

**ENGLISH -ASSESSMENT II**  
**2023-24**  
**ANSWER KEY**

**Class: XI**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

**Date: 28/11/2023**

**Time allowed:3Hours**

**SECTION A: READING SKILLS (26 marks)**

**I. Read the following passage carefully.**

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions :(1X10=10)

(a) Some people doubt the effectiveness of the polio vaccine because they think:

**iii) It is not in any probability stored in an ideal temperature**

(b) The changed colour of the label on a vial would mean:

**iv) The medicine has been stored in an unsuitable environment**

(c) The surface temperature can be studied from:

**ii) Change in the shade of surface layer of paints**

(d) Which of the following is true in context of the passage?

**iv) All colour changes are influenced by the length of time the paint is exposed to high temperatures**

e) What doubt has been raised about the pulse polio programme in the rural areas?

Ans- The doubt is whether the much-publicized polio vaccine is really effective in rural areas because it may not be stored or transported at the desired low temperature.

f) How can the temperature sensitive labels be useful for vaccine vials?

Ans- These labels change their colour if the vaccine or medicine contained in the vial is exposed to a temperature higher than the prescribed one.

g) Complete the following analogy correctly with words/phrase from the passage:

**ICT: Temperature sensitive warning levels :: German Chemists : Thermo-colours**

h) What makes thermo-colours especially useful for industry?

Ans- Their uses include supervising the heat of reactors, studying heat distribution and heat transfer in processing equipment, pointing, insulation failures or flaws in castings, and signalling thermal strains and overheating.

i) How can a thermo-colours clinical thermometer be a boon for children?

Ans- The danger of swallowing mercury by the accidental breaking of a thermometer under the tongue will be a thing of the past.

j) Find the word in the given passage which conveys the meaning similar to - secluded (paragraph 4). **ISOLATED**

## **II. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: -**

**Answer the questions that follow: -**

**(1x8 = 8 marks)**

Q1. According to the passage, the gender disparity among Nobel Prize recipients is due to \_\_\_\_\_ factors.

**(i) historical**

Q2. Based on the passage, what efforts are being made by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences to address the low representation of female scientists?

A. The Academy is consciously awarding female scientists from the 2000s.

B. The Academy is inviting sociologists to lecture about the gender gap.

C. The Academy is hosting group discussions to boost the intelligence of female scientists.

(i) only A

**(ii) only B**

(iii) A and C

(iv) B and C

Q3. According to the passage, Goran Hansson says that there are \_\_\_\_\_.

**iv) more female scientists being recognised for their work now**

Q4. Which of these can be inferred from the graph showing the number of women Nobel laureates by decade?

**iv) Since 1961, women Nobel laureates have been increasing steadily every decade.**

Q5. Which of these pieces of information is **given** in the passage?

iv) percentage of female scientists belonging to western countries

Q6. Select the sentence that **CORRECTLY** uses the phrase 'by and large' as used in paragraph 1.

iii) **Most of the lions by and large eat deer when hungry.**

Q7. The Nobel Prize is an international award because it recognises the achievements made \_\_\_\_\_.

iii) **in all countries**

Q8. Identify the opinion from these statements about the information shared in the passage.

iv) **Women in general are more inclined to working on world peace than on other subjects.**

**III. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

(a) **On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it, using headings and subheadings. Use recognisable abbreviations (wherever necessary-minimum four) and the suitable format. Also supply an appropriate title to it. (5 marks)**

(b) **Write a summary of the passage in about 50 words. (3 marks)**

**SECTION B –GRAMMAR AND CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS- (23 Marks).**

**IV. Do as directed: (Any Seven Questions) (1x7 =7 marks )**

Q1. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Radha and Shikha.

Radha : Do you know how to swim?

Shikha : Yes I know. I have learnt it during summer vacation.

Radha asked Shikha if/whether she knew how to swim. Then Shikha replied in affirmative and also added that \_\_\_\_\_.

(i) **she had learnt it during summer vacation**

Q2. Fill the blanks with the correct form of the tenses given in the bracket.

