

**SARASWATI INTER COLLEGE  
HOLIDAY HOME WORK  
CLASS 12<sup>th</sup> CBSE (ENGLISH )  
SESSION 2024-25**

**SECTION A  
Creative Writing Skills**

3. Attempt any **one** from (A) and (B) given below :
- (A) An orange alert has been sounded in your city because of extreme temperature due to the cold wave. Schools have been shut for a week. As Principal, Derry Public School, draft a notice in 50 words informing parents of the same. Mention day, date and duration. You are Dr. Sen.
- OR**
- (B) You are the Shila/Samir, Secretary of Saket Kunj, Saket, Navi Mumbai, Resident Welfare Association. Write a notice in 50 words to be circulated to all the residents informing them that there will be no electricity in your colony for one day due to repair of transformer and relaying of cables. Mention date and time.

4. Attempt any **one** from (A) and (B) given below :

(A) As Dr. Sinha, Secretary of Army Wives Welfare Association, draft a formal letter of invitation in 50 words for the members to attend a lecture on 'Yoga and its Benefits' to be delivered by an eminent Yoga guru. Mention day, date, time and venue.

**OR**

(B) You are Shanti/Shivam Deshpande. You have been invited to be the Master of Ceremonies at an award function 'Duskar' for budding journalists. Write a reply in 50 words declining the invitation, expressing your inability to attend due to a personal commitment. Mention day, date, time and venue.

5. Attempt any **one** from (A) and (B) given below :

(A) A survey reveals that most of the health issues faced by teenagers are related to excessive use of gadgets. You are concerned about this. Write a letter to the editor of 'Navbharat Times' in 120 – 150 words expressing your views on the topic. Offer solutions. You are Mala/Mohan of M.G. Road, Jhansi. You may use the cues given below.

<b>GADGETS &amp; HEALTH</b>
Problems
· Sedentary lifestyle
· Obesity
· Social isolation
· Emotional disorders
Solutions
· Disciplined use of gadgets
· Spend family time
· Follow an exercise routine

**OR**



- (B) Anita/Amit of Civil Lines, Kanpur, sees the following advertisement in 'The World News' and decides to apply for the job of a Sales

Manager in a reputed export house. Write an application along with your resume in 120 – 150 words to the Personnel Manager, Dezine Furniture Exports, Kanpur.

Dezine Furniture Exports – requires Sales Manager :  
Qualification : B.Com.  
Experience : 3 – 5 years  
Job requirement – Managing executives, setting targets and timelines.  
Apply to :  
The Personnel Manager  
Dezine Furniture Exports  
Tara Deep  
Kanpur

6. Attempt any **one** from (A) and (B) given below :

- (A) You are Radha/Ranjan of Daulat Ram Public School, Vadodara. Your school recently celebrated twenty-five years of meritorious service to the cause of education. You were asked to cover this event as a student correspondent of the school magazine. Write a report in

120 – 150 words. You may use the following cues :

**Programme**

PowerPoint Presentation on the School's Achievements

Speech by Chief Guest

Cultural Programme

Talks by former students

Vote of thanks



OR



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- (B) You have just finished Class 12 and are seeking admission in college. You are looking forward to the freedom from parents and the strict discipline of school life. However, you also realise that freedom brings with it responsibility and a mature preparation for your forthcoming career. Write an article in 120-150 words on what college life spells for you. You are Surabhi/Suresh. Support your ideas with the cues given below :

### College Life

#### Freedom

- choosing friends
- following own schedule
- pursuing your interests

#### Responsibilities

- making informed choices
- following a disciplined lifestyle
- academic focus

## SECTION B

### Literature

7. Attempt any **one** of the two extracts (A) and (B) given below :

- (A) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :

I looked again at her, wan,  
pale  
as a late winter's moon and felt that  
old  
familiar ache, my childhood's fear,  
but all I said was, see you soon,  
Amma,



all I did was smile and smile and  
smile ...



-



The poem 'My Mother at Sixty-Six' captures the \_\_\_\_\_ of the narrator.

- I. happiness
- II. fear
- III. dismay
- IV. anxiety

Choose the most appropriate option :

- (a) Only I
  - (b) I and IV
  - (c) II and IV
  - (d) Only III
- (ii) Identify the phrase from the extract that suggests the following :  
She was overwhelmed with emotion and could not speak much.
- (iii) The word 'wan' in the given context most nearly means
- (a) pale
  - (b) old
  - (c) unwell
  - (d) anxious
- (iv) Complete the following analogy correctly. Do not repeat from the example used.  
Trees sprinting : personification : : \_\_\_\_\_ : simile
- (v) On the basis of the extract, study the two statements, I and II given below :
- I. The poet accepts the reality of her mother's declining health and old age.
  - II. She is nostalgic about her childhood days spent with her mother.
- Choose the most appropriate option :
- (a) I is true, but II is false
  - (b) Both I and II are true
  - (c) II is the reason for I
  - (d) II cannot be inferred from the extract
- (vi) Explain the following statement with reference to the above extract :  
All I did was smile and smile and smile.





