

CBSE Class 12 English Core
Sample Paper 09 (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:

Hundreds of thousands of years ago giant mammoths still roamed the earth and the surface of the earth was covered by dense forests. Men took shelter in caves and covered their bodies with animal skins. At that time, dogs became man's best friend. At first, they followed man on his hunting trips and waited to get whatever scraps it could get, from the kill its master made. Then the instinct for companionship made it adopt man as its leader.

Soon, the man began to train dogs to help him during the hunt, to carry his burdens, and to give him companionship as he sat by the fireside in the evenings. These changes took place much before recorded history came into practice.

These findings can only be confirmed by the study of the bones of primitive dogs that lay beside the bones of primitive men in caves. As the history of the dog goes back to a time when records were not maintained, it is impossible to be sure of these happenings.

Some scientists believe that dogs are the result of a mating between wolves and jackals.

Other scientists say that some species of dogs descended from wolves while others descended from jackals. Some even go on to say that dogs descended from coyotes and foxes. A widely held theory is that the modern dogs that we keep as pets descended from a remote common ancestor.

This last substantiates the differences in size and appearance between various breeds of

dogs. Other evidence of the wild ancestry of dogs is the built of their bodies, which is very distinctly adopted for speed and strength. Together with their keen sense of smell, hearing qualities, it becomes obvious that they have wild hunters in their genes.

From the time when recorded history began, there have been references to dogs in them. There are images of dogs on Egyptian tombs that are 5000 years old. The Egyptians considered their dog as the sacred and the whole family would go into mourning if the dog in an Egyptian home died. Today, the dog is an indispensable part of our lives. For hundreds of young, healthy blind people, the dog is their seeing eye.

A seeing-eye dog is usually a German shepherd dog. It takes three months to train a guide dog. First, come to the obedience exercise repeated daily as 'setting up exercises'.

Then a U – shaped leather harness is buckled on and the dog learns to walk at the left of the trainer. The dog is taught to stop and wait at the curb, watch traffic, and let the cars pass. Before the dog is passed on to a blind master, a final check is made. Then the blind master and his dog train together for four weeks before they go home to work smoothly as a team.

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

- i. How did dogs become man's best friend at an early age?
 - a. By hunting food for his master
 - b. By being a constant companion
 - c. By protecting man from mammoths
 - d. By not letting the man feel alone in dark caves
- ii. How did men train dogs?
 - A. Dogs shall help the man in the hunt
 - B. Dogs shall carry heavy loads for man
 - C. Dogs shall burn the evening bonfires
 - D. Dogs shall hunt for food to survive
 - a. Only A and B
 - b. Only B and C
 - c. Only C and D
 - d. Only A, B and C
- iii. How did historians know that man and dog were historical companions?
 - a. By studying archaeological records

- b. By studying the caves they used to live in
 - c. By the study of bones of man and dogs
 - d. By general assumptions
- iv. Who are considered as dog's ancestors?
- a. Jackals
 - b. Wolves
 - c. Foxes
 - d. All of these
- v. What makes us believe that dogs have a wild ancestry?
- A. Many varieties of dogs
 - B. Differences in the body built
 - C. Differences in strength and stamina
 - D. Sense of smell and hunting skills
- a. Only A
 - b. Only B and C
 - c. Only B, C and D
 - d. All of these
- vi. What happens when a dog dies in an Egyptian family?
- a. The whole family mourns of his death
 - b. There is state-mourning
 - c. Dog's burial becomes sacred
 - d. His image is put on a wall
- vii. Who is a "seeing-eye" dog?
- a. A dog that has perfect vision
 - b. A dog trained for night vision
 - c. A dog trained to be a blind man's support
 - d. A dog trained to be man's support
- viii. What is the total time taken by a "seeing-eye" dog to reach his master's home and be a team?
- a. 3 months
 - b. 4 weeks
 - c. 1 month
 - d. 4 months

- ix. Find a word in the passage that means "thick" {paragraph 1}.
- giant
 - surface
 - dense
 - scrap
- x. Find a word in the passage that means "eager" {paragraph 5}.
- ancestry
 - breed
 - substantiate
 - keen
- xi. Find a word opposite in meaning to "unfasten" {paragraph 8}.
- buckled
 - taught
 - curb
 - master

