

Class XII | Session 2026-27
Subject - English Core
Sample Question Paper - Set 8

General Instructions:

1. Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:
2. This question paper has **13** questions. **All** questions are **compulsory**.
3. This question paper contains **three** sections - Section A : **Reading Skills**, Section B : **Creative Writing Skills** and Section C : **Literature**.
4. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
5. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
6. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A – READING SKILLS

1. **Read the passage given below:**

[12]

1. The role friends play in our lives has become significantly greater now than at any other time in our history. Today many of us live and work great distances from where we were born or have grown up & are separated from our original families. The pain we feel when we are away from our families can be significant.
2. The happiness of the individual relies on friendships that form a necessary human connection. It is perfectly normal to need and want friends and depression is more prevalent among those who lack friends. They lack the intimacy and richness friends can bring into our lives. Frequently friends reflect similar values to us. Yet these values are often different from the ones we grew up with; they are the values we created for ourselves in our adult lives.
3. Communication skills are fundamental in all friendships. The more friends and acquaintances one has, the greater are one's communication skills. Some call these, people skills.
4. Like watering a plant, we grow our friendships (and all our relationships) by nurturing them. Friendships need the same attention as other relationships if they are to continue. These relationships can be delightfully non-judgmental, supportive, understanding, and fun-filled.
5. Sometimes a friendship can bring out the positive side that you never show in any other relationship. This may be because the pressure of playing a 'role' (daughter, partner, or child) is removed. With a friend, you are to be yourself and free to change. Of course, you are free to do this in all other relationships as well but in friendships, you get to have lots of rehearsals and discussions about changes as you experience them. It is an unconditional experience where you receive as much as you give. You can explain yourself to a friend openly without the fear of hurting a family member. How do friendships grow? The answer is simple. By revealing yourself; being attentive; remembering what is most important to your friend and asking them

about it; put yourself in their position; showing empathy; seeing the world through the eyes of your friend, you will understand the value of friendship. All this means learning to accept a person from a completely different family to your own or perhaps someone from a completely different cultural background. This is why we have learned tolerance. In turn, we gain tolerance and acceptance for our own differences.

6. Friendships are made by being considerate which means all the communication skills come into play: active listening skills, questioning skills, negotiation skills, reflecting content skills, reflecting emotion skills and editing yourself.
7. Friendships offer a great opportunity to learn about yourself because a friend can reflect back to you 'how you come across in the world'. They also allow you to practice skills in dealing with 'personal boundaries' by looking after yourself as well as your friend. They help you develop resilience in relation to the wider society that would be beyond your family.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- i. Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option. **(1)**

Friends play a more significant role today than ever before because _____.

- i. In the modern world, people need someone to talk to
- ii. People are distanced from families
- iii. Pain caused by separation from families can be cured by friends
- iv. Having friends is the only way to go ahead in life

- ii. Comment on the writer's reference to friendship as essential human need in paragraph two. **(1)**

- iii. List the two ways how friendship is different from other relationship. **(2)**

(Clue: Think about the limitations of friendship)

- iv. Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'distance', from words used in paragraph five. **(1)**

- i. Empathy
- ii. Background
- iii. Tolerance
- iv. Rehearsal

- v. Which communication skills help in building friendships? **(1)**

- i. Active listening skills
- ii. Negotiation skills
- iii. Reflecting emotion
- iv. All of these

- vi. Friendships offer a great opportunity to learn about yourself. Based on your understanding of paragraph seven, state how friends help in reflecting yourself. **(2)**

- vii. How does friendship brings out a positive side of you? **(1)**

- viii. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following: **(1)**

We gain tolerance in our lives by _____.

