

ANNUAL EXAMINATION 2023-2024
CLASS-IX

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH Paper - I

Maximum Marks: 80

Time allowed: Two hours

Answers to this Paper must be written on the answer sheets 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.

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**.

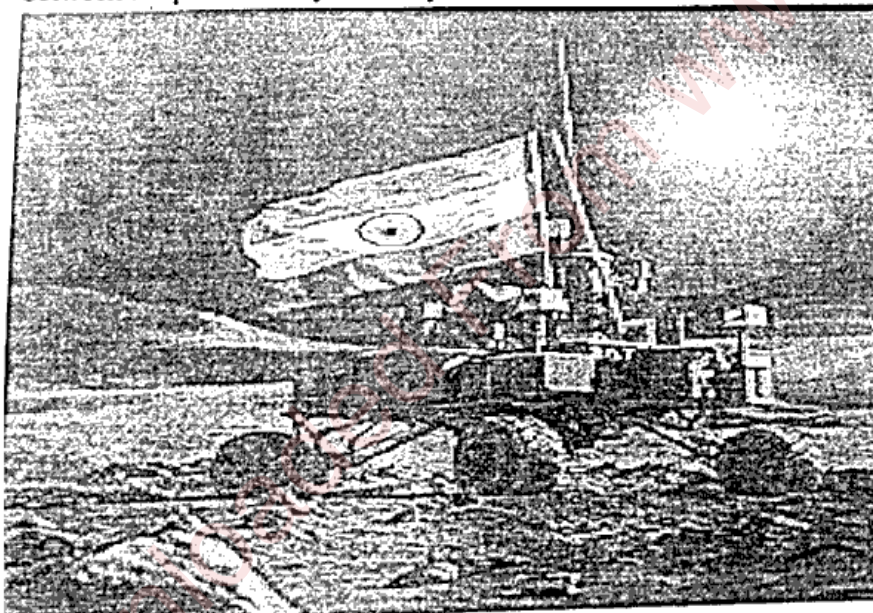
Question 1

(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 a short story based on the statement, "It is never, too late to be what you might have been".
- ii. Describe a person, who did something extraordinary, which you could never had imagined that he could do.
- iii. Narrate your experience of going on a cruise for the first time.
- iv. Express your views either for or against the statement: "Online Exams are better than Offline Exams."
- v. Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture may 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:

- i. You are studying in a boarding school in Musoorie. Write a letter to your mother on the occasion of Mother's Day, expressing your love and gratitude for your mother.

[10]

- ii. You have come up with a method to decompose kitchen waste to obtain compost. Write a letter to the Mayor of your city requesting for an appointment to discuss the feasibility of your idea of making compost by other households in your colony.

Question 3

- i. You are the Head Girl/Head Boy of your school. Write a notice for the school Notice Board inviting students of Classes IX and X for a visit to an Old Age Home on the occasion of International Day for Elderly. [5]
- ii. Write an email to the Director of the Old Age Home requesting permission for the visit of the students from your school to the Old Age Home. [5]

Question 4

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

The earth was like an oven. The afternoon sun blazed with scorching heat. The inhabitants streamed with perspiration like overdriven horses. Two of the inhabitants were walking along the market-place. One was Potchesh, the local treasury clerk, and the other was Optimov, the agent. They walked in silence, speechless from the heat. In the middle of the market-place Potchesh suddenly halted and began gazing into the sky.

At the starlings that flew up, he said: "I wonder where they have settled. Clouds and clouds of them.... They have settled in the Father Prebendary's garden!"

Three old pilgrim women, passed noiselessly by the speakers. Looking enquiringly at the gentlemen who were for some unknown reason staring at the Father Prebendary's house, they slackened their pace, and then fell to gazing at the house themselves.

From the garden gate emerged the Father Prebendary himself, accompanied by the sexton. Seeing the attention directed upon his abode and wondering what people were staring at, he stopped, and he, too, as well as the sexton, began looking upwards to find out.

Some workmen from Purov's factory, passed between the friends and the priest. Seeing the latter absorbed in contemplation of the heavens, they stood still and stared in the same direction. A small boy leading a blind beggar and a peasant, carrying a tub of stinking fish to throw into the market-place, did the same.

"There must be something the matter; I should think," said Potchesh, "a fire or something. But there's no sign of smoke anywhere."

"Where do you see the fire?" the peasant said.

"It must be a fire indoors!" they said.

The starlings rose in a black cloud from Father Prebendary's garden, but Potchesh and Optimov did not notice them. They stood staring into the air, wondering what could have attracted such a crowd, and what it was looking at.

The police officer appeared and cutting his way into the crowd, he said: "Firemen, be ready! Firemen, turn the hose on...!"

"There's no water, please your honour!"

"Don't answer me! Go and get some! Look sharp!"

"We've nothing to get it in, your honour. The major has taken the fire-brigade horses to drive his aunt to the station."

The crowd grew larger and larger. There is no telling what proportions it might have reached if the new organ just arrived from Moscow had not fortunately begun playing in the tavern close by. Hearing their favourite tune, the crowd gasped and rushed off to the tavern. So nobody ever knew why the crowd had assembled, and Potchesh and Optimov had by now forgotten the existence of the starlings who were innocently responsible for the proceedings.

