



Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir

Pre-Midterm Examination

Sub: ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE

Class :X

SET-2Answer key

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? Overexposure to sunlight weakens the fabric	1 1
	2. Complete the following with one suitable reason from the text: Silk production work can be carried out by skilled artisans because it requires specialised knowledge	1
	3. Based on the given text, which state was the smallest producer of silk. UP (Uttar Pradesh)	1
	4. Give one reason to support why production of silk is limited. Reason- availability of conducive factors like: Climate/Availability of quality mulberry leaves/Skilled artisans and craftsmanship.	1
	5. The word “ luxurious ” refers to: a) Cheap and ordinary b) Comfortable and expensive c) Hard and rough d) Simple and plain	
	6. Complete the sentence suitably. To carry out silk production requires careful selection because superior quality silk fabrics are made from long and uniform silk fibre.	1
	6. Silk is a popular fabric in India. Support the above statement with evidence from the text. Renowned for soft, smooth texture • Luxurious qualities- feels comfortable on skin • Absorbs and releases moisture • When worn, it regulates body temperature/ keeps wearer cool and dry	1
	<u>SECTION B: WRITING (3 marks)</u>	
2A	<u>Attempt any one from (a) and (b) given below:</u> 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. Format –1 Content -1 Accuracy -1	3
2B.	OR 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. Format –1 Content -1 Accuracy -1	
	<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	1x3=3

3B.	constant connectivity, let us not forget the value of presence and the beauty of being fully engaged in the moments that matter most. 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 He was hit by a scooter on his way back from school.	1
	<u>SECTION D: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK - (16 marks)</u>	
4	Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: “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”? The frog calls the nightingale a “poor bird” because she was naive, lacked confidence, and depended on others’ opinions instead of trusting her own talent. ii) What does the word ‘panache’ here mean? Very confident elegant style iii) What does the frog mean by “your song must be your own”? By saying “your song must be your own,” the frog means that one should sing in their natural style rather than imitating or forcing changes. iv) Which trait of the frog’s character is reflected in these lines? The extract suggests that the frog is arrogant, manipulative, and self-centered.	1x4=4 1x4=4
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? The night was moonlit, cloudless, and calm—ideal for hunting. (ii) Why do you think the author describes the tiger as “partially deaf”? It suggests that the tiger was old and not very alert. (iii) Where was the platform constructed? It was built in a tree to provide a safe and convenient vantage point for shooting the tiger.	

6	(iv) Which word in the passage is closest in meaning to the following phrase? A person or animal being hunted or looked for. quarry 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? The nightingale lost her natural charm because she blindly followed the manipulative Frog's harsh vocal training. Endless practice sessions forced on her made her singing mechanical and drained her confidence. Exhausted and uninspired, she lost her spontaneous emotion and unique voice. b) Why did Mrs. Packletide want to hunt a tiger? Mrs. Packletide wanted to hunt a tiger solely to outshine and make her rival, Loona Bimberton, jealous. She was envious of the attention Loona received after flying in an airplane, and wanted to gain her own media spotlight. c) How were the boys in 'Two Gentlemen of Verona' useful to the narrator? The boys were immensely useful to the narrator by acting as his eager assistants and local guides. They efficiently ran his errands, which included: • Purchasing American cigarettes. • Arranging tickets for the opera. • Recommending good restaurants. • Guiding him around the city's tourist attractions d) Why did the narrator feel deeply moved by the boy's dedication? In "Two Gentlemen of Verona," the narrator was deeply moved because the young boys, Nicola and Jacopo, displayed incredible selflessness and maturity. Despite enduring extreme hardship and the horrors of war, they worked tirelessly at odd jobs to fund their sister's tuberculosis treatment, embodying a rare, profound nobility. (e) How does Louisa Mebbin manage to get a week-end cottage for her? Miss. Mebbin managed to get the week-end cottage by threatening Mrs. Packletide to disclose the truth of her hunting expedition to everyone including Loona.	2x4=8
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