2. Read the passage:

- The role friends play in our lives has become significantly greater at any other time in our history. Today many of us live and work great distances from where we were born or grow up & are separated from our original families. The pain we feel when we are away from our families can be significant.
- The happiness of the individual relies on friendships that form a necessary human connection. It is perfectly normal to need and want friends and depression is more prevalent among those who lack friends. They lack the intimacy and richness friends can bring into our lives. Frequently friends reflect similar values to us. Yet these values are often different from the ones we grew up with; they are the values we created for ourselves in our adult lives.
- Communication skills are fundamental in all friendships. The more friends and acquaintances one has, the greater are one's communication skills. Some call these, people skills.
- Like watering a plant, we grow our friendships (and all our relationships) by nurturing them. Friendships need the same attention as other relationships if they are to continue. These relationships can be delightfully non-judgmental, supportive, understanding, and fun.

5. Sometimes a friendship can bring out the positive side that you never show in any other relationship. This may be because the pressure of playing a 'role' (daughter, partner, or child) is removed. With a friend, you are to be yourself and free to change. Of course, you are free to do this in all other relationships as well but in friendships, you get to have lots of rehearsals and discussion about changes as you experience them. It is an unconditional experience where you receive as much as you give. You can explain yourself to a friend openly without the fear of hurting a family member. How do friendships grow? The answer is simple. By revealing yourself; being attentive; remembering what is most important to your friend and asking them about it; put yourself in their position; showing empathy; seeing the world through the eyes of your friend, you will understand the value of friendship. All this means learning to accept a person from a completely different family to your own or perhaps someone from a completely different cultural background. This is why we have learned tolerance. In turn, we gain tolerance and acceptance for our own differences.
6. Friendships are made by being considerate which means all the communication skills come into play: active listening skills, questioning skills, negotiation skills, reflecting content skills, reflecting emotion skills and editing yourself.
7. Friendships offer a great opportunity to learn about yourself because a friend can reflect back to you 'how you come across in the world'. They also allow you to practice skills in dealing with 'personal boundaries' by looking after yourself as well as your friend. They help you develop resilience in relation to the wider society that would be beyond your family.

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

- i. Who do friends play a more significant role today than ever before?
 - a. In the modern world, people need someone to talk to
 - b. People are distanced from families
 - c. Pain caused by separation from families can be cured by friends
 - d. Having friends is the only way to go ahead in life
- ii. Why friendship is considered an essential human need?
 - a. The happiness of individuals rely on their friendships
 - b. Depression is more prevalent among people with fewer friends
 - c. Friends bring in the intimacy and richness of values in life

- d. All of these
- iii. How is friendship different from other relationships?
 - a. We need to nurture it a lot more than other relationships
 - b. Need more attention to continue
 - c. Non-Judgmental relationships
 - d. More or less similar to other relationships
- iv. Mention an essential human value that helps friendship to grow.
 - a. Remembering things about friends and their lives
 - b. Being empathetic and attentive to their needs
 - c. Understanding common family values
 - d. Accepting differences and willing to change them
- v. Which communication skills help in building friendships?
 - a. Active listening skills
 - b. Negotiation skills
 - c. Reflecting emotion
 - d. All of these
- vi. Friendships offer a great opportunity to _____.
 - a. See your own reflection
 - b. Learn not only about self but for others
 - c. Become less dependent on others
 - d. All of these
- vii. Friendships bring out a positive side of you as _____.
 - a. You are yourself and can be stubborn
 - b. You need not change as per the society
 - c. The pressure of playing a companion's role is removed
 - d. You are free to change and be your real self
- viii. How do we gain tolerance in our lives?
 - a. By accepting people's differences
 - b. By being friend's with people of different cultural backgrounds
 - c. By being friendly to other people
 - d. By realizing self-worth
- ix. Find the antonym of "distance" in paragraph 5.
 - a. Empathy

- b. Background
 - c. Tolerance
 - d. rehearsal
- x. Find the synonym of "genuine" in paragraph 1.
- a. Friends
 - b. Family
 - c. Significance
 - d. Original
- xi. Communication skills are often referred to as:
- a. Friendship booster
 - b. People skills
 - c. Bonding skills
 - d. Adapting skills

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 given passage and answer the questions that follow:

So he took them back to the wizard and was very happy and ran out into the woods and all the other little animals gathered around him.....

i. Who is the speaker of the above lines?

- a. Roger Skunk
- b. Jack
- c. John Updike
- d. Wizard

ii. Who is "He" here referred to?

