

STD : X CBSE

PRE EXAM - IV

TIME : 3:00 Hrs

SUB : ENGLISH LL (184)

DATE : 19th January, 2026

MM :80

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.

Section A - Reading Skills

1	Read the following passage: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The growing preference for indigenous craft items is a welcome trend in today's globalised world, where mass - produced goods often dominate markets. These handcrafted products, rooted in the cultural and artistic traditions of their regions, offer more than just aesthetic appeal. They symbolise sustainability, support local economies, and preserve the heritage of diverse communities. 2. One of the primary reasons for choosing indigenous crafts is their eco - friendliness. Unlike factory - made products, most traditional crafts are created using natural, locally sourced materials. Artisans often employ time - tested methods that minimise waste and avoid harmful industrial processes. For example, pottery made from local clay, handwoven textiles using organic dyes, and bamboo - based crafts all have a much lower environmental footprint compared to their machine - made counterparts. By opting for these items, consumers indirectly contribute to reducing pollution and promoting sustainable practices. 3. Supporting indigenous crafts also strengthens local economies. Many artisans depend solely on their craft for livelihood, often working in small communities where opportunities for other forms of employment are limited. When people purchase their products, it provides a direct income to these artisans, empowering them and encouraging their craftsmanship. Initiatives like fair trade further 	[10]

ensure that artisans receive fair wages, fostering economic stability within their communities.

4. Moreover, indigenous craft items help preserve cultural heritage. Every handcrafted product carries a story - a glimpse into the traditions, beliefs, and skills passed down through generations. In India, whether it's paintings, terracotta jewellery, sculptures, athangudi tiles, mud work frames or many others, each item reflects the unique identity of its region. By choosing these crafts, people not only appreciate the artistry but also help keep these traditions alive in an era where cultural homogenisation threatens diversity.
5. In addition to their economic and cultural value, indigenous crafts add a personal touch to homes and wardrobes. Unlike mass-produced items, which often lack individuality, handcrafted products are unique. Each piece bears the imprint of the artisan's effort, creativity, and dedication, making it special for the buyer.
6. However, the preference for indigenous crafts requires sustained efforts to thrive. Governments, organisations, and consumers all have roles to play. Policies that promote local craftsmanship, provide training to artisans, and create global platforms for showcasing their work can boost the visibility and demand for these products. Consumers, too, must actively seek out and invest in handmade crafts rather than opting for cheaper, factory-made alternatives. Choosing indigenous craft items is a meaningful step toward a more sustainable and culturally enriched world.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

1. Why is the growing preference for indigenous craft items described as a 'welcome trend' in paragraph 1? **(1 Mark)**
2. According to paragraph 1, the indigenous craft items have all of the following qualities EXCEPT being: **(1 Mark)**
 - A. handcrafted products
 - B. rooted in artistic traditions
 - C. aesthetic in appeal
 - D. easily accessible
3. Complete the following by selecting the correct option from those given in the brackets. **(1 Mark)**

The usage of locally sourced materials makes the indigenous crafts (traditional / eco-friendly). (Paragraph 2)

4. Select the option that is True from (a) - (c) given for what the phrase, 'time - tested methods' suggests in paragraph 2. **(1 Mark)**

A. Artisans use traditional techniques that have been refined and proven effective over generations

B. Artisans use outdated practices that are no longer relevant in today's commercial markets.

C. Artisans follow techniques that prioritise speed and mass production over craftsmanship.

5. Complete the analogy by selecting one of the two correct options (a), (b) **(1 Mark)**

1 fair trade: fair wages:: _____ : _____(Paragraph 3)

(a) employment: job security

(b) mass production : reduced prices

6. Why is supporting indigenous crafts considered an effective way to improve the economic conditions of small communities?(Paragraph 3) **(2 Marks)**

7. What are the main ideas of paragraph 4 and paragraph 5? **(1 Mark)**

i) Choosing indigenous crafts helps preserve cultural heritage

ii) Handcrafted products lack individuality.

iii) Indigenous crafts reflect the artisan's creativity.

iv) Indigenous crafts promote uniformity by erasing regional differences in artistic traditions.

v) Cultural homogenisation encourages people to choose indigenous crafts over mass-produced goods.

Select the correct option.

