

CBSE Class 10 English

Sample Question Paper 2024



1

Sample Paper

LATEST PATTERN

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 80

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them.

- 1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.**
- 2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.**

SECTION-A: READING SKILLS

(20 Marks)

- 1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.**

(10 Marks)

The Sahitya Akademi is India's premier institution of letters, with a stated commitment of "promoting Indian literature throughout the world." The Akademi was established by Jawaharlal Nehru, who was also its first Chairperson, and was inaugurated on 12th March, 1954. Every year, the Akademi announces awards for authors of works with outstanding literary merit in Indian languages. Awards are currently given for 24 languages, the most recent additions being Bodo and Santhali in 2005. Awards in English began in 1960 – the first recipient was RK Narayan for his novel 'The Guide'.

Over the years, the Akademi has introduced other awards such as the 'Bhasha Samman', 'Yuva Sahityakar' and 'Bal Sahitya Puraskar'. The first awards were given in 1955. The award amount was initially ₹1 lakh till 1981. The Akademi is under the Central Government's Ministry of Culture, but works as an autonomous institution. To be eligible, "the book must be an outstanding contribution to the language and literature to which it belongs." It may be "a creative or a critical work", but must not be a work of translation, an anthology, an abridgement, a compilation, an annotation or a university research paper. A committee of 3 writers, selected by the Akademi President, out of a panel of 7 names recommended by the Language Advisory Board, chooses the awardee in each language.

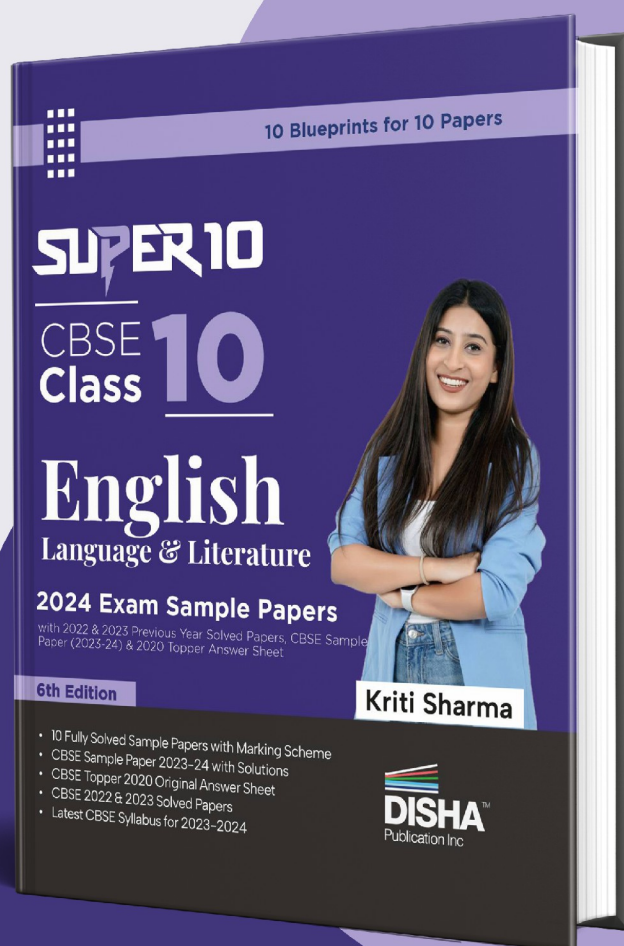
Despite occasional controversies in the Akademi's functioning, the main award remains, after the Jnanpith, the most prestigious and coveted literary honour in India. The Akademi gets the winning book translated into several Indian languages, which ensures a wide readership, and organises programmes for the winners in several parts of the country. The award not only enhances the prestige of the winner, but also cements the credibility of the Akademi- the honour is, in fact, the recognition for an outstanding original work that already has its readers.

(307 words)

- i. The Sahitya Akademi was established by **(1 Mark)**
(a) Mahatma Gandhi (b) R.K. Narayan (c) Jawaharlal Nehru (d) Vikram Seth
- ii. The most recent languages added in the Akademi awards are.... **(1 Mark)**
(a) Bodo (b) Santhali
(c) English (d) Both Bodo and Santhali
- iii. R.K. Narayan became the first recipient of the Sahitya Akademi Award for his novel **(1 Mark)**
- iv. _____, _____ and _____ are the other awards introduced by the Sahitya Akademi. **(2 Marks)**
- v. Awards in English began in _____. **(1 Mark)**
(a) 1954 (b) 1955 (c) 1960 (d) 2005
- vi. What are the eligibility conditions for the award ? **(2 Marks)**
- vii. A committee of _____ writers chooses the awardee in each language. **(1 Mark)**
- viii. The Akademi is under the _____. **(1 Mark)**

Want to solve more such **Sample Questions*?**

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2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. (10 Marks)

Work is something that we do, all through life. More important than the work we do is our attitude towards it. From the moment we are born till we die, work is being done all the time, whether we like it or not, whether we want it or not. Even sitting idle or lying in bed is an activity, a work. Breathing, digesting, sleeping, waking up, blinking, keeping up our muscles toned, the slow process of formation of new cells and destruction of old ones — all these activities are work that goes on, with or without our consent. It is only in death that work truly ceases. Many people feel that they would like to retire at the age of 60 and do ‘nothing’. But as long as we are alive, it is impossible to do nothing.