- a. Jack
- b. Wizard
- c. Roger Skunk
- d. Owl

iii. What had "He" taken back to the wizard?

- a. The number of pennies he was less with
- b. His friends
- c. the gifts he had got for his mother
- d. The gifts his mother had given to him to offer the wizard

iv. Why was "He" very happy?

- a. He had paid seven pennies to the wizard
- b. His mother would be happy
- c. He had got the smell of roses
- d. The wizard had returned the seven pennies to him

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. What is the impact of the war on the people of Alsace, a district in France, in **The Last Lesson**?
 - a. They are deprived of food and clothing
 - b. They are deprived of their national identity
 - c. They are deprived of public conveyance
 - d. They are deprived of education
- ii. How was the water at the deeper side of the Y.M.C.A. pool according to William's description in the prose **Deep Water**?
 - a. The water had a deep bluish tinge to it
 - b. The water had a dirty yellow tinge to it
 - c. The water was crystal clear
 - d. The water had a greenish appearance
- iii. Gandhiji was able to convince the lawyers _____.
 - a. because he was sincerely fighting for the peasants
 - b. Mr. Andrews told him to do so
 - c. because Gandhiji's eyes opened to the unjust means being used to harass the peasants
 - d. as he himself was a law student he wanted to see if he can convince someone
- iv. The poet Kamala Das has successfully developed a _____ between the scene inside and outside the moving car.

- a. Sweet connection
 - b. Resemblance
 - c. Humour
 - d. Contrast
- v. Who composed the poem, **Keeping quiet**?
- a. Ruskin Bond
 - b. Pablo Neruda
 - c. William Shakespeare
 - d. Robert Frost
- vi. The poem **Aunt Jennifer's Tigers** echoes with opposition against which ideology that is generally observed in Rich's poems?
- a. Racism
 - b. Liberalism
 - c. Militarism
 - d. Feminism
- vii. In the prose **The Third Level**, where did Charley want to go with his wife from the third level of the Grand Central Station?
- a. Galesburg, Illinois
 - b. Chicago, Illinois
 - c. Springfield, Illinois
 - d. Cairo, Illinois
- viii. Why did Mr. Lamb not have any curtains in his house?
- a. Because he didn't like curtains
 - b. Because his curtains were dirty
 - c. Because he liked dark rooms
 - d. Because he was always ready to accept visitors in his house
- ix. The name of the paper was _____ (**Evans Tries an O-Level**)
- a. 021-3
 - b. 021-1
 - c. 021-4
 - d. 021-2
- x. Where did Roger skunk go first for help?
- a. The monkey

- b. The wise owl
- c. The wizard
- d. The lion

Section B

6. You possess an acre of land in the heart of the city. You want to dispose of this property since you have decided to buy a flat. Write an advertisement to be published in a national daily, giving all the necessary details. You are Krishna of Moti Nagar, Delhi.

OR

You are Mohan/Mohini, Secretary, Social Activities Club of ABC School, Gokulpuri. The club has decided to launch a cleanliness drive in a slum colony near your school during the Dussehra holidays. Write a notice, in not more than 50 words, informing class XII students of your school about the drive and urge them to volunteer for the programme. Give all the necessary details.

7. You are Akshaya/Aakriti. You have been invited to participate in a seminar on 'Fundamental Rights of Children', organised by the Lions Club of your district. Respond and apologise to the invitation by writing a letter to the Secretary of the club.

OR

You are the Secretary of the Old Students' Association, Mayo School, Ajmer. The 20th Alumni Meet will be held on Sunday, 7 April 2019 at 8.00 p.m at the Palace Hotel. Write invitation letters to all the old students of the school to attend the meet.

8. Games and Sports are not given as much importance in the country as is given to academics. As a result of this, our achievements in the international arena are not very spectacular. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily on the importance of sports and games and on the need to create awareness about it. You are Sunita/Sameer, 8/35, MG Road, Bengaluru.

OR

You are Ketan Pandey of 63, Civil Lines, Delhi. You saw an advertisement in 'The Hindu' for the post of Accountant in a reputed firm. Write an application in 120-150 words to the Area Manager of Gayatri Consultants, 2, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi, giving your

detailed bio-data.

9. The rising prices of essential commodities make life difficult for the common man. As a concerned citizen write an article in 150-200 words on 'Rising Prices'. Suggest solutions to solve this problem. You are Amit/Anita.