Two children (a) **were playing** (play) in the backyard of their house when they (b) **spotted** (spot) a tiger cub. Mistaking it for a big cat they brought it home.

Q3. Rearrange the given words to make meaningful sentence:

**die/ would rather/ up/ She/ give/ than/ her freedom**

**She would rather die than give up her freedom**

Q4. Read the conversation given below and complete the narration:

Sneha: Do you know that the Andaman trip has been postponed?

Deepti: No, I didn't know that. Why has it been postponed?

Sneha asked Deepti if she knew that the Andaman trip had been postponed. Deepti replied that she didn't know that. She asked Sneha **why it had been postponed.**

Q5. What type of phrase or clause is it?

**Having nothing to do**

- (i) INDEPENDENT CLAUSE
- (ii) PHRASE**
- (iii)DEPENDENT CLAUSE
- (iv)NONE

Q6. What type of phrase or clause is it?

**As I was reading**

- (i) INDEPENDENT CLAUSE
- (ii) PHRASE
- (iii)DEPENDENT CLAUSE**
- (iv)NONE

Q7. Identify the dependent clause in the given sentence:

**She lied in my face as if I knew nothing.**

**as if I knew nothing**

Q8. What type of phrase or clause is it?

**He ran out of options**

- (i) INDEPENDENT CLAUSE**
- (ii) PHRASE
- (iii)DEPENDENT CLAUSE
- (iv)NONE

**V. Attempt ANY ONE of the two in about 50 words:**

**(3 marks)**

**Classified Advertisements, up to 50 words. (3 Marks: Format : 1 / Content : 1 / Expression : 1)**

You are the manager, Herbal India Ltd. Draft an advertisement for your company for the post of two Sales Executives. Specify your requirements, qualifications, experience, and personality of the candidates.

**OR**

You are Anurag /Aparna of 110, Swasthya Vihar, New Delhi and wish to let out a portion of your newly built house. Draft advertisement in not more than 50 words for publication in the 'To Let' column of The Hindustan Times, giving all necessary details like location, type of accommodation to be rented out, rent expected, contact address including telephone number etc.

**VI. Attempt ANY ONE of the two in about 50 words:**

**(3 marks)**

**Poster up to 50 words. (3 marks:Format : 1 / Content : 1 / Expression : 1)**

We have high expectations of ourselves when it comes to animal welfare - 68% of people believe individuals are responsible for animal welfare. But the overwhelming majority of 83% think the government could and should do more. Prepare a poster in not more than 50 words on kindness to animals to be displayed in the city at public places appealing to people to show kindness to animals. You are Secretary of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Mumbai.

**OR**

“Integrity, transparency and the fight against corruption have to be part of the culture. They have to be taught as fundamental values.” On the theme of vigilance, anti-corruption and ethical social behaviour, design a visually appealing poster in about 50 words. Include all relevant details.

**VII. Attempt ANY ONE of the two in about 120-150 words:**

**(5 marks)**

**(5 Marks: Format: 1 / Content: 2 / Expression: 2)**

You are Ankit/Ankita. You have to deliver a speech on the topic “**Education Gives Power**”. You have jotted down the following notes:

Education trains mind—sharpens skill and abilities—Education: a source of power— improve self—be independent—earn money—ignorance to knowledge—removes superstition— develops a free spirit—important for women: gives them freedom from social ills— independent—responsible.

Write your speech in 120-150 words.

**OR**

You are Anjana/Anil, Head girl / Head boy of your school. You are deeply disturbed by the rising cases of aggressive behaviour of students in your school. You decide to speak during the morning assembly about it. Write a speech on ‘**Indiscipline in Schools**’ to be given in the assembly.

**VIII. Attempt ANY ONE of the two in about 120-150 words:**

**(5 marks)**

**(5 Marks: Format: 1 / Content: 2 / Expression: 2)**

Consumerism is- increasing day by day. Luxuries of yesterday have become necessities of today. The result is that the more we want the more miserable we become. Write a debate for or against the motion on ‘**The only way to minimise human suffering and pain is to control our needs**’. You are Navtej/Navita.

