

Marking Scheme (2023-24)
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (Code No. 184)
CLASS-X

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)

Note:

- A. The Reading Section focuses on testing a candidate's ability to comprehend.
- B. Marks to be awarded only if the response reveals structure or semblance of coherent thought rather than a transcribed chunk/exact line/s from the passage in an attempt to pass off as a response.

Q1	Discursive Passage	10
i	(Any one) ▪ Engagement- vivid imagery of a roller coaster likely to hook the reader or engage their attention ▪ Relatability - the roller coaster analogy is relatable to readers , helping them understand the connect with the ups and downs of life ▪ Foreshadowing -the use of "unexpected surprises" foreshadows the theme of the envy trap, hinting at the challenges and unpredictability in the passage ▪ Central theme - to introduce the central theme of navigating challenges (like the envy trap) , due to the unpredictable nature of life	1
ii	D. Concept and exemplification <i>[The writer introduces the concept of the "envy trap" in paragraph 1 and proceeds to offer an example of how it manifests in the age of social media in paragraph 2. This structure is a common technique in writing where a general idea is presented, followed by specific instances or examples to clarify and support the concept. Although the concept of comparison is mentioned in paragraph 2, the primary relationship is more about illustrating the introduced concept than directly comparing or contrasting, so, Option C will be incorrect. Option A and B are incorrect as they do not match]</i>	1
iii	Just as one savours each bite of a delightful <i>laddoo</i> without yearning for someone else's treats, cultivating contentment involves relishing our present moments and achievements, free from the grip of comparison and envy.	2
iv	B. Exclusive paths define each person's characteristic narrative. <i>[Paragraph 3 emphasises the uniqueness of individual journeys, highlighting that everyone's story is distinct and shaped by different highs and lows.</i>	

v	contentment : envy <i>[Just as a shield serves as protection against attacks (armours us), contentment acts as a defense against the harmful effects of envy. Both provide a barrier, against potential negative impacts. The analogy draws a parallel between the physical protection of shield and the emotional safeguard of contentment.]</i>	1
vi	FALSE. <i>[The author suggests a shift from a mindset of bitterness / resentment, to one where individuals genuinely celebrate the successes of others.]</i>	1
vii	“...envy to creep in” <i>[The key word here is – CREEP. This apprises us of the trait that envy has – being sneaky, catching us unawares, stealthily trapping us in its grip. This points to the insidious nature of envy and its ability to gradually weave its way into a person’s mind/ heart]</i>	1
viii	The writer suggests that the ability to be content has a magical quality in positively shaping one's outlook and experience of life. This choice of expression emphasises the enchanting impact that contentment can have on an individual's overall well-being and perspective.	2
Q2.	Case- based passage	10
i	(Any one) ▪ The researcher can probe further to ask follow-up questions ▪ The researcher can observe non-verbal cues via body language ▪ The researcher can provide live samples to show the participants <i>[Online surveys, may be more convenient and efficient for data collection but may lack the depth and personal interaction that interviews offer.]</i>	1
ii	This is so because young teens often have limited purchasing power and depend on their parents or guardians for financial support -- cost-conscious decisions become crucial in their purchase choices, ensuring that they can afford the desired footwear without burdening their families financially.	2
iii	(Any one) ▪ Indicates that these factors may not play a significant role in the overall purchase decisions of young teens. ▪ Suggests that while fashion trends and peer opinions can have some influence, they are not the primary driving forces behind their footwear choices. ▪ Urges footwear brands to focus more on factors such as price, brand reputation, and comfort, which hold greater sway over the majority of the target demographic	1
iv	D. Sports shoes are associated with a higher social status among teens.	1

[Option A is likely because the data doesn't explicitly mention style or trendiness, but 42% of respondents prefer sports shoes, indicating a significant preference. Option B is likely because sports shoes are known for their comfort and versatility, making them suitable for different activities. Option C is likely because affordability is a common factor influencing preferences, and it's a believable reason for the popularity of sports shoes. Option D is LEAST likely because the data doesn't provide direct evidence of a social status association. The preferences are more focused on practical aspects like comfort, style, and affordability. Options A, B, and C align with factors commonly associated with footwear preferences.]

