

Solution
PRELIMINARY EXAM - 4
Class 10 - English Communicative (101)
SECTION A : READING SKILLS (22 marks)

1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

D.1 Koko Village, Nigeria

Mr. Sunday Nana, his wife and four small children live in Koko Village, Nigeria. The village is like any other African village-picturesque, colourful and noisy. The Nana family's house, too, is the same as all the other houses in the village, with mud walls and a rusting corrugated iron roof and with children and chickens sharing the compound.

There is one difference, however. Outside Mr. Nana's front are three large empty metal drums, the bright red paint now flaking away, but the skull and crossbones symbol clearly visible on each. And in a clearing 200m away from the village, next to a stream that the villagers get their drinking water from, is an enormous pyramid of identical drums, reaching to the sky. Some of them are badly corroded, their slimy contents of various colours - grey, dark green, bright orange, etc. - leaking out, down, on to the baked African earth and into the stream. Some have fallen down and rolled - or been rolled by playful children - into the bush. Some are smoking in the midday heat. Some are swelling, as if their contents are bursting to get out. Some have already burst.

"They came on a Wednesday", said Sunday, "Many, many big lorries". They took all day unloading them. No-one told us what was in them. They gave the Chief a brown paper bag-I saw him smiling as the lorries drove away. This was five years ago. Then three months ago, one of the brightest boys in the village-Thomas Agonyo - started university in Lagos. He came home one weekend with a new Chemistry book and spent all day looking at the drums and writing things down and talking to himself and shaking his head. We all thought he had gone mad. Then he called a meeting of the village and told us that the drums contained poisonous chemicals. He said they had come from Italy. But I don't know where that is. Is it in Europe?

Mr. Sunday Nana stopped, frowning, a troubled look on his face, "In the last five years, 13 people have died in this village, my own elder brother being one of them. They have been in pain, terrible pain. We have never seen deaths like that before. Lots of our children are sick. We have asked the government to take the drums away, but they do nothing. We have written to Italy, but they do nothing. The Chief says we should move our houses to another place. But we have no money to buy land. We have no choice. We have to stay here. And they" ... pointing to the mountain of death in the clearing - "are our neighbours".

D.2 Ponnimanthuri Village, India

"I can remember the time." she said wistfully, "when all the fields around this village were green and the harvests good. Her outstretched arm described a complete circle as she stood in the morning sun. Then they built those monsters, those...". Her voice spluttered in anger as she shook her fist at a collection of ominous-looking black buildings on the horizon, covered in a low-lying shroud of thick smoke. "They said that factories need leather to make shoes, handbags and clothes. They said our menfolk would get jobs. They said we would all become rich." We stood silent, each thinking our own thoughts. Yes, they told you all that. But there is so much they didn't tell you. They didn't tell you that to change animal skins into leather - which they call tanning - uses as many as 250 different chemicals, including heavy metals such as cadmium, arsenic and chromium. They didn't tell you that these chemicals are discharged into the environment from those chimney stacks and fall to earth for miles around, polluting the earth below. They didn't tell you that this would poison your fields, so that nothing will grow.

"They didn't tell us that the chemicals would be dumped in open fields and into our rivers", sighed Vijayasama. We had been thinking the same thoughts. "They didn't tell us that our women would have to walk ten kilometers every day. They didn't tell us that we would get ulcer and sores on our bodies. They didn't tell us..." Her voice trailed off. There is so much they didn't tell you, I thought.

"We don't buy leather shoes or leather handbags or leather clothes", she said.

(MCB Theme: Environment)

(a) **(d)** Both (a) and (c)

Explanation:

(b) The 'three large, empty metal drums' outside Mr. Nana's front door were brought by some people and left there. Neither Mr. Nana nor anyone else in the village knew what to do with it and hence, kept them where they were.

(c) **(b)** Poisonous chemicals

Explanation:

Poisonous chemicals

(d) **(d)** Nostalgic

Explanation:

Nostalgic

(e) The monsters are large ominous looking buildings on the horizon giving out black smoke. These are factories that need leather to make shoes, handbags and clothes. They are called monsters because they have destroyed the landscape.

(f) discharged

(g) The chemical used in the leather factories were dumped in the open fields and rivers.

(h) 250

(i) Mr. Nana

2. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

Read the following telephonic conversation between Nidhi and Ayushi.

Nidhi: Hello Ayushi, how're you doing?

Ayushi: Hello! I am good. How about you?

Nidhi: I'm fine too. How're you coping with Delhi pollution?