**OR**

Your school is organising a debate event on the topic “**Should Video Games be Banned?**”. Write a debate on the given topic, presenting your views either for or against the motion.

**SECTION C – LITERATURE (31 MARKS)**

**IX. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given:**  
(3 x 1 = 3 marks)

*“I descend to lave the droughts, atomies, dust- layers of the globe,  
And all that in them without me were seeds only, latent, unborn;”*

A. With what purpose does the rain descend from the sky?

Ans- The Rain descends or falls on the surface of the earth to eliminate droughts, wash away the tiny particles and settle down the dust-layers.

B. Which poetic device is used in the line: ‘*I descend to lave the droughts, atomies, dust- layers of the globe,*’?

**Ans- Personification**

C. What happens to the earth when the rain falls back on its surface?

(i) It gets flooded

**(ii) Earth is beautified**

(iii) Cloudbursts occur

(iv) We get pure water

**OR**

*“When did my childhood go?  
Was it when I found my mind was really mine,  
To use whichever way I choose,  
Producing thoughts that were not those of other people,  
But my own, and mine alone  
Was that the day!”*

A. What do the words "My own" and "mine" stand for?

Ans- Independent way of thinking of a grown-up. It reveals the development of his own seat of reasoning. It means that his mind was not influenced by others.

B. What theme does this stanza depict?

(i) reminiscence

**(ii) individuality**

(iii) rationalism

(iv) hypocrisy

C. Why did he choose his way?

Ans- He chose his way to express his own views, which gave him self-confidence.

**X. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given:**  
(3x1=3 Marks)

*Professor, before, just prior to your collision with the truck, what were you doing?" Rajendra asked. "I was thinking of the catastrophe theory and its implications for history." "Right! I thought so!" Rajendra smiled. "Don't smile smugly. In case you think that it was just my mind playing tricks and*

*my imagination running amok, look at this." And, triumphantly, Professor Gaitonde produced his vital piece of evidence: a page torn out of a book.*

A. What does the word 'Amok' mean here in the given extract?

- (i) Calmly
- (ii) frantically**
- (iii) unconcernedly
- (iv) All of these

B. What happened when Gangadharant's car collided with the truck?

Ans- He fainted/fell unconscious/went in coma or comatose stage.

C. Where had he got the page from?

Ans- The page was of Bhaushebanchi Bakhar/ a book/ Bakhar/ collected from a library by mistake.

**OR**

*A FLAWLESS half-moon floated in a perfect blue sky on the morning we said our goodbyes. Extended banks of cloud like long French loaves glowed pink as the sun emerged to splash the distant mountain tops with a rose-tinted blush. Now that we were leaving Ravu, Lhamo said she wanted to give me a farewell present. One evening I'd told her through Daniel that I was heading towards Mount Kailash to complete the kora, and she'd said that I ought to get some warmer clothes.*

A. Where was the author going to?

**Ans- The author was on his way to Mount Kailash.**

B. Which figure of speech has been used in the phrase '*banks of cloud like long French loaves*'?

**Ans- Simile / Alliteration**

C. Based on above extract classify following as facts or opinion.

1. Author was going to Mount Kailsah to complete kora
2. Author did not have any warm clothes
3. I can assume that Lhamo did not understand any word of author
4. Mountains must have been capped with snow
5. Moon and Sun both were visible in the sky
6. Daniel was the translator for the author

**(i) F - 1, 5, 6 and O - 2, 3, 4**

**(ii) F - 1, 2, 4 and O - 3, 5**

**(iii) F - 1, 4, 5 and O - 2, 3**

**(iv) F - 4, 5 and O - 1, 2, 3**

**XI. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given:**

**(4 x 1 = 4 marks)**

*You think it does 'em good when you run after them all the time, take their orders as if you were the servant in the house, stay at home every night while they go out enjoying themselves? Never in all your life. It's the ruin of them as well as you.*

A. Who is the speaker in the above lines?

**Ans-Mrs. Fitzgerald**

B. What message is the speaker trying to convey here? Choose the correct statement.

- (i) A mother should take full responsibility for every household chore without thinking about herself because she is the epitome of sacrifice.
- (ii) A mother should stay at home and take orders from the family members because being a housewife she is inferior to them.
- (iii) A mother should get the same rights and privileges as other family members because she is supporting the family by working selflessly for them.**
- (iv) Family members need not be thoughtful about the feelings, desires and needs of the mother as she is mature enough to look after herself.

