BHARTIYA SHIKSHA BOARD SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER 2025-26 CLASS - X

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (003)

Time – 3 Hours

Max. Marks - 80

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections.

Section A - Reading

20 Marks

Section B - Writing Skills & Grammar 20 Marks

Section C - Literature

40 Marks

2. Attempt questions based on the specific instructions for reach part.

Section A READINGSKILLS

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

(10M)

- 1. Detachment is not physically renouncing our possessions, profession, home, and family, as many of us think. It is the ability to let go of all the desires, habits, emotions, thoughts, speech, and behaviour patterns that are negative or detrimental to our well-being in any way. Detachment and discrimination are interdependent; they mutually strengthen each other and empower us. The more we are able to discriminate, the more we are able to segregate our harmful desires and discard them. The more mental trash we discard this way, the more we empower our faculty of discrimination.
- 2. There is a simple technique we can all practice to strengthen our discrimination and detachment and get rid of unnecessary desires. This will generate the awareness we need to control our senses and minds and make them stop churning out desires every moment. To practice this technique, we should select a quiet place when we have some leisure time.
- 3. Sit down with a few sheets of paper, a pen, or a computer, and make two lists. In the first list, understand and write down your most important goal or agenda in this life. Then meticulously add all the other goals that you would like to achieve. While you make this list, you shouldn't think only about yourself. Include what you would like to contribute to the welfare of your dependents, children, and their forthcoming generations.
- 4. Once you complete this, set it aside and begin the second list. List all your desires here. They may be big or small, important or insignificant, right or wrong, demonic or divine. Just remove the lid from the Pandora's Box and allow them all to spill out freely. Don't try to censor or edit the list of desires at this stage. Complete the list first. After you have made an exhaustive list, go over it to see which of these desires are truly necessary, conducive to your meditation, helpful and favourable to you, and beneficial to others.
- 5. If you have been serious and honest in doing this exercise, you will have long lists of goals, desires and many of them may be selfish or detrimental to your goal of meditation, visualisation, self-realisation, peace, happiness and bliss. This exercise will help you develop frankness and honesty with yourself. You will touch your true feelings and bring many of your hidden ambitions and desires into the open.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

i. Infer the reason why does the writer say that detachment is empowering?

- ii. Select the option that does not correspond to the following relationship below. 1 Detachment and discrimination are interdependent.
- a. Both have a correlative relationship.

b. Both condemn each other.

c. Both are locked in an inequitable equation.

- d. It is a non-reciprocal relationship.
- iii. Select the option that displays what the writer projects, with reference to the following:1 Just remove the lid from the Pandora's Box and allow them all to spill out freely.

a. encouragement

b. caution

c. provocation

d. honesty

iv. Complete the following with a word or phrase from paragraph 1:

1

WORD	PHRASE
	ability to give up

- v. Describe the process to be followed to strengthen discrimination? (Paragraph 3). 1
- vi. Based on your reading of the text, list 2 reasons why the writer implies that human mind is full of trash.
- vii. What advantage does the writer says we will earn if we are meticulous in making the lists of goals we wish to achieve in our lives?
- viii. The writer asks us to pen down our personal goals in the second list and label it to the Pandora's Box. (Para 4)
 Select the point of comparison between the two.

1. both aid in survival

- 2. both contained all kinds of life experiences
- 3. both contained demonic wishes
- 4. both contained divine desires

a. only 2 ,3 and 4

b. 1 and 2

c. 3 and 4

d. all of these

Q2. Read the passage given below.

(10M)

- 1. It's a proven fact that the content posted online has become less receptive from the audience as compared to, say, over 10 years ago. The viewers are merely interested in 20 percent of what you post and that too for a mere 8 seconds. This has decreased from 12 seconds in the year 2000. This could have been due to various reasons, like availability of more content, or perhaps people don't really care that much now. Digital marketers are faced with the problem of producing new and innovative ideas to get the viewers hooked to the page in all this chaos of tons of content being posted for similar topics on a daily basis.
- 2. Digi Life has produced an interesting infographic regarding this issue and it illustrates the pattern along which people watch the content online. According to Time Magazine, as much as 55 percent of American visitors only give a brief skim of 15 seconds on average to a page that they opt for. Some of the smaller movies have beaten those with megastars and emerged as the popular choice of the masses. Hence, you get an extremely limited time frame to impress the viewer before they close the tab. 69% of these spend their time viewing the left half of the page and 30% viewing the right.
- 3. Videos are another matter altogether. In fact, the majority of videos published on YouTube aren't even in English. The same survey also found that even though there were significantly fewer videos in English, English-language videos tend to receive around four times more views than videos in other languages. You Tube content in the US outperforms even the country's biggest news sites as the most popular channels. YouTube's billions of active users watch

about a billion hours of videos every single day. It's the most visited website worldwide. India, America and Indonesia are the biggest fans of this website.