Having agreed that work is unavoidable, we need to look at how we do the work. Whether it is a child who is playing, a mother who is feeding her child, a house help who is sweeping the floor, or a physician who is saving lives — what is important in all these activities is our attitude. Are you doing your work with a happy, creative, cheerful outlook, or are you constantly complaining and wishing for ‘something’ else to do? Because if you are miserable doing the work allotted to you, rest assured that you’ll remain miserable in whatever work you do.

Since work and activity are unavoidable, why not do it with pleasure, with interest, with involvement, with joy? What is in our hands is how to react to the work we do. When you are standing in the queue to pay your child’s fees, or waiting at a government office to renew your license or passport, you have only two choices: either spend the time relaxing and making friends with others standing in line, or spend the time irritated, angry and frustrated.

What is worship? It is offering something to God. Here we are offering our work to God. We normally work only for our own benefit, for our own profits. When we are ready to give up this benefit, this profit, and accept anything and everything that comes our way as a blessing from God, then, our work becomes worship. **(379 words)**

- i. Since work and activity is unavoidable, _____. **(1 Mark)**
- ii. What is in our hands is _____. **(1 Mark)**
- iii. Why is attitude more important than the work we do? Answer the question in about 30-40 words. **(2 Marks)**
- iv. Find a word from paragraph 1 which is the antonym of ‘persistent’. **(1 Mark)**
 - (a) destruction (b) ceases (c) impossible (d) consent
- v. ‘Miserable’ in paragraph 3 means **(1 Mark)**
 - (a) wretched (b) creative (c) deadly (d) annoying
- vi. When does the work truly cease? Is it possible to do nothing? Answer the question in about 30-40 words. **(2 Marks)**
- vii. When does work become worship? **(1 Mark)**
- viii. Why is it advised not to be miserable in doing the allotted work? **(1 Mark)**

SECTION-B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 Marks)

GRAMMAR

3. Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions. (10 Marks)

- i. Fill in the blank by using the correct form to complete the given sentence about the Taj Mahal.
The Taj Mahal is the Magnificent Works of Sculpture. Whoever goes there _____ spellbound. (Become)
- ii. Read the conversation between Ranjeet & traffic man. Complete the sentence by reporting the patient’s reply correctly.
Ranjeet: Where is my bike? I remember parking it here.
Traffic man: The bike has been towed away as you parked in the ‘no parking zone’.
Ranjeet: Asked the traffic man standing there, where his bike was and added that he remembered parking it there. The traffic man replied that the bike _____ parked it in the ‘No Parking Zone’.
- iii. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report.
Scientists tinker with a growing number of our needs, yet the long term effects are unknown

Option no.	Error	Correction
(a)	Effects	Affects
(b)	Are	Is
(c)	Yet	And
(d)	Tinker	Are tinkering

- iv. Complete the given narrative, by filling in the blank with the correct option:

Katty shot a glance at Alice _____ was giving his meal undue attention.

- (a) Which
- (b) What
- (c) Who
- (d) Whose

- v. Identify the error in the given sentence, about the importance of physical exercise and supply the correction.

Combine that with raising three kids made it almost impossible to maintain my schedule and the demands my employer placed upon me.

Error	Correction

- vi. Shubh shared some information, with Meena, about his project. Report Meena's question.

Have you completed your project?

- vii. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct option, to complete the given sentence.

The red colour car _____ is standing in front of the apartment belonging to Arpita.

- (a) Which
- (b) Whom
- (c) Whose
- (d) Where

- viii. Read the conversation and the passage that follows:

Seema: Rohit, my new purse is very expensive

Rohit: Will you purchase one for my sister

Seema told her friend Rohit that her new purse was very expensive, Rohit asked her if _____

- ix. Identify the error in this sentence from a research on kids and supply the correction.

According to research, children with concerned parents are more efficient.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- x. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete this information about Pongal festival.

Pongal is a celebration to thank the Sun, mother nature and the various farm animals. It is a four day harvest festival celebrated in South India. It is also _____ uttarayana journey of Sun towards North and end of winter season.

- (a) Marks the celebrations
- (b) Mark the beginning
- (c) Begins to mark
- (d) Celebrated to mark

- xi. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Ravi & Sekhar.

Ravi: What a cold day it is! I think this must be the coldest day of the season

Sekhar: I don't mind the cold. It is the summer that bothers me.

Ram explained that it was a very cold day and was positive that it must be the coldest day of the season. Shyam replied that _____ and further added that it was the summer that bothered him.

- xii. Complete the narrative, by filling in the blank with the correct option.

Last year I visited the same spot ____ I was not riding a bike. I saw that many buildings had been built on the banks of Yamuna.

- (a) As
- (b) For
- (c) Even if
- (d) But

WRITING

4. Attempt **ANY ONE** from A and B given below. **(5 Marks)**

A. You are Sumit, 55, City centre, Gwalior. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the editor of a local newspaper expressing concern about the misbehaviour of some auto-rickshaw drivers in the city.

