

# PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION: 2024-2025

CLASS: X

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

NAME OF STUDENT: .....

MAX.MARKS: 80

DATE: .....

TIME: 2 HOURS

Note: You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper. The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt all five questions.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ].

You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes in answering Question 1 and 20 minutes in answering Question 2.

## Question 1

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following:-

[20]

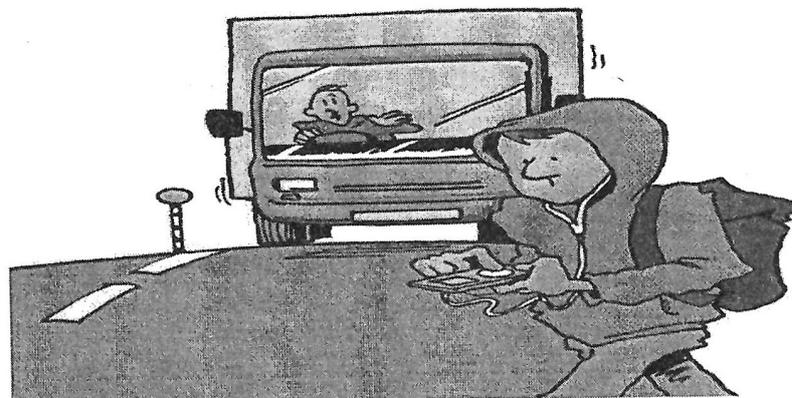
(i) Write an original short story based on ' A Mysterious Phone Call'.

(ii) You were sitting in the balcony of your room on the first floor in a hotel on the bank of a river in a hilly area. Suddenly you notice a rise in the river water. Within ten minutes there was chaos all around as there were flash floods. Narrate what happened thereafter.

(iii) 'Marks scored by students in the exams reflect their knowledge' Give your arguments for or against the statement.

(iv) Many people have a close relationship with their pets. How do you take care of your pet? Describe the relationship you have with your pet.

(v) Study the picture given below. Write a short story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



## Question 2

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question)

[10]

Select any one of the following:-

(i) You have just completed self-defence training week at school. Write a letter to your friend describing the importance of self-defence training.

(ii) Write a letter to the Municipal Corporation complaining about the malaria epidemic in your city. State the causes and suggest ways to deal with the problem.



**Question 3**

[5]

(i) Your school is organising an inter-school 'Spelling Bee' contest. Write a notice to be put in your school informing the students about the contest and inviting them to participate in it.

[5]

(ii) Write an e-mail to the Principal of a neighbouring school, requesting him/her to send a team from his/her school to participate in the inter-school Spelling Bee Contest.

**Question 4**

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:-

You know that modern inventions in science have helped make the great cities of the world. They have done a great deal to make our lives more comfortable, more healthy and also to give us time to do more things for pleasure. But you have also probably heard that modern developments, like industrial areas and crowded highways, have brought smog, a major nuisance and hazard into our lives. Smog is a nuisance because it sifts down and settles on everything- people, laundry, streets, parks, buildings, reservoirs and airports—a gritty, greasy substance. This means more cleaning, sweeping, scouring, washing, vacuuming and repainting for everyone.

Smog is a serious hazard. It is irritating to the eyes, nose, throat and lungs. It can even be poisonous enough to cause death. Many cities, suffer from periodic attacks of this mixed smoke and fog-smog. It's not the fog that is irritating, of course; it is the smoke. What is in the smoke that makes it such a nuisance? You know that smoke comes from fires. You have seen it swirling up from burning leaves or from barbecues or out of chimneys. The smoke consists of tiny particles of solid material, mostly carbon, carried up into the air by hot gases. Is there a way of cleaning the air of these particles? The best way is not to let them get into the air in the first place. Scientists especially chemists, have been trying to solve this problem for many years.

They tried fine screens in chimneys. But these only kept out the flying ash and large unburnt particles of fuel. Most smoke particles are too small to be stopped by fine screens. But scientists knew that tiny particles can be attracted by something that has an electric charge on it. The particles will stick to the charged surface. An American chemist named F.G.Cottrell decided to try to attract smoke particles with an electric charge before the particles flew into the air. Cottrell put a pair of iron plates inside a smoking chimney and connected them to a high-voltage electric charge of 50,000 volts. He turned on the current. His method worked. Not only did his precipitator stop the smoke, but also it proved useful in trapping valuable deposits of carbon and various metals that have been going up in smoke.

Not all impurities in the air come from smoking chimneys. Automobiles contribute a major share. Scientists have found that exhaust gases contain partly burned fuels that pollute the air with carbon particles, carbon monoxide and other chemicals. Can we stop these from getting into the air? One way would be to make fuels burn completely because the more completely fuel is burned the less it pollutes the air. Scientists are working to find ways of producing complete burning in engine fuels. Their goals are to produce a reasonable, light-weight, safe device that either produces better burning inside the engines or one that causes the exhaust gases to burn completely before they are emitted into the air.

(i) For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided:- [2]

1. hazard

(a) excessive

(b) inadequate

(c) danger

(d) satisfaction

2. swirling

(a) doubting

(b) gruesome

(c) applying

(d) circulating

(ii) Which word in the passage is the opposite of 'expensive'.