- v (Any two) - 2
- I) 10 % [comfort - practical / comfort] ;
 - II) 5% [fashion -latest trends] ;
 - III) 30% [brand - expensive products]
- vi (Any one) 1
- ...it provides a comprehensive understanding of footwear preferences and trends across different geographical areas
 - ...it is valuable information for footwear manufacturers and retailers to tailor their products and marketing strategies to specific regions
 - ... it helps in identifying the cultural and lifestyle factors that influence footwear choices in different areas
 - ... it enables researchers to uncover potential market opportunities and gaps in specific regions, allowing for targeted business expansion and growth
- vii **Yes, likely to be** - because NGOs often work towards promoting the well-being and interests of specific groups, including young people and could be interested in understanding the factors influencing the footwear choices of young teens to better address their needs and advocate for their rights. 1
- No , not likely to be**- because the focus is on commercial aspects such as consumer preferences and industry insights, which may not align with the goals and objectives of non-profit organisations.
- viii ...align with their desires and aspirations 1

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 marks)

GRAMMAR

10

- 1 mark for correct answer
- No partial credit

- 3
- i. Is
 - ii. he had processed his admission at Harvard Business School and added that very soon, he would be leaving for London.
 - iii. Will
 - iv. D. more
 - v. B. trusts
 - vi. Error - or Correction - and
 - vii. The police reveal that the diversions to the routes are mandatory, and non-compliance will be punishable.
 - viii. D. attends
 - ix. Kanthi asked her teacher if/whether they could attempt the project as a group of four instead of six members.
 - x. D. Error- celebrated, Correction-celebrating
 - xi. shall have completed
 - xii. ... he would go then and apologise to Mrs. Kumar and offer to pay for the shattered glass

WRITING

10

4A **Suggested response:**

5

214, Indrayani Apartments
Vaishali Street, Delhi

2 November 2023

The Mayor
12-C, Green Circle
Delhi

Madam

Subject: Proposing Youth-Led Initiatives for Ecological Preservation

The current state of our environmental surroundings is a matter of growing concern. The need for immediate and collective action to address these issues has never been more crucial. I write to you, not just as a concerned citizen but as a firm believer in the power of the youth to contribute significantly to our city's ecological well-being.

To this end, I propose the establishment of community-driven eco-clubs and tree-planting campaigns. Engaging the youth in waste management and recycling programs would not only raise awareness but also ensure active participation. Furthermore, organising workshops and seminars on sustainable living practices can empower the youth with knowledge about eco-friendly choices in their daily lives.

Together, these initiatives can foster a sense of responsibility and commitment among the youth, creating a ripple effect that positively impacts our environment. I am confident that by supporting such initiatives, the city can benefit from the energy, creativity, and commitment of its young population as it would positively contribute towards creating a sustainable and eco-friendly environment.

Yours truly
Anthony Pillai
(A concerned youth)

4B **Suggested response:**

The Haven Book Store
231, Gulmarg Bazaar
Secunderabad , A.P.

16 November 2023

The Proprietor
M/s Prakashan Book House (Wholesalers)
60, Haveli Market Street
Hyderabad, A.P.

Sir

Subject: Unresolved Issue with Follow-up of Delivery Details

I trust this letter finds you in good health. I am reaching out to address a concerning matter related to an order to be placed with your store for books, stationery, and art materials. Following a recent telephonic conversation with one of your sales executives, Khushi Sodhi, regarding the delivery schedule, we have not received any updates or communication from your end.

Attempts to contact your office using the listed telephone number have been unsuccessful, as the calls are not going through. This lack of communication and the absence of follow-up from your end have caused significant disruptions in our planned operations' schedule.

I kindly request your prompt attention to this matter. Given the importance of our business relationship, we hope to resolve this issue amicably. Please feel free to reach out to me at 9717199442.

Yours sincerely
Vinay Khosla
(Purchase Executive, Haven Book Store)

Analytical paragraph writing is NOT a description/ summarisation of the cues, but analysis and rationalisation of the inputs , towards a response, using critical thinking.