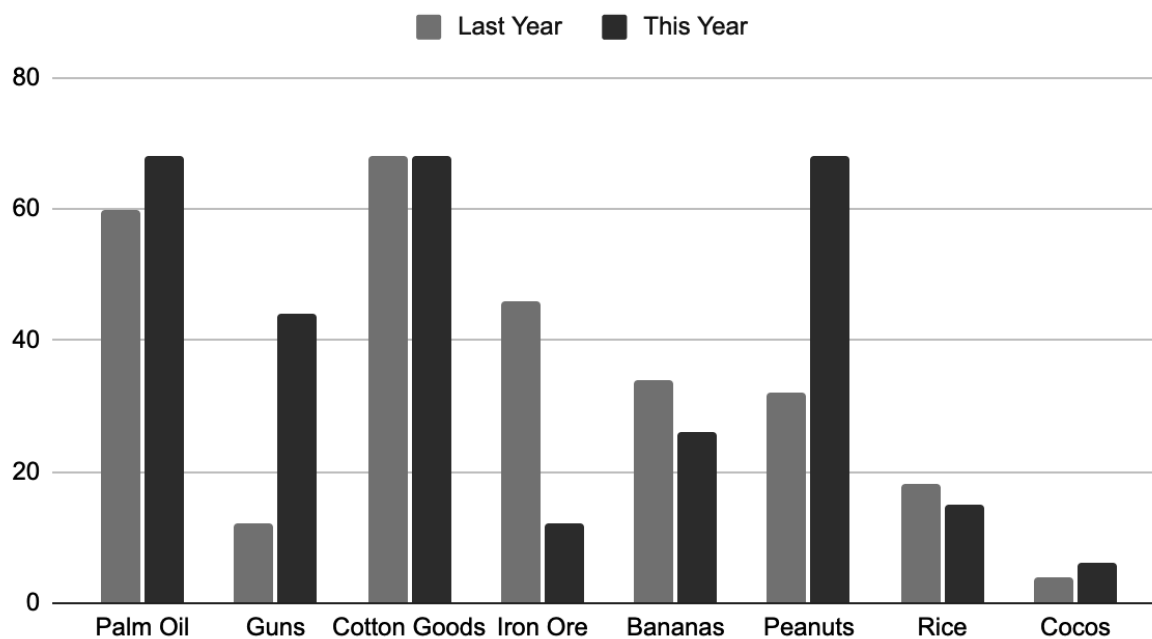
OR

B. You are Arpita Deshmukh, a resident of 50-C, Pushp valley, Ghaziabad. Write a letter to the editor of 'The Pioneer' magazine based on the article on 'Ban on Poly Bags', published in the latest edition.

5. Attempt **ANY ONE** from A and B given below. **(5 Marks)**

A. Study the following bar graph depicting major exports from Medland in the current year. Write an analytical paragraph interpreting the data.

Graph to show major exports from Medland



OR

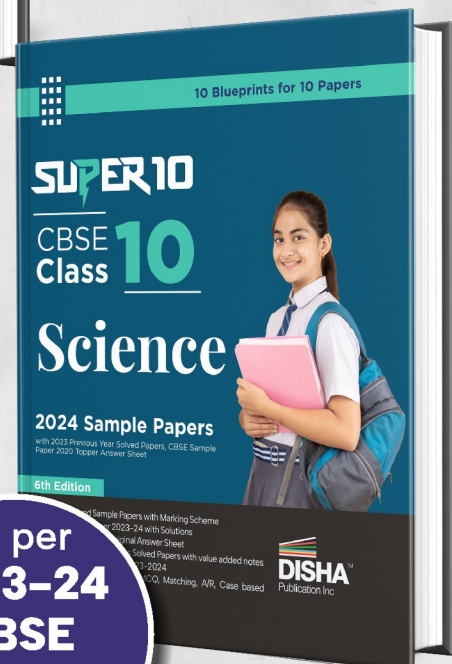
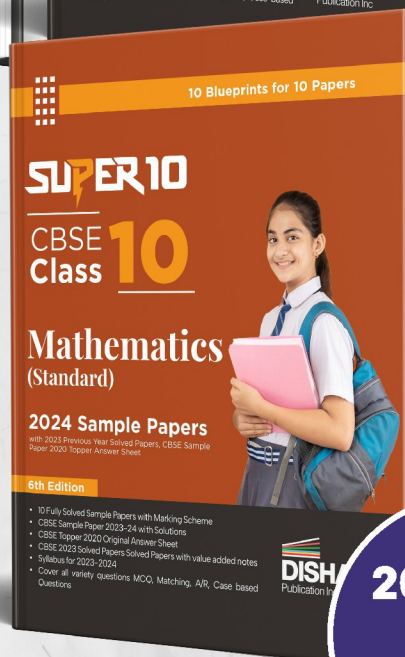
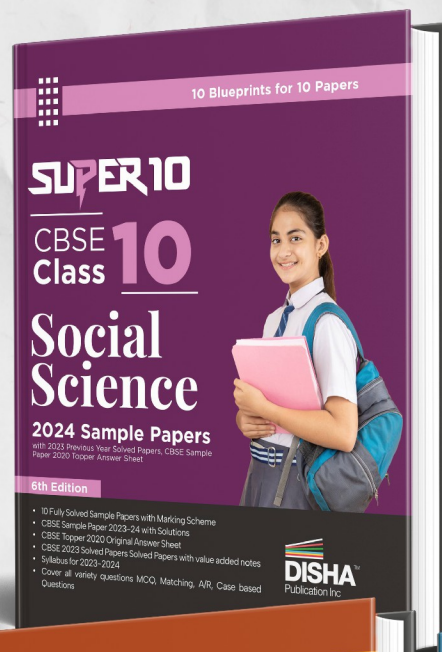
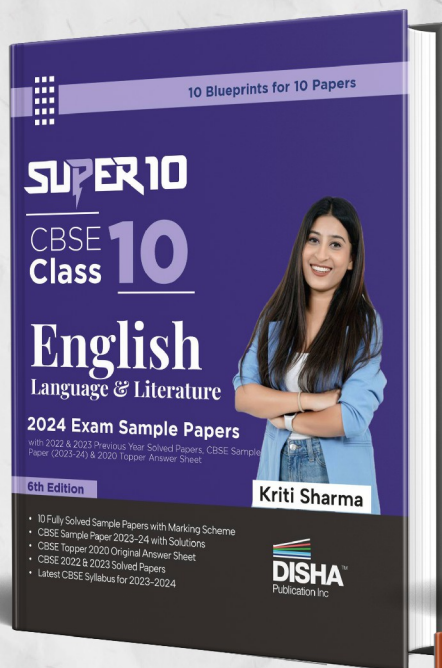
B. A survey was conducted in a town where the views of people were collected on cigarette smoking. Given below is a pie-chart showing the results of the survey. Write an analytical paragraph interpreting the data.

