

# D.A.V. INSTITUTIONS, CHHATTISGARH

## SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER 4 -2023-24

**CLASS: XII**

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH CORE**

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

### **General Instructions:**

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

### **SECTION A: READING SKILLS (22 marks)**

#### Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages

1. Read the following text.

12 M

1) The pandemic has forced schooling to move online, but the burden of digital inequality has fallen on the great majority of children who do not have access to smartphones, let alone laptops, or the internet. But is there no alternative to virtual classrooms? Several initiatives by teachers and communities demonstrate that it is possible for governments and communities to design solutions that take the last child along.

2) In Karnataka, the 'vatara shaale' model of community is quite popular. It is a model of community schooling where community spaces like temples, courtyards and prayer halls are used to teach children in small groups, with social distancing norms in place. It began when a group of government school teachers sought to create a pandemic classroom that was inclusive. Like in many states, only about 30 percent of children in the state have digital access. There are many other issues like caste and gender discrimination in the villages. This makes it highly possible that these young children from impoverished families get sucked into child labour or child marriage, thus painting a rather grim picture for the future of our country. In Sikkim, a Maths teacher's concern for the students of her village led her to visit them at their home for short lessons that ensure they don't fall off the learning grid. The local administration of a village in Bastar, Chhattisgarh, has allowed teachers to broadcast English lessons through loudspeakers. These states have devised learning programmes to adapt to the COVID-19 challenge.

3) These examples are indeed a glimmer of hope in our education system. They show that schools and teachers exist in a community and are more responsive to the needs of that community and are doing a fair job of universalizing education. Many teachers used the disruption of the pandemic to come up with solutions that are adapted to their environments and local needs. They have placed the concerns of children who might be left behind as their top priority, which is sure to benefit their students.

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**

- i. What does digital inequality mean? 1
- ii. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage? 1
- a) The government school teachers are untrained to cope with the pandemic situation
  - b) The government school teachers have come up with innovative techniques
  - c) Most students in the country have good digital access
  - d) Most teachers don't have access to smartphones so they use innovative methods
- iii. What will happen if the children do not meet the educational standards during the pandemic? 2
- iv. Which statement is false regarding community schooling? 1
- a) It refers to using communal places like temples and prayer halls for conducting classes
  - b) It refers to teaching children in small batches in a public place that is accessible to all
  - c) It refers to teaching children to ensure that they don't fall off the learning grid
  - d) It refers to teaching only those children who don't have smartphones
- v. Why are schools and teachers able to meet community requirements? 1
- vi. Which practices in rural areas are not that prominent in urban areas? 1
- vii. Which are the qualities of good teachers that are evident from the passage? 2
- viii. Which phrase can be used to refer to 'a grim picture'? 1
- a) A beautiful picture
  - b) An optimistic picture
  - c) An unpleasant picture
  - d) An elaborate picture
- ix. Which among the following is a wrong pair? 1

a) Respond-response

b) Disrupt-disruption

c) Polite-impolite

d) Include-inclusion

x. Which sentence does not correctly draw out the meaning of 'glimmer'?

1

a) The moonlight glimmered on the front lawn.

b) She saw a glimmer of light from her window.

c) The fans held on to a glimmer of hope till the very last over.

d) The glimmer of the powerful flashlight cut across the darkness.

2. Read the following text.

10 M

1.) Many of us believe that "small" means "insignificant". We believe that small actions and choices do not have much impact on our lives. We think that it is only the big things, the big actions and the big decisions that really count. But when you look at the lives of all great people, you will see that they built their character through small decisions, small choices and small actions that they performed every day. They transformed their lives through a step-by-step or day-by-day approach. They nurtured and nourished their good habits and chipped away at their bad habits, one step at a time. It was their small day-to-day decisions that added up to make tremendous difference in the long run. Indeed, in matters of personal growth and character building, there is no such thing as an overnight success.

2.) Growth always occurs through a sequential series of stages. There is an organic process to growth. When we look at children growing up, we can see this process at work: the child first learns to crawl, then to stand and walk, and finally to run. The same is true in the natural world. The soil must first be tilled, and then the seed must be sowed. Next, it must be nurtured with enough water and sunlight, and only then will it grow, bear fruit and finally ripen and be ready to eat.

3.) Gandhi understood this organic process and used this universal law of nature to his benefit. Gandhi grew in small ways, in his day-to-day affairs. He did not wake up one day and find himself to be the "Mahatma". In fact, there was nothing much in his early life that showed signs of greatness. But from his mid-twenties onwards, he deliberately and consistently attempted to change himself, reform himself and grow in some small way every day. Day by day, hour by hour, he risked failure, experimented and learnt from mistakes. In small and large situations alike, he took up rather than avoid responsibility.

