

CBSE CLASS 10 – ENGLISH LL Qs PAPER 2025 26

Series JMS/2

SET - 2

Roll No.

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Code No. **2/4/23**

Candidates must write the Code on the title page of the answer-book

General Instructions:

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

1. This question paper comprises 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper contains THREE sections -
 - Section - A : Reading Skills
 - Section - B : Grammar and Creative Writing Skills
 - Section - C : Literature Text Book
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE (184)

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 80

Section A - Reading Skills

1

Read the following passage:**[10]**

1. Mankind's fascination with gold dates back to the earliest civilisations. The ancient Egyptians held gold in high esteem. Gold had religious significance for them, and King Tutankhamen was buried in a solid gold coffin 3300 years ago. The wandering Israelites worshipped a golden calf, and the legendary King Midas asked that whatever he touched be turned into gold.
2. Not only is gold beautiful, but it is also virtually indestructible. It will not rust or corrode. Gold coins and products fabricated from the metal have survived undamaged for centuries. Gold is straightforward to work with. One ounce, which is about the size of a cube of sugar, can be beaten into a sheet nearly 100 square feet in size and becomes so thin that light can pass through it. An ounce of gold can also be stretched into a wire 50 miles long. Gold conducts electricity better than any other substance except copper and silver, and it is particularly important in the modern electronics industry.
3. People have always longed to possess gold. Unfortunately, this longing has also brought out the worst in human character. The Spanish conquerors robbed palaces, temples and graves and killed thousands of people in their ruthless search for gold. Even today, the economy of South Africa's gold mines depend largely on the employment of black labourers who are paid about 40 pounds a month, plus boarding and lodging. They work in conditions that can only be described as cruel. About 400 miners die in South Africa each year.
4. Much of the gold's value lies in its scarcity. Only about 80,000 tons have been mined in the history of the world. All of it can be stored in a vault 60 feet square, or a super tanker. Great Britain was the first country to adopt the gold standard, when the Master of the Mint, Sir Issac Newton, established a fixed price for gold in 1717. The discovery of gold in the last half of the nineteenth century in California (1848) and later in Australia and South Africa changed everything. Before the discovery, there wasn't enough gold around for all the trading nations to link their currencies to the precious metal.
5. An out - of - work prospector named George Harrison launched South Africa into the gold age in 1886 when he discovered the metal in a farm near what is now Johannesburg. Harrison was given a 12 pounds reward by the farmer. He then disappeared and was eaten by a lion.
6. One of the biggest gold mining areas in the Soviet Union is the Kolyma River region, once infamous for its prison camp. The camp has gone, but

in a way nothing has changed. Many ex - prisoners have stayed on to work in the mines and are supervised by ex - guards.

7. Despite the current rush to buy gold, 75 percent of the metal goes into making jewellery. Italy is the biggest consumer of gold for this purpose, and many Italian jewellers even tear up their wooden floors and burn them to recover the tiny flecks of gold. Historically, the desire to hoard gold at home has been primarily an occupation of the working and peasant classes, who have had no faith in paper money. George Bernard Shaw defended their instincts eloquently, "You have to choose between trusting the natural stability of the honesty and intelligence of the members of the government," he said "and with due respect to these gentlemen, I advise to vote for gold."

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

1. According to the passage, which of the following statements is NOT true? **(1 Mark)**
- a. Gold is the best conductor of electricity.
 - b. Apart from gold, copper and silver are good conductors of electricity.
 - c. Gold can be easily beaten, hence it is easy to work with.
 - d. Gold plays an important role in the modern electronics industry.
2. Based on your reading of the text, list 2 reasons why the writer says that, Not only is gold beautiful but it is virtually indestructible. **(2 Marks)**
3. How were the black labourers exploited? Answer in around 40 words. **(2 Marks)**
4. Select the text that displays what the writer projects, with reference to the following. **(1 Mark)**

The wandering Israelites worshipped a golden calf _____.

5. Complete the following with the phrase from paragraph 1: **(1 Mark)**

Opinion	Reason
	King Tutankhamen was buried in a solid gold coffin 3300 years ago.