OR

(B) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :

Now we will count to twelve

and we will all keep still.

For once on the face of the Earth

let's not speak in any language,

Let's stop for one second,

and not move our arms so

much. It would be an exotic

moment without rush, without

engines, we would all be

together

(i) The poet counts up to twelve as a countdown to

- (a) lift arms.
- (b) speak in different languages.
- (c) stop all activities.
- (d) be without engines.

(ii) The poet appeals to the people that they should

- I. keep quiet
- II. not move
- III. celebrate festivals
- IV. not hibernate

Choose the most appropriate option :

- (a) Only II
- (b) I and II
- (c) Only I
- (d) I and IV

(iii) Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the third line of the extract :

- (a) lightning danced across the sky
- (b) greedy good doers
- (c) children spilling out of their homes





(d) fight like cats and dogs





(iv) The benefits of 'Keeping Quiet' include

- I. harmony
- II. non-violence
- III. brotherhood
- IV. meditation

Choose the most appropriate option :

- (a) I and II
- (b) II and IV
- (c) I, II and III
- (d) I, II, III and IV

(v) Complete the statement with reference to the extract :

The poet suggests we will all be together when \_\_\_\_\_.

(vi) The word 'exotic' in the extract most nearly means

- (a) unique
- (b) luxurious
- (c) rich
- (d) illusive

8. Attempt any **one** of the two extracts (A) and (B) given below :

(A) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :

“Because we are born into this community, we are never given any honour or dignity or respect; we are stripped of all that. But if we study and make progress, we can throw away these indignities. So study with care, learn all you can. If you are always ahead in your lessons, people will come to you of their own accord and attach

themselves to you. Work hard and learn.”

(i) Who is the speaker ? Who is he speaking to ?

- (a) Appa; Bama
- (b) Bama; Amma
- (c) Bama; The Zamindar



(d) Annan; Bama





- (ii) Select the option that best describes the speaker in the above extract :
- I. marginalized
  - II. practical
  - III. idealistic
  - IV. curious
  - V. aggressive
- Select the most appropriate option :
- (a) I and II
  - (b) III and IV
  - (c) II and IV
  - (d) IV and V
- (iii) Complete the following statement with reference to the community :
- The treatment meted out to the community was \_\_\_\_\_.
- (iv) Which of the following summarizes the author's opinion about study ?
- (a) Childhood should be spent in experiential learning.
  - (b) Studying is better than playing.
  - (c) Studying is essential to the nation's development.
  - (d) Studying leads to social reforms and progress.

**OR**

- (B) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :
- You think .... 'Here's a boy.' You look at me ... and then you see my face and you think. 'That's bad. That's a terrible thing. That's the ugliest thing I ever saw.' You think, 'Poor boy.' But I'm not. Not poor. Underneath, you are afraid. Anybody would be. I am. When I look in the mirror, and see it, I'm afraid of me.
- (i) Who is the speaker and who is he speaking to ?
- (a) Derry; His mother
  - (b) Derry; Mr. Lamb
  - (c) Derry; Ladies at the bus stop
  - (d) Mother; Mr. Lamb





- (ii) According to the speaker, what do people feel about him ?
- (a) People are empathetic towards him.
  - (b) People are repulsed by his appearance.
  - (c) People are annoyed by his presence.
  - (d) People are unhappy at his association with his neighbours.
- (iii) Complete the following statement with reference to the extract :
- When I look in the mirror, and see it, I'm afraid of me \_\_\_\_\_.
- (iv) Explain the following statement with reference to the given extract :
- You think, 'Poor boy.' But I'm not.

9. Attempt any **one** of the two extracts (A) and (B) given below :

(A) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :

The make-up department was first headed by a Bengali who became too big for a studio and left. He was succeeded by a Maharashtrian who was assisted by a Dharwar Kannadiga, an Andhra, a Madras Indian Christian, an Anglo-Burmese and the usual local Tamils. All this shows that there was a great deal of national integration long before A.I.R. and Doordarshan began broadcasting programmes on national integration.. This gang of nationally integrated make-up men could turn any decent-looking person into a hideous crimson hued monster with the help of truck-loads of pancake and a number of other locally made potions and lotions.

- (i) How was there national integration long before A.I.R. and Doordarshan in the make-up department ?
- (a) The staff consisted of a Bengali, a Maharashtrian, a Dharwar Kannadiga, an Andhra, a Madras Indian Christian, an Anglo-Burmese and Tamils.
  - (b) They recited slogans of national integration.
  - (c) The staff studied make-up techniques of various states.





- (d) Their clients were from various states.





- (ii) Select a suitable word from the extract to complete the analogy :  
front : rear : : ravishing :
- (iii) Select the correct option to fill in the blanks :  
The make-up artists could turn \_\_\_\_\_ looking people into \_\_\_\_\_ looking men and women.
- (a) ordinary; pleasant  
(b) ugly; good  
(c) pleasant; ugly  
(d) monstrous; beautiful
- (iv) The word 'pancake' in the extract most nearly means  
(a) brand name                      (b) lemon cake  
(c) savoury                              (d) preservative
- (v) Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is true for the make-up department.
- (a) The make-up artists were welcomed by the actors.  
(b) The make-up artists were poorly paid.  
(c) The work done by the make-up artists was not appreciated.  
(d) The department exhibited national integration.
- (vi) Bring out the irony in the above given extract.