Ayushi: It's really terrible, especially in winter months. I recently bought a pollution mask to mitigate the effect of pollution, but you can't wear it all the time. But what to do at home?

Nidhi: Air purifiers. Don't they work well?

Ayushi: They do, but they aren't affordable for everyone. Moreover, would you want to run them for so many hours every day and for so many months?

Nidhi: You've got a point. I'm also planning to buy a pollution mask. What would you recommend?

Ayushi: I bought an N99 mask which cost me just over INR 2,000/. I've tried the cheap ones as well - the ones that cost 15-20 rupees a piece - but they actually turn out to be more expensive.

Nidhi: More expensive? How?

Ayushi: The cheap ones can at best be used 2-3 times. Whereas, the one I'm using can be used for a few hundred hours. So the cost of cheap ones add up fast. But more importantly, the cheap one's aren't as effective as the N99 I'm using to filter the pollutants. That's critical, right. What's the point of using a mask if it's not filtering the harmful pollutants?

Nidhi: Agree. Anything else on pollution masks?

Ayushi: Prefer a mask with exhalation valves. Valves help you exhale easily, especially when you're out of breath after walking fast or climbing stairs, and prevent buildup of moisture.

Nidhi: We've been breathing the toxic air for the last few years. Do you see any abatement in pollution levels in the near future, say this winter?

Ayushi: I think it'll be marginal at best. Vehicular pollution can be controlled by taking the fuel-efficient, polluting old vehicles off the roads, but how will it happen? Who is going to bell the cat to control stubble burning in the neighbouring states? Construction activity is probably the easiest of the three to control.

Nidhi: I agree with your points, but I think citizens too have some role in curbing pollution.

Ayushi: Yes, of course. Citizens can play an important role too. We can stop or report people from burning polythene bags and other hazardous waste in water. We can also report construction activities in our neighbourhood during the period it is banned.

Nidhi: True. What we often don't pay attention to is the fact that pollution, especially in the winter months is not just a Delhi phenomenon. It grips most of North India. In fact, the Air Quality Index (AQI) of smaller cities such as Gwalior, Agra and Lucknow often gets worse than Delhi's, and they don't get the same coverage in the national media as big cities like Delhi do.

Ayushi: You've summed up the state of affairs quite well. Let's hope things improve.

Nidhi: Hope so. Come over to my place for dinner on the weekend.

Ayushi: Sure. I will be there to enjoy your company. Bye, see you soon.

Nidhi: Bye!

(a) Ayushi is right in preferring N99 masks over the cheap masks because:

- an N99 mask costs her over INR 2,000 but she can use it for multiple times, i.e., a few hundred hours, whereas the cheap ones that cost 15-20 rupees a piece can be used only for 2-3 times. Thus, the cheap ones actually turn out to be more expensive.
- the cheap masks aren't as effective as the N99 masks because they do not filter the harmful pollutants.

(b) **(c)** They are expensive

Explanation:

They are expensive

(c) Ayushi would adopt the following measures to keep her colony pollution free:

- She would stop or report people from burning polythene bags and other hazardous waste in the colony in winter.
- She would also report construction activities in her neighbourhood during the period it is banned.

(d) **(c)** Construction activity

Explanation:

Construction activity

(e) valves in masks help a person to exhale easily, especially when one is out of breath after walking fast or climbing stairs, and prevent buildup of moisture.

(f) Ayushi predicts that there would be only a marginal decrease in pollution level in the city.

(g) Nidhi doesn't have a problem-solving approach as she only mentions the problems related to air pollution and asks for the solutions from Ayushi. She only has queries about masks, pollution, etc. but does not offer any solution to combat the problem of air pollution in the city.

(h) **(c)** The Air Quality Index (AQI) of Gwalior and Agra is always better than Delhi's.

Explanation:

The Air Quality Index (AQI) of Gwalior and Agra is always better than Delhi's.

SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS (22 marks)

3. To

The Principal

SKV School, Naraina, New Delhi

Sir

With due respect, I beg to say that I have an urgent piece of work at home. So, I cannot attend school today. Kindly grant me leave for today only.

Thanking you

Yours obediently

Sunidhi / Suresh

VII A

4.

Wrist Watch

A wrist watch is a small instrument to show time. It is so designed that it can be fastened around the wrist. There are markings or numbers from 1 to 12 to give us a sense of time.

On its dials it has two hands, pointed needles to show the hours and the minutes. Sometimes watches also have a hand to show seconds. The dial is covered with a glass.

