

**ENGLISH – CORE (301)
ASSESSMENT 1- CLASS XII****Date: 14/09/2025****Maximum Marks:80
Time allowed: 3 hours****General Instructions:**

- (i) All questions are compulsory.
- (ii) You may attempt any section at a time.
- (iii) All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the given order.
- (iv) The question paper is divided into three sections.
- (v) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section A	:	Reading	22 marks
Section B	:	Writing	18 marks
Section C	:	Literature	40 marks

SECTION A – READING (22 Marks)

Q1	Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:	1x12=12 M
	The narrative around the identity of the mysterious woman in Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa has often oscillated between clear fact and enigmatic folklore. Could this iconic portrait, which today hangs in the Louvre, indeed depict the wife of a Florentine merchant, Lisa Gherardini, or is there a deeper, concealed story yet to be unravelled? To assert that the Mona Lisa might be a concealed self-portrait of Leonardo himself, or perhaps an embodiment of an idealized woman, would border on historical audacity. For one to believe in such hypotheses, one would need to counter the prevailing historical documentation with mere speculative anecdotes. One of the primary challenges in ascribing the identity of the Mona Lisa to someone other than Lisa Gherardini lies in questioning the purpose behind Leonardo's deviation. Why would Leonardo, a noted polymath of the Renaissance, create an emblematic masterpiece and then shroud its subject in mystery? Additionally, embracing an alternative theory would necessitate believing that the countless scholars and historians who've studied Leonardo and his work might have overlooked or misinterpreted crucial evidence. Moreover, would not someone from Leonardo's inner circle, or Leonardo himself, have hinted or documented this anomaly? Such fanciful claims might originate from modern-day infatuation with conspiracy theories or a desire to inject fresh intrigue into well-established historical events. For instance, some theorists point to Leonardo's well-documented love for codes and hidden messages, suggesting that the Mona Lisa is replete with clandestine symbols. They argue that since Leonardo was an aficionado of mystery, the very identity of the portrait's subject might be one such enigma. Additionally, others suggest that the Mona Lisa's smile is too	

	enigmatic, too knowing, to belong to a merchant's wife, indicating perhaps a deeper connection to the artist. However, while fascinating, such perspectives often arise from a misjudgment of the Renaissance era. The Renaissance wasn't merely a period of art and beauty; it was a time of exploration, both external and introspective. Artists frequently delved deep into the human psyche, aiming to capture emotions, thoughts, and feelings rather than mere physical resemblances. The Mona Lisa's elusive smile, rather than hinting at a concealed identity, might simply be Leonardo's exploration of subtlety in human expression. A challenge, if you will, to his audience to discern and interpret the layers of human emotion. Ultimately, as with Shakespeare's works, the fascination surrounding the Mona Lisa should perhaps be centered less on the identity of its subject and more on the artistic brilliance and profound emotional depth it encapsulates. After all, isn't it more rewarding to engage with the art itself than to endlessly speculate on its origins?	
	1. According to the passage, why is it challenging to accept alternative theories about the Mona Lisa's subject? A) There are no existing theories about its identity. B) Historical documentation supports the Lisa Gherardini identification. C) Leonardo da Vinci was known to always reveal his artistic intentions. D) Evidence from Leonardo's inner circle was recently discovered. 2. The author suggests that believing in theories beyond Lisa Gherardini as the subject of the Mona Lisa would require: A) Ignoring recent scientific analysis. B) Trusting only modern conspiracy theorists. C) Dismissing scholarly consensus based on speculation. D) Having access to lost Renaissance diaries. 3. Why is understanding Renaissance context, such as its focus on emotion, important in interpreting artworks like the Mona Lisa? A) Because Renaissance artists focused only on physical accuracy. B) Because artworks were created mainly as coded messages. C) Because artists aimed to capture emotions and human expression rather than just appearances. D) Because Renaissance art rejected emotional depth.	