4. What's interesting is that Reels is now the heartthrob of the teens, and the young crowd and a clear favourite even over YouTube. The excitement on social media, it seems to never ends!

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

. Infer a reason for the following, based on information given in para1. 1 The rate of viewer's interest when it comes to reading online content is steadily going down.
i. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from paragraph. 1 The the similarity in content, the receptive is the viewer.
ii. Select the correct option to complete the following sentence: Content creators get a very small window to catch the attention of a viewer who on the page or channel intentionally or upon it. a. comes, gets b. lands, stumble c. reaches, trips d. arrives, falls
v. Select the chart that appropriately represents the trend of viewer receptiveness on online content pages or channels. (Paragraph 2.)
(a) (b) (b) 8
图 2000 图 2020 日 2021
(c) (d)
图 2000 图 2020 [] 2021
7. Substitute the word 'emerged' with ONE WORD similar in meaning, in the following sentence from para 2. Some of the smaller movies have beaten those with megastars and emerged as the popular choice of the masses.
/i. List any two examples of the popularity of video content in the English language on YouTube as referred to in Para 3. 2
ii. Based on the reading of the passage, elaborate in about 40 words, why do the researchers think that the excitement on social media never ends? 2

SECTION-B GRAMMAR

viii. Which of the following is the main takeaway from the study mentioned in the

passage?

Q3. Att	empt <u>ANY</u>	<u>rEN</u> of the	following ques	stions.	(10M)	
i. Fill in The med	the blank b	y choosing the SUV	the correct o	ption to (complete the se	ntence.
			c. has been re		d. will be repair	ring
ii. Read repor	the conver	sation betwo	veen a policen reply correctly	າan and a	citizen. Compl	ete the sentence by
Policema	n :Did you	see any sus	picious looking	man aro	und here?	
When a	oliceman a en the thie	thief myself. isked the ne f himself.	eighbour if	•••••••	the neig	ghbor reported that he
ill. Fill in	the blanks	by choosi	ng the correct	option :		
a. peepe	d through	ine		wnat was	s happening outs	side.
c. peepe	AND NOT THE PARTY OF THE PARTY		22020 Sept. 1000 Sept.	ped out		
iv. Read	the conver	sation betv	veen a custom	er and a	florist. Comple	te the sentence by
Custome	ing the floi	rist's reply o	correctly. It of rose flower	O		5530 W.
Florist : S	orry, we on	lv have bou	quet of daffodil	S? S		
The custo	omer asked	the florist if	he could have	a bouque	t of rose flowers	to which the florist
apolog	ized and sa	iid				
v. Select	the correc	t option to	fill in the blan	ks for the	given line	
Genius	does what	it must, and	l talent does wh	nat it	givon mio.	
a. can		b. would		c. may		d. should
vi. Fill ir	the blanks	by using t	he correct for	m of the	word in the bra	cket.
Accor	ding to the	news, the sh	nower (b	e) suppo	sed to take place	
ii. Select line:	the option	that identif	ies the error a	nd suppl	ies the correcti	on for the following
There	are not sor	ne buses be	cause the drive	ers have (one on strike	50°
				·	=== <u>=</u> =	200
ļ	OPTION	ERROR		A	RECTION	
	В	ARE	3 17 15 314 1811 315 315	I A		
	C	SOME		IS		5 3
	D.	HAVE		MANY		
			8	HAS		
Optio:	4 =					noosing the correct
Never, ne	ever, and ne	ver again	it l	oe that thi	s beautiful land v	will again experience
a. shall	Piession Of	one by anot	tner." c. can		d. may	
x. Select and As	the correct	t option to (complete the r	narration	\$2.75	between Tanmay
	ura.	ı spend vou	(9)	28		

Astha: I visited Kashmir with my parents.

Tanmay asked Astha how she had spent her vacation. Astha replied that _____

- a. she has visited Kashmir with her parents
- b. she had visited Kashmir with her parents
- c. she have visited Kashmir with her parents
- d. she had been visited Kashmir with her parents
- x. Identify the error on the sign board of DOMINO'S outlet and supply the correction for the following festive offer.

Be it getting a 50% discount on an individual pizza orders or 30%+ discount combo offers, the range of discount codes offer by Domino's is quite diverse.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

xi. Priya shared her experience of first day at school with her mother. Report her mother's questions.

"Has anybody been unkind to you today?...

xii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction:

Dorothy's favorite activity in her leisure time is draw sketches of her family and friends. Use the given format for your response.

