

Marking Scheme
Communicative English
2023-24
Class - X

SECTION A : READING SKILLS (22 marks)		
I	Continuous text- Narrative passage	12 m
i	C. It adds to the suspense in the story. [The setting of the abandoned mansion and surrounding woods creates a foreboding atmosphere that adds to the overall dread in the story.]	1
ii	Ways the disappointment that Drishti and her friends felt after their ghost hunt is analogous to the feeling of waking up from a dream -- (any 2) - both involve a sense of disappointment that reality didn't live up to their expectations. - In both cases, they may have had high hopes for what they would experience, only to find that it was not as exciting or satisfying as they had hoped. - Just as waking up from a dream can be jarring and leave us feeling let down, Drishti's realization that the haunted hotel was not as spooky as she had imagined was a letdown for her and her friends.	1+1
iii	A. She was too focused on finding evidence of the paranormal. [Throughout the story, Drishti is fixated on finding evidence of the paranormal in the haunted hotel. She goes in with a preconceived notion of what she expects to find and is willing to overlook other explanations for the strange sounds and experiences she has.]	1
iv	After paragraph B [It would be placed after paragraph 2, because Drishti and her friends have just begun exploring. This paragraph segues into paragraph 3, as it begins with "Suddenly..." , indicating that something happens after "they all quickened their pace." The other likely paragraphs could have been 3,4 and 5 but they aren't suitable as the apparent encounter has already taken place.]	1
v	Elements that classify the story as scary -- (any two) - Suspense: The story creates a sense of unease and tension through its use of foreshadowing, eerie descriptions, and unexplained phenomena. - Eerie atmosphere: The hotel setting contributes to the overall sense of fear and dread, with its dilapidated and abandoned state. - Supernatural elements: The story includes unexplained noises, movements, and apparitions that suggest the presence of supernatural forces or entities. - Isolation: Drishti and her friends are all alone in the hotel, adding to the sense of vulnerability and fear. - Psychological fear: The story plays on the psychological fears of the reader, such as the fear of the unknown, the fear of being watched or followed, and the fear of the dark.	1+1
vi	frozen with fear (paragraph 5) [The word "terrified" could have been used instead of "petrified", in the question to convey a sense of extreme fear, but they are not exactly the same in meaning. "Terrified" generally means being very afraid, while "frozen in fear" suggests being so scared that one is physically unable to move or react. Hence, "petrified."]	1
vii	B. The need to be more sceptical of the supernatural. [Throughout the story, Drishti is fascinated by the supernatural and the possibility of encountering ghosts in the haunted hotel. However, the story reveals that many of the scary sounds and experiences there were caused	1

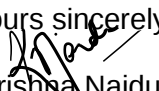
Marking Scheme
Communicative English
2023-24
Class - X

	by something as simple as faulty wiring. By the end of the story, Drishti realizes that she needs to be more sceptical of supernatural claims and look for more logical explanations.]	
viii	(Any one, from those given / similar) ▪ ...in a state of disrepair and neglect ▪ ...old, damaged, and possibly unsafe (just 'old' is not acceptable) ▪ ...in a state of decay	1
ix	...it makes assumptions about the presence or absence of ghosts unlike the appropriate title 'The Unsettling Encounter at the Abandoned Hotel', which accurately reflects the events of the story, indicating a spooky and unsettling experience at an abandoned hotel.	1
x	FALSE [While Drishti and her friends did visit the abandoned hotel to investigate the rumours of ghosts, they didn't do it to prove their existence. Their goal was to have an exciting adventure and to prove their bravery by spending a night in a supposedly haunted place.]	1
2	Non-continuous text -Tabular information	10 m
i	Aryan is likely to ask many "why" questions. Reason (any one): ▪ Aryan's personal qualities include curiosity, creativity, and a love of learning. These qualities suggest that he is likely to ask many "why" questions in order to better understand the world around him. ▪ Aryan's academic achievements and co-curricular activities demonstrate his strong critical thinking skills, which would likely lead him to ask thoughtful and insightful questions.	1+1
ii	A. Rohit [While all the house captains have different strengths and weaknesses, Rohit may struggle the most with handling the stress of the inter-house sports tournament due to his tendency to be overly competitive. This could lead to added pressure and anxiety during the tournament, which could impact his performance and ability to lead his team effectively. Sanya, Rajat, and Ananya all have personal qualities that could help them handle the stress of the tournament, such as compassion, perseverance, and confidence.]	1
iii	Justification: (any two) ▪ Her motto "Service before self" shows a commitment to helping others, which is essential for promoting mental health and well-being. ▪ Her co-curricular activities in the social service club and drama club demonstrate a desire to work with others and address important issues. ▪ Her personal qualities of compassion, organization, and responsibility would be valuable in leading such an initiative. ▪ Her academic achievements and awards, such as the Best Orator Award, demonstrate strong communication skills that are essential in promoting mental health and well-being.	1+1
iv	D. Ananya [The question is asking for an association between a house captain and their respective co-curricular activity instrument. Rajat is associated with music and so is likely to engage with a tabla. In order to find the house captain that is going to engage with a paint-brush, we need to look for someone who is associated with Art. Ananya is the only house captain in the table that has Art as a co-curricular activity, making her the correct answer.]	1

