

SECTION A – READING SKILLS

1.
 - i. (c) an expression of rebellion.
 - ii.
 - Done secretly without getting noticed.
 - Wall artists were never caught red-handed.
 - Done during nighttime.
 - Done on the sly/quietly.
 - iii. Graffiti was not popular among people because:
 - It was considered as an act of rebellion.
 - It was linked to destruction of property.
 - It countered societal rules.
 - It considered as vandalism.
 - It was characterized by outlaw values.
 - iv. Interesting/Captivating.
 - v. (a) Graffiti art was a paid activity.
 - vi.
 - Wall art helps to preserve cultural history.
 - It creates a social awareness/message conveyed in an animated colorful manner without being an imposition/reaches out to the common man.
 - vii. The stigma of illegality was dropped because over a period of time, there was a shift in perception. Blank walls beckoned invitingly, and artists saw whitewashed walls as an opportunity to display their work in free and open settings. The illegal 'gang activity' became an art form on display in walking galleries. Graffiti was gradually being replaced and the stigma of illegality was being dropped.
 - viii. The illegal 'gang activity' became an art form on display in walking galleries.
 - ix. (d) dislike to acceptance
 - x. Painted walls and graphic displays in urban areas infuse vitality and beauty into the monotony of city life by preserving culture and history. They effectively convey messages about social awareness issues like hygiene, conservation, education, and rights, reaching out to the public in an animated and colorful manner without being imposing.
2.
 - i. False - If the statement contradicts the information.
 - ii. (d) There is a desire to buy branded products in the villages too.
 - iii. The Indian FMCG industry grew by 16% in 2021, a 9-year high, despite nationwide lockdowns because it was supported by consumption-led growth and value expansion from higher product prices, particularly for staples.
 - iv. Household and Personal care segment.
 - v. (b) the demand for branded products
 - vi. In 2021-22, the government approved the Production-Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI) with a greater budget to assist Indian food companies in worldwide markets.
 - vii. (a) that the rural people also want branded products
 - viii. The expansion of the organised sector in FMCG is predicted to accelerate with an increase in brand consciousness, aided by the growth of modern retail.

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

RISE PUBLIC SCHOOL

NOTICE

WRITING SKILLS WORKSHOP

Date: 11th September 2024

Attention all students! The British Council local branch has kindly agreed to conduct a workshop on 'Writing Skills in English Language' at our school. Interested students may give their names to the undersigned by 15th September 2024. Limited seats are available on a first come first serve basis. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your writing skills.

Day/Date: Monday, 18th September 2024

Time: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Venue: School Auditorium

3. Sohail/Suhina
President, Literary Society
Rise Public School

OR

Blossom Public School, Khushipur
NOTICE

Date: 13th September 2024

Subject: Inter-Class Debate Competition

This is to inform all students of Classes XI and XII that an inter-class debate competition will be held in the school during the first week of August. Interested students are invited to submit their applications to the Student Council Office by September 15, 2024.

Head Girl/Head Boy,
Geeta/Gautam

Letter of Regret

Dear Shahid,

Thank you for inviting me to your sister's marriage on 25th September 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Grand Palace Hall.

Unfortunately, due to unavoidable circumstances, I cannot leave Nashik. I regret missing this joyous occasion and wish your sister a wonderful married life.

Best regards,

4. Hamid/Henna

OR

Shivalik Farms,
Raj Pura Village,
Near Pinjore.
2nd April 2019.

Dear Hrishit,

I am planning to spend the summer vacation at my farm-house post examination. I invite you to spend at least a fortnight with me at my farm-house. It is a pollution-free place with lots of trees and greenery all around. The sylvan surroundings will have a refreshing effect on your heart and mind. We shall also visit Pinjore gardens and Kalka hills. Looking forward to your arrival.

Your Loving Friend,
Roshan Khera.

5. Bharti Public School,
Delhi

6 July 2019

The Editor

The Times of India

Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg

New Delhi-110002

Subject: Problem of Increasing Stress Faced by Students

Sir,

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to express my views on the problem of increasing stress among the students due to the highly competitive environment.