6. Who launched South Africa into the gold age? **(1 Mark)**
- a. Issac Newton
 - b. George Harrison
 - c. George Bernard Shaw
 - d. A farmer
7. Select the option that corresponds to the following:

The ancient Egyptians and the modern electronic industry both hold gold in high esteem. **(1 Mark)**

- The hardworking student came first because of his diligent practice.
- Monesty is underrated whereas strategy is appreciated.
- The vibrant colours made the interiors look luminous.
- The steaming food was both appetizing and tasty.

8. Supply one point to justify the following:

The desire to hoard gold at home has been primarily an occupation of the working and peasant classes. **(1 Mark)**

2 **Read the following passage carefully:**

[10]

- Rotation of crops is a universal phenomenon which is practised by most of the farmers of the tropical and temperate countries. The main objective of rotation of crops is to obtain higher agricultural returns on the one hand, and to maintain the soil fertility on the other.
- In other words, the rotation of crops helps in making agriculture more sustainable. The importance of crop rotation is more in the areas where farmers grow two, or more than two crops in the same field in a year. Irrigation facilities have also been appreciably developed in the country during the last three decades. The availability of water to the arable land has helped in the intensification of agriculture.
- In the areas such as Punjab and Haryana, where the Green Revolution is a big success, one soil exhaustive crop (rice) is followed by another soil exhaustive crop (wheat). Subsequently, the field vacated by wheat is devoted to either rice or maize or cotton. Thus, in one year, the farmers are harvesting three soil exhaustive crops from the same field. Such a rotation of crops may fetch more income to the farmers, but depletes the soil fertility at a faster pace.
- A number of field studies were conducted to assess the traditional crop rotation pattern. One such field study about the changes in the rotation of crops was conducted in the village Banhera (Tanda), Haridwar district. The main rotation of crops of the village is shown in the table below.

Traditional Rotation of Crops (1960-65) in Banhera (Tanda)				
Year	Kharif (mid-June to mid-October)	Rabi (mid-October to mid-April)	Zaid (April to June)	No. of days land left fallow
1960	Millet/fodder/rice	Gram	Fallow	90
1961	Fallow	Wheat	Fallow	210
1962	Millet/fodder/rice	Gram	Fallow	90
1963	Fallow	Wheat	Fallow	210
1964	Millet mixed with urad/fodder/rice	Gram	Fallow	90
1965	Fallow	Wheat	Fallow	210

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage:

- Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of para 2. **(1 Mark)**

One of the reasons that there has been an intensification of agriculture in the country is the development of irrigation facilities is a/an _____ (fact/opinion) because it is a/an _____ (subjective judgement/objective detail).

- b. Based on your understanding of paras 1 and 2, state whether the following statement is true or false. **(1 Mark)**

If proper irrigation facility is provided, higher agricultural returns can be obtained by making crop rotation more sustainable.

- c. Justify the following in about 40 words. **(2Marks)**

Crop rotation may fetch more income to the farmers, but depletes the soil fertility at a faster pace.

- d. Based on the table, mention the years when the land was left fallow for maximum number of days. **(1 Mark)**
- e. The study conducted in village Banhera (Tanda) reflects that during the years 1960 to 1965, from April to June, the land was left fallow or uncultivated throughout. State any one inference that can be drawn from this. **(1 Mark)**
- f. Select the option that correctly states the significance of crop rotation as given below: **(1 Mark)**
- i. Crop rotation is done to obtain higher agricultural returns.
 - ii. Higher agricultural returns can be obtained by harvesting soil exhaustive crops.
 - iii. Crop rotation demands that land should be left fallow for a few months to increase the fertility of soil.
 - iv. Better irrigation facility to the arable land has helped in the intensification of agriculture.
 - v. If crops to be harvested are chosen wisely, crop rotation can help in maintaining fertility of soil.