Marking Scheme
Communicative English
2023-24
Class - X

v	Rajat the most likely to be a collaborative worker because of his personal qualities of being a team player and an adaptable person.	1										
vi	... because his drawback is procrastination which means that he may struggle with completing tasks on time, [While the other house captains may also have weaknesses or areas for improvement, the information provided in the table specifically highlights Aryan's procrastination issue as a potential drawback that could affect his overall performance.]	1										
vii	The second situation (b) aligns with Ananya's motto because she actively listens to her team members and provides support, ultimately helping them to succeed by leading through her actions and setting a positive example. [The first situation does not align with this motto because Ananya is not actively participating in the project herself, which is not leading by example. The third situation also does not align with this motto because Ananya is delegating tasks to others and not actively participating in the fundraising effort, which is also not leading by example.]	1										
viii	D. (a) - (iii) , (b) - (iv) , (c) - (i) For the visually impaired candidates Sanya [Since her drawback is - Can be overly self-critical at times]	1										
SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS (22 marks)												
Note : All names and addresses of places and organisations used, are fictitious.												
3	Suggested response : <table border="1"><tr><td>from:</td><td>head_girl_gkschool@gmail.com</td></tr><tr><td>to:</td><td>coordinator_cocurriculars_gkschool@gmail.com</td></tr><tr><td>Cc:</td><td>transportoffice@gkschool.com</td></tr><tr><td>date:</td><td>Sept 10, 2023, 07:03 PM</td></tr><tr><td>subject:</td><td>Transport Arrangements for Inter-School Dance Competition</td></tr></table> Dear Madam With regards to the upcoming inter-school dance competition on 12 Sept.2023, Friday, at the mandated venue, please find it convenient to schedule transportation for our team , from the school premises at 8.30 AM. Our school's participation is only in the senior category, with 6 students, hence, the mini-van would suffice instead of the school bus. Warm regards. Yours sincerely Ratna Manjrekar, Head-Girl	from:	head_girl_gkschool@gmail.com	to:	coordinator_cocurriculars_gkschool@gmail.com	Cc:	transportoffice@gkschool.com	date:	Sept 10, 2023, 07:03 PM	subject:	Transport Arrangements for Inter-School Dance Competition	Content - 1 Organisation - 1 Accuracy - 1 Total - 3
from:	head_girl_gkschool@gmail.com											
to:	coordinator_cocurriculars_gkschool@gmail.com											
Cc:	transportoffice@gkschool.com											
date:	Sept 10, 2023, 07:03 PM											
subject:	Transport Arrangements for Inter-School Dance Competition											
4	Suggested response : We recently chose a potted plant called the Hibiscus as a gift for our mother. It was a small shrub with a height of about 1.5 feet. The leaves looked dark green, shiny, and had a slightly serrated edge. The plant had several buds and appeared to be healthy and one large, fully blossomed deep-red flower which had five petals and a prominent central stamen. The plant came in a small clay pot with a diameter of about 10 inches .It had a simple yellow and red abstract design that complemented the plant well. The soil in the pot	Content - 2 Organisation - 1 Accuracy - 1 Total - 4										