OR

You are Latha/Lalith of Gurgaon. You had attended the inaugural ceremony of the newly opened vocational stream and hobby classes at the secondary school level in Paras Public School, Gurgaon. Draft a report in 100-125 words to be published in 'Gurgaon Times/ Invent other details.

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

(2x5=10)

- i. Why does the poet want us to 'do nothing' for once? (Keeping Quiet)
 - ii. How does a thing of beauty provide shelter and comfort?
 - iii. How was the acquaintance of the writer with barefoot boys of Seemapuri?
 - iv. What was Saheb looking at the club and why?
 - v. Why did the ironmaster speak kindly to the peddler and invite him home?
 - vi. How did Rajkumar Shukla establish that he was resolute?
11. **Attempt ANY TWO out of the three questions given below in 30-40 words each.**

(2x2=4)

- i. Where, when and how did Dr Sadao meet Hana?
- ii. Why couldn't Sam practice psychiatry in Galesburg?
- iii. Why was Roger Skunk's mother angry? On whom did she pour her anger?

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

- i. What was unusual in the market and in the classroom on the day of the last lesson?
- ii. How did the crofter tempt the peddler to steal his money? How did it change the peddler's life?

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

- i. Give the character sketch of Derry.
- ii. What were the precautions taken for the smooth conduct of the examination? (Evans Tries an O-Level)

CBSE Class 12 English Core
Sample Paper 09 (2020-21)

Solutions

Section A

1.
 - i. (b) By being a constant companion
 - ii. (a) Only A and B
 - iii. (c) By the study of bones of man and dogs
 - iv. (d) All of these
 - v. (c) Only A, C and D
 - vi. (a) The whole family mourns of his death
 - vii. (c) A dog trained to be a blind man's support
 - viii. (d) 4 months
 - ix. (c) Dense
 - x. (d) Keen
 - xi. (a) Buckled
2.
 - i. (c) Pain caused by separation from families can be cured by friends
 - ii. (d) All of these
 - iii. (c) Non-judgemental relationships
 - iv. (b) Being empathetic and attentive to their needs
 - v. (d) All of these
 - vi. (a) See your own reflection
 - vii. (d) You are free to change and be your real self
 - viii. (a) By accepting people's differences
 - ix. (a) Empathy
 - x. (d) Original
 - xi. (b) Peoples skills
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. (b) jack
 - ii. (c) Roger Skunk
 - iii. (a) The number of pennies he was less with
 - iv. (c) He had got the smell of roses

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. (b) They are deprived of their national identity

Explanation: The war had deprived the people of France, in the city of Alsace, of their national identity due to the fact that children would be taught only German in the schools of Alsace and Lorraine. Being Frenchmen, they would not be allowed to have any education in French which implies the fact that they have been denied their nationality.

- ii. (b) The water had a dirty yellow tinge to it

Explanation: In William's near-death experience at the Y.M.C.A. pool, he described his struggle at the deeper end of the pool. He said that the water at the deeper side had a dirty yellow tinge to it which was the only thing he could see around as he went inside the water.

- iii. (a) because he was sincerely fighting for the peasants.

Explanation: Gandhiji's sincerity towards the peasants cause and convincing

arguments and negotiations thoroughly influenced the lawyers who then decided to be a part of the movement to get the peasants justice.

iv. (d) Contrast

Explanation: The poet Kamala Das has successfully formulated a good discrepancy between the scene inside and outside the car. Her mother inside the car was totally distinct from the scene outside with many teenagers and sprinting trees.

v. (b) Pablo Neruda

Explanation: The poem was written by Pablo Neruda. He won the Nobel prize for literature in the year 1971. In this poem, he craftily focused on the need for quiet introspection and creating a feeling of mutual understanding among human beings.

vi. (c) Militarism

Explanation: Militarism roots itself on the belief of a military dictatorship, hence, power and authority above all. In this poem, militarism has been produced in effect with the dictatorship of a husband over his wife. It represents all women subjected to such patriarchal marriage relationships that deem the husband to be in power and dictate his wife.

vii. (a) Galesburg, Illinois

Explanation: The narrator exclaimed that Galesburg in Illinois was a beautiful place in 1894 with big old frame houses, huge lawns, and tremendous trees whose branches met overhead and roofed the streets. Therefore, he wanted two tickets for Galesburg, Illinois.

viii. (d) Because he was always ready to accept visitors in his house

Explanation: Mr. Lamb kept his windows without curtains and kept the doors and gates open because he was always ready to accept visitors in his house. He lived alone in such a big house.

ix. (b) 021-1

Explanation: 021-1

x. (b) The wise owl

Explanation: Roger Skunk would go first to the wise owl for help. He had sad expressions on his face. The owl lived on the tip-top of the tree. Roger Skunk would complain to him that the other animals had left him alone because of his bad smell.