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

1. slackened

- a) reduced
b) increased
c) stabled
d) jumped

2. emerged

- a) disappeared
b) came out
c) wondered
d) thought

3. absorbed
 a) disinterested
 b) far away
 c) fully engaged
 d) omitted

- ii. Answer the following questions briefly in your own words.
 a) Why did Potchesh and Optimov halt at the market place? [2]
 b) What did Father Prebendary do out of curiosity? [2]
 c) What was the attitude of the three pilgrim women towards what was happening in the market-place? [1]
 d) How did the crowd disperse finally? [2]
 e) In what way was the firemen's interaction humorous? [2]
 iii. In not more than 50 words, narrate how did human curiosity played its role in the events in the passage. [8]

Question 5

- i. Fill in each of the number the 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:

Elephants follow a matriarchal structure where the eldest female is the head of the group. Herds are (0) _____ (compose) primarily of female members and young calves.

Answer: (0) composed

They include 6 to 20 members (1) _____ (depend) on the food supply. When the family (2) _____ (get) too large, herds often split into smaller groups that stay within the same area. The male elephants, however live in isolation or in small bachelor groups. Calves (3) _____ (care) for by the entire herd of related females. Female calves may stay with their maternal herd for the rest of their lives, while males leave the herd as they reach puberty.

The matriarch (4) _____ (rely) on her experience and memory (5) _____ (recall) where the best spots for food, water (6) _____ (be), and where to find (7) _____ (protect) from the elements. The matriarch is also responsible for (8) _____ (teach) the younger members of her family how to socialise with other elephants.

- ii. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words. Choose the correct option. [4]

- ✓ 1. He dipped his brush _____ the paint. (on/in)
 ✓ 2. We are now _____ range of enemy fire. (within/with)
 ✓ 3. They arrived late _____ airport. (in/at)
 ✓ 4. He came _____ Sunday. (on/at)
 ✓ 5. The task _____ us is a daunting one. (after/before)
 ✓ 6. I have lived in London _____ July 2008. (since/for)
 ✓ 7. She put a blanket _____ the sleeping child. (above/over)
 ✓ 8. We were rowing _____ the current. (against/about)

- iii. Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using and, but or so. [4]

Choose the correct option.

1. The farmer was walking in the field. He came across a rare stone.
 ✓ a) While walked in the field, the farmer found a rare stone.
 ✗ b) While walked in the field, the farmer find a rare stone.
 c) While walking in the field, the farmer finds a rare stone.
 d) While walking in the field, the farmer found a rare stone.
2. It is not a very costly camera. However, it is useful.
 ✓ a) Though this camera is very costly, it is not useful.
 ✓ b) Though this camera is very costly, it is useful.
 c) Though this camera is not very costly, it is useful.
 ✓ d) Though this camera was not very costly, it is useful.
3. A man was drowning. He shouted for help.
 a) A drowned man shouted for help.
 b) A drowning man shouted for help.
 c) A drowning man shouts for help.
 d) A drowning men shouted for helping.

4. There is something in store for him. He does not know it.
a) He does not know what is in store for him.
b) He do not know what is in store for him.
c) He did not know what is in store for him.
d) He knows what is in store for him.
- iv. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. Choose the correct option [8]

1. He inquired of me if I knew the way. (Begin: He said to me "...")
a) He said to me, "Do you know the way?"
b) He said me, "Did you know the way?"
* c) He says to me, "Did you know the way?"
d) He said to me, "Do you knew the way?"
2. He not only advised me but also helped me. (Begin: Besides...)
a) Besides advise me he also helped me.
b) Besides advising me he also helped me.
c) Besides advising me but also helped me.
* d) Besides advising me he also help me.
3. This is one of the tallest buildings. (Use: taller)
a) This building is taller than many other buildings.
b) This building was taller than many other buildings.
c) This building was taller to many other building.
d) This building is taller than many other building.
4. My friend has probably forgotten my birthday. (Begin: In all...)
a) In all probability my friends have forgotten my birthday.
b) In all probability my friend has forget my birthday.
c) In all probability my friend has forgotten my birthday.
d) In all probability my friend had forgotten my birthday.
5. Keep quiet or you will be punished. (Begin: If...)
a) If you did not keep quiet, you will be punished.
b) If you do not keep quiet, you will be punished.
c) If you did not kept quiet, you will be punished.
d) If you do not keep quiet, you would have be punished.
6. I never thought that they would win the match. (Begin: Little...)
a) Little did I think that they would win the match.
b) Little did I thought that they would win the match.
c) Little I think that they would win the match.
d) Little I thinks that they would win the match.
7. He works hard that he may become rich. (Begin: He aims...)
a) He aimed at becoming rich so he works hard.
b) He aims at becoming rich so he work hard.
c) He aims at become rich but he works hard.
d) He aims at becoming rich so he works hard.
8. As soon as I arrived I had a cup of tea. (Begin: No sooner...)
a) No sooner did I arrive, I had a cup of tea.
b) No sooner did I arrived, I had a cup of tea.
c) No sooner I arrive, I had a cup of tea.
d) No sooner I arrived, I had a cup of tea.