4. Why do historians favor Lisa Gherardini as the subject of the Mona Lisa over other theories?

A) Because she was the only person Leonardo ever painted.

B) Due to strong historical documentation supporting her identity.

C) Because Leonardo himself confirmed it in a letter.

D) Because modern conspiracy theories support her.

5. In the context of the passage, what does the word "oscillated" most likely mean?

A) Disagreed strongly

B) Moved back and forth

C) Ended abruptly

D) Stayed constant

6. According to the author, how does the Mona Lisa's smile contribute to the portrait's enduring fascination?

Ans 1-According to the author, the Mona Lisa's smile contributes to the portrait's enduring fascination by embodying subtlety and mystery in human expression. It challenges viewers to discern and interpret layers of emotion, making the smile enigmatic and thought-provoking rather than revealing a straightforward identity.

7. The passage compares intrigue about the Mona Lisa's subject to:

A) The uncertainty around the authorship of Shakespeare's plays.

B) The discovery of hidden codes in Renaissance paintings.

C) Modern debates over abstract art.

D) The personal diaries of famous artists.

8. The phrase "historical audacity" is used in the text to convey a sense of:

A) Humility

B) Arrogance and boldness

C) Confusion

D) Certainty

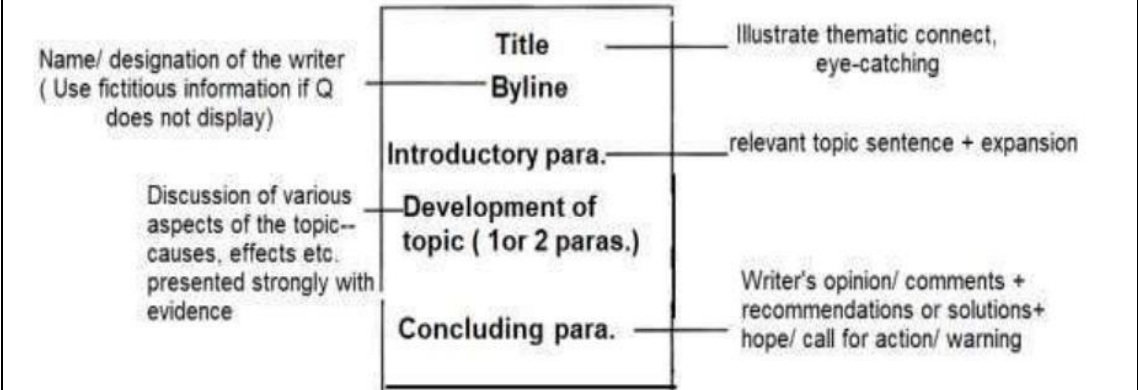
9. Why does the author mention Renaissance artists exploring the human psyche?

A) To argue that hidden identities were common in portraits.

	B) To suggest that art focused more on emotion than exact likeness. C) To prove Leonardo hid clues in all his work. D) To confirm the Mona Lisa is a coded message. 10. Which of the following best summarizes the author's attitude toward alternative theories about the Mona Lisa's identity? A) They are worth deep investigation and acceptance. B) They add new evidence to established facts. C) They are mostly speculative and often distract from appreciating the art itself. D) They are encouraged by traditional historians. 11. The word "introspective" in the passage most nearly means _____. A) looking outward B) deeply self-reflective C) physically strong D) historically accurate 12. What does the passage imply about the value of engaging with a work of art versus focusing on mysteries regarding its origins? Ans. The passage implies that engaging with the artistic brilliance and emotional depth of a work of art is more rewarding than focusing on speculative mysteries about its origins. It suggests that appreciating the art itself offers a deeper connection and understanding, rather than becoming distracted by endless speculation over who the subject might be.	
Q2.	1. According to the passage, 35% percentage of wedding arrangements feature roses. 2. Which flower type has "surged in popularity" according to the text? Peonies 3. Based on the pie chart, which two flower types together account for more than half of all wedding arrangements? A) Roses and Hydrangeas B) Roses and Peonies C) Peonies and Eucalyptus D) Roses and Eucalyptus 4. What makes peonies especially popular in modern weddings? A) Cost-effectiveness	10 Marks