- ix. How do friendships grow as suggested in paragraph five? **(1)**

- i. By revealing yourself
- ii. By being attentive
- iii. By showing empathy
- iv. All of these

QuestIQ
— A C A D E M Y —
— THINK BEYOND LIMITS. —



AI POWERED
LEARNING



CONCEPT
MASTERY



PERFORMANCE
FOCUSED



EXCELLENCE
DRIVEN

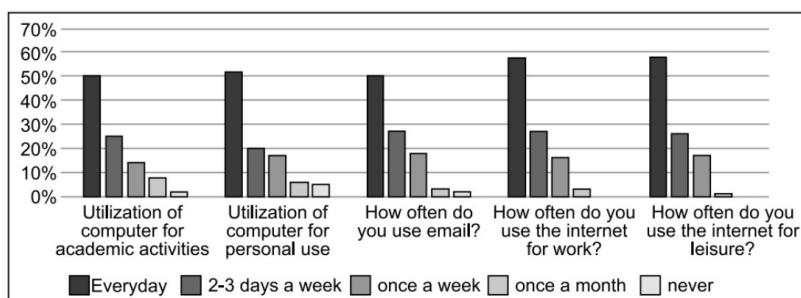
Powered by QualCrypt

x. How do friendships help in personal development? (1)

2. Read the following passage carefully :

[10]

1. The present generation is well-updated in the use of the Internet and computers. The rapid development in computer technology and the increase in accessibility of the internet for academic purposes has changed the face of education for everyone associated with it. Let's look at the data arising out of a recent survey that was done to ascertain the time spent on utilisation of the computer and internet:



2. At present, many schools and universities have been implementing internet-based learning, as it supplements conventional teaching methods. The internet provides a wide variety of references and information to academics as well as scientific researchers. Students often turn to it to do their academic assignments and projects.
3. However, research on the Net is very different from traditional library research, and the differences can cause problems. The Net is a tremendous resource, but it must be used carefully and critically.



4. According to a 2018 Academic Student Experience Survey, conducted by LJ's research department and sponsored by EBSCO, when reading for pleasure, almost 74% of respondents said they preferred print books for leisure whereas, 45 % of respondents chose e-books rather than the printed versions, for research or assignments.
5. When asked what e-book features make them a favourite for research, the respondents were clear. Having page numbers to use in citations, topped the list (75%); followed by the ability to resize text to fit a device's screen (67%); the ability to bookmark pages, highlight text, or take notes for later reference (60%); downloading the entire e-book (57%), and allowing content to be transferred between devices (43%) were the varied responses.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- i. Does the following statement agree with the information given in paragraph 4? (1)

About three-quarters of the respondents preferred print books for recreational reading.

Select from the following:

True - if the statement agrees with the information

False - if the statement contradicts the information

Not Given - if there is no information on this

- ii. Do you think the everyday usage of email is more than the everyday usage of computers for personal use?

Support your answer based on the given graphical representation of data in the passage. (2)

iii. "... but it must be used carefully and critically." The idea of being careful and critical while using the internet is mainly a reference to _____ (1)

- a. hardware malfunction
- b. troubleshooting
- c. virus threat
- d. plagiarism

iv. Complete the sentence based on the following statement. (1)

The respondents claimed that having page numbers for citations makes electronic books their preferred choice for research. We can say this because _____.

v. Based on the given graphical chart, select the option that lists the area of zero response from respondents.

(1)

- a. Using the internet for personal tasks once a month
- b. Daily use of the computer for academic activities
- c. Never using the internet for work and leisure
- d. Writing and receiving emails once a week

vi. The present generation is well-updated in the use of the Internet and computers. Give reasons for the recent transformation of education. (2)

vii. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option. (1)

Many schools and universities are currently using internet-based learning to _____ traditional teaching methods.

- a. discourage
- b. supplement
- c. protect
- d. dissuade

viii. Complete the sentence appropriately with one/ two words. (1)

The current times have seen a rise in the convenience of using the internet for _____.

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

3. As the Principal of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kanpur, write a notice in about 50 words informing the students of class XII that their Biology paper in the first term examination shall be conducted on 5th October instead of 29th September. Give a reason for the change. [4]

OR

You are Praveen/Prabha. As the secretary, Science Club of your school writes a notice informing students about an Inter-School Science Exhibition and encouraging them to participate in it.

