. Who possessed the rat's eyes?
  - a. The paper seeming boy
  - b. The boy wearing dirty clothes
  - c. The obese boy
  - d. The boy wearing broken spectacles
- ii. What is 'heir'?
  - a. Ancestor
  - b. Successor
  - c. Owner
  - d. Employee
- iii. What did the unlucky heir inherit?
  - a. Despair
  - b. Disease
  - c. Poverty
  - d. All of these
- iv. What is the meaning of 'a paper seeming boy'?
  - a. A skinny boy
  - b. A transparent boy
  - c. A fair-complexioned boy
  - d. A fat boy



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

- i. Why did the villagers attend a school that day with the children in the text **The Last Lesson**?
  - a. To pay homage to M. Hamel
  - b. To learn how to teach
  - c. To see if their children were studying properly
  - d. To learn how to read
- ii. The prose **Deep Water** is an excerpt taken from which book written by William Douglas?
  - a. Beyond the High Himalayas
  - b. Of Men and Mountains
  - c. Go East, Young Man: The Early Years
  - d. Points of Rebellion
- iii. The prose **Indigo** has been taken from which book by Fischer?
  - a. A Week with Gandhi
  - b. Men and Politics
  - c. The Life of Mahatma Gandhi
  - d. Gandhi and Stalin
- iv. The picture of the poet Kamala Das mother's corpse-like figure retrieved:
  - a. Old happy memories
  - b. An image of positivity
  - c. Certainty of long life
  - d. Old childhood fear
- v. How long does the poet want to cease activity and observe complete silence? (**keeping quiet**)
  - a. One hour
  - b. One day
  - c. One second
  - d. One year
- vi. What is the rhyme scheme of the poem **Aunt Jennifer's Tigers**?
  - a. abab
  - b. abac
  - c. aabb

- d. abba
- vii. Why did Sam refer to Charley's hobby of collecting stamps as a **temporary refuge from reality in The Third Level**?
  - a. Because it indicated his wish for a peaceful life
  - b. Because he did not have a job
  - c. Because it indicated his bond with his grandfather
  - d. Because he wanted to have the largest stamp collection
- viii. How does Mr. Lamb try to remove the baseless fears of Derry?
  - a. By telling Derry that nothing in this world is so worthless
  - b. By telling story his life
  - c. By giving an example of handicapped people
  - d. By giving an example of neighbour
- ix. Who was Carter?
  - a. A policeman
  - b. Detective Superintendent
  - c. Watchman
  - d. None of these
- x. How did the wizard help Roger Skunk?
  - a. By giving him toys to play
  - b. By giving him food to eat
  - c. By giving him new dresses
  - d. By making him get rid of his bad smell

#### **Section B**

6. You possess one acre of land in Punjab. You want to dispose of this agricultural land. Write an advertisement to be published in National Daily giving all necessary details. You are Harpreet of Purana Street, Gurdaspur, Punjab.

OR

As the Principal, National Public School, Ramnagar, write a notice in about 50 words informing the students that with effect from 20th of January the school shall start at 9 AM instead of 8 AM. Give reasons for the change.

7. You are Faiz/Falak Mazumdar living at 39, Udampur, Colony, Shimla. You decide to hold a dinner party to congratulate your grandparents on their golden wedding anniversary.



Draft a formal invitation in not more than 50 words to all family members to attend a grand dinner at home.

OR

On 30th November your school is going to hold its annual sports day. You want Mr Dhanraj Pillai, a noted hockey player to give away the prizes to the budding sportspersons of the school. Write a formal invitation in about 50 words requesting him to grace the occasion. You are Karuna/Karan, Sports Secretary, Sunrise Global School, Agra.

8. Recently you went to your native village to visit your grandparents. You saw that some of the children in the age group 5-14 (the age at which they should have been at school) remained at home, were working in the fields or simply loitering in the streets. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the Editor of a national daily analysing the problem and offering solutions to it. You are Navtej/Navita, M-114 Mount Kailash, Kanpur.

OR

You are Shilpa/Sameer, living in Bangalore. You have just seen an ad in a local newspaper from Matrix HR services for the post of a receptionist. Write a letter for a job to the chief executive officer of Matrix HR services.

9. You saw a stray dog beaten to death by a group of boys. Their act infuriated you and you scolded them for their cruel act. You decided to write an article on cruelty to animals. Write the article in 125-150 words. You are Nikhil/Naina.

OR

A few teachers and students from Edwin University had visited your school on an exchange programme. You welcomed them grandly. Write a report in 125-150 words on the celebration. You are Brijesh/Benu.