C. What kind of a person is the speaker?

Ans- She was bold and confident.

D. Which word in the passage means the same as “something that leads to serious trouble”?

- (i) Orders
- (ii) Servant
- (iii) Ruin**
- (iv) enjoying

**OR**

*I was home for a few days and it struck me immediately that something or other about the rooms had changed. I missed various things. My mother was surprised I should have noticed so quickly. Then she told me about Mrs. Dorling. I had never heard of her but apparently, she was an old acquaintance of my mother, whom she hadn't seen for years. She had suddenly turned up and renewed their contact. Since then she had come regularly.*

A. What did the narrator notice at her home?

Ans- She noticed that various things were missing at her home.

B. Why was the author's mother surprised?

- (i) her daughter got angry
- (ii) her daughter had put on weight
- (iii) her daughter did not inform about her visit
- (iv) her daughter quickly noticed the changes at the house**

D. Why did Mrs. Dorling visit their house frequently?

Ans-

- Mrs. S belonged to a wealthy Jewish family and had possessions of great value.



- During Second World War the Jews were persecuted and were insecure.
- In this background Mrs. Dorling carried away all precious things saying she wanted 'to save' all those.

D. Which of the following is true about Mrs. Dorling?

1. she was a new friend of mother
2. she was an old acquaintance of mother
3. mother had not met her for many years
4. she had always remained in contact with mother
5. recently she had started coming to mother regularly.

(i) 1,2,3

(ii) 2,3,5

(iii) 1,4,5

(iv) 1,3,5

**XII. Answer ANY TWO of the following four questions in about 40-50 words:**

**(3x2 = 6 marks)**

1. Why has Amenhotep IV's reign been described as one of the strangest periods in 'the history of ancient Egypt'?

Ans-

- Amenhotep IV promoted the worship of Aten, the sun disk.
- He attacked Amun, a major god, smashing his images and closing his temples.
- He also shifted the religious capital from the old city of Thebes to the new city of Akhenaten, known as Amarna.

2. Why did the narrator call Ile Amsterdam the most beautiful island in the world?

Ans-

- Ile Amsterdam was the only hope of survival for the voyagers and so, when they reached there, it looked the most beautiful island to the narrator.
- He was successful in saving his family and crewmen by reaching there.
- He had won the fight for survival. If they had not reached the island, they would surely have sunk.

3. What does the phrase "strange to tell" mean in the poem 'The Voice of the Rain'?

Ans-

- The phrase "strange to tell" means that it is quite strange (unusual/unexpected) for the poet to believe and express in words that the soft-falling rain replied to his question.
- At the beginning of the poem, the poet inquires the rain about its identity, to which the rain replies that it is the 'Poem of Earth'.

4. What did the speaker learn about the existence of Heaven and Hell?

Ans-

- As the speaker grew to be mature, he acquired reasoning power.
- He realized that Hell and Heaven could not be found in Geography books or Atlas. Since they could not be located anywhere in the world map, he concluded that they did not exist.
- He would believe only what he could see and find.

**XIII. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 40-50 words:**

**(3x1= 3 marks)**

1. Why did Mrs. S ask her daughter to remember the address of Mrs. Dorling?

Ans-Mrs. Dorling had taken the valuable possessions of Mrs. S for safe keeping. Mrs. S wanted her daughter to remember the address so that she could claim their belongings some day after the war.

2. What did the farmer John Byro tell the two boys when they accidentally met him with his horse in their custody?

Ans-

- The farmer examined the horse when he found it with the two boys and he told them that he could swear that the horse was his very horse which had been stolen from him many weeks ago.
- He added that the fame of their family for honesty was very well known to him and therefore he liked to say that the horse could be the twin of his stolen horse.