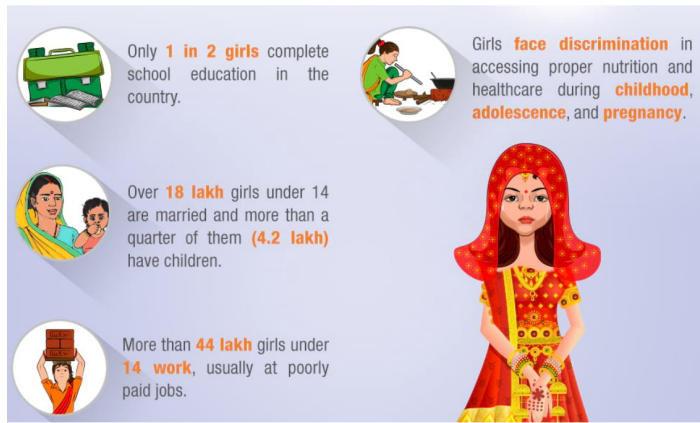
4. You are Sachin Bansal, the Head Boy of Springdales Public School, Gurgaon. Your school is holding an inter-school T-20 championship from 2 Oct. to 8 Oct 2018. Write a formal invitation to Sh. B.S. Bedi, the legendary cricketer, to inaugurate the championship on 2 Oct. 2018 at 10 a.m. at your school grounds. [4]

OR

Sunrise Global School, Agra is going to organise a one-act play competition in the school auditorium. You have decided to invite noted stage artist, Nalini, to grace the occasion. Draft a formal invitation for her in about 50 words. You are Karuna/Karan, Cultural Secretary.

5. Despite all the incentives the government is providing to encourage education of the girl child, the number of girls in the rural schools is not rising to the desired level. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily giving [5]

your views on the problem. List a few suggestions on how the situation can be improved. You are Rani/Raj, 121 Main street, Kanpur.



OR

You are Sudha / Sudhir resident of A-7, Shanti Park. You read the following advertisements in a newspaper.

SITUATION VACANT

I wanted a young and experienced graduate with fluency in English and Hindi to work as a receptionist at Customer Care booths of NCR Groups of Hotels, Delhi. Contact Manager along with your complete C.V. within 7 days of this advertisement.

Draft an application in response to the advertisement giving your detailed resume.

6. You are Astitva/Ashita. This year students of your school organized many campaigns to create awareness in society towards some of the rampant social evils. The efforts of your school were appreciated by the press and the public alike. Write an article on the Role of Students in National Development for publication in The Indian Express (word limit 150-200). [5]

OR

Write a report in 150-200 words for publication in your school magazine describing how the Teacher's Day was celebrated in your school. You are Priyanka/Piyush of XI A.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

7. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: T S. [6]

Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green,
They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.
Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
The massive weight of uncle's wedding band
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.

- Denizens of the world of green refer to _____.
 - huntsmen
 - Aunt Jennifer
 - uncle
 - tigers
- Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the second line of the extract.
 - heart of stone

- b. trees sprouting
- c. silver spoon
- d. white murder

iii. The men setting beneath the tree are _____.

iv. What quality of uncle can be inferred through these lines?

- a. compassionate nature
- b. courageous
- c. confident
- d. dominating

v. The tigers in the extract are symbolic of

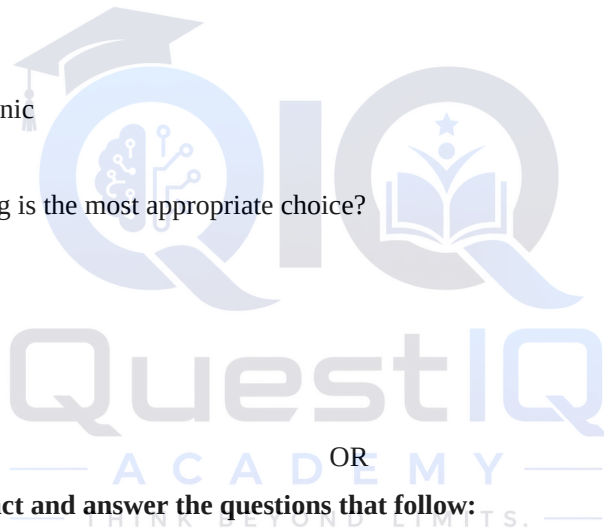
- a. creativity and courage
- b. confidence and gentleness
- c. cruelty and fear
- d. aggression and starving

vi. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across

- (1) the screen
- (2) the fields
- (3) the embroidered tunic
- (4) the cage

Which of the following is the most appropriate choice?