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

**(2x5=10)**

- i. Explain 'If we were not so single-minded about keeping our lives moving'.
- ii. What will happen to Aunt Jennifer's tigers when she is dead?

- iii. In spite of despair and disease pervading the lives of the slum children, they are not devoid of hope. How far do you agree?
  - iv. Why does the author say that the bangle makers are caught in a vicious web?
  - v. How was the crofter 'generous with his confidence' when he spoke to the peddler?
  - vi. What was the outcome of the four protracted interviews that Gandhiji had with the Lieutenant-Governor?
11. **Attempt ANY TWO out of the three questions given below in 30-40 words each. (2x2=4)**
- i. Did Hana think the Japanese tortured their prisoners of war? Why?
  - ii. What sort of dresses and appearance did Charley come across on the third level?
  - iii. Why did Jo call the Skunk's mommy stupid?
12. **Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words. (1x5=5)**
- i. The story "The last lesson" is all about 'Linguistic Chauvinism'. Comment?
  - ii. How does the peddler interpret the acts of kindness and hospitality shown by the crofter, the ironmaster and his daughter?
13. **Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words. (1x5=5)**
- i. What is the bond that unites old Mr. Lamb and Derry the young boy? How does the old man inspire the small boy?
  - ii. "I may surprise everybody", said Evans to his German teacher. Do you think he proved this statement right? Substantiate your answer. (Evans Tries an O-Level)



**CBSE Class 12 English Core**  
**Sample Paper 04 (2020-21)**

**Solutions**

**Section A**

1.
  - i. (c) The stamina of the climber
  - ii. (a) Have a subtle presence of mind
  - iii. (d) Mountaineers carry equipment to record observations about weather and terrain
  - iv. (d) All of these
  - v. (a) They know about the place they live in
  - vi. (d) All of these
  - vii. (a) They give an insider's outlook to mountaineering
  - viii. (c) Reach to the top
  - ix. (d) Vicinity
  - x. (a) Climber
  - xi. (b) Adventurous
2.
  - i. (b) Compassion
  - ii. (b) Man's ability to understand and sympathize
  - iii. (d) All of these
  - iv. (c) Pleasing oneself by insulting others
  - v. (c) By following a model code of conduct
  - vi. (d) In due course of time, these concerns are bound to affect everyone
  - vii. (b) Only C and D
  - viii. (c) Only A, B and C
  - ix. (a) Inflict
  - x. (c) Rampant
  - xi. (c) Dormant
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) Synthetic indigo
    - ii. (c) 15 percent
    - iii. (d) To compensate for being released from 15 percent arrangement

- iv. (a) Price of natural indigo would fall
- 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) On the Face of It
  - ii. (d) Derry
  - iii. (c) Mr. Lamb
  - iv. (a) I couldn't see anyone there

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) Students of an elementary school in a slum
  - ii. (c) Stephen Spender
  - iii. (a) They were malnourished
  - iv. (b) Steel
- 2. i. (a) The paper seeming boy
  - ii. (b) Successor
  - iii. (d) All of these
  - iv. (a) A skinny boy

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

- i. (a) To pay homage to M. Hamel  
**Explanation:** Franz amazement of the villagers' presence in the classroom gave way to understanding. He saw the tear-filled eyes of the villagers and understood that they had come to pay homage to their teacher, M. Hamel for his forty years of faithful service.
- ii. (b) Of Men and Mountains  
**Explanation:** The prose Deep Water is an excerpt taken from 'Of Men and Mountains' by William O. Douglas.
- iii. (c) The Life of Mahatma Gandhi  
**Explanation:** The excerpt has been taken from the book, 'The Life of Mahatma Gandhi' by Louis Fischer.
- iv. (d) Old childhood fear  
**Explanation:** The poet's mother was at sixty-six. She started to look like a dead body.