Section B

PLOT FOR SALE

Available one acre freehold plot, near Metro Station, in posh colony of Delhi. Prime location, walking distance from market. Dealers, please excuse. Institutional buyers or builders are welcome. Price negotiable.

Contact- Krishna, C/O Vaishali Furnitures, WZ-47, Moti Nagar
Mobile: 98710XXXXX

OR

ABC SCHOOL, GOKULPURI

NOTICE

Volunteer for Clean Delhi

22nd September 20XX

As part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, the school has decided to launch a cleanliness drive in sector 2 slum area adjoining the school. Class XII students are requested to volunteer for the programme which is to be held from 2nd to 7th October. By joining this programme you will do your service to the nation and help the local residents live in a clean and hygienic place. For further details contact the undersigned.

Mohan

(Secretary, Social Activities Club)

7. 25, Aram Bagh Road,

Meerut

2nd April 2019

The Secretary,

Lions Club,

Meerut

Dear Sir,

Sub: Inability to accept the invitation

Thank you very much for inviting me to participate in the organised seminar on 'Fundamental Rights of Children'. This topic is of great concern to our society and I feel honoured and obliged by your invitation to be part of it. However, I shall not be able to accept your invitation due to some previous commitments which keep me confined to my place on that day. Thanking you once again for your kind invitation and apology for inability to join.

Yours faithfully,
Akshaya.

OR

Old Students' Association
Mayo School
Ajmer

Dear Alumna/Alumnus,

Sub: 20th Alumni Meet

The 20th Alumni Meet of Mayo School, Ajmer will be held on Sunday, the 7th of April 2019 at 8 p.m at The Palace Hotel Ajmer. Old students, along with their spouses will be our guests of honour.

Kindly assemble at 8.00 p.m. in the banquet hall for a get-together, dance and dinner party.

Please confirm your seats by sending Rs.500 to the undersigned.

Akash Sharma
Secretary

8. 8/35, MG Road,
Bengaluru-560001

9th March, 20XX

The Editor,
The Times of India,
Bengaluru

Sir,

Subject: Creating awareness about the need to improve the standard of sports and games in our country

Through the columns of your esteemed daily, I would like to draw the attention of people to the poor performance of India in sports in an international arena. The recent Olympic Games have proved yet again that India does not perform well in sports. It is such a pity that a country of more than 1.2 billion people can only collect an average of less than one medal per game. India has been taking part in Olympics since 1990 but has won just 22 medals. This win of India makes just 1 medal per 383 million Indians.

Games and sports are not given much importance in the country. Our academic system is a grade-hungry machine. From students to teachers, all are focused on scoring the highest. It has been noticed that parents and kids are often interested in playing just renowned games but not athletics. Parents do not see a bright future in such games as well. The picture of insecurity does not let the players flourish and fulfil their dreams. As a result, our achievements in the international sports arena are poor.

Though the different academic boards have tried to make physical education a part of the school curriculum, more work in this area needs to be done. Parents and teachers must identify their child's inclination towards sports and the ability to perform well. Students should be encouraged to take an active part in sports along with studies. Sports facilities must be made available in cities as well as villages. There should be more parks and open spaces for children to play in. More and more sports competitions should be held at school levels. The government should provide funds to train budding sportspersons. There should not be any discrimination, reservation and biased opinion while selecting the sportsperson for Olympics or other such events. Awareness must be created among the pupils that games and sports can be a good career prospect.

I hope my letter will find a suitable space in your newspaper and a new India will emerge which not only excels in technology but in the sports arena as well.

Yours sincerely,

Sunita

OR

63, Civil Lines

Delhi

12th February 2019

The Area Manager

Gayatri Consultants

2, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi

Sir

Subject: Application for the post of Accountant

This is in reference to your advertisement in The Hindu dated 10th February, 20XX for the post of accountant in your consultancy firm. I, hereby, wish to apply for the same.