Error		Correction
700 70850	25	40.0 to 10
		<u> </u>

Q4. You are Prerna / Puneet, the Sports Secretary of Magnum International School, New Delhi. You have received the parcel of sports articles ordered by you, some of which are defective and old. Write a letter of complaint to M/s New Sports, Meerut, the supplier of the sports articles.(Word limit 100 -120 words)

5 marks

OR

You are Ishaan, of Supertech Apartments, Whitefield, Bangalore. You recently read an article which stated that an average Indian wastes approximately fifty kilograms of food per year. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, expressing your concern about the alarming amount of food waste in the country. Share practical ideas and suggestions for reducing food waste at home and encourage the readers to distribute surplus food to those in need.(Word limit 100-120 words)

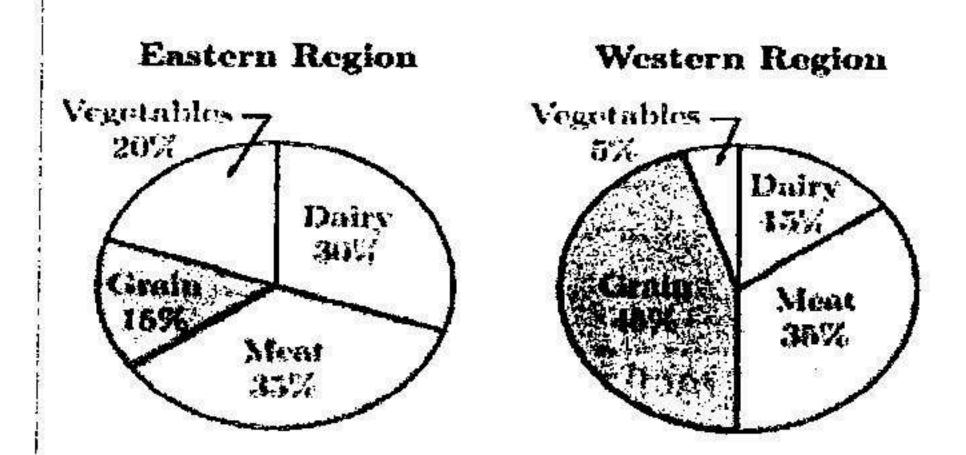
Q5.Read the following excerpt that appeared in the weekend newspaper. 5 marks

For some of us extra time at home means a chance to try new recipes or improve our home cooking skills, or often time to cook up a creative storm in the kitchen. For others, cooking in confinement involves throwing together quick and nutritious meals for the family. Whatever your style of cooking is what affects both our physical and mental health.

You have been asked to write an analytical paragraph on 'Style of Cooking'. Taking the information from the clipping given above analyze its content. You could think of an alternative that would strengthen or counter the given statement in 100-120 words.

OR

The charts below show agricultural production in two different regions of the country. Write an analytical paragraph in about 100-120 words by selecting and reporting the main features, and making comparison where relevant.



SECTION- C LITERATURE (40 Marks)

Q6. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

(5M)

THINK-TANK: Perhaps the Earthlings are not as primitive as we have thought. We must break the code.

NOODLE: Forgive me, your Cleverness, but did not the chemical department give our space people vitamins to increase their intelligence?

THINK-TANK: Stop! A thought of magnificent brilliance has come to me. Space people, our chemical department has given you vitamins to increase your intelligence. Take them immediately and then watch the sandwich. The meaning of the code will slowly unfold before you.

OMEGA: It shall be done, sir. Remove vitamins. (Crew takes vitamins from boxes on their belts.) Present vitamins. (They hold vitamins out in front of them, stiffly.) Swallow vitamins. (They pop the vitamins into their mouths and gulp simultaneously. They open their eyes wide, their heads shake, and they put their hands to their foreheads.)

i. "We must break the code.". What code did Think Tank ask to break?

1

ii. Complete the given sentence with appropriate reason:

The space probe crew take vitamins to.

- iii. Read the following descriptions (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract.
- a. A debate is a formal discussion on a particular topic, usually with two or more people presenting different viewpoints and arguments.
- b. A soliloquy is a speech given by a character alone on stage, which reveals their innermost thoughts and feelings to the audience.
- c. A dialogue is a conversation between two or more people as a feature of a book, play, or film.
- iv. Why does Noodle recommend giving space people vitamins? What does Think-Tank say in this regard?