Whenever Kamala Das saw her mother the same childhood spectacle came back into her gut.

v. (c) One second

**Explanation:** The poet urged mankind to stop for a second in the poem. He urges mankind to adopt total inactivity and silence for that is of utmost to heal the damage done to nature by the ruthless and self-centred attitude of our race.

vi. (c) aabb

**Explanation:** The rhyme scheme of the poem is aabb.

vii. (a) Because it indicated his wish for a peaceful life

**Explanation:** According to Charley's psychiatrist friend, known by the name of Sam, Charley's visit to the third level of the Grand Central was an illusion and was because he wanted to escape from the insecurities and fear of the modern life. His hobby of stamp collection was a temporary refuge that indicated his wish to have the peaceful life that he had back in Galesburg when he was a child.

viii. (a) By telling Derry that nothing in this world is so worthless

**Explanation:** Mr Lamb tries to remove the baseless fears of Derry by telling him that nothing in this world is so worthless that it deserves to be considered as trash. Even weeds have their own value. He advises Derry to ignore people's comments and think of beautiful objects.

ix. (b) Detective Superintendent

**Explanation:** CARTER was the detective superintendent who arrived at the oxford prison after knowing the whole matter in his white car. He escorted Evans imitating himself as McCleery to the Elsefield.

x. (d) By making him get rid of his bad smell

**Explanation:** The wizard asked Roger Skunk what he wanted to smell like. Roger said he wanted to smell like roses. The wizard took his magic wand and chanted a spell and his whole house was full of the smell of roses. Roger also smelt of roses and in this way, the wizard helped him by making him get rid of his bad smell.

### Section B

6.

#### AGRICULTURE LAND FOR SALE

For Sale One acre Agricultural land in a prime location in Gurdaspur, Punjab, surrounded by a water body on two sides, a pathway connecting highway on the other and a large



park on another side. Change of land use permissible. Interested parties considering investment around seven crores contact Phone 0172 2xxxxxx.

OR

**NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL, RAMNAGAR**

**NOTICE**

**Change in School Timings**

4th January 20XX

Students are hereby informed that with effect from 20th of January, school shall start at 9 AM instead of 8 AM, due to certain contractual issues with the private buses plying for the school. Timings will remain as it is until these issues are completely resolved, . Any inconvenience caused is deeply regretted.

Principal

7. 39, Udampur Colony

Shimla

29th March 2019

Dear Aunt,

On the auspicious occasion of the Golden Jubilee of my grandparents, I invite you to attend the grand dinner party at our residence under the shimmering sky on 2nd April at 8:30 pm. Do come and accompany us with pleasure.

Thank you

Yours affectionately

Faiz Mazumdar

OR

Sunrise Global School

Hari Parvat, Agra - 282002

2nd November 20XX

Respected Sir,

The school is celebrating its 25th Annual Sports Day function on 30th November 2019, which will be at 10:00 am. On behalf of the staff and students at our school, I would like to cordially invite you to the Annual Sports Day of our school. We would be grateful to

you if you could grace the occasion with your presence and motivate our students by giving away prizes. We shall await your reply with the hope of receiving your consent.

Yours sincerely,

Karan

(Sports Secretary)

8. M-114, Mount Kailash,

Kanpur - 208005

14th July, 20XX

The Editor,

The Times of India,

New Delhi-110002

Sir,

**Subject: Preventing illiteracy in rural areas**

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I wish to highlight my observations on my recent visit to my grandparents' house in our ancestral village. Many children of school going age were not attending school and were instead working in the fields, doing household work or just loitering and playing in the village. It was very disheartening to see that even though the right to education has been made compulsory, many children still remain illiterate. I understand that poor parents need a helping hand in the fields, but it should not be at the cost of their children's education.

The parents of these children should be made to understand that an educated child will also make a better farmer, herder or other professional. They must also be made aware of the importance of basic education for children, as it not only helps them to enter the right profession but also helps to instil discipline, helping them in the long-run. Skill development must be emphasised in schools. Free meals, books and uniforms should also be provided so that not a single child is left illiterate. After all, children are the future of tomorrow.

I hope this letter will act as a wakeup call for the concerned authorities and the necessary steps will be taken by the government to solve this problem.

Yours sincerely,

Navtej

OR

47, Netaji Avenue

Bangalore

3rd April 2019

The Chief Executive Officer

Matrix HR Services

Bangalore

Sir,

**Sub: Application for the post of receptionist**

With reference to your advertisement published in 'The Hindustan Times' dated 30th March 2019, I came to know that the above-mentioned post is vacant in your renowned organisation and thereby, I offer my services for the same.

I have experience of working on an identical position at Hotel Hayat and have gained a good experience to tackle different kinds of situations. I have a very good command over spoken English and am proficient in computer applications as well as net surfing. I have a pleasing personality and have all the confidence required for the post of a receptionist.

I hope you find my profile suitable for the post and if so, I will be glad to come for a personal interview at any time suitable to you. If selected, I assure you to render the best of my services with utmost dedication.