Options:

- i. (1), (2) and (4) ii. (1) only iii. (3) and (5) iv. (1) and (5)
- g. Crop rotation is helping in making agriculture more sustainable. Mention one benefit and one drawback of crop rotation. **(1 Mark)**
- h. **Assertion (A):** Crop rotation helps in maintaining soil fertility and making agriculture more sustainable. **(1 Mark)**

Reason (R): In areas like Punjab and Haryana, growing multiple soil - exhaustive crops in the same field depletes soil fertility rapidly despite higher income for farmers.

A. Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

	<p>B. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).</p> <p>C. (A) is true, but (R) is false.</p> <p>D. (A) is false, but (R) is true.</p> <p>i. What is the main objective of crop rotation? (1 Mark)</p>					
	SECTION B GRAMMAR					
3	<p>Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed</p> <p>1. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter.</p> <p>Sir</p> <p>Enclosed is the report that _____ (summarize) the study conducted on the impact of climate change on crop yield in the region.</p> <p>2. Identify the error and supply the correction for the given sentence from an Art Exhibition invitation.</p> <p>Artisan Club invite you to Art and Soul: an art exhibition featuring artwork created by our budding artists.</p> <p>Use the given format for your response.</p> <table><tr><td>Error</td><td>Correction</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>3. Read the conversation and complete the sentence by reporting the reply correctly.</p> <p>Ankit: Where are you going? Atul: To the airport. Ankit asked Atul where he was going. Atul replied _____.</p> <p>4. He said, "I have often told you not to waste your time".</p> <p>Reported speech: _____</p> <p>a) He told that he had often told him not to waste his time. b) He said that he had often told not to waste your time. c) He said that he had often suggested to him not to waste his time. d) He said that he had often told him not to waste his time.</p> <p>5. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.</p> <p>Although she thought she knew _____ (many / much / whole)of the subject, the teacher asked a few details she hardly remembered.</p> <p>6. Identify the error and supply the correction for the following note in a mobile phone’s user guide.</p>	Error	Correction			[10]
Error	Correction					

To maintaining the water - resistant and dust - resistant features of your device, make sure that the SIM card tray openings are free of dust and water.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

7. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report:

Education plays a important role in building an individual's identity and personality.

Option no.	Error	Correction
A	plays	play
B	a	an
C	in	for
D	an	the

8. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete an online update:

The story has been _____ of proportion because of the aggressive reaction of the people.

a) blown out b) blown up c) blown d) blown in

9. Report the dialogue between father and son by completing the sentence:

Father: Which project did you enjoy working on the most.

Son: The one in which I had to build a remote control car.

In response to the question about his favourite project, the son said that _____.

10. Read the dialogue between a librarian and a student.

Librarian: Welcome back! It's good to see you, young man!

Student: Thanks! I was overloaded with assignments, so I have not visited the library this week.

Based on the conversation above, report the dialogue between a librarian and a student by completing the sentence.

The librarian greeted the student warmly, expressing pleasure at his visit. The student thanked her and explained that _____ which had limited his recent visits to the library.

Select the correct option from those given below:

- a) he had been overloaded with assignments
b) he has been overloaded with assignments
c) he was overloaded with assignments
d) he is overloaded with assignments

11. **Complete the line from a self - awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option.**

My Mother is not the sort of Mum

Who'll _____ and faint and shiver,

Darkness doesn't scare her,

When it thunders, she won't _____!

- a. be squealing, quiver
- b. squeal, be quiver
- c. squeal, quiver
- d. be squealing, have been quivered

12. Identify the error and supply the correction, for the following:

Government of Haryana

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

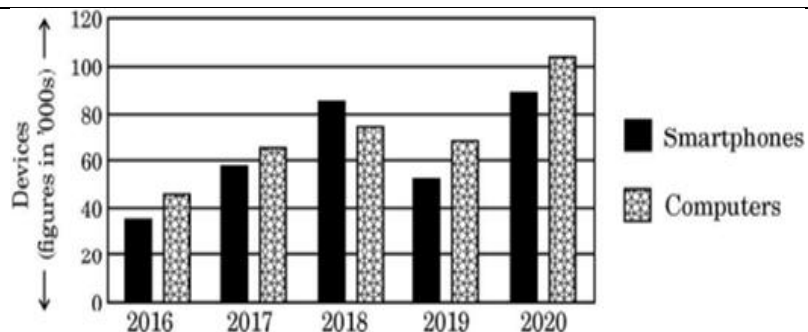
'Nagar Van' are being established for the objective to make the cities pollution free