Today's world is full of competition. Every now and then a child is assessed on different parameters. Parents expect a lot from their children. They want their children to excel in all fields such as studies, sports, and co-curricular activities. Everyone wants their children to be a doctor or an engineer. The result is that children are unduly stressed and burdened. All day long they are indulged in completing their homework and studies and no time is left for games and sports.

It is high time we should ponder upon this problem. Students should be involved in games, sports, and yoga to combat stress. Parents should not pressurize their children for performing excellently in their studies. Meditation can be practised for keeping stress at bay.

Yours sincerely
Rekha/Rakesh

OR

M-114, Najafgarh
New Delhi
March 14, 2022
Apollo International School
Karnal
Dear Sir/Madam

Subject: Job Application for the position of the sports coach

I am Praveena, a SAI certified coach in athletics. I came to know about a vacancy of sports coach in your reputed school through the newspaper "The Times of India" dated 10 March, 2022. I wish to apply for the same.

Please find my resume attached for the purpose. I would like you to know that I am a very hardworking woman with an aim of excelling in the field of athletics. My academic qualifications, age and other eligibility conditions agree to the ones specified by the school for the job.

I thank you in anticipation for an early response.

Yours truly,

Praveena

Resume

Name: Praveena

Father's name: Rampal Singh

Date of birth: 5th April 1985

Address: M-114, Najafgarh, New Delhi

Academic Qualifications:

Degree	Board/ University	Year	Division
Graduation	CBSE	2008	First
Bachelor of Physical Education	Jammu University	2011	First
Master's of Physical Education	Jammu University	2013	First
Diploma Course in Sports Teaching	Netaji Subhas National Institute	2013	First

Experience: Athletics Coach, ABC School, August 2013 – Present

Expected salary: Rs. 35,000 per month

Languages fluency: English, Hindi

Hobbies and Interests: Athletics, traveling

Contact information: 8059XXXXXX / praveenaXX@gmail.com

6.

Devastating Floods Ravage Assam: Relief Measures Pushed in

By Vinay/Vijaya, The Times of India

Assam reels under the aftermath of devastating floods, leaving a trail of destruction across several districts. The relentless downpour has submerged villages, ravaged infrastructure, and displaced countless families. The state mourns the loss of life and property, with the numbers still rising. Many are missing, and search and rescue operations are underway by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and local authorities. Evacuation efforts are in full swing, with thousands being shifted to temporary relief shelters. The Assam government has announced immediate measures to address the crisis. Relief materials, including food, water, and medicines, are being distributed to the affected areas. Financial assistance has been promised to the affected families. As the state navigates through this crisis, solidarity and support from neighbouring regions and the nation at large will be crucial in aiding its recovery.

OR

Be - Do - Live Well: A Wellness Workshop

By Rita/Rahul, Student Editor

September 11, 2024

The Student Counselling Department recently organized a transformative wellness workshop titled "Be - Do - Live Well" at the Community Centre from the 6th to the 8th of February. This three-day event, running from 10 AM to 6:30 PM each day, aimed to address common concerns, reduce stress, and inspire motivation among students.

The workshop aimed to address common concerns related to mental and emotional well-being. It featured a series of interactive sessions focused on reducing stress, developing motivation strategies, and embracing the joy of living. The sessions were led by experienced counsellors and wellness experts who provided valuable insights and practical tips.

One of the highlights of the workshop was the "Theatre in Action" segment, where participants engaged in role-playing activities to explore and express their emotions. This innovative approach helped attendees to better understand their feelings and develop healthier coping mechanisms.

Throughout the three days, participants had the opportunity to share their experiences and concerns in a supportive environment. The workshop emphasized the importance of self-care and provided tools to enhance overall well-being.

Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing gratitude for the practical advice and supportive atmosphere. The event not only helped reduce stress but also inspired participants to adopt a more positive and proactive approach to life.

In conclusion, the "Be - Do - Live WELL" workshop was a resounding success, fostering a sense of community and well-being among all who attended. The student counselling department deserves commendation for organizing such a meaningful and impactful event.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

7. i. (C) Aunt Jennifer's unhappy married life.
ii. (A) Leopards cannot hide in the jungle as they are spotted.
iii. The tigers in the poem symbolize bravery and freedom. They also reflect Aunt Jennifer's innermost desire to be fearless and break free from her husband's oppression.
iv. False.
v. Full.
vi. Aunt Jennifer's fear and Weakness, also signify her oppressed mental condition due to her unhappy marriage/dominating husband.

