

SECOND TERMINAL EXAMINATION (2024-25)

Std: IX

Subject: English Language

Duration: Two hours

Maximum Marks: 80

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 the 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 an original short story about a fisherman, a passenger on a ship, and an approaching storm.
- (ii) You were selected to be part of the editorial team for the school magazine. Write an account of how your team worked on different sections, edited articles, and learned about publishing.
- (iii) *'The Internet has brought our society closer.'*
Express your views either for or against this statement.
- (iv) Describe the time when you attended a musical concert, highlighting the euphoria that filled the stadium, the performance, and how the music made you feel.
- (v) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you 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:

[10]

- (i) Write a letter to your friend describing your experience at a 'Culinary Fusion Event' that celebrated global cuisines and creative cooking techniques. Share the unique dishes you tried, the cooking demonstrations you attended, and how the event expanded your appreciation for food from different cultures.
- (ii) Write a letter to the Manager of a local library, requesting an extension of library hours to accommodate students preparing for competitive examination. Explain the need for additional study time and how it would benefit the community.

Question 3

- (i) March 22nd is World Water Day. The school Dramatics Club is planning to stage a one-act play to mark the occasion and create awareness about the importance of water conservation and its sustainable use. Write a notice to be put up on the school notice board, giving necessary details of the event. [5]
- (ii) Write an email to the Principal of a neighbouring school requesting him/her to send a team of children to watch the play and participate in the interactive session thereafter. [5]

Question 4

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

[20]

But I've taken the obvious step. I talked to a psychiatrist friend of mine, among others. I told him about the third level at Grand Central Station, and he said it was a waking-dream wish fulfillment.

What happened was that one night last summer I worked late at the office. I was in a hurry to get uptown to my apartment, so I decided to take the subway from Grand Central because it's faster than the bus. Now, I don't know why this should have happened to me. I'm just an ordinary guy named Charley, thirty-one years old, and I was wearing a tan gabardine suit and a straw hat with an **extravagant** band. I passed a dozen men who looked just like me. And I wasn't trying to escape from anything; I just wanted to get home to Louisa, my wife. 5 10

I turned into Grand Central from Vanderbilt Avenue and went down the steps to the first level, where you take trains in the Twentieth Century. Then I walked down another flight to the second level, where the subways are. But I kept on walking down to a third level at the station, yes, I said third level. There's never been a third level at Grand Central Station, and I've talked to a lot of people who should know. But that night there was. 15

The corridor I was in began angling left and slanting downward, and I thought that was wrong, but I kept on walking. The tunnel turned sharp left, and I went down a short flight of stairs and came out on the third level at Grand Central Station.

For just a moment I thought I was back on the second level, but I saw the room was smaller; there were fewer ticket windows and train gates, and the information booth in the centre was wood and **antiquated**. And the man in the booth wore a green eyeshade and long black sleeve protectors. The lights were dim and sort of flickering. Then I saw why; they were open-flame gaslights. There were brass spittoons on the floor, and across the station, a glint of light caught my eye. A man was pulling a gold watch from his vest pocket. He snapped open the cover, glanced at his watch, and scowled. He wore a derby hat, a black four-button suit with tiny lapels, and he had a big, black, handlebar moustache. Then I looked around and saw that everyone in the station was dressed like 1890- something; I never saw so many beards, sideburns, and fancy moustaches in my life.

To make sure, I walked over to a newsboy and glanced at the stack of papers at his feet. It was 'The World'; and 'The World' hasn't been published for years. The lead story said something about President Cleveland. I've found that front page since, in the Public Library files, and it was printed June 11, 1894.

—An abridged extract from *The Third Level* by Jack Finney

1. For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided. 3
 - a. extravagant (line 9)
 - i. economical
 - ii. thrifty
 - iii. frugal
 - iv. fancy
 - b. antiquated (line 26)
 - i. modern
 - ii. obsolete
 - iii. current
 - iv. contemporary
2. Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word 'scrutinised'?
 - i. scowled
 - ii. glanced
 - iii. published
 - iv. snapped
3. Answer the following questions briefly in your own words.
 - a. What was Charley's initial reason for taking the subway from Grand Central Station? 2
 - b. How did Charley feel when he first entered the third level at Grand Central Station? 2
 - c. How did Charley confirm that he had entered a different time period at the third level? 2

- d. What does Charley mention about his appearance and the people he passed by? 1
- e. Why did Charley seek advice from a psychiatrist friend about his experience? 2
4. In not more than 50 words, describe the atmosphere Charley observed at the third level of Grand Central Station. 8

Question 5

[20]

- a. 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) taught

By the time she was three, Matilda had (0) _____ (teach) herself to read by (1) _____ (study) newspapers and magazines that (2) _____ (lie) around the house. At the age of four, she could (3) _____ (read) fast and well and she naturally began (4) _____ (hanker) after books. The only book in the whole of this enlightened household was something called Easy Cooking (5) _____ (belong) to her mother, and when she had read this from cover to cover and had (6) _____ (learn) all the recipes by heart, she (7) _____ (decide) she (8) _____ (want) something more interesting.