	B) Luxurious, full blooms and romantic appeal C) Rustic aesthetics D) Variety of colors 5. Eucalyptus is mainly chosen because it: A) Adds vibrant colors B) Symbolizes romance C) Reflects greenery-focused, rustic trends D) Is the cheapest option 6. The word “versatile” in the passage means variety of colours; suitable for different occasions. (Hint: used to describe roses for different wedding themes) 7. Based on the data, how many percentage points more popular are roses compared to sunflowers in wedding preferences? A) 15 percentage points B) 27 percentage points C) 20 percentage points D) 30 percentage points 8. A wedding planner has a client who loves outdoor themes, rustic charm, and affordability. Which three flowers could be suggested from the passage, and why?? Sunflowers, Eucalyptus, Hydrangeas- why (take any logical and suitable reason from the passage as the correct Answer- like growing trend towards greenery focused arrangements, cost effectiveness and being suitable for outdoor and country- themed celebrations. 9. Which statement best describes the trend in Baby's Breath according to the passage? A) It has declined in popularity B) It remains consistently popular C) It has experienced a renaissance D) It is only used in traditional weddings 10. The word “renaissance” in the passage means: a) A slow decline b) A new beginning or revival c) A traditional custom d) A type of flower	
	SECTION B – WRITING – 18 Marks	

Q3.	Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words	4 Marks																														
<table><tr><td colspan="2">NOTICE</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Format – 1 Content -2 Organisation of ideas -1 Accuracy 1</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">FORMAT – 1 mark</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Box, NOTICE (centre), name of issuing authority- organisation/ agency (centre), date of issue (alignedleft), Authorisation name, designation & signature (bottom left)</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">NOTE:</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">full credit if all aspects are included. Partial credit (½ mark) if one-two aspects are missing. No credit if more than two aspects are missing.</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"> </td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">CONTENT – 2 marks</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">(As listed in value points) --- ½ mark *4=2 marks</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Value Points</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"> ✓ Correct format (as listed above) ✓ Drawing attention—students ✓ Mentioning the event and occasion ✓ Giving details -D, T, V ✓ Mention the renowned Guest and her lecture demonstration ✓ Line with reference to the undersigned </td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"> </td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Q4. INVITATION</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Format – 1 Content -2 Organisation of ideas -1 Accuracy 1</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">2 A. Features:</td></tr></table>			NOTICE		Format – 1 Content -2 Organisation of ideas -1 Accuracy 1		FORMAT – 1 mark		Box, NOTICE (centre), name of issuing authority- organisation/ agency (centre), date of issue (alignedleft), Authorisation name, designation & signature (bottom left)		NOTE:		full credit if all aspects are included. Partial credit (½ mark) if one-two aspects are missing. No credit if more than two aspects are missing.				CONTENT – 2 marks		(As listed in value points) --- ½ mark *4=2 marks		Value Points		✓ Correct format (as listed above) ✓ Drawing attention—students ✓ Mentioning the event and occasion ✓ Giving details -D, T, V ✓ Mention the renowned Guest and her lecture demonstration ✓ Line with reference to the undersigned				Q4. INVITATION		Format – 1 Content -2 Organisation of ideas -1 Accuracy 1		2 A. Features:	
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	Article: Assessment Parameters Format ✓ Title & Byline ✓ Organisation & Content: The article should be crafted in this manner:  Note: An article is not boxed. A box has been used here, as a tool for clear illustration.	
	SECTION C- LITERATURE – 40 Marks	
Q7.	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given: 7A. “‘Gainst the hot season; the mid forest brake, Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms; And such too is the grandeur of the dooms We have imagined for the mighty dead; All lovely tales that we have heard or read; An endless fountain of immortal drink, Pouring unto us from the heaven’s brink.” i. Based on the extract, complete the following analogy: have heard: alliteration :: _____: oxymoron Mighty dead ii. Which of the following best indicates the phrase 'mid-forest brake'? a. hidden pond b. mass of shrubs c. canopy of trees d. sparkling stream	1x 6 = 6 M

iii. According to the extract, which of these brings joy to human life?