OR

- i. A chat with a close friend can take away our blues.
ii. A person who seeks God's help for all his problems.
iii. 1, 3 and 6
iv. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 can be inferred.
v. Nature is the best healer
vi. living/life
8. i. Charley was wearing a tan gabardine suit and a straw hat with a fancy band.
ii. (A) quicker.
iii. imagination.
iv. (A) pre-world war era.



AI POWERED
LEARNING



CONCEPT
MASTERY

OR

PERFORMANCE
FOCUSED



EXCELLENCE
DRIVEN

- i. Derry no more cared about his face or look. This change was the result of Mr. Lamb's company which gave him a positive outlook on life. Now, the important thing for Derry was how he thought and what he saw or heard.

ii. (d)

b and d

iii. (d)

She was overprotective and didn't want him to stay with a stranger.

- iv. Derry wanted to go back to Mr. Lamb's garden where he could sit and talk with the old man. Mr. Lamb was successful in restoring the human connection that Derry longed for. Derry lived in the fear of the potential pain of being rejected, which was erased by Mr. Lamb.

9. i. When William joined the swimming pool at the Y.M.C.A., the fear of water revived unpleasant memories.
ii. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.
iii. aping
iv. a bully tossed him into the pool for the sake of fun
v. Option (4)
vi. feel at ease in the water

OR

- i. To help the poor peasants

The primary purpose and nature of Gandhi's mission was to help the poor peasants who were getting exploited in the sharecropping agreement.

- ii. Sharecroppers started to visit the **champion**.

- iii. (2) is the reason for (1).

- iv. 1 and 4

The Sharecroppers had come to visit Gandhi because they hoped that under the leadership of this popular leader they would be able to get justice.

- v. The news of Gandhi's advent and the purpose of his mission spread through Muzaffarpur.

- vi. for the sharecroppers against the tyrannical British landlords.

10. Answer any five of the following questions in 40-50 words each:

- (i) By his frightened look, Edla guessed that the peddler had either stolen something or has escaped prison. She was sympathetic towards him and hinted to him that he would be allowed to leave whenever he wanted. She requested him to stay with them over Christmas Eve. Her friendly disposition won his trust and so on being reassured, he accepted the invitation.
- (ii) When the poet wrote 'young trees sprinting' she was comparing old age with youth. Young sprinting trees reminded her of the energy, vivacity, vibrancy and spirit of endurance as against the lifeless, wearied and drained out energy of her old mother. Sprinting trees symbolize the life in contrast to her mother's approaching death.
- (iii) In his poem 'A Roadside Stand', Robert Frost has quite vividly and sensitively portrayed the plight of the poor rural folk. The poor villagers set up a roadside stand on one side of the road in the hope to sell things and earn some money. But hardly any city cars stop there. The villagers feel disheartened and depressed. The 'greedy good-doers' and 'the beneficent beasts' from cities, the social agencies swarm around them in the name of helping them. Even the 'party in power' i.e., the government has an indifferent attitude to them and they have never fulfilled the promises made to them.
- (iv) Sophie's ambition in life was to have the most amazing boutique in the city. In order to achieve that, she planned to earn a lot of money by becoming either a manager or an actress or a fashion designer.
- (v) Subbu's enemy was the 'boy' at the make-up department. All his anger and frustration were directed against him. The boy was convinced that Subbu was the cause of his woes and miseries. This 'boy' was jealous of Subbu's rising stars, his success, and his intimacy with the boss.
- (vi) Lewis Carroll was the author of the famous 'Alice in Wonderland.' He had never consented to be interviewed as he had a horror of the interviewer. The horror was that he would be lionized and that made him repel interviews. He was equally against the petitioners who wanted to meet him or take his autograph.