FINAL HOUR

PREP MATERIAL

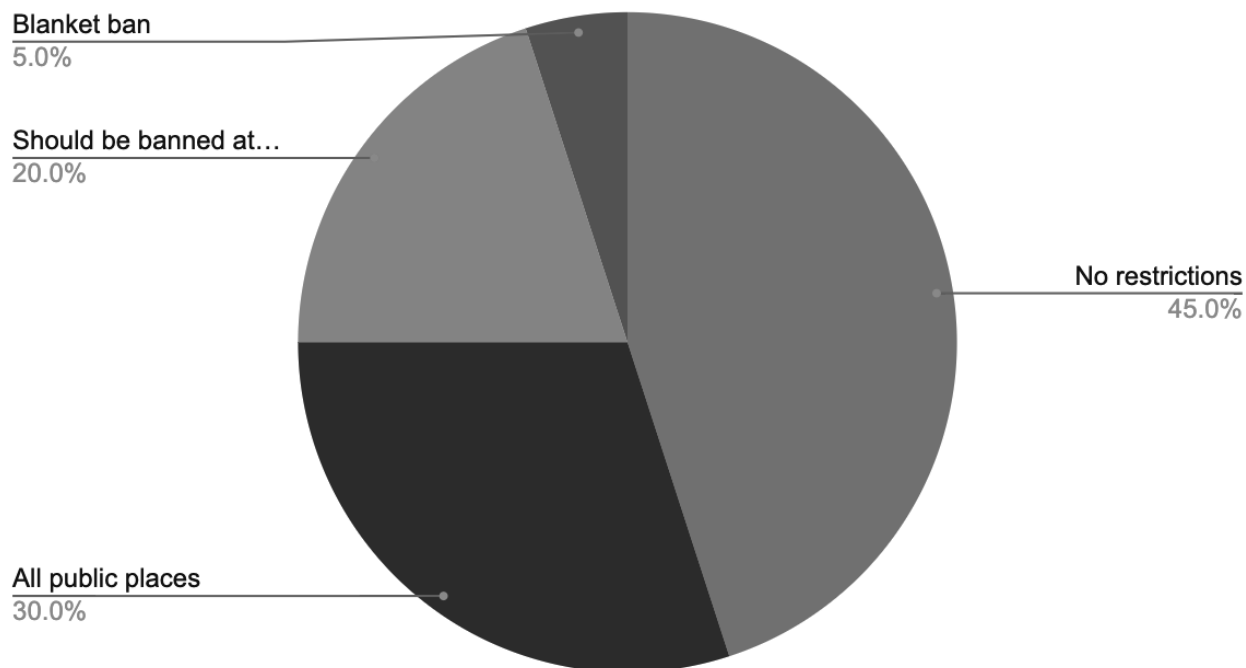
FOR CLASS 10

So you
can **CLEAR**
BOARD
EXAMS
2024
with Flying
Colours!



10
Sample
Papers
on Latest
Blueprint

As per
2023-24
CBSE
Sample
Paper



SECTION-C: LITERATURE TEXT BOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 Marks)

6. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two extracts given. **(5 Marks)**

A. Anil was watching a wrestling match when I approached him. He was about 25, a tall, lean fellow and he looked easy-going, kind and simple enough for my purpose. I hadn't had much luck of late and thought I might be able to get into the young man's confidence. 'You look a bit of a wrestler yourself. I said. A little flattery helps in making friends.

i. According to the extract, the young boy was watching the wrestling match because he _____. **(1 Mark)**

ii. I hadn't had much luck of late' Elaborate in about 40 words. **(2 Marks)**

iii. 'I might be able to get into the young man's confidence.' **(1 Mark)**

Choose the option that displays what the statement means.

- (a) He wanted to win his trust
- (b) He wanted him to share his thoughts without caution
- (c) He wanted him to feel comfortable revealing more details about himself.
- (d) He wanted to be able to spend quality time with him.

iv. Anil looked easy-going, kind and simple to the narrator. **(1 Mark)**

Which of the given characteristics would NOT fit in with this description?

- (a) compassionate
- (b) Suave
- (c) Uncomplicated
- (d) Carefree

OR

B. As she and her husband turned away in terror, the extraordinary chair pushed them both out of the room and then appeared to slam and lock the door after them.

Mrs. Hall almost fell down the stairs in hysterics.

She was convinced that the room was haunted by spirits, and that the stranger had somehow caused these to enter into her furniture.

"My poor mother used to sit in that chair." she moaned! To think it should rise up against me now!

The feeling among the neighbours was that the trouble was caused by witchcraft”.

