



Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir

Pre-Midterm Examination

Sub: ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE

Class :X

SET-2

Max. Marks: 30

Date: 19/05/2026

Time: 1 Hour

General Instructions:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper consists of three sections. Section A-Reading (07marks), Section B – Writing –(3 marks) Section C- Grammar (4 marks), Section D Literature (16 Marks)
3. Write question numbers correctly.
4. Attempt one section at a stretch and then move on to the next section.
5. Use of correcting fluid (whitener) is prohibited. Note: This paper consists of 3 printed pages.

1.

	<u>SECTION A: READING (7 marks)</u>	
1	Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: 1. Silk is a natural protein fibre, some forms of which can be woven into textiles. Silk has a long history in India. It is known as Resham in eastern and northern India, and Pattu in the southern parts of India. India is the second largest producer of silk in the world after China. 2. Silk is renowned for its luxurious qualities with a natural soft and smooth texture that feels comfortable on the skin. One of its unique qualities is to absorb and release moisture, regulating the body temperature, and keeping the wearer cool and dry. 3. Silk is one of the strongest natural fibres, but it loses up to 20% of its strength when wet. Its elasticity is moderate to poor: if elongated even a small amount, it remains stretched. It can be weakened if exposed to too much sunlight. It may also be attacked by insects, especially if left dirty. 4. The process of silk production is known as sericulture. Silk is produced by several insects; but, generally, only the silk of moth caterpillars has been used for textile manufacturing. To produce 1 kg of silk, 104 kg of mulberry leaves must be eaten by 3000 silkworms. 5. So, what makes silk so costly? Firstly, cultivation of silk is a labour-intensive work. Secondly, the silk fabric is carefully derived from the larva of the silkworms which spin silk threads around themselves to make cocoons from natural sources. This makes the production limited due to factors like — climate, availability of quality mulberry leaves and time required by silkworms to complete their lifecycle. Thirdly, the intensive work can only be carried out with specialized knowledge and expertise by skilled artisans and craftsmanship. Lastly, superior quality silk fabrics are made from long and uniform silk fibres giving them a smooth and lustrous appearance. Thus, production requires careful selection, adding to the cost. 6. In 2021, Karnataka was the highest producer of raw silk at 8483 metric tonnes followed by Andhra Pradesh at 5520 metric tonnes with Assam close behind at 5038	7

	metric tonnes. At the other end of the spectrum there was Chhattisgarh (248 metric tonnes), Nagaland (230 metric tonnes) and UP trailed behind at 179 metric tonnes. Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions. 1. According to the passage, in what way is sunlight harmful to silk? 1 2. Complete the following with one suitable reason from the text: Silk production work can be carried out by skilled artisans because _____. 1 3. Based on the given text, which state was the smallest producer of silk. 1 4. Give one reason to support why production of silk is limited. 1 5. The word “luxurious” refers to: 1 a) Cheap and ordinary b) Comfortable and expensive c) Hard and rough d) Simple and plain 6. Complete the sentence suitably. 1 To carry out silk production requires careful selection because _____. 7. Silk is a popular fabric in India. Support the above statement with evidence from the text. 1	
	<u>SECTION B: WRITING (3 marks)</u>	
	<u>Attempt any one from (a) and (b) given below:</u>	3
2A	You are a student of class 10. You selected Design Thinking as your skill subject but after a few weeks, you find it unsuitable for yourself. You now wish to take up Artificial Intelligence. Write an application to the principal, seeking permission for the same.	
	OR	
2B.	You are a student of class 10. You enrolled in Basketball coaching , but due to health reasons, you want to switch to Yoga classes . Write an application to the principal seeking permission for the same.	
	<u>SECTION C- GRAMMAR (4 marks)</u>	
3A	Fill the blanks (i) -(iii) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets. In the pursuit of digital validation, we(i)----- (sacrifice/sacrifices/ sacrificed) the wealth of lived experience, trading meaningful moments for fleeting glimpses of connection. The true essence of life(ii)----- (lie/lie/ lies) not in the pixels on a screen, but in the depth of human connection and the richness of shared experiences. As we (iii)----- (navigating/ navigate/navigated) this brave new world of constant connectivity, let us not forget the value of presence and the beauty of being fully engaged in the moments that matter most.	1x3=3
3B.	Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence. Raju: Do you know Varun was hit by a two – wheeler yesterday? Arun: Oh no! When did it happen? Raju: School/on his/ was/ a scooter/from/ he / by/ back/hit/way	1
	<u>SECTION D: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK - (16 marks)</u>	
4	Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:	1x4=4

	“Well, poor bird she should have known That your song must be your own. That's why I sing with panache Koo-oh –ah! ko- ash! ko-ash!” And the foghorn of the frog Blared unrivalled through the bog. i) Why does the frog call the nightingale a “poor bird”? ii) What does the word ‘panache’ here mean? iii) What does the frog mean by “your song must be your own”? iv) Which trait of the frog’s character is reflected in these lines?	
5.	Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: <i>The great night duly arrived, moonlit and cloudless. A platform had been constructed in a comfortable and conveniently placed tree, and thereon crouched Mrs. Packeltide and her paid companion, Miss Mebbin. A goat, gifted with a particularly persistent bleat, such as even a partially deaf tiger might be reasonably expected to hear on a still night, was tethered at the correct distance. With an accurately sighted rifle and a thumb-nail pack of patience cards the sportswoman awaited the coming of the quarry.</i> i) On what kind of night did the event take place? (ii) Why do you think the author describes the tiger as “partially deaf”? (iii) Where was the platform constructed? (iv) Which word in the passage is closest in meaning to the following phrase? A person or animal being hunted or looked for.	1x4=4
6	Answer any <u>FOUR</u> of the following questions in about 30-40 words. a) Why did the nightingale lose her natural charm in singing? b) Why did Mrs. Packeltide want to hunt a tiger? c) How were the boys in ‘Two Gentlemen of Verona’ useful to the narrator? d) Why did the narrator feel deeply moved by the boy’s dedication? (e) How does Louisa Mebbin manage to get a week-end cottage for her?	2x4=8

All the Best