Options	Main idea of paragraph 4	Main idea of paragraph 5
A.	ii	iv
B.	v	ii
C.	i	iii
D.	iv	ii

8. Why is it important for consumers to take an active role alongside government and organisations in sustaining indigenous crafts?(Paragraph 6) **(2 Marks)**

1. A recent study conducted across two age groups - students aged 10 - 12 and 13 - 16 explored their preferences for ballpoint and micro - tip pens for various writing activities such as note - taking, examinations, and personal writing. The study aimed to understand trends in writing habits and the factors influencing pen selection among students.
2. The results revealed distinct patterns based on age groups and writing purposes. Among students aged 10 - 12, 65% preferred ballpoint pens for note - taking, citing ease of use and affordability as key factors. However, 35% opted for micro - tip pens, valuing their precision and smooth writing. For examinations, ballpoint pens were the overwhelming choice, with 78% favouring them for their speed and reliability, while 22% stuck with micro - tip pens, appreciating their fine control.
3. In the 13 - 16 age group, preferences shifted slightly. For note - taking, 60% favoured microtip pens, highlighting their ability to produce neat, legible notes, while 40% continued to use ballpoint pens. During examinations, however, 70% still relied on ballpoint pens, indicating their consistency under time constraints. When it came to personal writing, such as journalling or creative tasks, 58% in this group chose micro - tip pens, appreciating the aesthetic appeal of finer lines, while 42% stuck with ballpoint pens for their convenience.
4. These findings point to the importance of understanding age - specific preferences and task requirements, enabling manufacturers to innovate products. Manufacturers could further explore incorporating hybrid features, such as pens offering the speed of ballpoint pens with the precision of micro - tip pens, to cater to a wider range of student preferences.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above

1. Why did the study most likely focus on the two specific age groups of 10 - 12 and 13 - 16? (Paragraph 1) **(1 Mark)**
This is so because these age groups _____.
A. represent the largest population of growing students.
B. are when students develop and refine their writing habits.
C. were the easiest to survey across various schools.
D. have a natural preference for ballpoint pens.
2. Identify the phrase in paragraph 1 that conveys the writer's reference to the patterns or preferences observed in how students use pens for various writing tasks. **(1 Mark)**

	<p>3. Complete the following by selecting the correct option from those given in the brackets. (Paragraph 2) (1 Mark)</p> <p>Geetha, aged 11, wishes to complete her practical file neatly, ensuring her work is legible and appealing. She is most likely to choose a micro-tip pen for this task because the _____ (speed/precision) offered by this type of pen helps produce tidy work.</p> <p>4. What does the writer mean by 'affordability' while citing the high percentage of ball point pen usage? (Paragraph 2) (1 Mark)</p> <p>5. Complete the following with the correct option.</p> <p>When the writer says 'distinct patterns' in the line 'The results revealed distinct patterns based on age groups and writing purposes,' of paragraph 3, s /he means that _____. (1 Mark)</p> <p>A. students in both age groups use pens in the same way for all the listed purposes.</p> <p>B. the preferences for pens varied according to the students' age and the type of writing task.</p> <p>C. only micro-tip pens were popular across all writing tasks in the 13-16 age group.</p> <p>D. students of all age groups preferred ballpoint pens for completing creative writing tasks.</p> <p>6. Complete the following appropriately.</p> <p>The one likely reason why more than 40% of students still chose ballpoint pens for creative tasks, even though micro - tip pens are better suited for such activities is _____. (Paragraph 3) (1 Mark)</p> <p>7. How are 'aesthetic appeal' and 'finer lines' connected? (Paragraph 3) (1 Mark)</p> <p>8. Elaborate how hybrid features in pens would lead to a commercially viable product. (Paragraph 4) (2 Marks)</p> <p>9. Fill in the blank with ONE suitable word. (Paragraph 4) (1 Mark)</p> <p>Understanding age-specific preferences helps manufacturers design products that cater to the unique needs of different age groups, ensuring their products are both _____ as well as appealing.</p>	
	SECTION B GRAMMAR	
3	Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed	[10]

1. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter:

I _____ (entreat) you address this at your earliest convenience and issue the recommendation letters.

2. Identify the error and supply the correction for the given pop - up appearing on a website's home page.

This site use cookies. By continuing to use our website, you are agreeing to our privacy policy.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

3. **Read the conversation and complete the sentence by reporting the reply correctly.**

Liz: You might come to my place. What time shall we meet?

Mike: I'll be there at eight.

Suggesting Mike come to her place Liz asked him what time they would meet. Mike replied _____.

4. Read the dialogue between Ankita and her mentor, Sharwari, about the cultural exchange programme.

Ankita: Are we going to get some time off for sightseeing?

Sharwari: Oh yes! All the students will get two days for sightseeing.

Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.

Ankita asked Sharwari if they were going to get some time off for sightseeing, to which Sharwari replied in the affirmative _____ two days for sightseeing.