There is a small knob attached on the exterior of the dial to bind the watch and set the time in mechanical watches. However, in electronic watches the knob is multi-functional. In such watches, a battery cell provides the energy and a quartz crystal functions as the timing device. Electronic watches are available in both analog and digital displays. These days there are innumerable brands of watches available according to choice and budget.

5. D-25, Anand Sector

Hyderabad

3rd January 2018

The Editor

The Daily Times

Hyderabad

Sir,

Subject: Poor Living Conditions of Child Labourers

I shall feel grateful if you allow some space to my views in your esteemed newspaper. I want to draw the attention of the concerned authorities and the public towards the problem of child labor in our country. The problem of child labor has become very serious. Children are forced to work under very inhumane conditions. They are forced to work for very long hours, but paid very poorly. They are not provided even the basic facilities at their places of work. Moreover, there is a total lack of sanitation, safe drinking water, and proper lighting. Children fall victims to many diseases.

These children are deprived not only of basic education but also of entertainment. Childhood becomes drudgery for them. The government has already framed laws which prevent employing children in factories and other places of work but like all other laws, these laws are on paper only. The concerned authorities turn their faces away from this evil.

It is the moral duty of all of us to fight against this evil whole-heartedly. Young children can take the lamp in their hands to educate some of such children. Social organizations should come forward to eradicate this evil.

We can do a lot to stop this and we need to do that. It is so easy to help you can just easily spread the word of child labour. You can also donate to charities that fight to stop child labour like for example Kids Can. So spread the word stop child labor once and for all.

I hope this enlightened everyone who read this to the horrible thing that is child labor and I hope that you fight to stop it.

Yours truly,

Rajan Sharma.

OR

Ankit/Ankita

PO Box 25415

Bangalore

29th April 2022

The Director

Scaler Data Science Center

Bangalore

Subject: Inquiry about course details

Sir/Ma'am,

I am writing this letter to inquire about the eligibility criteria, duration, fee, scholarship and placement opportunities for the Data Science course offered by Scaler Data Science. My name is Ankit/Ankita and I am very interested in pursuing a career in data science. I believe that Scaler Data Science would be the ideal place for me to learn the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in this field.

Could you please provide me with the eligibility criteria for the Data Science course? I am also curious to know about the duration of the course and the fees involved. Additionally, do you offer any scholarships or financial assistance to students who demonstrate exceptional merit or financial need?

Lastly, I would appreciate it if you could provide information about the placement opportunities for students who successfully complete the course. It would be helpful to know about the companies that typically hire graduates from your program and the salaries they can expect to earn.

Thank you for considering my request. I look forward to hearing back from you soon.

Yours faithfully

Ankit/Ankita

6.

Return of the Cheetahs

by Bela/Bhanu

In the time when the world is all focused on preservation and conservation ideas regarding the flora and fauna, environment and ecological balance of the world, the return of the Cheetahs is a great milestone.

The return of the Cheetahs, will help, in the restoration of open forests and grassland ecosystems in India which will further help maintain the ecological balance of nature. Cheetahs also keep the food chain in place. The big cat typically hunts the weak and slowest of several species of animals. If cheetahs no longer existed, there would be too many herbivores resulting in loss of vegetation, greater soil erosion, less available water and a negative impact on the health of the ecosystem. To conclude, when a healthy environment is maintained, the world becomes a better and a happy place for all.

OR

Decline of Tiger Population in India

by Ambika Shukla

Humans are greedy and selfish and are always worried about the fulfillment of their own wants. That is the primary reason why we are losing our wildlife day by day. The recent killing of Avni, the tigress which had two 10-month-old cubs is a case in point. As the demand is rising, illegal killing of animals is increasing in national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and biosphere reserves with the connivance of local officials. India has already lost a major tiger population due to human encroachment, illegal wildlife trade, diseases, deforestation and loss of habitat and the remaining population is under threat due to the lack of awareness, greed, corrupt authorities and commercial tourism.

Thus, many wild animals are now on the verge of extinction. The ecological balance has been disturbed due to this continuous killing of wild animals. The entire ecosystem of forests has been destabilised due to such large-scale killings. Even local people who are dependent on forests for their livelihood are suffering.

Many organisations are working in this regard to protect and preserve tigers. More awareness should be created among the public so that people would neither buy nor sell products made from parts of wild animals. Further, the culprits should be legally penalised by the concerned authorities.