- i. Mrs. Hall felt that the room was haunted by spirits because _____. (1 Mark)
- ii. Give the word that best describes how Mrs. Hall must be feeling at the moment described in the extract. (1 Mark)
- iii. Pick the sentence that brings out the meaning of ‘hysterics’ as used in the extract and give the meaning of hysterics. (2 Marks)
 - (a) My friend and I were in splits when we saw the clown’s antics
 - (b) I do not know why I suddenly felt worried about flying home
 - (c) The sight of blood put the old man in a frenzy
 - (d) The people who had witnessed the accident were spellbound
- iv. The neighbours thought it was ‘witchcraft’. This tells us that neighbours were _____. (1 Mark)

7. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two extracts given. (5 Marks)

A. My head is full of whispers

Which tomorrow will be silent.

Listen, the glass is breaking

The trees are stumbling forward

Into the night. Winds rush to meet them.

The moon is broken into a mirror,

Its pieces flash now in the crown

Of the tallest Oak.

- i. The above lines were written by _____. (1 Mark)
- ii. Find the word the extract which means the same as ‘Shine;’. (1 Mark)
- iii. The winds are rushing to meet the _____. (1 Mark)
- iv. Where are the pieces of the broken moon shining? (2 Marks)

OR

B. ‘Ink tricked down to the bottom of the household,

And little mouse Blick strategically.

But up jumped Custard, snorting like an engine,

Clashed his tail like irons in a dungeon,

With a clatter and a clank and a jangling squirm,

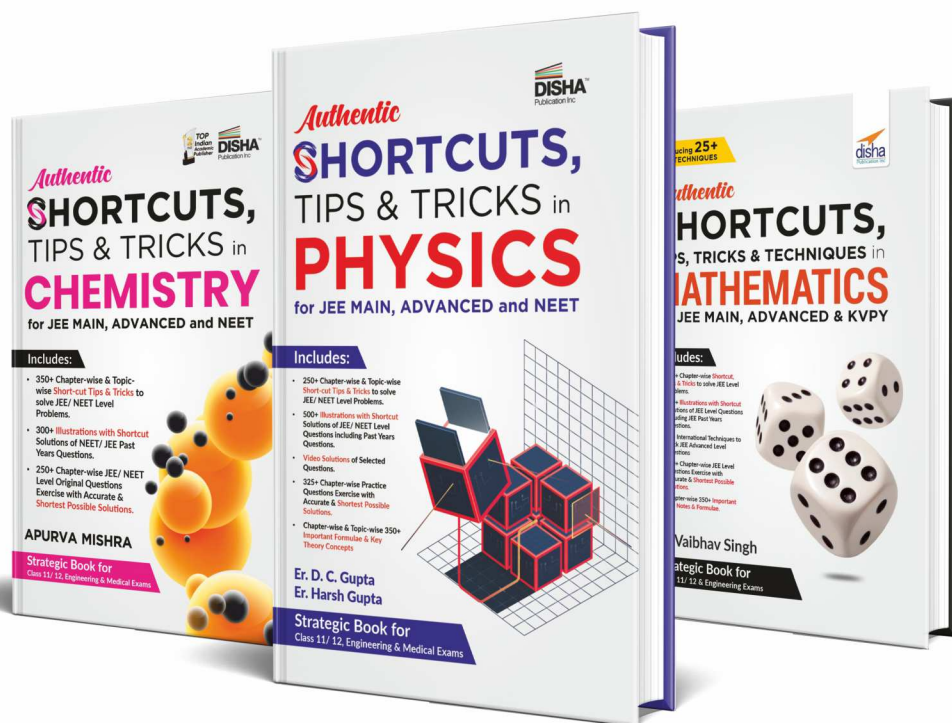
He went at the pirate like a robin at a worm’

- i. Which option lists the quotes that support the ideas in the extract? (2 Marks)
 - A. Fear makes strangers of people who would be friends
 - B. If you are brave enough to start, you are strong enough to finish
 - C. Courage does not mean you do not get afraid. Courage means you do not let fear stop you.
 - D. You get in life what you have the courage to ask for.
 - E. Fear has a large shadow, but he himself is strong.
- ii. What is the poet’s purpose of using the onomatopoeic words given in the extracts? (1 Mark)
- iii. Pick an option that best fits the usage of the word ‘trickled’ as used in the extract. (1 Mark)
 - (a) The water trickled down the tap and filled the trough
 - (b) Students trickled into the classroom as the teacher entered
 - (c) Tears trickled down her cheeks as she heard the sad news
 - (d) His enthusiasm for the task slowly trickled away.
- iv. Pick the option that does not display a simile from the extract (1 Mark)
 - (a) Clashed his tail like irons
 - (b) At the pirate like a robin at a worm
 - (c) Custard, snorting like an engine
 - (d) Trickled down to the bottom

8. Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following in about 40-50 words each. **(4 × 3 = 12 Marks)**
- How is the Coorgi tradition of courage and bravery recognised in modern India ?
 - How did the seagull's parents try to make him fly?
 - The 'yellow hair' is a symbol in the poem. Briefly support the statement with reference to the poem 'For Anne Gregory'.
 - When we think of losses, we generally think of people and possessions. Time is considered a very precious commodity. Explain why time can probably be one of the things people bitterly regret losing/wasting.
 - How did Kisa Gautami realise that life and death is a normal process?
9. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following in about 40-50 words each. **(2 × 3 = 6 Marks)**
- How did Gryphon find himself invisible but naked in the chill January air for the second time ?
 - How did Ebright's mother help him in becoming a scientist?
 - Was Tricki suffering from any ailment in reality? If Not, then what made him inactive and lethargic?
10. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following in about 100-120 words. **(1 × 6 = 6 Marks)**
- A. Why do you think the other was not friendly at first with the narrator? How did it behave at first? Why?
- OR**
- B. Farce is a kind of comedy which includes situations and dialogues that are ridiculous, exaggerated and even absurd. Evaluate the play, The proposal, as a farce.
11. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following in about 100-120 words. **(1 × 6 = 6 Marks)**
- A. Horace was clever but the lady in red was cleverer. Do you agree with this statement? Justify your answer.
- OR**
- B. Ostentation and vanity often land people in trouble. Matilda is an apt example of this. Justify.