A thorough analysis reveals that Vendor B, *Petal Perfect*, emerges as the superior choice for the Annual Day celebrations' decorations when compared to Vendor A, *Blossom Delight*. One key aspect is Vendor B's emphasis on customisation of floral arrangements to align with the school's unique theme and spirit. In contrast, Vendor A, while offering beautiful arrangements, does not highlight the same level of personalised service. Moreover, the pricing structures of the two vendors play a crucial role in the decision-making process. Vendor B not only provides competitive rates for bouquets but goes a step further by offering a ceremonial flower rangoli for free with their decorative installations. This added value enhances the overall appeal of Vendor B's proposal. On the other hand, Vendor A's pricing, while reasonable, lacks the extra incentives that Vendor B provides. Additionally, Vendor B's commitment to sustainability, utilising locally sourced and eco-friendly materials, aligns with contemporary values and adds a socially responsible dimension to their services. This factor is not explicitly addressed in Vendor A's proposal. Therefore, Vendor B outshines Vendor A and makes it the preferred choice for the Annual Day celebrations' decorations.

5B **Suggested response:**

The choice of film (i) "MEMORIES: 1970-2000" , for the school screening, is a decision based on the film's heartwarming narrative and universal themes. The film offers a touching exploration of human connection within the backdrop of a small town in Eastern India. Critic reviews, such as those from *Daily Today* and *Cinema Blend*, emphasise its capacity to capture the essence of shared experiences and make it a must-watch for all ages. The feel-good nature of the movie, coupled with its lasting impression, deems it suitable for a diverse audience. Unlike "Mrs. SUNNY SINGH & FAMILY," "MEMORIES: 1970-2000" provides a depth of storytelling that can spark meaningful discussions and resonate with students of classes IX-XII. Its ability to balance emotional depth with universal appeal positions it as an excellent choice for the school screening event.

OR

The choice of film (ii) "Mrs. SUNNY SINGH & FAMILY" , for the school screening, is a decision based on the film's comic brilliance and the promise of non-stop laughter. Described as a comedy show with a star-studded cast, the movie guarantees a hilarious plot filled with witty humour. Critic reviews from *Comedy Critic Weekly* and *The Humour Hub* support its reputation as a "Laugh Riot" and a comedy for the ages, praising its impeccable timing and script. This film is an ideal choice for a light-hearted and fun-filled screening event. In contrast to "MEMORIES: 1970-2000," "Mrs. SUNNY SINGH & FAMILY" offers a unique entertainment experience centered on laughter, providing a different flavor that can uplift the spirits of the students in classes IX-XII and create a lively atmosphere during the screening.

SECTION C: Literature Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text (40 marks)

6A		5
i	Value points:	2
	▪ combines punishment and creativity ▪ playfully penalizes Anne for her talkative behaviour - incorporates humour to address the issue ▪ channels Anne's talkativeness into a creative outlet ▪ aims to curb her chattiness while nurturing a more disciplined and imaginative approach to expression	
ii	(Any one)	1
	▪ ...that Mr. Keesing found amusement in Anne Frank's arguments ▪ ...a lighthearted reaction on Mr. Keesing's part ▪ ...that he did not take Anne's arguments too seriously	
iii	D. Compliance with classroom norms <i>[This option contradicts the spirited and independent nature that Anne exhibits, making it the least likely option among the given choices.]</i>	1
iv	"chatterbox" ; "quack" <i>[The choice of "quack" is a humorous way for Mr. Keesing to liken Anne's talkative nature to the constant chatter of a duck. Ducks are known for their vocalizations]</i>	1
OR		
6B		5
i	Think-Tank's interaction with the mirror reflects his extreme arrogance. He seeks confirmation of his intellectual superiority and places high value on physical appearance. His contempt for Earthlings and admiration for Martian aesthetics show a superiority complex rooted in intelligence and appearance.	2
ii	FALSE. <i>[Noodle's hopeful response to Think-Tank's comment suggests more about the influence of Think-Tank's mindset on Martian society rather than providing insight into the richness of Martian heritage and culture. It highlights a culture that idealises intellectual arrogance rather than showcasing the depth of Martian cultural values.]</i>	1
iii	B. colonial <i>[Because of Think-Tank's eagerness to invade Earth . This eagerness is rooted in imperialism and the disregard for the autonomy of another civilization.]</i>	1
iv	... guiding the performance and production aspects of the play / providing stage directions <i>[intended for the actors, directors, or production team rather than the audience]</i>	1