Marking Scheme
Communicative English
2023-24
Class - X

	looked moist and well –draining along with being enriched with organic matter.	
5 a	Suggested response : 53, Sithla Nagar Villapuram 23 July 2023 The Librarian The City Library 30, Grande Avenue Villapuram Sir Subject: Request for Addition of Braille and Audio Books I am writing to request the inclusion of popular fiction and non-fiction titles in Braille and audio books, in the City Library. I truly believe that the library should strive to promote inclusion and accessibility for all readers, including those with visual and other impairments. Many readers with visual impairment are often unable to access the same titles as others. By adding Braille and audio books to the library's collection, we can ensure that these readers have the same access to a wide range of books and can engage with the world of literature as fully as anyone else. I urge you to take this matter into consideration and add Braille and audio books to the library's collection. I believe this move will help promote inclusion and accessibility in our community and help everyone to enjoy the benefits of reading. Yours sincerely  (Krishna Naidu) Co-ordinator, NGO Chakshu	Format -1 Content -3 Organisation -2 Accuracy -1 Total - 7
5 b	Suggested response : 12-A/ F, Vaikunth Towers Wagheilly, J.P. 17 August 2023 The Governor Bharat Ghar Ludnaam, J.P. Madam Subject: Requirement of Sports Facilities to Promote Local Talent	

Marking Scheme
Communicative English
2023-24
Class - X

	This is to draw your attention to the pressing need for creating and upgrading sports facilities in our region to support the development of local and indigenous sporting talent. Areas like Wagheilly have a vast pool of untapped talent, and there is a pressing need to provide them with the necessary infrastructure to help them hone their skills. As an experienced sports scout, I can vouch for the fact that facilities like multi-purpose indoor sports complexes, outdoor sports fields, and running tracks with proper maintenance and lighting facilities are needed. Access to training and fitness centres and physiotherapy clinics, scholarships, mentorship programs, and tournaments can also promote talent and offer opportunities for local athletes to showcase their skills and earn recognition. By investing in sports and promoting local talent, we can create a culture of excellence and inspire the youth to take up sports as a career. I hope your suggestions would be taken into consideration and would add towards helping create a city that promotes sports and the growth of local and indigenous sporting talent. Yours sincerely  Biren Shukla Sports Scout	
6 a	Suggested response : Choosing Your Travel Style: The Benefits and Drawbacks of Solo and Group Travel -by Hema Joseph, X-C Travelling is one of life's greatest pleasures, and the way we prefer to travel varies from person to person. Some prefer solo travel, while others enjoy travelling in a group. Each preference has its advantages and disadvantages. Solo travel allows for complete independence and the freedom to choose the itinerary and pace. It also provides an opportunity for self-discovery and personal growth. However, solo travel can be lonely, especially during meal times and at night. Besides this, it can be more expensive, as accommodation and transportation costs are not shared. Travelling in a group can be a great way to meet new people and make friends. It is also less expensive, as costs are shared among the group. However, group travel requires more planning and coordination, and sometimes compromises must be made. Additionally, some people may feel restricted by the group's itinerary and activities. Factors that influence travel preferences include personality type, budget, destination, and the purpose of travel. Extroverts may prefer group travel, while introverts may opt for solo travel. Budget constraints may make group travel more feasible, while adventure destinations may be better suited for solo travel.	Format -1 Content -3 Organisation -3 Accuracy -1 Total - 8