No Matter Where you PREPARE from! This book will be your COMPANION

- The Book is a Must for all stages of preparation – be it the Beginning while grasping the Concepts & Applications or just before the final Exam for Revision purposes.
- In all the Book covers Chapter-wise & Topic-wise Shortcuts, Tips & Tricks, Illustrations with shortcut solutions, Chapter-wise JEE level original Questions Exercise & Quick Revision Material.
- Apart from Tips and Tricks, this book comprises a lot of interesting misconceptions which are not mentioned in any book available in Indian market.
- Most of the problems in Illustrations are taken from Previous Year Questions to demonstrate students how these can be easily solved by using various Tips and Tricks.
- The author has also tried to cover all the major Concepts through these problems.
- Questions in Exercises are original and the author has tried to put Higher Difficulty Level Questions, which pose a difficulty to the students.
- The reader is advised to go through the Chapter before attempting the Exercise part.
- Detail calculations are skipped (can be verified) for "Concept Booster Exercise" which is not an important matter for this book.



This Book would definitely improve your

SCORE* BY 25 - 30%

*It is the belief of the author that if you master this book,
it can improve your score by 25-30%

SOLUTIONS

SAMPLE PAPER-1

SECTION-A: READING SKILLS

1.
 - i. (c) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - ii. (d) Both Bodo and Santhali
 - iii. The Guide
 - iv. Bhasha Samman, Yuva Sahityakar and Bal Sahitya Puruskar
 - v. (c) 1960
 - vi. The book must be an outstanding contribution to the language and literature to which it belongs.
 - vii. 3
 - viii. Central Government's Ministry of Culture, but works as an autonomous institution.
2.
 - i. why not do it with pleasure, with interest, with involvement, with joy?
 - ii. how to react to the work that we do.
 - iii. Attitude towards the work is more important than the work itself as work is being done all the time, whether we want or not, like it or not. So, why not do it with pleasure, with interest and with complete involvement.
 - iv. (b) ceases
 - v. (c) Wretched
 - vi. Work truly ceases only at death. It is impossible to do nothing as long as we are alive because there are many activities that go on with or without our consent.
 - vii. When we are ready to give up the benefit and profit for which we work, and accept anything and everything that comes our way as a blessing from God, then, our work becomes worship.
 - viii. Maintaining a miserable attitude towards the work allotted to you will result in you being miserable in whatever work you do. Thus, it is advisable not to be miserable in doing the allotted work.

SECTION-B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR

3.
 - i. Becomes
 - ii. Had been towed away as he had
 - iii. Option (d) is correct
 - iv. Option (c) is correct
 - v.

Error	Correction
Combine	Combining
 - vi. Meena questioned if he had completed his project.
 - vii. Option (a) is correct
 - viii. She would purchase one for his sister

ix.	Error	Correction
	with	of

- x. (d) celebrated to mark
- xi. he didn't mind the cold
- xii. Option (c) is correct

- 4 **A.** 55, City Centre,
Gwalior
15th February 2022

The Editor
Navbharat Times
Shivaji nagar
Gwalior

Sir

Subject: Misbehaviour of the auto-rickshaw drivers in the city

I would like to draw the attention of the authorities concerned towards the above-mentioned problem through the columns of your esteemed newspaper. The growing misbehaviour among auto drivers is a common concern of every citizen of the state. Not only do they charge a fare that is excess of the metered rate, but also misbehave with the passengers. They promise to drop the passenger at the doorstep but stop midway and ask the passenger to get down claiming that the distance agreed upon was shorter than the distance being asked to cover and ask for more money for the same.

In order to make extra money they take extra passengers; midway who may be some antisocial element and put the life of passengers at risk. Moreover, they talk incessantly on the phone putting the life of the passenger in danger. You are requested to give appropriate space to my letter in your newspaper.

Thanks You
Yours Truly
Sumit

DISHATM
Publication Inc

OR

- B.** 50 - C, Pushp Vihar
Ghaziabad

26th August 2022

The editor
The Pioneer
Ghaziabad

Subject: Ban on Polybags

Sir,

Through the columns of your reputed newspaper, I wish to share my views about the indiscriminate use of polybags these days. I totally agree with the views, published in the article 'Ban on Polybags'. It is a fact that poly bags are harmful due to their non-biodegradable nature. They do not decompose; instead, they choke the drainage system. Most animals eat them and die in the long run. If they are burnt, their obnoxious smell pollutes the atmosphere. I wish that people at large, in their interest and in the interest of Mother Earth, wake up to this problem. Everyone should stop using poly bags and jute bags, paper bags, ect., should take their place.

I request you to publish this letter in your newspaper so as to make everyone aware about the harm of polybags.

Thank You

Yours Truly

Arpita Deshmukh

5. A. The bar graph given above depicts major exports from medland. The export trends convey that Medland exported slightly less this year as compared to the last year. Concerning foodstuffs, bananas and rice showed a little fewer units then the previous year. On the other hand, the units of palm oil and peanuts exported were much more than last year. Almost the same amount of coco was exported in both years. With reference to non-edible goods, the number of guns and iron ore was much more than last year. However, the graph for cotton goods shows the same number in both years.