- 7A 5
- i **B. Freedom and Independence** *[Option A is incorrect because, while orphans might experience isolation, the description of "roaming the street" suggests movement and activity, not necessarily isolation. In Option C, while being an orphan may be associated with hardship, the specific imagery of soft dust and hushed, bare feet doesn't necessarily point to poverty; it leans more toward the idea of quiet, unburdened movement. Option D, the imagery of roaming the street with hushed, bare feet suggests a form of non-conformity and independence rather than conformity and obedience. Option B is correct as the soft dust and hushed, bare feet evoke a sense of moving quietly and freely through the environment, reflecting a state of independence and the ability to explore without constraints – it paints a picture of a carefree, unrestrained existence, highlighting the theme of freedom.]* 1
- ii A means of asserting autonomy, finding solace, and resisting the limitations imposed by external expectations. It serves as a coping mechanism and a form of rebellion against the constraints imposed on her. 2
- iii (Any one) 1
- ...negligible significance of Amanda's daydreams resulting in the reader not recognising the contrast between the external commands and her inner thoughts
 - ...a lack of pacing and rhythm in the poem, as the parentheses create pauses that allow readers to absorb and reflect on each element separately
 - ...diminished clarity of the narrative structure, making it harder for readers to navigate between Amanda's reality and her imaginative escapes
- iv The use of "I thought" suggests a reminder / frustration on the part of the speaker, supporting the idea that Amanda's behaviour is under close scrutiny. *[This implies a relationship where Amanda is expected to adhere to specific instructions and fulfill assigned tasks, reinforcing a sense of external control and authority over her actions.]* 1

OR

- 7B 5
- i (i) "ultimate" – This tells us the extreme nature of this grief / overwhelming sorrow that the boy has experienced. 2
- (ii) "fixes" – This tells us that the grief becomes a central and unshakeable part of the boy's emotional state.
- ii **C. emotional numbness and physical quivering** 1
- ["Rigid" implies emotional numbness or a state of being emotionally immobilised, while "trembling" indicates a physical manifestation of intense emotion. This pairing suggests that despite feeling emotionally frozen or rigid, there is a physical expression of deep-seated emotional turmoil through trembling. It conveys the multifaceted nature of grief, where one may be internally overwhelmed while still exhibiting visible signs of distress.]*

iii	False, because , the loss of the ball signifies a moment of transition, a loss of innocence, and a realisation of the complexities of life. <i>[which is far more than just a material loss]</i> .	1
iv	personal nature <i>[This acknowledges the importance of allowing individuals the space to process and cope with their emotions without external interference]</i>	1
8	Any FOUR of five. (Suggested responses)	4x3=12
i	Lencho's approach cannot be justified as we know that even God helps those who help themselves. Seeking help from someone is understood but not putting in any effort and depending on others or hoping for one's luck to work is something one cannot practically believe in.	3
ii	'Plunge' means to jump or dive immediately. Here, it literally refers to the dive the seagull had to make in order to take its first flight. Metaphorically, it refers to the faith in its family members or the leap of faith it had to take, trusting its wings to support its body to be able to fly.	3
iii	The purpose is to educate the reader humorously and playfully about identifying wild animals based on their behaviours. By associating specific behaviours with certain animals, the poet makes the information more memorable and engaging. The use of these cues adds an entertaining element to the educational content, making it accessible and enjoyable for readers and creating a memorable and lighthearted exploration of the animal kingdom.	3
iv	Mijbil's behaviour, such as engaging in playful activities with urban objects like a suitcase and a ping-pong ball, indicates a high level of adaptability to urban surroundings. His ability to create entertainment for himself in a London flat and his acceptance of walks on a lead in the city streets suggest that otters, or at least Mijbil, can adapt and find amusement even in non-natural environments.	3
v	One purpose is to gain genuine love by proposing that she can change her hair colour to make young men love her for her inner self, not just her yellow hair. Another purpose is to prove her point to the speaker who initially expressed doubt that anyone would love her for anything other than her external beauty.	3
9	Any TWO of three. (Suggested responses)	2x3=6
i	It significantly impacts the narrative. The revelation that the lost necklace was a mere imitation rather than a valuable piece turns the story on its head. This twist adds irony, and highlights the story's theme of materialism. The impact leaves a lasting impression on our understanding of the characters' choices and the consequences of relentless desire. It transforms the narrative into a cautionary tale, and makes us reflect on the true worth of one's aspirations.	3
ii	The impact of these goodies on the household was that they led to a period of indulgence	3

and luxurious living. The household members, including the doctor and his partners, enjoyed the extra eggs, wine, and brandy. It added a sense of festivity to their daily routines, with lunch becoming a ceremonial occasion and evenings by the fire becoming more enjoyable.