Marking Scheme
Communicative English
2023-24
Class - X

	Ultimately, the decision to travel solo or in a group is a personal one. Both options have their pros and cons, and travellers should weigh them carefully before embarking on their journey.			
6 b	Suggested response : Space Tourism: Balancing Opportunity and Responsibility - by Jagmeet Singh, X-D Space tourism, the idea of sending tourists into space for a few minutes or days, is becoming a reality. However, the opportunities and challenges of space tourism are complex, and ethical considerations need to be taken into account. One opportunity of space tourism is that it could inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers, providing a new way to get people interested in space exploration. However, space tourism also presents many challenges, including the potential impact on the environment. Space debris is already a major problem, and increased space traffic from tourism could exacerbate this issue. What also causes concern is that it could contribute to the commodification of space, turning it into a playground for the rich rather than a shared resource for all humanity. There is also the question of putting paying tourists at risk for the sake of leisure activities. As we move ahead with this exciting new industry, we must remain mindful of the impact on our planet, our society, and the future of space exploration.			
SECTION C : GRAMMAR (10 marks)				
7 A	Gap-fill	1x3		
Time travel (i) <u>could</u> [MODAL/ possibility] become a reality in the near future, (ii) <u>allowing</u> [TENSE] human beings to experience the thrill of travelling back or forward in time . However, (iii) <u>many</u> [DETERMINER] challenges must be overcome, such as ensuring safety and affordability for all potential time-travellers.				
7 B	Omission: (½ for word before and after + ½ for omission) ; No credit ,if either word before or after is missing or these words are completely missing.	1 (½ + ½) x 4		
No.	Text	Word before	Omission	Word after
i	sleep deficit a common problem among teenagers today, with many staying up late	deficit	is	a
ii	to use electronic devices. This lead to	This	can	lead
iii	difficulty in concentrating, mood swings, even	swings	and	even
iv	It's important for teens to prioritize sleep	prioritize	their	sleep
	to ensure their overall health and well-being.			
7 C	Reordering & Transformation	1x3		
i	HYDROLOGICAL RESOURCES REFER TO WATER RESOURCES, WHICH ARE VITAL TO HUMAN, ANIMAL, AND PLANT SURVIVAL. [Relative Clause-modifies "Hydrological resources"]			
ii	...if she usually offered that advice			
iii	...she wanted to capture the complete scene...			
SECTION D : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK (26 marks)				
8	Reference to Context	4+4=8		
8 (A) i	Complex relationship with nature, experiencing both admiration and fear towards its power			

Marking Scheme
Communicative English
2023-24
Class - X

ii	Depths of the earth where it is hot and dark	
iii	Represents a fleeting moment of connection with nature	
iv	thankless	
8 (B) i	Antony uses vivid and evocative descriptions of the wounds inflicted on Caesar by his assassins, in order to stir up emotions in his audience and to create a sense of horror and outrage.	
ii	The mantle represents Caesar's power and authority, and serves as a symbol of the leader's ability to inspire loyalty and devotion in his followers.	
iii	emotive and urgent [as he seeks to move his audience to tears and to evoke a sense of shared grief and loss]	
iv	Antony's reference to the Nervii, whom Caesar defeated in battle, highlights Caesar's skill as a military leader and his ability to conquer even the most formidable enemies.	
8 (C) i	"every Sunday"	
ii	kindness/ generosity	
iii	(Any one) - Nicola was taken aback by Jacopo's request and needed a moment to process it. - Nicola was hesitant to accept help from the narrator, possibly due to pride or a desire to be self-sufficient. - A moment of awkwardness or tension as the brothers considered the offer and the potential implications of accepting it.	
iv	(Any one) - a car ride would be more efficient and less tiring than cycling for 30 kilometres - an opportunity to experience something different and more comfortable	
9	Short Answer Questions (five of six)	2x5=10
To be marked for Content & Organisation. Up to 1 mark can be deducted for Accuracy.		
Suggested responses:		
i	It is highly effective as it emphasizes the idea that even the greatest accomplishments of human beings will eventually crumble and disappear, leaving behind only the inevitable march of time. By emphasizing this theme, <i>Ozymandias</i> serves as a powerful reminder of the fleeting nature of human existence and the futility of pursuing power and glory at the expense of more meaningful pursuits.	
ii	The metaphor of a false friend is used in <i>The Letter</i> to describe the winter cold, which is depicted as a treacherous and sneaky force that gradually extends its sway over all things. Like a false friend, the cold initially seems harmless and even welcoming, as it lulls its victims into a false sense of security with its "caressing smiles." However, as the metaphor suggests, the cold is not a friend at all, but rather a deceiver who ultimately seeks to harm and control its victims.	
iii	Elsie Brown's writing style in <i>A Shady Plot</i> is characterized by its light and humorous tone. The story is written in the first person point of view of the protagonist, John Hallock. Brown's writing is concise and clear, with a good use of dialogue and description to create vivid scenes and characters. She uses irony and satire to poke fun at the publishing industry and its practices. Overall, her writing style effectively conveys the story's humour and underlying message, making it an enjoyable and thought-provoking read.	
iv	Through Patol Babu's character, Satyajit Ray highlights the plight of the struggling actors who often go unnoticed and the difficulties they face in getting even small roles. Patol Babu's dedication to his craft and his ability to turn even a minor role into a memorable one is a testament to the hard work and determination of many such individuals in the industry.	
v	Michael is expressing his enthusiasm for the capabilities of modern technology, such as computers, to help him experience and understand historical events and settings in a more immersive way. He is suggesting that as technology advances and becomes more futuristic, it can allow people to have more vivid and realistic experiences that bring the past to life. This could include using virtual reality technology to explore historical sites or playing	