SECTION C : GRAMMAR (10 marks)

7. (a) in, (b) reduce, (c) as

8.	Before	Omitted	After
(a)	I	could	trick
(b)	okay	after	surgery
(c)	I	had	to
(d)	way	to	prove

9. Do as directed.

- (a) He had to hurry up home to dry his money.
- (b) (a) she had visited Kashmir with her parents, (b) it had been her first trip

SECTION D : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK (26 marks)

10. Read the given extract and answer the questions briefly, for any two extracts of the three, given.

- (a) a. After taking a break, the snake again drank some more water.
b. The snake was earth-brown or earth-golden in colour.
c. It had come from the hot interiors of the earth's soil.
d. The poet has made a reference to the volcanic eruption that had happened in Sicily, perhaps on a similar day in July that had resulted in a lot of heat, fire and smoke being released from Mt. Etna, to emphasise the heat of the day.
- (b) a. The speaker of these lines is Brutus.
b. Antony is being granted permission to speak at Caesar's funeral.
c. The speaker, Brutus, is afraid that Antony may speak against Brutus and the other conspirators, so he warns Antony to speak only about Caesar and not about them at all.
d. From these lines we understand that the speaker, Brutus, is a fair man because he allows Antony to speak at Caesar's funeral, despite knowing that Antony was very close to Caesar.
- (c) i. 'Their', refers to the two young boys, Nicola and Jacopo.
ii. They were selling fruit, shining shoes, hawking newspapers, conducting tourists and even running errands.

iii. Their willingness to work was the most striking thing about them.

iv. They worked during summer days under the hot sun.

11. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 30- 40 words each

(a) Time had claimed the statue. Its trunk and hands were somewhere lost in the vast desert. Only the two legs and the fragmented face of the statue remained. It indicates that time is a destroyer. It can consume even the most colossal statues and the glories of great kings.

(b) It had been Ali's regular routine for the past five years to visit the post office, as he hoped to receive a letter from his daughter. But his bad health interrupted this routine. He had realised that his life was close to its end. Hence, he became impatient to know about his daughter's letter.

(c) The ghost of Helen had been sent to ask the narrator to make his wife give up using the Ouija board.

(d) When Naresh Dutt mistakenly called Patol Babu as Atul Babu, Patol felt awkward. For Patol, his name was much more than just a name as he was once a well-known name associated with acting and drama in Kanchrapara. Moreover, Naresh Dutt was the only person Patol Babu knew at the shooting location and he had visited him at his residence only a day before to offer him the role.

(e) Michael's dad was crazy about computers and couldn't resist buying new gadgets and gizmos that came into the market. He had Pentium 150 MHz processor complete with RAM, CD ROM, speakers, printers, modem and scanner. He had all the games: Tornado, MC Babash Black Belt, etc.

(f) Mrs. Slater speaks these words to her daughter Victoria. She is somewhat disturbed at the behaviour of her daughter and says that her grandfather is lying dead and still she goes out and plays. She wants Victoria to change into mourning dress.

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 150 words.

(a)

Age-Insensitive Behaviour in Modern Society

by XYZ

Our senior citizens should be given the respect and love they deserve. They battle many challenges in raising their children and devote their entire lives to raising and nurturing them. To provide their kids with a bright future, they compromise their pleasures.

Thus, when they grow old and are no more productive, it becomes the duty of their children to look after them and support them both physically and morally. They should not be left alone and feel helpless and unwanted.

However, the pressures of modern society have made the new generation totally insensitive to the needs of the elderly. People consider their parents a tiresome burden at this time. The old are treated as servants and everyone wishes them to depart from this world, leaving their possessions behind to be enjoyed by their children. Modern-day society has become materialistic and pretentious as the values are dying down.

It is time to preserve our values and restore our moral outlook by taking care of our elders in their old age. In this way, we can make the remaining days of their lives happy.

(b)

Impact of Hunting on Environment

by Ankit Mane

Animals have the same rights to life and freedom as humans have, so killing them is inhumane. Like humans, they too are living beings with feelings and misery. 'Mrs. Packletide's Tiger' is a narrative about big game hunting. It is utterly wrong to hunt and kill helpless animals for sport, and bravery, or to use their skin and claws.

Killing animals for social advancement or enjoyment only is the worst kind of cruelty. Such killings throw off the ecological balance.

Additionally, killing animals has an impact on the biosphere, the ecosystem, and the natural order. It has an impact on other animals and plants and decreases the population of a specific animal species. Moreover, it disrupts the migration and hibernation of the animals. We should, thus, ban the killing of animals, and make every effort to increase their numbers.