4.) People have always marvelled at the effortless way in which Gandhi could accomplish the most difficult tasks. He displayed great deal of self-mastery and discipline that was amazing. These things did not come

easily to him. Years of practice and disciplined training went into making his successes possible. Very few saw his struggles, fears, doubts and anxieties, or his inner efforts to overcome them. They saw the victory, but not the struggle.

5.) This is a common factor in the lives of all great people: they exercised their freedoms and choices in small ways that made great impact on their lives and their environment. Each of their small decisions and actions, added up to have a profound impact in the long run. By understanding this principle, we can move forward, with confidence, in the direction of our dreams. Often when our “ideal goal” looks too far from us, we become easily discouraged, disheartened and pessimistic. However, when we choose to grow in small ways, taking small steps one at a time, performing it becomes easy.

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**

- 1) The main idea in the first paragraph is that 1
- a. Big things, big actions and big decisions make a person great
  - b. Small actions and decisions are important in one’s life
  - c. Overnight success is possible for all of us
  - d. Personal changes are not important
- 2) What does the writer mean by saying ‘chipped away at their bad habits’? 1
- a. Steadily gave up bad habits
  - b. Slowly produced bad habits
  - c. Gradually criticized bad habits
  - d. Did not like bad habits
- 3) Which of the following statements is true in the context of the third paragraph? 1
- a. Gandhi became great overnight
  - b. Gandhi showed signs of greatness in childhood itself
  - c. Every day Gandhi made efforts to change himself in some small way
  - d. Gandhi never made mistakes
- 4) What is done by great people to transform their lives? 1
- a. They approach life on a day-by-day basis

- b. They build character in small ways
  - c. They believe in performing everyday
  - d. All of these
- 5) Find out the word from the passage which mean ‘intentionally / purposely’ (para 3) 1
- 6) Sort out the odd one of the following words. 1
- a. discouraged,
  - b. disheartened
  - c. pessimistic
  - d. Optimistic
- 7) How do small actions and choices impact our lives? 2
- 8) How can we achieve our ‘ideal goals’? 2

**SECTION B: CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18 Marks)**

3 Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, in about 50 words. 4

A You are Secretary of Resident’s Welfare Society, Rajpura. Draft a notice in about 50 words to be put up on the noticeboard informing the residents about an emergency meeting to be held due to the sudden theft in your society.

**OR**

B You are Smrithi /Saran of Victoria Public School, Hyderabad. Your school is going to organise a Science Exhibition in connection with the death anniversary of Ramanujan. Write a notice not more than 50 words inviting students to participate in it. Provide all necessary details.

4 Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, in about 50 words. 4

A. You are Amanraj/Shreya, Secretary of your school Youth Club. You are organizing an inter school group song competition. Invite a prominent musician to act as one of the judges.

**OR**

B. You are Ranjit /Rani of 30, J. P. Nagar, Jalandhar. You have received an invitation from your friend to attend his Housewarming Ceremony. Write an informal reply to express your inability to attend the Ceremony.

5. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, in about 120-150 words.

5

A. You are Gaurav/Garima, 13, Vaishali, Delhi. Read the advertisement given below and write a letter to the advertiser, applying for the job. Also give your detailed resume which you would send along with your letter of application.

WISDOM PUBLISHERS LTD

10, SECTOR 24, FARIDABAD

Wanted Sales Manager

- Qualification: M. Com/ M B A

- Experience: 5 yrs for M Com; 2 yrs for MBA

-Competency: Knowledge of computers, finances and related commercial activities: salary commensurate with qualification and experience

Apply to the General Manager.

OR

B. You are Radhika /Rohit of 49 C, Indira Nagar, Delhi. Write a letter to the editor of Hindustan Times about 'Misuse of Computers, TV, and Mobile Phones by Children'.

6 Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, in about 120-150 words.

5

A. In spite of the best efforts of the government, all children of school going age don't go to school. Write an article about the need to ensure education to all children and the role of government and society in this matter. Write an article in 120- 150 words. You are Ram/Rina.

- Today's children tomorrow's citizens
- Human resource to be managed for welfare of the country
- Education – an element of change.
- Govt. policy of education to all, RTE, incentives and aids
- Lack of awareness among parents, poverty leading to child labour
- Efforts to create awareness about relevance of education as a ticket to future
- Joint efforts of Govt. and society.

OR

B. You are a reporter with India Today. You recently witnessed illegal trade of rare animals on some websites. Write a report about the same for your newspaper, using the following hints:

- directly threatening the survival of many species
- the largest direct threat to the future of many world's most threatened species
- balance of nature is disturbed

**SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 M)**

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two, given.

6

What I want should not be

Confused with total inactivity.

Life is what it is about;

I want no truck with death.