- a) that all the students would get
b) that all students must be getting
c) that all the students ought to get
d) that all the students should get
5. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.

Giveme _____ (some / many / little) advice on how to improve my writing skills.

6. Identify the error in the given sentence, from a report from the News for Kids site and supply the correction.

In an effort to help out important insects like bees and butterflies, bus stops across the United Kingdom (UK) and Europe are getting live roofs.

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:

These exams open doors to higher education, improve employment opportunities and increase option.

Option no.	Error	Correction
A	these	this
B	open	opens
C	to	for
D	option	options

8. The residents _____ eagerly for the young ones to visit them every Sunday and bring cheer to their lonely lives:

a) has waited b) waited c) has been waiting d) were waiting

9. Read the conversation given below between a receptionist and a guest. Complete the sentence by filling in the blank:

Receptionist: Good to see you again, sir!

Guest: Indeed, it's always nice to be back here.

The guest replied that _____.

10. The Captain said to his men, "Stand at ease".

Reported speech: _____

- a) The Captain wanted his men to stand at ease.
b) The Captain told his men that they should stand at ease.
c) The Captain urged his men to stand at ease.
d) The Captain commanded his men to stand at ease.

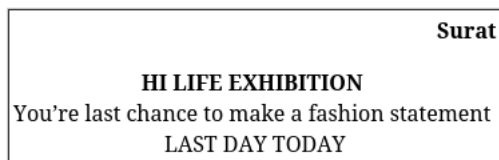
11. **Complete the line from a self - awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option.**

"And looked down one as far as I could

To where it _____ in the under growth."

- a. has bent b. bent c. will bend d. is bent

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



Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

- 4 There has been a spate of chain and mobile snatching incidents in your locality. Masked youths come on motorbikes, commit the crime and run away without being caught or traced causing a lot of insecurity and fear among the residents. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper drawing the attention of the concerned authorities to the problem. You are Shweta Kapoor, Secretary, RWA Anand Niketan, Agra.

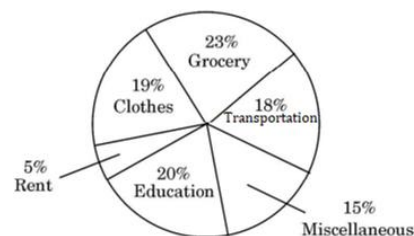
[5]

OR

You are Nalini, Hostel warden of ABC Matriculation School, Pune. Write a letter to the Sales Manager Bharat Electronics and Domestic Appliances, Mumbai placing an order for a few fans, microwave ovens, and geysers that you wish to purchase for the hostel. Also, ask for the discount permissible on the purchase.

- 5 The given pie chart represents the amount of money spent by a family on different items in a month. Write an analytical paragraph in 100 - 120 words using the information given in the chart.

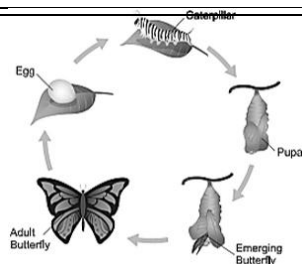
[5]



OR

The visual given shows the life cycle of a butterfly. Study the information carefully and then summarise it in the form of an analytical paragraph. Make comparisons and draw conclusions wherever applicable.

Life Cycle of Butterfly



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:

Max bit his lip nervously. The knocking was repeated.

"What will you do now, Max ?" Ausable asked. "If I do not answer the door, they will enter anyway. The door is unlocked. And they will not hesitate to shoot".

- Who is Max?(1)
 - a spy
 - a tourist
 - a businessman
 - a waiter
- Max was unprepared for his mission. Elaborate with reference to the extract.(2)
- Actually the door was knocked at by _____.(1)
- Which word in the extract is opposite in meaning to the word 'confidently'?(1)

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

In the north - east huge mountains of clouds could be seen approaching. The air was fresh and sweet. The man went out for no other reason than to have the pleasure of feeling the rain on his body and when he returned he exclaimed, "These aren't raindrops falling from the sky, they are new coins. The big drops are ten cent pieces and the little ones are fives."

- Why did Lencho go out in the rain? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- State TRUE or FALSE. None of the terms (a) - (d) below, can be a true reference to the following statement 'Lencho compared the rain drops to new coins.' (1)
 - Lencho enjoys rainfall as it provides a pleasant weather to his family.
 - The raindrops help him to grow and harvest the crops, which results in more prosperity.
 - They reflect light and have a shiny appearance, especially when they are freshly fallen.