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

- | | | |
|----------|--|------------|
| 4 | <p>The road that leads to your market is broken and full of potholes. Mosquitoes and flies breed there. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper drawing attention of the concerned authorities to get the road repaired. You are P.V. Prabhu/Prabha, 112, Aram Nagar, Delhi.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>You are Rohit/Riya of Hauz Khas, New Delhi. You bought a pair of shoes from M/s. Shoe Factory, GK - II, New Delhi. On unpacking them, you found to your amazement that both the shoes are meant for your left foot. Write a letter of complaint to the Manager of M/s. Shoe Factory asking for replacement at their cost. (Word limit: 100 - 120 words)</p> | [5] |
| 5 | <p>The bar chart below shows data about the number of digital devices purchased in Sahibabad across the years 2016 - 20. Write a paragraph analyzing the given data in 100 - 120 words.</p> | [5] |



OR

Read the following excerpt from a newspaper on the problem of car parking and its impact.

A survey conducted on the residents showed that car parking in colonies has risen due to an increase in the number of cars per family. This has resulted in ugly incidents of road rage. Most of the families revealed that they are facing multiple issues due to this situation. There is no place for visitors to park and residents themselves park their cars haphazardly. In addition there is an increase in commercial vehicles parked outside colony gates, thus blocking exits.

Write a paragraph in about **120** words to analyze the news clipping.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

6 **Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.** [5]

1. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Ausable moved to an armchair and sat down heavily. "I'm going to raise the devil with the management this time, and you can bet on it," he said grimly. This is the second time in a month that somebody has got into my room through that nuisance of a balcony!

- Who is Ausable?(1)
- Ausable's annoyance at the balcony when he says, "...nuisance of a balcony..." could be called fake. Why is it so?(2)
- Which word replaces 'sat down heavily' in the sentence - 'Ausable moved to an armchair and sat down heavily'?(1)
 - Dumped
 - Flumped
 - Pumped
 - jumped
- Delnaaz is a new tenant in her locality and Mrs. Mehta is the landlady. Choose the option that lists an action that would require Mrs. Mehta to 'raise the devil' with Delnaaz.(1)
 - She uses the elevator five times a day.

- ii. She feeds the stray dogs in the street.
- iii. She works late at night and stays home in the afternoon only.
- iv. She plays music louder than is necessary late into the night.

2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

All through the night, Lencho thought only of his one hope: the help of God, whose eyes, as he had been instructed, see everything, to even what is deep in one's conscience. Lencho was an ox of a man, working like an animal in the fields, but still, he knew how to write. The following Sunday, at daybreak, he began to write a letter which he himself would carry to town and place in the mail. It was nothing less than a letter to God. "God," he wrote, "If you don't help me, my family and I will go hungry this year. I need a hundred pesos in order to sow field again and to live until the crop comes because of the hailstorm..."

- a. Why Lencho thought only of his one hope: the help of God? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- b. Read the following descriptions (a) - (c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract. (1)
 - i. Lencho worked in fields like an ox of a man. He worked like an animal in the fields.
 - ii. Lencho became stressed and disappointed as everything went against the plan.
 - iii. He felt helpless as no corn had been left and feared, that they might have to starve this time.
- c. What would be the word if a word were to be replaced with the phrase 'the inner sense of right or wrong'? (1)
- d. Fill the blank with one word. Lencho wrote the letter to God, and he himself carried the letter to town and dropped in the _____. (1)

7 Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [5]

1. Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow:

The trees inside are moving out into the forest,
 the forest that was empty all these days
 where no bird could sit
 no insect hide
 no sun bury its feet in shadow