Attached herewith is my resume. If I am considered for the above mentioned post, I

would whole-heartedly and honestly contribute towards the progress of your esteemed and reputed organisation. I assure you about hard work and professionalism on my part.

Thank you!

Yours sincerely,

Ketan Pandey

Resume

Name: Ketan Pandey

Father's name: Rampal Singh

Date of birth: 5th April 1993

Address: 63, Civil Lines, Delhi

Academic Qualifications:

Degree	Board/ University	Year	Division
Graduation	CBSE	2008	First
B.Com	Jammu University	2011	First
M.Com	Jammu University	2013	First

Experience: Accountant, ASD Pvt. Ltd. India, November 2013 - Present

Expected salary: Rs. 60,000 per month

Languages fluency: English, Hindi

Hobbies: Music and sports

Marital status: Unmarried

Contact information: 8059XXXXXX / ketanXX@gmail.com

9.

Rising Prices

by Amit

It's a no brainer that the rising prices of essential commodities make life difficult for the common man. The rapid increase in prices of essential commodities has become a major issue in India. The people worst hit by the rising prices are the fixed income groups like salaried people, the labour class and pensioners; the situation gets worse when essential commodities like cooking gas, pulses, sugar, milk, vegetables, edible oils, tea, foodgrains,

petrol etc. get beyond the reach of the common man.

When supply doesn't meet demand, prices are bound to increase. So increasing population is a major cause of rising prices. The defective planning and distribution system is another cause and adds to the problem. Moreover, the standard of living has also increased. Now, most people do not get satisfied with the bare necessities of life. They want more things than they needed earlier, and this increasing demand for other things leads to a rise in prices.

Ways should be found to deal with this major issue. Hoarders, black marketers and profiteers should be dealt with severely and the public distribution system of essential commodities should be made more efficient. It is suggested that the government should boost the marketing and sales of agriculture produce. In addition, the policymakers should keep the poor and depressed in mind, while formulating and executing economic policies.

OR

**Inaugural Ceremony of Vocational Stream and Hobby Classes
by Lalith, Gurgaon Times**

Gurgaon, 15 September, 20XX: The opening ceremony of the vocational stream and the hobby classes at secondary school level in Paras Public School, Gurgaon was attended by a huge gathering.

The HRD Minister was the Chief Guest of the ceremony. Honourable Principal warmly welcomed him. The faculty for the newly opened streams were also welcomed wholeheartedly.

The Principal revealed that these new streams and hobby classes would meet the need of the students and help them in their future prospects. Such classes will provide the students with an opportunity to realise their potential to the fullest instead of only competing for the top three positions. The budding artists would also be catered by the classes through a suitable platform. Certain measures were counted to enhance the learning skills of students. These streams would assist students in vocational guidance and choosing their professions by keeping their requirements and interests in mind. The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks by the Head of the Department, Humanities.

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

(2x5=10)

- i. The poet wants us to 'do nothing' for once so that we could stop all our violent activities and think about our actions. 'Doing nothing' does not mean that we should stop all our activities but requires us to retrospect and introspect to analyze our behaviour and actions.
- ii. A thing of beauty provides shelter and comfort in many ways. It is like a bower, a place under the shade of a tree where we can rest. It gives us asleep filled with sweet dreams. The streams and forests provide a cooling covert for us in the hot weather.
- iii. The acquaintance of the writer with barefoot boys of Seemapuri had become a routine as she used to see them daily doing the same thing. Saheb and other boys met her regularly and used to share their stories with her. Over a period of months of meeting, she had come to recognize each one of them and knew about what they liked and disliked.
- iv. Saheb was looking at the game of tennis being played at the club. He told the writer that he liked the game. He said that he liked the game and desperately wanted to play it, though it was out of his reach. He was happy to get the tennis shoes and that too with a hole, which probably belonged to some rich boy who had discarded the shoes because one of the shoes had a hole on it.
- v. The ironmaster spoke kindly to the peddler because he thought that he was the captain and an old regimental comrade who had resigned from the regiment. He misunderstood the peddler to be his old acquaintance, Nils Olof. So he invited him to give company to him and his daughter on Christmas.
- vi. Rajkumar Shukla established himself as a resolute man by constantly following Gandhiji wherever he went. He never left Gandhiji's side for weeks until Gandhiji finally agreed to go to Champaran with him to solve the problems of the peasants there.