- a. (1) and (2)
- b. (2) and (4)
- c. (1), (2) and (3)
- d. (1) and (3)



OR

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

“A thing of beauty is a joy forever

Its loveliness increases, it will never

Pass into nothingness; but will keep

A bower quiet for us, and a sleep

Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.”

Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing

A flowery band to bind us to the earth

- i. How does a thing of beauty give us everlasting joy?
- ii. What is the effect of increase in its loveliness?
 - a. It gives a peaceful sleep.
 - b. It provides good health.
 - c. It allows quiet breathing.
 - d. All of these

iii. Which one example of the beauty of nature which the poet has given in these lines?

- a. A sound sleep



Powered by QualCrypt

b. Trees and gardens

c. A shady place

d. Mental peace

iv. The expression **pass into nothingness** implies that, beautiful things

a. never increase

b. create unhappiness among friends

c. always bring unhappiness

d. never fade away

v. The extract highlights the healing quality of the _____.

vi. Answer in one word/phrase.

The extract highlights the healing quality of the _____.

8. **Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:**

[4]

I got to wishing that you were right. Then I got to believe you were right. And, Charley, it's true; I found the third level! I've been here two weeks, and right now, down the street at the Daly's, someone is playing the piano, and they're all out on the front porch singing **Seeing Nelly Home**.

(i) What did the narrator come to believe?

(a) That Charley was wrong

(b) That he could not find the third level

(c) That Charley was right

(d) That he should go home

(ii) What activity is happening at the Daly's according to the narrator?

(a) A dinner party

(b) A piano performance and singing

(c) A game of cards

(d) A reading session

(iii) The narrator has been at the third level for _____ weeks.

(iv) What song are the people at the Daly's singing?

Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Derry : I....there....I thought this was an empty place. I didn't know there was anybody here....

Mr. Lamb : That's all right. I'm here. What are you afraid of, boy? That's all right.

Derry : I thought it was empty....an empty house.

Mr. Lamb : So it is. Since I'm out here in the garden. It is empty. Until I go back inside. In the meantime, I'm out here and likely to stop. A day like this. Beautiful day. Not a day to be indoors.

Derry : [Panic] I've got to go. (On The Face Of It)

i. Derry was stammering because of: (1)

A. a speech defect.

B. excitement.

C. anger.

D. fear.

ii. Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

Derry insisted on going back because _____.

iii. Mr. Lamb was trying to tell Derry that: (1)

- A. it was a matter of perception.
- B. Derry could stay with him.
- C. he spent all his days in the garden.
- D. he was fond of company.

iv. From the extract, one can infer that Mr. Lamb was a/an: (1)

- A. compassionate man.
- B. mysterious character.
- C. new neighbour.
- D. unreasonable man.

9. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

[6]

Trying to scare me, eh? Well, here's to you! Look! And off I'd go for another length of the pool. This went on until July. But I was still not satisfied. I was not sure that all the terror had left. So I went to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire, dived off a dock at Triggs Island, and swam two miles across the lake to Stamp Act Island.

i. Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately.

The author frowned at his _____.

- a. happiness
- b. pool
- c. old terror
- d. None of these

ii. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.

The author went to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire, dived into it from Triggs island and swam for two miles, up to Stamp Act island because _____.

iii. Select the suitable word from the extract to complete the following analogy:

Unhappy: Satisfied :: Uncertain: _____

iv. Rationalise, to support the given opinion:

The terror returned but the author exuded confidence.

v. Select the correct option to fill in the blank:

Going for another length of the pool shows that of the speaker was _____.

- a. determined
- b. adventurous
- c. courageous
- d. all of these

vi. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below

(1) Soon after the author was quite satisfied with his swimming perfection.

(2) The frowning went on until July and he was not sure that all the terror had left.

- a. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.
- b. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.
- c. (1) is true but (2) is false.
- d. (2) is the reason for (1).

OR

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

Presently, the landlords learned that Germany had developed synthetic indigo. They thereupon, obtained agreements from the sharecroppers to pay them compensation for being released from the 15 per cent arrangement.

