

**ASSESSMENT - I**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE, PAPER – 1, GRADE X**

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**M.M: 80**

**Time : 2 HOURS**

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*Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately. You will **not** be allowed to write during the first **15** minutes. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper. The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.*

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*Attempt **all five** questions.*

*The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ].  
You are advised to spend not more than **30** minutes in answering **Question 1** and **20** minutes in answering **Question 2**.*

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**Question 1**

*(Do **not** spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)*

Write a composition (300 - 350 words) on any **one** of the following: [20]

(i) Write an original short story that ends with the line: "It was the most unexpected phone call I had ever received."

(ii) Your school hosted a cultural exchange program. Write an account of the event, highlighting the activities and what you learned from interacting with students from another culture. Narrate your experiences.

(iii) "*The pursuit of money is destroying the environment.*"  
Express your views either for or against this statement.

(iv) (d) Describe a memorable evening you spent watching the sunset. Include details of the setting, the emotions it evoked, and why it was special.

(v) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



## Question 2

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select **any one** of the following:

[10]

(i) Write a letter to the Principal of your school requesting permission to organize a book donation drive for underprivileged children. Explain its importance and your plan for execution.

(ii) You recently discovered an old photograph of yourself and your childhood friend. Write a letter to your friend describing the photograph, how you found it, and its significance. Mention where or when it was taken and if it brought back memories of your childhood together.

## Question 3

(i) Your School is hoisting an Inter School Football match. Write a notice informing students about the match. [5]

(ii) Write an e-mail to the Principal of the neighbouring school, inviting their students for the match. [5]

## Question 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Tara loved visiting her grandmother's home during summer vacations. Nestled at the edge of a dense forest, the house had a charm that Tara found irresistible. Her grandmother, an avid gardener, had a lush backyard filled with flowers, herbs, and fruit trees.

One day, while exploring the garden, Tara noticed that many plants had **withered**, and the once-vibrant flowers seemed dull. Concerned, she asked her grandmother what had happened. Her grandmother sighed and explained, "The soil has lost its nutrients over the years. Without fertile soil, the plants struggle to grow, no matter how much water or sunlight they get." Tara was saddened by this but determined to find a solution.

That evening, Tara sat down with her grandmother and asked if there was a way to improve the soil. Her grandmother shared stories from her childhood about how they used natural compost made from kitchen waste to enrich the soil. Tara was intrigued and decided to start a composting project during her stay.

The next morning, Tara began collecting kitchen scraps-vegetable peels, fruit skins, eggshells, and leftover food. With her grandmother's help, she dug a small pit in the backyard and layered it with organic waste and dry leaves. She added some soil to speed up the decomposition process and covered the pit to keep pests away.

Tara checked the pit every day, turning the mixture with a stick to ensure proper **aeration**. Within a few weeks, the organic waste had broken down into rich, dark compost. Tara and her grandmother spread the compost in the garden, hoping it would revive the plants.

The results were astonishing. Slowly but surely, the plants began to recover. The flowers regained their bright colours, and the herbs and vegetables grew lush and healthy. Tara was thrilled to see the transformation and realized the importance of soil health in sustaining plant life.

Inspired by the success of the garden, Tara decided to share her knowledge with the neighbouring households. She explained how composting could reduce kitchen waste and improve their gardens. Many families adopted her method, and the entire community began to see the benefits.

By the end of the summer, Tara had become a local hero. The once-struggling gardens in her grandmother's village flourished, attracting birds, bees, and butterflies. Tara's grandmother often said, "You've not only brought the soil back to life, but you've also brought hope to our community."

When Tara returned to her city, she started a composting club in her school, teaching her classmates how to reduce waste and help the environment. Her efforts were recognized by the local municipal office, which awarded her a certificate for environmental awareness. Tara's journey taught her that small actions, like turning waste into compost, can lead to significant change. Her project was proof that one person's determination can inspire many and create a lasting impact.

(i) For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided [3]

1. withered

(a) bloomed (b) faded (c) fresh (d) growing

2. aeration

(a) adding water (b) adding air (c) removing soil (d) reducing waste

3. Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word 'dull'?

(a) bright (b) faded (c) pale (d) weak

(ii) Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words.