Marking Scheme
Communicative English
2023-24
Class - X

	interactive games that simulate historical events. Michael sees technology as a tool that can enhance our understanding and appreciation of the past.	
vi	(Answer can be woven using a couple of the given points) Stanley Houghton's primary purpose in employing irony in <i>The Dear Departed</i> is- ▪ to satirize the societal values and behaviours of his time, particularly the greed and materialism of the middle class ▪ expose the hypocrisy and moral bankruptcy of characters like the Slaters and the Jordans, who prioritize money and possessions over family and morality. ▪ allow the audience to see the absurdity and superficiality of these characters' values and beliefs, and to question the larger societal values that have led to such behaviour. ▪ criticize the materialistic and self-centred attitudes that were prevalent in his time, and to call for a return to more genuine and compassionate values.	
10	Long Answer Question (one of two)	8
Content - 4, Organisation -3 & Accuracy - 1		
(A)	(Answer can be woven along the following lines) Their greed can be distinguished: ▪ Motivation: The frog's greed is motivated by a desire for personal gain and success, whereas Abel's children are motivated by a desire for material possessions and inheritance. ▪ Actions: The frog takes advantage of the nightingale's talent and exploits her, while Abel's children scheme to acquire their father's belongings through deception. ▪ Relationship: The frog and the nightingale have a business relationship, while Abel's children have a familial relationship with their father. ▪ Consequences: The consequences of the frog's greed result in the nightingale's demise, while the consequences of Abel's children's greed result in a family dispute and moral dilemma. (accept any other rational variation)	
(B)	(Answer can be woven along the following lines) The advice might include the following points: ▪ The mariner would advise Mrs. Packletide to consider the consequences of her actions. In the poem, the mariner kills an albatross and brings a curse upon himself and his crew. He learns the hard way that there are often unintended consequences to our actions. ▪ He would also advise Mrs. Packletide to respect the creatures she encounters. In the poem, the mariner does appreciate the beauty of the albatross. He might encourage Mrs. Packletide to see the tiger as a majestic creature that deserves to be appreciated and respected, rather than simply a trophy to be mounted on her wall. ▪ Additionally, the mariner might encourage Mrs. Packletide to think about the value of life. He might caution Mrs. Packletide against taking life lightly, and encourage her to consider the value of the tiger's life before taking it. ▪ Finally, the mariner might advise Mrs. Packletide to be mindful of her impact on the world around her. In the poem, the mariner's actions have far-reaching consequences, affecting not just himself and his crew. He might encourage Mrs. Packletide to think about how her actions affect the world around her, and to strive to make a positive impact rather than a negative one.	