[1]

(a) various

(b) gritty

(c) valuable

(d) reasonable

(iii) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:-

- (a) What are some of the positive impacts of modern inventions? [2]
- (b) Why is it important for fuels to burn completely in engines? [1]
- (c) Briefly state what causes smoke? [2]
- (d) What harmful substances are found in automobile exhaust gases? [2]
- (e) How did F.G Cottrell prevent smoke particles from flying into the air? [2]
- (iv) In not more than 50 words, summarise the harm done by smog. [8]

#### Question 5

(i) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space:- [4]

In the field of journalism, cartoonists \_\_\_\_\_ (1) (consider) as an unusual breed of people. By \_\_\_\_\_ (2) (draw) a few lines, they can highlight or \_\_\_\_\_ (3) (reduce) to dust somebody's character in the society. Their style of expression can \_\_\_\_\_ (4) (deliver) a strong blow to the subject of caricature. R.K.Laxman \_\_\_\_\_ (5) (be) a cartoonist \_\_\_\_\_ (6) (endow), with the skill to draw attractive cartoons. With a deep understanding of political and social realities, he was able to see and express the reality through his protagonist– the common man with a \_\_\_\_\_ (7) (close) umbrella. For the readers, the common man \_\_\_\_\_ (8) (become) a signature of Laxman's art.

(ii) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words:- [4]

- (a) I don't have any complaint \_\_\_\_\_ her.
- (b) She is extremely anxious \_\_\_\_\_ an interview next week.
- (c) Distribute these sweets \_\_\_\_\_ the two of them.
- (d) He furnished the library \_\_\_\_\_ good books.
- (e) They were \_\_\_\_\_ pressure to release him.
- (f) If she is not careful, she will lag \_\_\_\_\_ in her schedule.
- (g) They are now free \_\_\_\_\_ infection.
- (h) He went \_\_\_\_\_ a ride in his new car.

(iii) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence **without using and, but or so**. Choose the correct option:- [4]

1. It is not a new washing machine. However, it is reliable.
- (a) It is not a new washing machine still it can be reliable.
- (b) Being not a new washing machine, it is reliable.
- (c) Though it is not a new washing machine, it is reliable.
- (d) It can be reliable because it is not a new washing machine.

2. The coffee isn't strong. It won't keep us awake.
  - (a) The coffee isn't strong enough to keep us awake.
  - (b) The coffee isn't strong for keep us awake.
  - (c) The coffee isn't strong as it will keep us awake.
  - (d) The coffee isn't strong moreover it won't keep us awake.
3. She made us cry. She told us a sad story.
  - (a) We all cried he told us a sad story.
  - (b) She made us cry by telling us a sad story.
  - (c) She made us cry on telling a sad story.
  - (d) We all cried as it was her sad story.
4. The teacher liked the card. Anna made it for her.
  - (a) The teacher liked the card which Anna made for her.
  - (b) The teacher liked the card because Anna makes it for her.
  - (c) The teacher liked the card make by Anna for her.
  - (d) The teacher liked the card since Anna make it for her.

(iv) Choose the correct option to rewrite the following according to the instructions given after each sentence:- [8]

1. We will not buy the cupboard if we do not like it.  
(Begin with: Unless .....)
  - (a) Unless we like the cupboard otherwise we will not buy it.
  - (b) Unless we like the cupboard, we do not buy it.
  - (c) Unless we like the cupboard, we will not buy it.
  - (d) Unless we like the cupboard then we will not buy it.
2. "I am going to watch a movie in the evening", he said.  
(Begin with: He said.....)
  - (a) He said that he was planning to watch a movie in the evening.
  - (b) He said that he is going to watch a movie in the evening.
  - (c) He said that he will be watching a movie in the evening.
  - (d) He said that he would watch a movie in the evening.
3. Heavy rain has caused the cancellation of the exhibition.  
(Begin with: Due .....)
  - (a) Due to heavy rain, exhibition had been cancelled.
  - (b) Due to heavy rain, the exhibition was cancelled.



- (c) Due to heavy rain, the exhibition was being cancelled.
- (d) Due to heavy rain, the exhibition has been cancelled.
4. As soon as he heard the news, he rushed home.  
(Begin with: No sooner .....)
- (a) No sooner did he heard the news, he rushed home.
- (b) No sooner did he hear the news, than he rushed home.
- (c) No sooner than did he hear the news, he rushed home.
- (d) No sooner he hear the news, he rushed home.
5. Priya is the fastest runner in our school.  
(Begin with: No other .....)
- (a) No other runner in our school is fastest as Priya.
- (b) No other runner can run as fast as Priya in our school.
- (c) No other runner in our school is as fast as Priya.
- (d) No other runner in our school is faster to Priya.
6. His grandfather is so old that he cannot remember events of the past.  
(Begin with: His grandfather is too.....)
- (a) His grandfather is too old to remember events. of the past.
- (b) His grandfather is too old that he did not remember events of the past.
- (c) His grandfather is too old that he will not remember events of the past.
- (d) His grandfather is too old for remembering events of the past.
7. His uncle opened a restaurant a year ago.  
(Begin with: It has .....)
- (a) It has been a year when his uncle opened a restaurant.
- (b) It have been one year for the restaurant to be opened.
- (c) It has been a year since his uncle opened a restaurant.
- (d) It has been a year for the opening of his uncle's restaurant.
8. Neha does not study enough, but she still stands first.  
(Begin with: Despite.....)
- (a) Despite not studying enough, Neha stood first.
- (b) Despite studying much, Neha stood first.
- (c) Despite studying enough, Neha did stand first.
- (d) Despite not being able to study, Neha stood first.