11. Answer any two of the following questions in 40-50 words each:

- (i) The brightness that prevailed in Antarctica was surreal (strange) as the austral summer light remained for 24 hours in the continent. The silence there was ubiquitous (widespread) interrupted only by the occasional avalanche or calving ice sheet.
- (ii) Dr. Sadao could be arrested if someone complained about the family harbouring an enemy in their home. The servants were even worried too when they realized that their master was helping an enemy which would lead them all to prison.
- (iii) Gondwana, an extensive supercontinent situated in the southern hemisphere, comprised diverse flora and fauna without any human inhabitants. Approximately 650 million years ago, India and Antarctica constituted distinct sections of a unified landmass. Over time, these regions gradually drifted apart, leading to the emergence of separate continents and oceans.

12. Good morning, everyone.

As I analyzed the assigned texts, namely "Lost Spring," "The Last Lesson," and "Going Places," I noticed that the portrayals of young children highlight various aspects of their experiences in society. These portrayals shed light on the following themes:

Making the optimum use of constrained opportunities:

In "Lost Spring," Saheb, a rag-picker, exemplifies the ability to make the most of limited opportunities. Despite his challenging circumstances, he shows resilience and resourcefulness by finding ways to earn a living and support his family. This portrayal highlights the importance of seizing even the smallest opportunities and making the best of them.

The cause of our sadness due to imaginary expectations:

In "The Last Lesson," Franz, a truant schoolboy, experiences sadness when he realizes that he took his education for granted. He had imagined that he would always have the opportunity to learn, but the sudden imposition of a new language law shatters his expectations. This portrayal reminds us of the sadness that can arise when our imaginary expectations clash with reality.

Not giving up and winning over fear after an awful experience:

In "Going Places," Sophie, a romantic dreamer, faces disappointment when she realizes that her aspirations of traveling the world are limited by her circumstances. However, she does not give up on her dreams and finds solace in her imagination and the power of books. This portrayal emphasizes the importance of resilience and determination in overcoming setbacks and pursuing our goals.

William Douglas' *Deep Water* shows how he was successful in conquering fear. Even after having a dread of water that haunted him since childhood, he decides to face his. His further attempts to get over the fear, demonstrate his guts and willpower. This gives a message that one must get above their fear.

These portrayals also highlight the importance of **understanding the value of our privileges**. In "Lost Spring," the contrast between the lives of the child laborers and our own privileges, such as education and a loving family, reminds us to appreciate what we have without taking it for granted. It is essential to recognize and acknowledge the advantages we possess and use them to make a positive impact on society.

To conclude, the portrayals of young children in "Lost Spring," "The Last Lesson," and "Going Places" offer diverse experiences and insights. They highlight the significance of making the most of constrained opportunities, the impact of imaginary expectations on our emotions, the importance of not giving up and overcoming fear, and the value of understanding and appreciating our privileges. These themes serve as valuable lessons for us all, encouraging us to navigate life's challenges with resilience, gratitude, and determination.

Thank you.

OR

Rashmi: How can one compare a mother's face to a corpse? And do you really think, Rehaan, that in today's world of Instagram story updates, one can ever be in a state of total inactivity as urged by Neruda in his poem *Keeping Quiet*?

Rehaan: I think Kamala Das's comparison of her mother's face to a corpse is a metaphor for the aging process. It's a reminder that life is fleeting and that we should cherish the moments we have with our loved ones. As for Neruda's poem, I think he's urging us to take a moment of silence and introspection to connect with ourselves and the world around us. In today's world, where we are constantly bombarded with information and distractions, it's more important than ever to take a step back and reflect.

Rashmi: But how can we be in a state of total inactivity when our existence is judged by how "active" we are on social networking sites? We are expected to constantly update our profiles, share our thoughts and opinions, and engage with others. It's like we're always "on," and there's no time for quiet contemplation.

Rehaan: I understand what you're saying, Rashmi, but I think there's a difference between being "active" on social media and being truly engaged with the world around us. We can use social media as a tool to connect with others and share our ideas, but we should also take the time to disconnect and reflect. In Neruda's poem, he talks about the importance of "not doing" and just being present in the moment. It's a reminder that sometimes, the most meaningful experiences come from just being still and observing.

Rashmi: I see your point, Rehaan. Maybe we need to find a balance between being "active" on social media and taking the time to disconnect and reflect. And Kamala Das's poem is a reminder that we should cherish the moments we have with our loved ones, even if they are fleeting.