Yours Faithfully

Shilpa Sharma

Encl. : Bio-data

**Bio-data**

Name	Shilpa Sharma
Father's Name	Suresh Sharma
Date of Birth	20 Jan 1993
Address	47 Netaji Avenue Bangalore
Hobbies	Reading, Listening Music
Language Known	Hindi, English
Nationality	Indian
Sex	Female



Educational Qualification	B.A from Delhi University (Passing year 2011)
	10+2 CBSE Board (Passing year 2008)
Professional Qualification	Bachelor In Computer Application (D.U) Diploma in spoken English (British Language) Diploma In communication skills
Work Experience	Worked as a receptionist at Hotel Hayat for two years Worked as a Computer Instructor in ATP (New Delhi)

9.

### **Cruelty to Animals**

**by Nikhil**

Recently, a stray dog was beaten to death by a group of boys. However, this is just one cruel act. Every day, countless cats, dogs and other animals suffer and die at the hands of the very people who are supposed to care for and protect them. Physical violence, emotional abuse and life-threatening neglect are daily realities for many animals, which is a matter of both shame and concern. Their only hope is that a kind person will speak up before it's too late. This shows a lack of empathy in people.

We must ensure that animals should not be treated cruelly to gain sadistic pleasure or for 'entertainment' of people, monetary benefit or any other reason. They are living with us peacefully in this world and deserve to be treated like other creatures. They are absolutely essential for the biodiversity and ecosystem of our nature.

The economic benefits (e.g. milk, manure etc.) that they provide us are not unknown to anyone. In fact, the SPCA should be more active to ensure that animals are given proper treatment all the time and everywhere. Then only can we say that they are our companions in this world?

OR

### **Visit by Exchange Programme Participants**

**by Brijesh**

**Subhash Nagar, 16th January, 20XX:** On last Friday, four teachers and twenty students from Edwin University, British Columbia, Canada, visited the Happy School, Subhash Nagar. To broaden their awareness and outlook through this exchange programme,

students of Indian schools visit the schools abroad and vice-versa. On the occasion of their visit, the school was decorated with a festive look. Decorations and posters welcoming the visitors were everywhere. Our Principal himself warmly welcomed the delegates at the school gate. After taking a tour of the classrooms, laboratories, and the facilities in the school, the delegates interacted with teachers and students for nearly an hour about education in India and how students can help society with their positive outlook and enthusiasm. The visit concluded with a delicious 'high tea' in honour of the delegation.

The visitors were seen off by the Principal and senior teachers.

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

**(2x5=10)**

- i. 'If we were not so single-minded about keeping our lives moving' signifies that man just focuses on progress and advancement, without thinking about the consequences of his action. He is treading the path of destruction and trapped in the rat race of competition.
- ii. Even after the death of Aunt Jennifer, her creation, the embroidered tigers, will continue to live and prance upon the screen as they are immortal. Aunt Jennifer will meet her ultimate end but the tigers will stay forever.
- iii. I agree that the slum children are not devoid of hope as even though Saheb-e-Alam is a rag picker then also he nurtures a dream to seek admission in the school, which would be made by the narrator in future sometime. On the other hand, Mukesh belonging to impoverished bangle makers dreams of being a motor mechanic.
- iv. The bangle makers in Firozabad are exploited at the hands of the sahuikars, middlemen, policemen, lawmakers, bureaucrats and politicians. They are frightened of the police who haul beat and drag them to jail for daring to form cooperative. Their children are also compelled to join the same trade at an early age. So they are helpless and caught in the vicious circle.
- v. The crofter told the peddler about how prosperous he was when he used to work at Ramsjo Ironworks. But since he was no longer able to do day labour, it was his cow which supported him then. He told him that he had earned thirty kronor in the previous month. He even showed him his money. Thus, the crofter was generous with his confidence when he spoke to the peddler.
- vi. After the four protracted interviews of Gandhiji with the Lieutenant Governor, an



official commission of inquiry was appointed to look into the sharecropper's situation. The commission consisted of landlords, government officials and Gandhiji as the sole representative which finally agreed to refund 25% of compensation collected by the landlords.