1. shady trees
2. delightful drinks
3. fragrant flowers
4. changing seasons
5. enchanting stories

a. (1) and (3) / b. (3) and (5)

c. (1), (4), and (5)

d. (2), (3), and (4)

iv. Complete the given sentence appropriately. When the poet mentions 'an endless fountain of immortal drink', he refers to _____.

Ans. the eternal joy that beautiful things give / the everlasting joy things of beauty bring.

v. Based on the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

1. Beautiful things are blessings from the divine.
2. Beauty is an outcome of imagination.

a. Only (1) can be inferred from the extract.

b. Only (2) can be inferred from the extract.

c. Both (1) and (2) can be inferred from the extract.

d. Neither (1) nor (2) can be inferred from the extract.

vi. Which of the following best describes the tone of the poet in the given extract?

a. nostalgic

b. generous

c. passionate

d. contemplative

OR

7B. *“Those who prepare green wars,
wars with gas, wars with fire,
victory with no survivors,
would put on clean clothes
and walk about with their brothers
in the shade, doing nothing.”*

i. What is a common outcome of all the wars described?

Gaining victory with no survivors

ii. What does the imagery of 'walking about with their brothers in the shade' primarily represent?

a. The readiness for further conflicts.

b. A return to normal activities post-conflict.

c. A moment of unity and peaceful reflection.

d. The physical environment of a typical war zone.

iii. Complete the following sentence.

The putting on of 'clean clothes' by the warmongers, symbolises _____.

...a potential for change and renewal / a moment of pause and reflection / an act of cleansing of their actions / embracing a peaceful existence/ the possibility of transformation.

iv. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.

The excerpt tells us that the speaker _____ (**condemns** / glorifies) the destructive nature of modern warfare.

v. Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.

Assertion: The poet advocates for 'doing nothing' as a way to prevent the devastation of war.

Reason: 'Doing nothing' refers to a time for stopping any action for a few moments.

Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.

a. Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.

b. Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.

c. The assertion is true, but the reason is false.

d. The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

vi. How can the message in the excerpt, about the outcome of wars be applied to promote peace?

	Global leaders and communities can work toward more sustainable and peaceful solutions – Can be used to advocate for non-violent resolutions / peace negotiations in contemporary conflicts / Can be used to promote dialogue and understanding over aggression and warfare	
Q8.	8A. <i>“The manner of his death is a matter of extraordinary interest. It can be revealed only at the end of the tale. The most fantastic aspect of his demise was that as soon as he was born, astrologers had foretold that one day the Tiger King would actually have to die. “The child will grow up to become the warrior of warriors, hero of heroes, champion of champions. But...” They bit their lips and swallowed hard. When compelled to continue, the astrologers came out with it. “This is a secret that should not be revealed at all. And yet we are forced to speak out. The child born under this star will one day have to meet its death.”</i> i. Complete the sentence appropriately. The author’s purpose in using foreshadowing is to _____. Ans. create a sense of approaching doom. ii. In the given extract, what emotion were the astrologers feeling when they "bit their lips and swallowed hard"? a. Humiliation b. Disbelief c. Grief d. Unease iii. Which quality are the astrologers praising when they say "warrior of warriors, hero of heroes, champion of champions"? Ans. bravery/heroism/leadership/ courage/valour iv. How is the line, "the most fantastic aspect of his demise", an example of contrast? Ans. This is so because the word "fantastic" is usually associated with something positive or exciting, while the word "demise" suggests something negative or tragic. [In this context, the use of "fantastic" to describe the Tiger King's death creates a contrast between the positive connotation of the word and the negative reality of the situation] 8B. <i>“The best thing that we could do would be to put him back in the sea,” Sadao said, answering himself. Now that the bleeding was stopped for the moment he stood up and dusted the sand from his hands. “Yes, undoubtedly that would be best,” Hana said steadily. But she continued to stare down at the motionless man. “If we sheltered a white man in our house we should be arrested and if we turned him over as a prisoner, he would certainly die,” Sadao said. “The kindest thing would be to put him back into the sea,” Hana said. But neither of them moved. They were staring with curious repulsion upon the inert figure.”</i>	1x 4 = 4 M