OR

Tenth May dawned bright and clear. For the past few days, I had been pleasantly besieged by dignitaries and world leaders who were coming to pay their respects before the inauguration. The inauguration would be the largest gathering ever of international leaders on South African soil. The ceremonies took place in the lovely sandstone amphitheater formed by the Union Buildings in Pretoria. For decades this had been the seat of white supremacy, and now it was the site of a rainbow gathering of different colors and nations for the installation of South Africa's first democratic, non-racial government. (Nelson Mandela)

- i."The inauguration would be the largest gathering"... inauguration literary means beginning of something. What was the inauguration about and why was it really great?
- ii. Which word from the passage means the same as ' an occasion when someone is put in an important job or position'?
- iii. 'The site of a rainbow gathering of different colours and nations'.

The word 'rainbow' refers to:

- 1. People from different origin.
- 2. Dignitaries from different countries.
- 3. High profile dignitaries from different nations and race.
- 4. Decor of amphitheater with bright hue
- a. Only 1

- b. 1 and 2
- c. Only 1, 2,3
- d. only 4

iv. Why does Mandela use the word 'pleasantly besieged' in the given lines?

'I had been pleasantly besieged by dignitaries and world leaders who were coming to pay their respects before the inauguration

Q7. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

(5M)

Merrily over — there it is in the water!
No use to say 'O there are other balls':
An ultimate shaking grief fixes the boy
As he stands rigid, trembling, staring down
All his young days into the harbour where
His ball went. I would not intrude on him;
A dime, another ball, is worthless. Now
He senses first responsibility

i. Complete the sentence appropriately.	
The poet uses the expression, 'ultimate shaking grief' because	*************

ii. Which of the following words is the synonym for 'grief'?

1

- a. despair
- b. hopefulness
- c. gladness
- d. contentment
- iii. Which literary device does the speaker use to describe the boy's sorrow? Why does the speaker use this device? Answer in one sentence.
- iv. Why does the poet say, "I would not intrude on him"? Why doesn't he offer money to buy another ball? 2

OR

The way a crow Shook down on me The dust of snow From a hemlock tree Has given my heart A change of mood And saved some part

	Of a day I nad rued.	
i. Identif	y the type of imagery used in the above extract.	9 .5
ii. How c	oes the speaker's use of the word "heart" impact your interpreta	tion of the stanza?
b. It implic. It adds	pests a deep emotional connection to the snowfall. ies that the snowfall had physical effects on the speaker's body. a romantic tone to the stanza. no impact on the interpretation.	
iii. Comp	olete the sentence given below. If the form the poem tell us that the poet's tone is	
iv. What word	is the message conveyed by the poet in the above extract. Als.	nswer inabout 40
Q8.Answ	er ANY FOUR of the following in about 40- 50 words . (4X3=12)	
b. What a c. What a poem d. How d Banara	according to the writer, is 'the real play' of the otter? are Anne's views on external beauty? happened to the roots and leaves of the trees at night? Explain with the 'Trees'. id Gautama Buddha begin his life? Discuss on the basis of the text, Stas. id you know about the Chinese legend on tea origin?	
29.Answe	er ANY TWO of the following in about 40- 50 words.	(2X3=6)
b. Bholi's	esson did Richard Ebright learn from the County Science Fair? father was not in favour of sending girls to the school? Why? Give a r. d Horace feel after being imprisoned?	reason for your
ighbours !	r <u>ANY ONE</u> of the following in about 100- 120 words must have a cordial relationship between them. Support or counter the counter to the Natalya and Lomov's attitude towards each other in the play, '7	(1X6=6) ne statement with The Proposal'.
Power	OR we been chosen to address your school morning assembly to speak of Exploration is to Lift Our Spirits and Open Our Hearts.". Boascinated to explore the places of their choice. Draft a speech in new the reference of the second of the seco	th Valli and Raivir

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Assam.

new places delight us.....

words, with reference to the commonality of themes in, Madam Rides The Bus and Tea from

(You may begin this way: Good morning, everyone. Today, I'd like to discuss that exploring

You may end this way.
To conclude, I'd like to say that ... Thank you)

Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100-120words.

(1X6=6)

Imagine yourself as Bholi. Write a diary expressing your feelings and experience on "The first day at school". You may take the help of the hints given below:

- It was a sunny morning and I was getting ready for school.
- I had lot of expectation from my new school
- Also I was very nervous to go as I have no friends.
- My school teacher encouraged me a lot.

OR

Based on your reading of the textual cue given below, write a conversation between the two characters – Mrs. Hall and Griffin.

"Mrs. Hall, the landlord's wife made every effort to be friendly, but Griffin had no desire to talk." (Footprints Without Feet)

You may begin like this:

Mrs. Hall: Hello! Mr Griffin, welcome to my Inn. How may I help you?

Griffin: (smiles mysteriously) Thank you but I need peace.