OR

- B. The above pie chart shows the result of the views of people when a survey was conducted on whether smoking should be banned or not. There were only a few people, i.e., 5% who were of the view that no restriction should be imposed on cigarette smoking. Almost one-fifth, 20% of the people opined that it should be banned in all public places so that passive smoking can also be taken care of. As many as 30% of people were of the view that cigarette smoking should be banned but only at shopping malls or big stores. But there was another 45% opinion, i.e., the majority of the people showed an interest in imposing a blanket ban on cigarettes, as it is hazardous to health. Overall, people are aware that smoking is injurious to health so it should be banned but everyone has different views.

SECTION-C: LITERATURE TEXT BOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT

6. A. i. was looking for simple people to dupe.

Explanation: The young boy used to make fun of simple people who trusted him too much. So, he was keenly looking at the match so that someone would approach him and he could dupe that simple person.

- ii. The boy was not talking about some winnings. He was just trying to say that he had not been able to dupe anyone that night in carefully wrapped words.
iii. Option (d) is correct
iv. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: Easy going, kind and simple reflect that Anil was a smooth character. The word suave means smooth.

OR

- B. i. Uncanny things happend there

Explanation: Uncanny means mysterious. Mrs. Hall was pushed by a chair, the door slammed and locked on its own, It was full of mystery for her.

- ii. Stunned and agitated

Explanation: Mrs. Hall was astonished (stunned) and frantic or disturbed (agitated) at the strange behaviour of the chair and the door.

- iii. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: Hysterics here refers to fits in a negative or terrifying sense. The same is reflected in option (C) where the old man was in a frenzy upon seeing the blood.

- iv. Superstitious

Explanation: Witchcraft or black magic reflects superstition.

7 A. i. Adrienne Rich

ii. Flash

iii. Trees

Explanation: It symbolises freedom.

iv. The pieces of the broken moon shining on the top branches and leaves of the tallest oak.

This metaphorical description makes it clear that all the boundaries are broken and there is no more restriction left.

OR

B. i. (B) and (C)

Explanation: Both quotes rightly make the position of Custard clear. He started to display his act of bravery and came out victorious. He has been crying for a nice safe cage but when the situation demanded, he left all his inhibitions and showed the courage to fight with the pirate.

ii. It is to emphasise on the might and boldness of Custard.

Explanation: The words forming a sound with what it is named as or the onomatopoeic words have been used in poems to highlight and attract attention to the courage of Custard.

iii. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: In the poem, trickled has been used to refer to forming a line and entering some place.

iv. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: Simile is when one thing is compared to another. 'Tail like irons', 'Pirate like a robin' and 'snorting like an engine' are comparisons and thus, examples of similes. 'Trickled down to bottom' means flowing down to the bottom which is not a comparison and thus, not a simile.

8. i. The Corgi tradition of courage and bravery is recognised in modern India as the coorgis are the only citizens permitted to carry guns without a licence. The Coorgi regiment is one of the most decorated ones in the army. This shows that the valour of the coorgi remains apparent in modern times.

ii. The little seagull's parents tried every possible way to make him fly. They came to him and asked him to fly. They rebuked him and threatened him that if he didn't fly they would leave him to die of hunger. They even pretended to ignore him.

iii. The 'yellow hair' is a symbol of outward physical beauty which is temporary. Shallow-minded people adore only physical beauty. We should look for spiritual beauty before falling in love with a lady. Physical beauty is just skin-deep and is momentary.

iv. 'A stitch on time saves nine'. 'The time that flies, never comes back'. So we should not waste our precious time because time does not work according to our best. We need to work according to time. We should utilise the present fully because we cannot do anything about the time that has passed and the future is uncertain.

v. Kisa Gautami's only son had died. She went to Buddha to seek some medicine to revive her son. The Buddha asked her to bring some mustard seeds from the house where there had been no death ever, but Gautami could not find any such house. Thus, she realised that death is inevitable for every mortal being. The cycle of life and death is a normal process.

9. i. Griffin, who had successfully escaped from his landlord after setting his house on fire, had run into a departmental store where he clothed himself and decided to take a nap. Unfortunately, Griffin was discovered by the store clerks early morning the next day, prompting him to once again leave behind all his clothes and escape in the chill January air.

ii. Ebright's mother encouraged his interest in learning. She took him on trips, bought him telescopes, microscopes, camera, mounting materials and other equipment and helped him in many other ways. By this, we can say it was Ebright's mother who, by being resourceful, led him to become a good scientist.

iii. Tricki was not suffering from any ailment in reality. Infact, the cause of his suffering was his obesity caused by Madam Pumphrey's overly luxurious treatment. Madame Pumphrey only fed Tricki lots of sweets and other foods instead of maintaining a healthy diet for him. This caused him to grow fatter & fatter until he was so obese that he became inactive and lethargic.

10. A. Mijbil was an intelligent, friendly and fun loving animal. One the very first day of his arrival in the author's bedroom, Mij was aloof and indifferent and was neither friendly nor hostile. He chose to sleep on the floor as far from the author's bed as possible. This was all probably because he had suddenly been introduced into a new environment. It was a new place and surroundings for him and was hence a little cautious. On the second day, the otter changed a lot. He felt at home in the author's bedroom. From the second day onwards, he started sleeping on the author's bed.