	i. In the passage, the phrase “<i>curious repulsion upon the inert figure</i>” most nearly means: a. A strange mixture of pity and attraction towards the lifeless man b. A feeling of disgust mingled with fascination at the motionless man c. A sense of fear and anxiety about the foreigner’s presence d. A strong determination to help the injured stranger despite hesitation ii. Pick the option that best describes Sadao and Hana in the passage. a. Sadao: scrupulous, Hana: wary b. Sadao: daring, Hana: prudent c. Sadao: prudent, Hana: suspicious d. Sadao: wary, Hana: daring iii. Pick the idiom that best describes the situation in which Sadao and Hana were in. a. to be like a fish out of water b. like water off a duck’s back c. to be dead in the water d. to be in hot water iv. Choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below. Statement 1: Sadao and Hana cared about the soldier but were worried about the consequences of being considerate. Statement 2: Sadao and Hana wanted to shirk their responsibilities of looking after an injured soldier, who could be an American. a. Statement 1 is true but Statement 2 is false. b. Statement 1 is false but Statement 2 is true. c. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are true. d. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are false.	
Q9.	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given. 9A. “<i>Then all effort ceased. I relaxed. Even my legs felt limp, and a blackness swept over my brain. It wiped out fear; it wiped out terror. There was no more panic. It was quiet and peaceful. Nothing to be afraid of. This is nice... to be drowsy... to go to sleep... no need to jump... too tired to jump... it’s nice to be carried gently... to float along in space... tender</i>	1x 6 = 6 M

arms around me... tender arms like Mother's... now I must go to sleep... I crossed to oblivion, and the curtain of life fell."

i. Choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

Statement 1: The author tried his best to jump out of the water.

Statement 2: After a while, the author was not anxious in water.

a. If Statement 1 is the cause, Statement 2 is the effect.

b. If Statement 1 is the effect, Statement 2 is the cause.

c. Both statements are the effects of a common cause.

d. Both statements are the effects of independent causes.

ii. The 'curtain (of life) fell' corresponds to an aspect of

a. Geometry.

b. History.

c. Sports.

d. Drama.

iii. The purpose of using "... " in the above passage is to

a. Show that some words have been omitted

b. Indicate pauses in the narrator's drifting thoughts

c. Shorten the length of a dialogue

d. Replace an incomplete idea with symbols

iv. Which option indicates that the poet lost consciousness?

a. 'It was quiet and peaceful.'

b. 'I crossed to oblivion.'

c. 'Tender arms like Mother's.'

d. 'It wiped out fear.'

v. How does the description of peacefulness contrast with the speaker's earlier state?

Earlier, the speaker was overwhelmed by fear, terror, and panic as he struggled to survive. In contrast, the peaceful description highlights a strange calmness and surrender as he gives up resistance, suggesting the shift from frantic struggle to a dreamy acceptance of death.

vi. "I crossed to oblivion, and the curtain of life fell". In this extract, the word 'oblivion'

means _____ a state of unconsciousness, forgetfulness, or being unaware (a condition where all sense of reality and existence fades away).