The sharecropping arrangement was irksome to the peasants, and many signed willingly. Those who resisted, engaged lawyers; the landlords hired thugs. Meanwhile, the information about synthetic indigo reached the illiterate peasants who had signed, and they wanted their money back.

i. Who came to know that Germany had developed synthetic indigo?

- a. The peasants
- b. The British officials
- c. The landlords
- d. Gandhiji

ii. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.

The landlords obtain the agreements from the sharecroppers to _____.

iii. What happened when the information about synthetic indigo reach the uneducated peasants?

- a. They wanted partnership
- b. They wanted compensation
- c. They wanted their land back
- d. They wanted their money back

iv. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

(1) The British landlords found a cheaper alternative to German indigo.

(2) Chemical indigo was being prepared in Germany.

- a. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.
- b. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.
- c. (1) is true but (2) is false.
- d. (2) is the reason for (1).

v. Replace the underlined word with its antonym from the extract.

The sharecropping system was very helpful.

vi. **Those who resisted engaged lawyers; the landlords hired thugs** - Give one word for **thugs** that is implied in the given context.

10. **Answer any five of the following questions in 40-50 words each:** Powered by QualCrypt [10]

- (a) The iron master accuses the peddler of not being quite honest. What does the peddler say to justify the situation? [2]
- (b) What is the significance of the word **but** in 'but all I said was see you soon, Amma? (My Mother at Sixty-Six) [2]
- (c) What is the party in power keeping from these rural poor? (**A Roadside Stand**) [2]
- (d) How did Sophie's father react when Geoff told him about her meeting with Danny Casey? [2]
- (e) Why was the Moral Re-Armament army welcomed at the studio?(**Poets and Pancakes**) [2]
- (f) Did Umberto Eco consider himself a novelist first or an academic scholar? [2]

11. **Answer any two of the following questions in 40-50 words each:** [4]

- (a) What are the significant features of **Students on Ice Programme**? [2]
- (b) What dilemma did Dr. Sadao have about the white man? [2]
- (c) What happened to Gondwana 650 million years ago? [2]

12. In the story Lost Spring, Mukesh who is from a bangle-makers family, aspired to become a car mechanic when he was young, now he owns a shop and has hired workers under him in Firozabad. The local newspaper wants to cover his story under their weekly interview column **From Rags to Tags** where they share a real-life struggle story of a successful local figure. Mukesh faces an interview with the reporter. Taking a cue from the text, **The Interview**, create a conversation between the reporter and Mukesh presenting the details of the various aspects which contribute to a person's success. [5]

You may begin the conversation like this:

Reporter: Congratulations, Mukesh! You have achieved what you aspired for Please share with us your story of struggle that paved the way for your success.

OR

Like Stephen Spender, Pablo Neruda is also invited to Gemini Studios for their **Annual Poets' & Writers' Conclave**.

As Neruda, prepare a speech on **Art & The Contemporary World** referring to the extract from Keeping Quiet.

Those who prepare green wars,

wars with gas, wars with fire,

victory with no survivors,

would put on clean clothes

and walk about with their brothers

in the shade, doing nothing.

You may use the given value points to present a resolution:

- Exploitation of nature
- War for the territorial benefit
- Problems like Plastic Pollution, Ocean Acidification, and Deforestation
- Promoting brotherhood, peace, and unity

13. The king of Pratibandapuram was warned of danger from the hundredth tiger and so he kills them in order to avoid dying. In his tiger killing feat he used dewan at many places. [5]

As the dewan of Pratibandapuram, create a diary entry, as a testimony of your reluctant cooperation in the heedless tiger-killing episode due to your administrative limitations.

You may begin like this:

Being in an administrative position, I could be held equally responsible for the wrong done to the tigers and the people of Pratibandapuram by the most conceited king. The Tiger King had resolved...

OR

The incident of getting her hair shingled forcefully made Zitkala-Sa feel that she had ultimately submitted to her herders like a tamed animal.

Create a diary entry as Zitkala-Sa, expressing her feeling soon after the incident who is missing her mother badly.

You may begin like this:

I tried really hard today but I couldn't prevent this from happening...