If we were not so single-minded

about keeping our lives moving,

and for once could do nothing,

perhaps a huge silence

might interrupt this sadness

of never understanding ourselves

and of threatening ourselves

with death.

1. Identify the incorrect statement from the following.

- a) The poet's attitude is positive
- b) Speaking different languages will cause misunderstanding
- c) The poet advocates total inactivity
- d) The poet wants us to keep still instead of doing one thing or the other

2. What does the poet mean by 'have no truck with death'?

- A) I have no association or deal death
- B) I will not die in the truck accident
- C) Remove the poverty and illiteracy

D) Will not drive a truck in the end

3. Which poetic device is used in 'Huge Silence'?

1. Alliteration
2. Transferred epithet
3. Pun
4. Metaphor

4. What can be a cure or an antidote to violent actions?

- (a) speaking practice
- (b) wise words
- (c) polished language
- (d) Practice of silence

5. What, according to the poet, would interrupt the sadness of man's life?

- (a) great laughter
- (b) huge silence
- (c) arguments
- (d) fights

6. How can we rectify the social problems, as in the poem 'Keeping Quiet'?

- (A) when we introspect and develop a feeling of understanding with each other
- (B) when we behave selfish
- (C) when we think about ourselves only
- (D) None of the above

**OR**

B. The flower of cities from sinking and withering faint.

The polished traffic passed with a mind ahead,

Or if ever aside a moment, then out of sorts

At having the landscape marred with the artless paint



1. Find out the figure of speech that matches the same as “polished traffic”

- a) flower of cities
- b) withering faint
- c) selfish car
- d) artless paint

2. What does ‘polished traffic’ mean?

- a) the old house
- b) Roadside Stand
- c) Luxurious vehicles
- d) the city traffic

3. Explain ‘out of sorts’.

- a) unhappy
- b) out of mind
- c) cheerful
- d) Bonhomie

4. Why are the travellers feel out of sorts?

- a) because the bread sold there were stinky
- b) as the landscape was spoiled with rustic painting
- c) the letters S and N were painted in reverse
- d) Both b and c

5. What does ‘passed with a mind ahead’ convey?

- a) the city people were rich
- b) city people were self-centered and did not think about others
- c) city dwellers were in a hurry to reach their destination
- d) both b and c

6. The word in the extract ‘withering’ means.

- a) decay
- b) admire
- c) encourage
- d) intended

8 Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two, given.

4

A. "You are well", Sadao agreed. He lowered his voice. "You are so well that I think if I put my boat on the shore tonight, with food and extra clothing in it, you might be able to row to that little island not far from the coast. It is so near the coast that it has not been worth fortifying. No body lives on it because in storm it is submerged. But this is not the season of storm. You could live there until you saw a Korean fishing boat pass by. They pass quite near the island because the water is many fathoms deep there.' The young man stared at him, slowly comprehending. 'Do I have to?' he asked. 'I think so', Sadao said gently. 'You understand- it is not hidden that you are here.'

(a) The arrangements of food and clothing by Sadao portrays him as

- i. A kind and compassionate person
- ii. An experienced sailor
- iii. A good event organizer
- iv. A good advisor

(b) 'not been worth fortifying' indicates that it \_\_\_\_\_.

- i. Has been left uncared for and neglected
- ii. Can be easily spotted
- iii. Will be easy for the white man to enter the place
- iv. Is dangerous to stay there alone

(c) The speaker's tone in the expression: 'Do I have to?' is

- i. Pleading
- ii. Commanding
- iii. Irritated

iv. fear and doubt

(d) 'But this is not the season of storm', Sadao tries to

i. Explain the situation

ii. Assure him of safety

iii. Educate him on climate

iv. Display his knowledge

**OR**

B. DERRY: What do you do all day?

MR LAMB: Sit in the sun. Read books. Ah, you thought it was an empty house, but inside, it's full. Books and other things. Full.

DERRY: But there aren't any curtains at the windows.

MR LAMB: I'm not fond of curtains. Shutting things out, shutting things in. I like the light and the darkness, and the windows open, to hear the wind.

DERRY: Yes. I like that. When it's raining, I like to hear it on the roof.

MR LAMB: So you're not lost, are you? Not altogether? You do hear things. You listen.