- iv. Lencho depends on rain for farming.
- c. Which phrase/word would correctly substitute 'huge' in the given sentence from the extract.
- 'In the north - east huge mountains of clouds could be seen approaching.' (1)
- d. State any one inference about Lencho from the given context: (1)
- "The man went out for no other reason than to have the pleasure of feeling the rain on his body and when he returned he exclaimed, "These aren't raindrops falling from the sky, they are new coins."

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:
- All night the roots work to
disengage themselves from the cracks
In the veranda floor.
The leaves strain toward the glass
Small twigs stiff with exertion
Long cramped boughs shuffling under the roof
Like newly discharged patients
Half dazed moving
To the clinic doors.

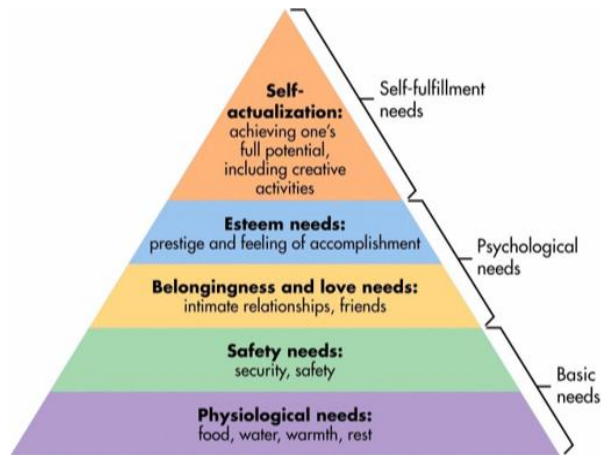
- a. Choose the correct option that mentions the correct poetic device against the correct example.(1)

(1)	Simile	Long cramped boughs
	Metaphor	Like newly discharged patients
(2)	Personification	Small twigs stiff with exertion
	Simile	Like newly discharged patients
(3)	Refrain	Under the roof
	Simile	Leaves strain toward the glass
(4)	Personification	Like newly discharged patients
	Refrain	Half-dazed, moving

- i. Option (1) ii. Option (2) iii. Option (3) iv. Option (4)
- b. Why do the leaves strain towards the glass?(1)
- c. Comment on the work done by trees according to the poet.(1)
- d. The poet compares the trees to "newly discharged patients". Highlight any two reasons for the same.(2)
2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:
Belinda still lives in her little white house,

	<p>With her little black kitten and her little gray mouse, And her little yellow dog and her little red wagon, And her realio, trulio, little pet dragon.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> With whom does Belinda live and where?(1) How many characters and animals are introduced in this extract?(1) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1, 4 2, 5 4, 1 1, 5 Fill in the blank with one word. Bravest of all pets was _____.(1) What effect do the words 'realio and trulio' have on the poem?(2) 	
8	<p>Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 50 words each.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Coorgi homes have a tradition of hospitality, and they are more than willing to recount numerous tales of valour related to their sons and fathers. Elaborate with reference to the chapter Glimpses of India. What message do you get from the poem, 'A Tiger in the Zoo'? Read the statements given below: Statement 1 - Lomov is looking to marry. Statement 2 - Lomov is looking to marry Natalya. Bring out the difference between the two statements and explain what it tells you about Lomov. 'Paper has more patience than people'. Elucidate. Which age old question does the poem Fire and Ice revolve around? 	[12]
9	<p>Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40 - 50 words.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What does Mr. Herriot mean by happy period for himself and his partners? Explain. (A Triumph of Surgery) Was it easy for Bholi to refuse to marry Bishambar? What gave her the confidence to do so? (Bholi) Do you think Griffin is a brilliant scientist who degenerated into a lawless person? Compare him as a scientist and a human being. (Footprints without Feet) 	[6]
10	<p>Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100 - 120 words</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Look at the image of Maslow's hierarchy of needs. 	[6]

Abraham Maslow devised a theory of motivation that shows the basic needs at the bottom, and more advanced needs as you move up. It includes the theory that fundamental needs must be met before an individual can be motivated to achieve higher order needs.



Where in this hierarchy of needs, would you locate the young seagull's first flight? Justify your response.

2. Discuss how extreme behaviour can hasten the end of the world with respect to Fire and Ice.

11	<p>Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100 - 120 words.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Imagine you're one of the columnists in a magazine. People write to you about their issues, seeking your advice. Matilda writes to you about the guilt she feels for having lost a necklace and how it changed the course of her life and her husband's. What would be your advice to her? 2. Education means different things to different people. Evaluate how it impacted the young thief in the story. 	[6]
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....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