(a) Why was Tara concerned about the garden? [2]

(b) How did Tara learn about composting? [2]

(c) What steps did Tara take to make compost? [1]

(d) What changes did the garden show after using compost? [2]

(e) How did Tara share her knowledge beyond her grandmother's village? [2]

(iii) In **not more than 50 words**, describe how Tara's composting project helped revive the garden and inspire others. [8]

## Question 5

(i) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

**Example:** (0) rustled

The leaves (rustle) gently in the evening breeze. The countryside ..... (i) (look) serene as the sun rose over the hills, casting a golden glow. Farmers ..... (ii) (prepare) their tools for the day's work while birds ..... (iii) (chirp) joyfully in the trees. Yesterday, the village ..... (iv) (celebrate) its annual harvest festival with music and dance. Near the river, a fisherman ..... (v) (repair) his net, getting ready for a long day of work. "If the weather ..... (vi) (stay) this calm, we will have a good catch today," he told his friend. As the day progressed, children ..... (vii) (play) near the fields, their laughter echoing in the distance. By the time the sun .....(viii) (set), the villagers had gathered by the bonfire to share stories and enjoy their meal together.

(ii) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words. [4]

1. The dog barked ..... the stranger entering the house.
2. He is looking ..... a solution to this complex problem.
3. The car broke down ..... the highway, causing a delay.
4. They danced ..... the music all night long.
5. The old man rested ..... the shade of the tree.
6. She is good ..... solving puzzles quickly.
7. He threw the ball ..... the basket with great precision.
8. The artist is famous ..... her unique style of painting.

(iii) Choose the correct option to make one complete sentence **without using and, but or so.** [4]

1. She was upset. She could not attend her best friend's wedding.
  - a. She was upset because she could not attend her best friend's wedding.
  - b. Unless she could attend her best friend's wedding, she was upset.
  - c. She could not attend her best friend's wedding although she was upset.
  - d. She could not attend her best friend's wedding since she was upset.
2. The teacher explained the topic thoroughly. The students still had doubts.
  - a. Although the teacher explained the topic thoroughly, the students still had doubts.
  - b. The students still had doubts because the teacher explained the topic thoroughly.
  - c. The teacher explained the topic thoroughly unless the students still had doubts.
  - d. The students had doubts since the teacher did not explain the topic thoroughly.
3. You must submit the form. You will not be allowed to appear for the exam.
  - a. You must submit the form because you will not be allowed to appear for the exam.
  - b. You must submit the form or you will not be allowed to appear for the exam.
  - c. You will not be allowed to appear for the exam unless you submit the form.
  - d. Unless you submit the form, you must appear for the exam.

4. The alarm rang. He woke up immediately.
- The alarm rang unless he woke up immediately.
  - As the alarm rang, he woke up immediately.
  - He woke up immediately because the alarm rang.
  - No sooner did the alarm ring than he woke up immediately.

(iv) Choose the correct options to rewrite the following according to the instructions given after each. [8]

1. The children are decorating the hall for the event. (Begin : The hall...)
- The hall was decorated by the children for the event.
  - The hall is being decorated by the children for the event.
  - The hall has been decorated by the children for the event.
  - The hall is decorated by the children for the event.

2. As soon as the match ended, the crowd cheered loudly. (Begin : No sooner...)
- No sooner did the match end than the crowd cheered loudly.
  - No sooner does the match end than the crowd cheered loudly.
  - No sooner had the match ended than the crowd cheered loudly.
  - No sooner had the crowd cheered loudly than the match ended.

3. The cake is too sweet for me to eat. (Rewrite using : so...that...)
- The cake is so sweet that I cannot eat it.
  - The cake is so sweet that I could not eat it.
  - The cake is so sweet that I may not eat it.
  - The cake is so sweet that no one can eat it.

4. You will fail the exam if you do not work hard. (Begin : Unless...)
- Unless you work hard, you will fail the exam.
  - Unless you do not work hard, you will fail the exam.
  - Unless you work hard, you will not fail the exam.
  - Unless you work hard, you would fail the exam.

5. He said, "I will help you tomorrow." (Begin : He said that...)
- He said that he will help me tomorrow.
  - He said that he would help me the next day.
  - He said that he helped me tomorrow.
  - He said that he would help me yesterday.

6. Despite the rain, the match continued. (Begin : Although...)
- Although it was raining, the match continued.
  - Although it rained, but the match continued.
  - Although it rained, the match continued.
  - Although it was raining, but the match continued.

7. You cannot succeed if you do not work hard. (Begin : Unless...)
- Unless you do not work hard, you cannot succeed.
  - Unless you work hard, you cannot succeed.
  - Unless you work hard, you will succeed.
  - Unless you work hard, you would not succeed.

8. The house was so beautiful that everyone admired it. (Rewrite using : too...to...)
- a. The house was too beautiful for everyone to admire.
  - b. The house was too beautiful to admire by everyone.
  - c. The house was too beautiful for anyone to not admire.
  - d. The house was too beautiful for anyone to ignore.

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