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

(2x2=4)

- i. Dr Sadao met Hana in America when he was studying surgery. He met her at a get-together arranged by an American professor at his home for foreign students. He had met her there by chance and was lucky to have met her, as he was about to decide not to go to the professor's place.
- ii. The Galesburg where Sam reached from the Third Level was a peaceful town. The

people there were much happier and had not experienced the terror of world wars and the destruction they had caused. They were not insecure and anxious and therefore didn't require a psychiatrist.

- iii. When Roger came back home, his mother felt that he smelt differently. When asked, Roger told her about the wizard and how by his magic spell, he got rid of his awful smell. Roger Skunk's mommy was angry with Roger because she did not like him going to the Wizard to get his smell changed. She told him that he was a Skunk and he should smell like one. She poured her anger on the Wizard by hitting him on his head with an umbrella.

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

- i. In the story, The Last Lesson, Franz is seen running late for his school just like any other day. He was thinking of what reason would he give to his teacher M. Hamel. On his way, he saw a huge crowd in front of the bulletin board while passing by the town hall. He immediately recalled that the last time anything was put up on the bulletin board was at the time of war. He was disturbed because it was a sign of some bad news. When he reached his classroom, he was surprised to see that everyone was sitting in pin-drop silence whereas usually there were sounds of the opening and closing of desks, rapping off the ruler and children repeating in loud voices. Even M. Hamel was dressed in his favourite outfit which he wore only on special days or events. All the children were seated in the front rows and the elders were sitting in the last row. M. Hamel informed them that it was their last French lesson and they would be taught Prussian from the next day. His heart was filled with sorrow when he heard her sister packing bags upstairs and with a heavy heart, he wrote on the board *La Vida France* which means long live France.
- ii. Man is a social animal. He cannot live alone. In every field of life, he needs the help of someone or the other. But there are a few people who do not live to socialize with others. They stay away from their fellow beings. They shirk the company of their friends and become recluses. They are overpowered by negative feelings. The themes of human loneliness and the need to have someone to share one's joys and sorrows with runs throughout the story. To begin with, the reader's attention is drawn to the peddler who is lonely and in his loneliness, he makes rattaps and is left to his own meditation. When he knocks at the cottage, the crofter welcomes him and entertains him. It is because the crofter is lonely. He wants someone to talk to. He finds in

peddler a good companion and tells him a lot about himself and his cow, even though the peddler is a complete stranger to him. Then, we find that the ironmaster and his daughter are also lonely. They live in a big house and have nobody else for the company. So, they insisted that the peddler should spend Christmas Eve with them.

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

- i. Derry is a fourteen-year-old boy who is disfigured and ugly because half of his face is burnt due to the spilling of acid on it. He is conscious of the fact that his ugliness is revolting to others and so, everybody wants to ignore him or pity him. He suffers from inferiority complex. He becomes too arrogant and usually avoids any social interaction. He heard people using nasty comments about him and so bears a grudge towards the entire society. His ugly looks have made him a pessimist and a loner with various negative complexes. Derry is always frustrated, angry, and withdrawn. Moreover, he always has low confidence and dwells in self-pity apart from always being suspicious about others' intentions towards him. Derry is a bit narrow-minded. He does not think for himself but relies on others' feedback only. He is full of bitterness about his handicap. He is of negative nature but soon learns to change himself with Mr Lamb's guidance.
He suspects everyone and lacks trust. Derry starts listening to Mr Lamb because Mr Lamb is also handicapped. It is only when Mr Lamb bestowed upon him, his love, trust and generosity that his mindset starts changing. Due to the wise words of Mr Lamb, Derry transforms completely.
- ii. Since Evans had already escaped from the jail on three earlier occasions, there was always a lurking fear that he might make another attempt to escape. Therefore, all possible precautions were taken to see that the O-level German examination arranged in the prison did not provide him with any means of escape. The Governor personally monitored all security arrangements and heavily guarded the Recreation Block from where he expected the prisoner to make another break. Evans' cell was thoroughly checked by Jackson to ward off the possibility of the presence of an incriminating material which might hamper the smooth conduct of the examination. His nail-scissors, nail-file and razor were taken away; and to keep a strict watch on the activities of the cell during the examination, the Governor got it bugged. A police officer Stephens was posted to keep a constant vigil on his activities. The invigilator, too, was also frisked to make sure that he carried no objectionable material with him.