**11. Attempt ANY TWO out of the three questions given below in 30-40 words each. (2x2=4)**

- i. When Hana noticed the deep red scars on the American soldier's neck, she worriedly hoped that he had not been tortured by the Japanese. She knew it was a common practice for the Japanese to torture their prisoners of war in the most brutal manner. This also reminded her of General Takima, who used to beat his wife. The thought of General Takima, who was cruel to his wife, torturing the prisoner made her shudder with fear.
- ii. Charley came across men and women wearing 19th Century dresses. Men supported fancy moustaches, beards and sideburns. Tiny lapels, four-button suits, derby hats and pocket gold watches seemed to be in fashion. Women went about wearing fancy cut sleeves, long skirts with high-buttoned shoes. Thus, at the third level, Charley was puzzled to see people in old fashioned clothes and hair-style.
- iii. Mommy Skunk took Roger Skunk back to the Wizard, to get his original smell, although he liked the new smell. Jo got upset on hearing this as Roger was happy with his new smell and hence called the Skunk's mommy stupid. Jo wanted a happy ending for the hero of the story and was of the opinion that when Roger was happy with the change, his mother didn't have to take him back to the wizard to get that awful smell back.

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

- i. Linguistic Chauvinism means the strong and unreasonable belief that your own country and language is the best and most important. In other words to think that one's language is superior to those of others. Man finds himself in the confinements. The story "The last lesson" is all about linguistic chauvinism. This chapter well explains the meaning and is itself an example of linguistic chauvinism. M. Hamel urges everyone never to forget such a beautiful language. Acquisition of power over the Alsacians made the Prussians so domineering that they imposed even their language on them. Their pride in their language was so fixed that they even forgot to respect the language of the others (French language). The rulers even wanted to



dominate on the will, minds and hearts and wanted them even to think in their language, thereby causing the loss of their too tall identity, The story thus highlights linguistic chauvinism which is becoming a major cause of war and political disturbance in the world.

- ii. The peddler was a vagabond who went around selling small rattraps. Sometimes he had to beg or even steal to survive. One dark evening, as he was trudging along the road, he saw a cottage by the roadside. He knocked on its door. An old man greeted him. The peddler enjoyed the crofter's hospitality and kindness but didn't value it. Instead, before leaving the cottage, he stole the thirty kronor from the pouch hung on the window frame by breaking the windowpane. Thus, he violated the trust of the crofter reposed in him. Similarly, the peddler doesn't seem to be too impressed by the kindness and the hospitality shown by the ironmaster. The ironmaster mistook him as an old acquaintance, a captain. The peddler didn't clear the ironmaster's doubt in the hope of getting a couple of kronor notes. The ironmaster realised his mistake of taking the peddler as an old regimental comrade. He wanted to get him arrested by calling the sheriff. To this, the peddler responded by saying that the whole world was a big rattrap and the ironmaster might also be trapped. Contrary to all this, the acts of kindness and hospitality of the ironmaster's daughter stirred up the essential goodness in the peddler. Her sympathy and understanding left a deep impression on him. His basic goodness didn't want the young girl to feel embarrassed. Now he was a reformed person. He left thirty kronor (to be given back to the old crofter). He also wrote a letter thanking her profusely and signed it as 'Captain von Stahle'.

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

- i. The bond that unites old man Lamb and the young boy Derry stems from a feeling of comfort that the latter finds with the old man who does not treat him differently because of his disability. Mr Lamb inculcates a positive attitude in Derry and the confidence that our flaws become impediments to our success only if we allow them to be. Both of them feel a sense of alienation but Lamb learns to take it in his stride through experience and this is the knowledge that he imparts to the boy. Mr Lamb observes that Derry had two arms, legs, ears and eyes plus a tongue and brain which meant that he was no less than all the rest. If Derry chose and set his mind to it, then he could get on better than the rest. He adds that he had a lot of friends even though he lives alone because he is always open to welcoming people. So, anybody could

come and sit in front of the fire in the winter and kids came for the apples, pears and toffees.

In Mr Lamb's opinion, our difficulties or flaws should not become the governing factors of our life because then bitterness and disappointment would seep into everything. Derry understands that he should not be selfishly absorbed in his own woes and also think about the possibility of suffering being differential in nature.

- ii. Evans was a congenital kleptomaniac who was used to stealing things. He was known for his habit of escaping the prison which he had done thrice and was planning to escape for the fourth time. In reality, he had already plotted a plan to escape. The teacher who had been coming for the last nine months was his friend with whom he had laid a plan. Apart from that, the invigilator who had come to invigilate him was also one of his friends. He availed his clothes, food and other necessary things which were required for his final escape. In fact, he cheated the Governor in the end. As a matter of fact, his friends had come to arrest him who released him later on. The fake call from the Board of Examination and the Magistrate's court (by his friends) also shows that he was a real mastermind who executed his plans efficiently with the help of his trustworthy friends. So, on the whole, we can say that the statement - "I may surprise everybody" - delivered by him came true in the end when he managed to escape for the fourth time.