DERRY: They talk about me. Downstairs, When I'm not there

i) According to Mr. Lamb, what does the idea of being 'lost' signify?

a) He who does not hear what other people say is lost.

b) He who does not appreciate man and nature is lost.

c) He who does not pause to reflect on wind and rain is lost.

d) He who is closed off to Nature and its wonders is lost.

ii). Read the following analysis of Mr. Lamb's character based on the given extract. Choose the option that fills in the given blanks most appropriately: Mr. Lamb's (i) \_\_\_\_\_ and daily activities reflected the values he lived by and the kind of person he was. His openness, inquisitiveness, and his (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ to nature were embodied in his work and words. Being close to and experiencing (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ was not only significant to him, but was at the heart of finding meaning and (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ in life.

a) (i) preferences; (ii) attunement; (iii) nature; (iv) direction

- b) (i) choices; (ii) loyalty; (iii) the world; (iv) hope
- c) (i) words; (ii) attitude; (iii) gardening; (iv) worthiness
- d) (i) sermons; (ii) proximity; (iii) life; (iv) values

iii Choose the option that best describes the sequence of Derry's emotions in the above extract:

- a) shyness – friendliness – reluctant – acceptance
- b) inquisitiveness – nostalgia – mild- sadness
- c) curiosity – measured - delight – disappointment
- d) defiance – excitement – grouchy –insecurity

iv “You do hear things. You listen.” Choose the option that captures the difference between hearing and listening. hear: listen: \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_

- a) shut in: shut out
- b) smile: laugh
- c) act: reflect
- d) chance: attend

9) Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two, given.

6

A. The young girl opened the package, which was so badly done up that the contents came into view at once. She gave a little cry of joy.

(a) What is meant by ‘badly done’?

- (i) poorly packed
- (ii) unpleasantly done
- (iii) hatefully done
- (iv) unwillingly packed

(b) Why did she give a cry of joy?

- (i) because it contained surprise for her
- (ii) it was awfully packed
- (iii) because it contained a small rattrap and 10 kronor notes

(iv) because she was expecting the package

(c) Why did the contents come into view as soon as the package was opened?

(i) because it was neatly packed

(ii) because it was awkwardly packed

(iii) because it was not packed

(iv) because the girl opened it clumsily

(d) 'She gave a little cry of joy', the sentence shows that the young girl was feeling .....

(i) excited

(ii) sorrow

(iii) content

(iv) happy

(e) What Christmas present does the peddler leave for the old man's daughter?

(i) a necklace

(ii) a beautiful dress

(iii) a wedding ring

(iv) a rattrap

(f) Who is 'the young girl'?

(i) Savita

(ii) Edla Willmansson

(iii) Louisa

(iv) Sophie

OR

B. Gandhi never contented himself with large political or economic solutions. He saw the cultural and social backwardness in the Champaran villages and wanted to do something about it immediately. He appealed for teachers.

(a) What was Gandhiji's main concern?

- (i) his own political growth
- (ii) his desire for everyone's liking
- (iii) economic solution of any problem
- (iv) removing social and cultural backwardness

(b) What does Gandhiji's concern tell about his nature?

- (i) he was a sensitive person
- (ii) he was a selfless worker
- (iii) he was an attentive politician
- (iv) all of these

(c) Gandhiji appealed to the teachers because they \_\_\_\_\_

- (i) are the most intelligent community
- (ii) are the most vulnerable class
- (iii) can instil the lesson of cleanliness among villagers
- (iv) can easily be convinced for anything

(d) At which place did he want some development?

- (i) Champaran town
- (ii) Champaran village
- (iii) in all the villages
- (iv) in Bihar

(e) What never satisfied Gandhiji?

- (i) large political or economic solutions
- (ii) the British orders
- (iii) the landlords agreements
- (iv) the peasant's aggression

(f) Rewrite the sentence by replacing the underlined word with its synonym.

He appealed for teachers.

10. Answer **ANY FIVE** of the following six questions, in about 40-50 words. 5x2=10

- i “Ah how well I remembered it, that last lesson!” Why did Franz remember it well?
- ii What are the hazards of working in the bangle-making industry?
- iii When did the narrator develop his fear of water in ‘Deep Water’?
- iv What impression do the things of beauty make on us? Is it temporary or permanent?
- v Why did the make-up room look like a hair cutting salon? How did a person undergoing make-up feel?
- vi List the differences between the character Sophie and Jansie.

11. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. 2x2=4

- i. Why could Charley not be convinced by his distractions that the third level was only a wish fulfilment?
- ii Why did the Maharaja order the Dewan to double the land tax?
- iii What were Zitkala-Sa’s objections to the cutting of hair?

12. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. 5

A. The story ‘Deep Water’ has made you realize that with determination and perseverance, one can accomplish the impossible. Write a paragraph on how a positive attitude and courage will aid you to achieve success in life.

OR

C. Who is Umberto Eco? What are his achievements in the field of literature?

13. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. 5

A. The title “Journey to the End of the Earth” is quite justified.

Imagine yourself as Tishani Doshi, and express your thoughts about its justification.

OR

B. ‘Flattery is eating into roots of our society and polity.’ The Tiger King or the Maharaja pursue the same. Discuss with reference to the lesson, ‘The Tiger King’.