Rehaan: Exactly. Life is short, and we should make the most of it. We can use social media to connect with others, but we should also take the time to be present in the moment and appreciate the world around us.

Rashmi: Thank you for sharing your perspective, Rehaan. It's given me a lot to think about.

Rehaan: Anytime, Rashmi. It's always good to have a meaningful conversation.

13. *The Importance of Humor in Life*

A sense of humor helps us deal with problems in life and improves one's mental and physical health. The story "The Tiger King" by Kalki is a perfect example of how humor can add a light-hearted touch to serious themes, making them more engaging and memorable. The humorous dialogue, "Your Majesty, I have two wives already. If I marry you..." not only adds comic relief but also captures the readers' attention, making the story more enjoyable.

Mental and Physical Health Benefits

- Laughter triggers the release of endorphins, the body's natural feel-good chemicals. Endorphins promote an overall sense of well-being and can temporarily relieve pain.
- Laughter improves the function of blood vessels and increases blood flow, which can help protect against heart attacks and other cardiovascular problems.
- A good laugh can help reduce anxiety and depression, making you feel happier and more relaxed.

Social Benefits

- Sharing a laugh with others can strengthen relationships by fostering emotional connections and creating a sense of camaraderie.

- Humor can be a powerful tool in communication, helping to break the ice, ease tension, and convey messages more effectively.

Coping with Challenges

Humor provides a way to cope with difficult situations. It allows us to view challenges from a different perspective, making them seem less daunting. In "The Tiger King," the humorous elements help to lighten the narrative, making the serious undertones more palatable and engaging.

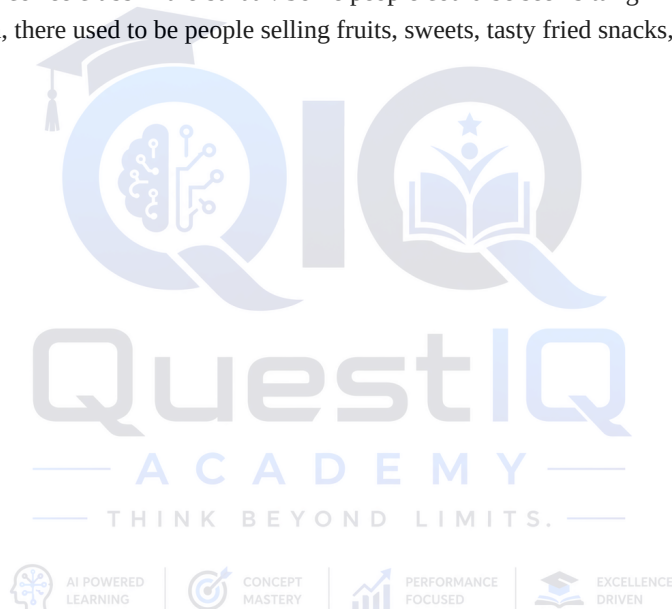
Encouraging Creativity and Problem-Solving

Humor encourages creative thinking and problem-solving by allowing us to see things from different angles. It helps us to think outside the box and come up with innovative solutions to problems.

In conclusion, by incorporating humor into our daily lives, we can navigate challenges more effectively and enjoy a happier, healthier existence.

OR

I still cherish the stroll from school to home that I enjoyed during my childhood. My home was hardly a ten-minute walk from my school. But it used to take almost half an hour for me to reach my home because I was riveted by all the fun and games in the streets. I used to see new or sometimes strange things happening there, and then there were the shops and the bazaar that I loved to see. Sometimes there would be a performing monkey or a snake charmer. Other times there would be the cyclist who had not got off his bike for three days. There were the spinning wheels. The Maariyaata temple was a great attraction. There used to be all sorts of shops and stalls. There used to be a hunter gypsy with a lemur in a cage, and people selling needles, clay pots, and instruments for cleaning ears. There used to be some political party arranging mikes. At times there I got to see a puppet or a magic show. There used to be coffee clubs in the bazaar. Some people could be seen sitting in front of the shops, chopping onions. Then, according to the season, there used to be people selling fruits, sweets, tasty fried snacks, payasam, halwa, boiled tamarind seeds, and iced lollies.



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