- iii The writer's decision to create an unconventional spy character matches with his intent to deliver a unique and memorable story that breaks stereotypes. This also stresses that individuals involved in espionage can come in various forms. Ausable's unconventional characteristics humanise him, contribute to the story's humour and provide a refreshing take on what a spy is expected to be. The contrast between Ausable's unassuming appearance and his adept handling of the espionage situation adds depth to his character and lends interest.

3

10A **Suggested response :**

6

In *Dust of Snow*, the crow and the baby seagull in *His First Flight*, both serve as pivotal symbols of transformation and redemption, in their distinct ways.

The crow's sudden interaction with the speaker in the poem brings about an unexpected change in the narrator's mood. The simple act of the crow shaking off snow onto the speaker becomes a metaphor for a transformative moment, shifting the narrator from a state of sadness to a renewed appreciation for the beauty of nature.

On the other hand, the baby seagull's literal transformation through flight in the story signifies a rite of passage and growth. Through this literal transformation, the seagull not only learns to navigate the physical world but also gains a newfound sense of confidence and independence, contributing to the overall theme of self-discovery and growth in the narrative.

The avian characters, while differing in their modes of impact, share the thematic role of catalyzing positive change, whether through a change in perspective or the achievement of a significant milestone.

OR

10B **Suggested response :**

6

Valli's exploration is marked by a child's sense of wonder and discovery within her familiar local environment. Her journey is a small-scale adventure, emphasising the importance of simple pleasures and the beauty found in everyday life. Valli's exploration contributes to her personal growth, and resourcefulness.

In contrast, Rajvir's explorations in Assam represent a broader quest, introducing him to a new and unfamiliar culture. His exploration involves encountering diverse landscapes, people, and customs, reflecting a more profound impact on his worldview. The thematic role of exploration here extends beyond personal growth to cultural exposure and understanding.

The impact of exploration on the characters' perspectives is evident in Valli's case through a deepened sense of wonder and personal accomplishment, while for Rajvir, it broadens his understanding of the diversity within India.

Both narratives celebrate the power of exploration, whether within one's immediate environment or in distant lands, shaping the characters' outlook on life and contributing to their overall development.

11A **Suggested response:**

6

Mrs. Hall: It is such a pleasure to have you as my guest, Mr.

Griffin: Never mind my name, Madam. I guess I have made my payment in advance, and you should not bother me any further.

Mrs. Hall: Well, yes of course. Thanks a lot for the payment. I was just wondering if you would need any help with something since you seem to be in a terrible state, these bandages and all.

Griffin: Oh, no! All is fine with me. No concern required at all. Now, if you may please leave me to do my important work for which I sought solitude in this village on the outskirts of the city.

Mrs. Hall: Sure. Its fine with me. Still, ... I mean in case you ever need any assistance, feel free to call me...

Griffin: Madam, stop being overindulgent. I can manage all my needs. Please leave and close the door behind you.

OR

11B **Suggested response:**

6

Anil's identity as a writer plays a significant role in the narrative and contributes to his understanding of Hari Singh in several ways.

Firstly, being a writer allows Anil to possess a heightened sense of observation and empathy.

Writers often possess a keen understanding of human behaviour, enabling them to read between the lines and determine shades in people's actions and expressions. This skill becomes crucial in Anil's interaction with Hari Singh, as he could perceive more than what meets the eye.

Additionally, Anil's profession as a writer might have made him more open-minded and receptive to diverse experiences and personalities. Writers often explore a wide range of characters in their work, fostering a broader understanding of human nature. This openness could have enabled Anil to approach Hari Singh with empathy and without immediate judgment.

Lastly, Anil's familiarity with constructing narratives may have enabled him to appreciate the complexity of Hari Singh's life story, recognising the underlying factors influencing his actions.