OR

- B. 'The proposal' is a humorous short story based on the strain between two healthy neighbours. The proposal is an example of farce over minor concerns such as Oxen Meadows & pet dogs. Farce's characteristics can also be found in Lomov's unrealistic and dramatic clothing and physical appearance. Ivan Lomov is a 35 year old bachelor who suffers from heart palpitations. He approached Natalya's hand in marriage. The situation is hilarious as quarrels for land emerge and the situation worsens. Lomov thinks he is seeking her so she would take care of him. Natalya thinks he is a fool for choosing her and over the course of the story, she passes impulsive remarks for her hand in marriage. The most ludicrous situation is when Natalya drives Lomov out of her house and then she cries about getting married to him. Chubukov is a bumbling parent who is driven by her daughter's whims. He is so obsessed with marrying her daughter to a wealthy man that he ignores Lomov's illness and sickness. Chubukov's theatrical statements in between the quarrels give things a satirical twist.

The play's humour and the characters' infantile behaviour makes it sound absurd. Exaggeration can be evident when the characters, on the one hand, speak with such courtesy, but on the other hand they do not hesitate to call each other nasty names and use foul language among their family members. The manner in which the final proposal is made amidst all the chaos, makes the play a farce.

11. A. Yes, I agree with the statement that the lady in red was cleverer than Horace Danby.

There is no denying the fact that Horace was quite clever himself. He was quite the successful robber and very observant.

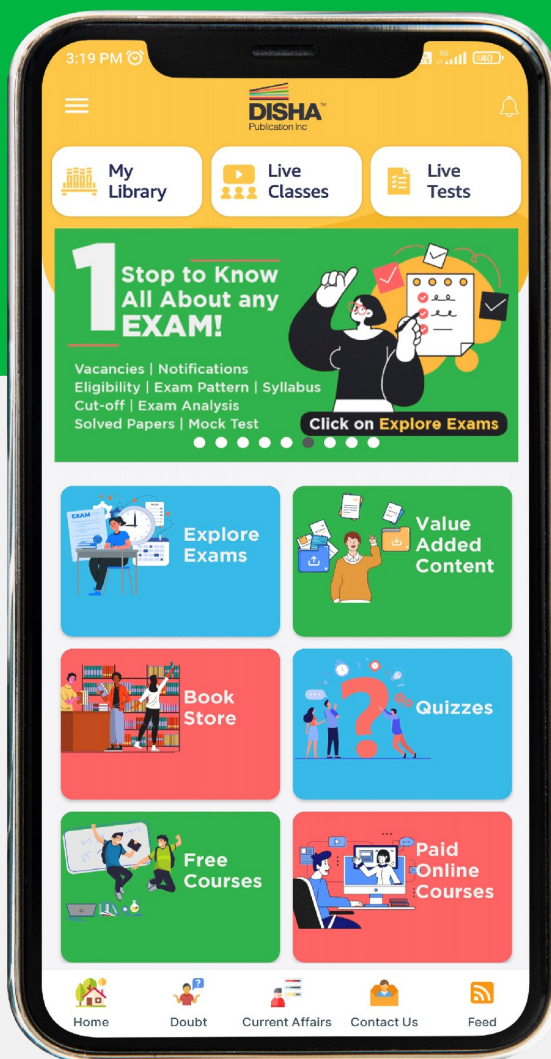
Horace only robbed the rich to buy himself expensive books and had his eyes on the shotover arrangement for a very long time. He carefully planned his break- in after finding out the family was out holidaying and the servants had left the keys to the house hanging after going to a movie themselves. Even the pet dog wasn't a bother for Horace who knew how to calm her down by calling her name. Even so, the lady in red smoothly outsmarted him and managed to make him the culprit in the end with a very well executed plan. Upon hearing Horace sneeze because of his fever. She made her way upstairs to the vault where he was dressed attractively and with the dog by her side, she was easily able to convince Horace that she was the lady of the house]. She threatened to call the police and have him arrested, forcing Horace to beg and perform her a favour. Before she made him do her favour, she quietly made him remove his gloves by asking him to light a cigar. After this action, she promised to let him go unscattered and uncaught if he opened the vault for her. Her reasoning was that she had to go to a party for which she needed some jewels and had unfortunately forgotten the password of the safe. Horace who was very much afraid to go to prison unquestioningly broke open this safe with assurance from the lady that she'd have it fixed later. And thus, she escaped with the jewels making sure Horace left his imprint as the culprits caught in the end. Horace proved to be clever; but just not as much as the lady in red.

OR

- B. It is very essential for a person to live a contented life. He should believe in simple living and high thinking. Not everyone is born with a golden spoon in his mouth. With honesty and hardwork , we can always achieve our best. A person will never be happy if he keeps craving for what he does not have. In this way, he may ruin even his present. Matilda had the same longing and craving for a life of luxury and wealth. She immersed herself in glamour when her husband got an invitation to attend a ball.

She did not care for her loving middle-class husband, rather she was running after her fantasies. She always thought beyond her limits. For the minister's party, she could have gone in her simple clothes, but she insisted on buying a new dress for 400 francs which her husband gave her. Then she longed for jewellery, which she borrowed from her friends for the party. She borrowed a diamond necklace and lost it. For repaying the diamond necklace to the friend, she had to sacrifice many years of her life, as well as her husband's whole income. Both of them lived in utter poverty to repay it. Matilda lost all her charm and looked old and pale. Her ostentation and vanity had landed her in trouble. Thus, it is apt that it is better to be satisfied with what one has. One should not believe in false show off.

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