**XIV. Answer ANY ONE out of two questions: - (1x 6 = 6 marks)**

Describe Professor's bitter experience in the Azad Maidan. Why did he convey his regrets to the organizers of the Panipat seminar?

- Professor Gaitonde was in Bombay, after a frugal meal set out for a stroll towards the Azad Maidan, there he found a crowd moving towards the pandal. The lecture was in progress.
- He was staring at the platform, a table and a chair but the latter one, the presidential chair unoccupied! moved deeply. He moved towards the chair. The speaker stopped in shock.
- Professor Gaitonde- gave vent to his views - an unoccupied presidential chair was like Shakespeare's 'Hamlet' without the Prince of Denmark.
- Unacceptable to the audience - they shouted at him to keep the platform empty. But Gangadharpant would not stop hence became a target for a shower of tomatoes, eggs and other objects.
- Finally, the audience swarmed to the stage and ejected him bodily. In the crowd he was nowhere to be found. All he knew was that he was found in the Azad Maidan in the morning.
- He remained unconscious for two days. The incident left him a broken and bitter man. He decided never to preside at another meeting. Hence, he conveyed his regrets to the organisers of the Panipat seminar when they approached him to preside at the seminar.

**OR**

The narrator on his way to Mount Kailash came across a lot of topographic variation.

Comment.

Ans-

- The narrator and his companions took a short cut to get off the Changtang. Tsetan knew a route that would take them southwest, almost directly towards Mount Kailash.
- It involved crossing several fairly high mountain passes. From the gently rising and falling hills of Ravu, the short cut took them across vast open plains with nothing in them except a few gazelles that were grazing in the arid pastures.

- Further ahead, the plains became more stony than grassy, and there a great herd of wild ass came into view.
- Still ahead, the hills became steeper where solitary drokbas, tending their flocks. This left them to the snow-capped mountains and then to the valley where the river was wide and by and large clogged with ice. At a height of 5,515metres, piles of stones marked the landscape.
- Next was the plateau - covered with salty desert area and salty lakes that were remnants of the Tethys Ocean.
- Hor was next in line - a wretched place with no vegetation - just dust and rocks, liberally scattered with years of accumulated refuse.

**XV. Answer ANY ONE out of two questions: - (1x 6 = 6 marks)**

Give a brief account of the narrator's first visit to 46, Marconi Street. What impression do you form of Mrs. Dorling from it?

Ans-

- In the post-war period, when things returned to normal, the narrator became curious about her mother's possessions that were stored at Mrs. Dorling's house.
- Since she wanted to see them, she took the train and went to 46, Marconi Street. Mrs. Dorling opened the door a chink.
- The narrator came closer, stood on the step and asked her if she still knew her. Mrs. Dorling told her that she didn't know her.
- The narrator told her that she was the daughter of Mrs. S. Mrs. Dorling kept staring at her in silence and gave no sign of recognition. She held her hand on the door as if she wanted to prevent it opening any further.
- The narrator recognized the green knitted cardigan of her mother that Mrs. Dorling was wearing, she noticed it and half hid herself behind the door. The narrator again asked if she knew her mother. Mrs. Dorling asked with surprise if she had come back. She declined to see the narrator or help her.
- Student's opinion about Mrs. Dorling – appropriate expression- correct syntax, with logic is evaluated.

**OR**

Sometimes it does people good to have their feelings hurt.' Who says this and what does she do to hurt Mr. Pearson?

Ans-

- When Mr. Pearson announced that he did not wish to drink tea, after he returned from work, the real Mrs. Fitzgerald (in the body of Mrs. Pearson) informs him that his tea was not ready.
- He is angry and she reminds him that he was annoyed because he did not get the tea that he did not want in the first place.

- She adds that if he did that at a bar-went up to the bar at the club and told them he did not want a glass of beer but got irritated because they had not already poured it out for him, they would laugh at him even more than they did already.
- George was indignant and she added that he was one of their standing jokes and was called ‘Pompy-ompy Pearson’ because they thought that he was slow and pompous.
- George checks with Cyril on the truth of the matter, and Cyril accuses his mother of not being fair and sensitive.
- To which, she replies that sometimes it does people good to have their feelings hurt.

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