OR

9B. *“The next day both men got up in good season. The crofter was in a hurry to milk his cow, and the other man probably thought he should not stay in bed when the head of the house had gotten up. They left the cottage at the same time. The crofter locked the door and put the key in his pocket. The man with the rattraps said good bye and thank you, and thereupon each went his own way. But half an hour later the rattrap peddler stood again before the door. He did not try to get in, however. He only went up to the window, smashed a pane, stuck in his hand, and got hold of the pouch with the thirty Kronor. He took the money and thrust it into his own pocket. Then he hung the leather pouch very carefully back in its place and went away”.*

i. Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank.

The behaviour of the peddler as described in the above extract is an act of _____. (**deceit** / obedience)

ii. “Both men got up in good season”. The author uses the expression ‘good season’ to denote that

a. They slept for a long time.

b. They got up in a good mood.

c. They got up early and timely.

d. They got up hurriedly.

iii. State the irony in the peddler’s response.

“The man with the rattraps said good bye and thank you”.

The irony lies in the fact that the peddler said “goodbye and thank you” to his host, showing gratitude, while at the same time he had betrayed the man’s trust by stealing his money. His words contradicted his dishonest action.

iv. Choose the correct option:

The flaw in the peddler’s character as reflected in the above extract is

a. He is jealous of rich people.

b. He indulges in self-pity.

c. He robs his benefactor.

d. He can sleep anywhere without any hesitation.

v. Which word in the extract means immediately or shortly after that? _____
thereupon

	vi. Choose one instance from the above extract to show that peddler acted like a well-mannered person. The instance is when “<i>The man with the rattraps said good bye and thank you.</i>” Even though he had just committed theft, he outwardly behaved politely, using courteous words.	
Q10.	Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 40-50 words. a. What does the contrasting imagery of the church clock and the Prussian trumpets represent, in ‘The Last Lesson’? The church clock symbolizes peace, continuity, and the routine life of the French villagers, while the Prussian trumpets represent war, invasion, and oppression. This contrast highlights the disruption of cultural harmony and freedom by foreign domination, emphasizing the tragedy of losing one’s language and identity. b. Why has the mother been compared to the 'late winter's moon'? The mother is compared to the late winter’s moon because just as the pale, waning moon symbolizes decline and fragility, the mother’s pale and aged face reflects her weakening body and approaching end of life. The simile poignantly conveys the poet’s fear of losing her. c. What does the title "Lost Spring" convey? The title <i>Lost Spring</i> conveys the loss of childhood and innocence of poor children who are deprived of education and opportunities due to poverty and exploitation. Their “springtime” of life, which should be filled with joy and growth, is instead lost in drudgery, child labour, and struggles for survival. d. Gandhiji commented “It was an extraordinary thing in those days”. Explain? Gandhi stayed in professor Malkhani’s house who was a government teacher and it was unusual for the government officials to support advocates of home rule. e. How does a thing of beauty provide us shelter and comfort? A thing of beauty provides shelter and comfort by giving us peace in the midst of life’s trials. Like a shade or a quiet bower, it lifts our spirits, soothes our minds, and brings relief from despair. Its enduring charm offers hope, inspiration, and a sense of permanence against the fleeting nature of human life. f. Elaborate the theme of loneliness as revealed in the character of all the four major characters in the story of ‘The Rattrap’. ● The Peddler: Lives a lonely, aimless life, alienated from society, surviving by selling rattraps and sometimes resorting to petty theft. His cynicism reflects his isolation.	5x2 =10 M