- b. Fill in the blanks with an appropriate word. 4
- (a) The parade goes _____ our house on way to the Azad Maidan.
- (b) Jack is leaning _____ the wall of the kitchen.
- (c) The treasure was buried _____ the sand dunes near the coast.
- (d) The children laughed _____ delight at the magician's tricks.
- (e) The plane soared _____ the clouds as it reached cruising altitude.
- (f) He took the shortcut _____ the woods to reach home quickly.
- (g) The cat jumped _____ the counter to grab the food.
- (h) She sat _____ the window, gazing at the falling rain.
- c. Join the sentences without using *and*, *but* or *so*. 4
1. This bag is very small. It cannot hold so many food packets.
- i. This bag is very small because it cannot hold so many food packets.
- ii. This bag is too small to hold so many food packets.
- iii. This bag can't hold so many food packets unless it is very small.
- iv. This bag is very small that it cannot hold too many food packets.
2. The musician played a soothing melody. The audience sang along quietly.
- i. The musician played a soothing melody because the audience sang along quietly.
- ii. When the musician played a soothing melody, the audience sang along quietly.

- iii. The musician played a soothing melody until the audience sang along quietly.
- iv. Unless the musician played a soothing melody, the audience sang quietly.
3. She wore her glasses. She wanted to read the fine print.
- i. She wore her glasses as she wanted to read the fine print.
- ii. The fine print was readable while she wore her glasses.
- iii. She wore her glasses lest she struggled to read the fine print.
- iv. Unless she wore her glasses, she could not read the fine print.
4. Robert Frost was a great poet. He wrote the poem 'The Road Not Taken'.
- i. Robert Frost was a great poet although he wrote the poem 'The Road Not Taken'.
- ii. Robert Frost, a great poet, was writing the poem 'The Road Not Taken'.
- iii. Robert Frost wrote the poem 'The Road Not Taken', he was a great poet.
- iv. Robert Frost was a great poet who wrote the poem 'The Road Not Taken'.
- d. Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but **do not** change the meaning of the sentence. 8
1. The rain drenched them completely yet they kept walking forward. (*Use: although*)
- i. Although the rain drenched them completely, they kept walking forward.
- ii. Although they walked forward, the rain drenched them completely.
- iii. They keep walking although the rain drenched them completely.
- iv. The rain drenched them completely although they kept walking forward.
2. "I will visit the museum tomorrow to see the art exhibition," he mentioned. (*Begin with: He informed...*)
- i. He informed about visiting the museum the next day to see the art exhibition.
- ii. He informed that he would visit the museum the next day to see the art exhibition.
- iii. He informed that he will visit the museum tomorrow to see the art exhibition.
- iv. He informed visiting the museum to see the art exhibition tomorrow.
3. The artist painted a mural on the wall during the festival. (*Begin with: During the festival ...*)
- i. During the festival, a mural painted on the wall by the artist.
- ii. During the festival, a mural was painted on the wall by the artist.

- iii. During the festival, a mural was being painted on the wall by the artist.
- iv. During the festival, a mural has been painted by the artist on the wall.
4. "If I had consulted the map earlier, I could have bypassed the city," she explained. (*Rewrite in indirect speech*)
- i. She explained that if she consulted the map earlier, she would have bypassed the city.
- ii. She explained that if she had consulted the map earlier, she can have bypassed the city.
- iii. She explained that if she had consulted the map earlier, she could have bypassed the city.
- iv. She explained that if she has consulted the map earlier, she could have bypassed the city.
5. She ate her lunch and then attended the math class. (*Begin with: Having...*)
- i. Having eaten her lunch, she attends the math class.
- ii. Having being eaten her lunch, she had attended the math class.
- iii. Having eaten her lunch, she attended the math class.
- iv. Having attended the math class, she ate her lunch.
6. Madagascar is one of the largest islands in the world. (*Use: larger*)
- i. Madagascar is larger than any other islands in the world.
- ii. Madagascar is more larger than other islands in the world.
- iii. Madagascar is one of the larger islands in the world.
- iv. Madagascar is larger than most other islands in the world.
7. The storm caused power outages. It also damaged some houses. (*Rewrite using: both...and*)
- i. The storm both caused power outages as well as damaged houses.
- ii. The storm both caused power outages and it damaged some houses.
- iii. The storm caused both power outages and damage to some houses.
- iv. The storm caused power outages and damage to some houses.
8. The wind howled through the canyon, carrying echoes of lost voices. (*Use: not only...but also*)
- i. Not only did the wind howl through the canyon, but it also carried echoes of lost voices.
- ii. The wind not only howled through the canyon but carried echoes of lost voices.
- iii. Not only did the wind howl, but through the canyon, it carried echoes of lost voices.
- iv. Not only howling through the canyon, the wind also carried echoes of lost voices.