	<p>the forest that was empty all these nights</p> <p>will be full of trees by morning</p> <p>a. Complete the sentence appropriately.(1)</p> <p>It is clear that personification is the poetic device used for 'No sun bury its feet....</p> <p>b. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE. Also, provide an explanation. The extract uses trees as a symbol for conservative people.(1)</p> <p>c. Which of the following best describes the idea of a forest that has been 'empty all these days' is _____. i. Unnatural ii. Scary iii. Magical iv. legendary</p> <p>d. Which three things cannot happen in a treeless forest?(2)</p> <p>2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:</p> <p>Suddenly, suddenly they heard a nasty sound, And Mustard growled, and they all looked around. Meowch! cried Ink, and ooh! cried Belinda, For there was a pirate, climbing in the window.</p> <p>a. What can you infer from the repetition 'suddenly, suddenly' in the above extract?(1)</p> <p>i. There was an immediate change in the scene. ii. It focuses on the hasty attack and the loud noise. iii. It emphasises that an unexpected noise was heard. iv. It draws our attention to the loud cry that occurred.</p> <p>b. What did Mustard do when he heard a nasty sound?(1)</p> <p>c. Fill in the blank with one word. The rhyming scheme of the lines _____.(1)</p> <p>d. The poet could have included a burglar or an intruder in the poem, but chose to include a pirate. Explain this choice.(2)</p>	
8	<p>Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 50 words each.</p> <p>1. During our childhood in Goa, the baker used to be our friend, companion and guide. What does this statement imply in relation to the character of the baker? (Glimpse of India)</p> <p>2. Why do you think the tiger was stalking in the cage? What did it show?</p> <p>3. Why do you think Natalya Stepanova asked her father to call Lomov back when she heard that he had come with a proposal?</p>	[12]

	<p>4. Annie writes that it was fortunate that Mr. Keesing took the joke the right way. Why does she feel so?</p> <p>5. Evaluate the line - Some say the world will end in fire/Some say in ice - in the context of volcanic eruptions, forest fires, meteor collisions, melting ice caps etc. Answer in the context of the poem Fire and Ice.</p>	
9	<p>Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40 - 50 words.</p> <p>1. Why was Mr. Herriot tempted to keep Tricki on as a permanent guest? (A Triumph of Surgery)</p> <p>2. Do you think Bholi's father would have agreed to the match if her mother hadn't insisted upon it? Why/Why not?</p> <p>3. What did Griffin tell Mrs. Hall about his uncommon appearance?</p>	[6]
10	<p>Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100 - 120 words</p> <p>1. Imagine that the narrator shared his story with friends and family once he got home. One of them, a spiritual leader, decided to incorporate the story as part of his weekly sermon to the congregation. Another friend, a psychologist, worked the story into his next lecture on survival instinct and crisis management. Do you think the two interpretations of the story would be different? If so, how? What insights might the narrator get about his mysterious experience, if he were to attend both the sessions? Answer in the context of the lesson Two Stories about Flying.</p> <p>2. What message does the poet give to the readers? Answer in the context of the poem Fire and Ice.</p>	[6]
11	<p>Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100 - 120 words.</p> <p>1. Madam Forestier writes a diary entry after having met Matilda, knowing the truth and seeing the transformation in her friend. Write a short diary entry as Madam Forestier about your encounter and how you felt. You may begin like this.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>20th July, Monday 9:00 pm I couldn't recognise Matilda at all. I wish she had told me the truth about the necklace.</p> </div> <p>2. Hari's character evolves from being deceitful and opportunistic to remorseful and seeking redemption. In the light of the above information, describe how his decision to return the money signifies a moral awakening in him and a newfound appreciation for Anil's kindness and mentorship. (The Thief's Story)</p>	[6]

ALL THE BEST



— SCHOOL SECTION —

CIDCO BRANCH

9168 444 999

1ST FLOOR, INFRONT OF BALIRAM PATIL SCHOOL

HARSUL-SAWANGI BRANCH

9168 044 999

1ST FLOOR, INFRONT OF PANAD SUPER MARKET