	● The Crofter: Despite owning a cow and some money, he suffers from loneliness and welcomes the peddler eagerly just for companionship. ● The Ironmaster: Wealthy but lonely, he mistakes the peddler for an old friend and tries to take him home to overcome his isolation. ● Edla: Lonely and compassionate, she desires a genuine human connection. She treats the peddler with dignity and kindness, which ultimately redeems him. The theme of loneliness thus runs through all characters, making the story a commentary on the need for trust, compassion, and human connection.	
Q11.	Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. a. Why do you think Charley withdrew nearly all the money he had from the bank to buy old-style currency? Charley was convinced that the Third Level at Grand Central provided a gateway to the peaceful world of the 1890s, away from the insecurity and stress of the modern age. He withdrew nearly all his savings to buy old-style currency so he could travel to Galesburg of 1894, where life was simple, secure, and filled with warmth and harmony. This reflects both his escapist tendency and yearning for a more comforting past. b. What impression do we get about Sadao's father from the chapter 'The Enemy'? Sadao's father appears as a strict, disciplined, and tradition-bound man who placed great emphasis on Japanese values, culture, and purity of race. He was authoritative and ensured Sadao's upbringing in accordance with rigid customs, sending him to America only for education, not assimilation. His influence shaped Sadao into a man of integrity and skill, but also instilled a sense of duty to his nation above all else. c. Cite two instances to show that the Tiger King was clever and shrewd. - When the tiger population became extinct in his kingdom, He married a princess from a neighbouring kingdom that had a large tiger population. - He bribed the British officer's wife to save his throne	2x2= 4 M
Q12.	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. a. The people in the story 'The Last Lesson' suddenly realize how precious their language is to them. What shows you this? Why does this happen? In '<i>The Last Lesson</i>', the villagers, who were earlier indifferent to learning French, suddenly realize its value when they are told that from the next day only German will be taught in schools. Their language, which they had taken for granted, now becomes a symbol of their identity and freedom. This is shown when old Hauser, the village	1x5= 5 M

	blacksmith, comes with his primer and sits quietly like a schoolboy, and everyone listens attentively to M. Hamel's words. They feel a deep sense of loss and regret for neglecting their language. This happens because the imposition of German makes them aware that losing their mother tongue means losing their cultural pride and independence. Procrastination b. Edla's empathetic and compassionate behaviour changed the life of the rattrap seller. Do you think that an act of kindness can change a person's view of the world? Yes, an act of kindness can indeed change a person's view of the world. The rattrap seller, who had always been mistrustful and believed the world was nothing but a rattrap to trap people, experienced a transformation through Edla's compassion. Unlike others, she treated him with dignity, respect, and trust, despite knowing his deceit. Her generosity on Christmas moved him so deeply that he chose to return the stolen money and left behind a rattrap as a gift with a letter of gratitude. This shows that kindness has the power to awaken the innate goodness in people, break the cycle of mistrust, and help them see the world as a place of compassion rather than deceit.	
Q13.	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120 – 150 words. a. Why and how did Dr Sadao help the prisoner of war escape? Do you find him guilty of harbouring an enemy? Dr. Sadao helped the wounded American soldier because, as a doctor, he could not ignore someone in need of urgent medical attention. He treated the soldier carefully, stopping his bleeding and dressing his wounds, despite knowing that hiding him could bring legal consequences. He eventually arranged for the soldier to escape by providing a boat with food and essentials with specific instructions, a way to reach safety without directly delivering him to the authorities. Sadao is not guilty of harbouring an enemy in the moral sense, because his actions were guided by humanity and professional ethics rather than loyalty to a nation. Legally, he might have risked punishment, but ethically he upheld the principle that human life is more important than political or military allegiance. b. 'It's easy to judge others and give advice, but much more difficult to apply it to ourselves.' Elaborate with reference to the character of Sam in <i>The Third Level</i>. In <i>The Third Level</i>, Sam shows this truth through his fascination with the Third Level, a portal to the peaceful past. Though he often advises himself to stay in the present, manage responsibilities, and behave realistically, he finds it hard to resist the temptation of escaping to 1894. He was interested in visiting Galesburg when Charley described his childhood in Galesburg. Sam's character illustrates that human beings often struggle to apply wisdom to themselves, even when they can clearly see what is right.	1x5= 5 M