**OR**

- (B) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :  
Similarly, we have a lot of empty spaces in our lives. I call them interstices. Say you are coming over to my place. You are in the elevator and while you are coming up, I am waiting for you. This is an interstice, an empty space. I work in empty spaces. While waiting for your elevator to come up from the first to the third floor, I have already written an article !





- (i) Umberto Eco, was
- (a) a professor of semiotics, an author
  - (b) an interviewer, a novelist
  - (c) a journalist, a professor
  - (d) a publisher, an author
- (ii) Rationalise, to support the given statement :
- Similarly, we have a lot of empty spaces in our lives.
- (iii) Rewrite the sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with its inference :
- I call them interstices.
- (iv) On the basis of the extract, study the two statements, I and II given below :
- I. Umberto Eco works even in the spare time between activities.
  - II. Umberto Eco does not like to be interviewed.
- Choose the most appropriate option :
- (a) I can be inferred from the extract, but II cannot
  - (b) I cannot be inferred from the extract, but II can
  - (c) I and II are true
  - (d) II is the reason for I
- (v) Replace the underlined word with its antonym from the extract.
- Umberto Eco does not like to waste time. He writes an article while he is proceeding to the elevator.
- \_\_\_\_\_.
- (vi) Umberto Eco's views on his manner of work are based on \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) facts
  - (b) an interview





(c) his blog



(d) hypothesis



10. Answer any **five** of the following in about 40 – 50 words each :
- (a) What were Franz's feelings as he set out for school and why ?
  - (b) What vicious circle are the bangle-makers trapped in ?
  - (c) What were Douglas's initial thoughts when he was pushed into the pool ?
  - (d) Who was Edla Williamson ? Why did she visit the forge at night ?
  - (e) Why did Sophie wish to delve more deeply in 'her brother's affections' ?
  - (f) Why do Aunt Jennifer's tigers not fear the men beneath the tree ?

11. Answer any **two** of the following in about 40 – 50 words each :
- (a) Why did the shopkeeper sell the wooden tiger at a cheap price ?
  - (b) Do you think that the third level was a medium of escape ? Why / Why not ?
  - (c) Derek wants to go back to Mr. Lamb's house his mother's against will. What does this tell you about Mr. Lamb ?

12. Answer any **one** of the following in about 120 – 150 words :
- (a) "Civil disobedience had triumphed for the first time in modern India." When and how did it happen ?

**OR**

- (b) In the chapter 'Poets and Pancakes', the author has used gentle humour to point out human foibles. Pick out instances of this to show how it served to make the extract engaging.

13. Answer any **one** of the following in about 120 – 150 words :
- (a) How has human civilization impacted our environment ? Comment with reference to the lesson 'Journey to the End of the Earth'.

**OR**

- (b) Dr. Sadao is torn between his duty as a doctor and his responsibility as a patriotic citizen. Elaborate.





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**SECTION –A**

**(Writing)**

3. You are Akshat/Ankita, living in Palghat. Your cousin from the same city has purchased a new house and he has invited you for a house warming party. Draft a letter of acceptance mentioning date, time, venue. Word limit 50 words.
4. Attempt any **one** from A and B given below :

(A)

SITUATION VACANT

You are Arun/Arti of Model Town, Kolkata. Write an application with detailed bio-data for the above post in **120-150** words. Invent necessary details.

**OR**

- (B) Roma Public School, Preet Vihar organized 'Library Day' to promote the habit of reading among students. Renowned author Anita Desai was the Chief Guest. The activities included bookmark making, short story writing, and book cover designing. Write report in **120-150** words for the school participants mentioning date, duration, activities and other details of participants. You are Veerka/Vishal, student

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## SECTION -B

### (Literature)

5. Attempt any **five** of the **six** questions given below, within **40** words each.
- (i) Why did the iron master speak kindly to the peddler and invite him home ?
  - (ii) Why did Gandhi agree to a settlement of 25% refund to the farmers ?
  - (iii) What was Aunt Jennifer terrified of ?
  - (iv) According to the poet, Keats, nature offers a vast array of beautiful things around us which we fail to notice in our mundane life. List the beautiful things.
  - (v) Why does Derry steal into Mr. Lamb's garden ? What is Mr. Lamb's reaction ?
  - (vi) Why was the story telling session specially tiring for Jack on Saturdays ?
6. Answer any **two** of the following in about **120-150** words each.
- (i) 'A thing of beauty is a joy forever.' Explain with reference to the poem.
  - (ii) How was the 'injured' McLeery able to outwit the prison officers ?
  - (iii) How does the lesson 'Indigo' depict Gandhi's humanitarian approach ?

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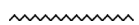




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