



विद्या सर्वार्थ साधिका

ANANDALAYA  
PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION

Class : X

Subject : English Communicative (101)

M.M : 80

Date : 24-01-2024

Time : 3 Hours

**General Instructions:**

1. The Question Paper contains four sections.
2. Section A- Reading Section has two passages for comprehension.
3. Section B- Writing Section has 3 questions. Adhere to the word limit as given in the instructions with each question.
4. Section C- Grammar Section has a question with sub-parts. Read the sub-parts carefully and only write the answers.
5. Section D- Literature Section has 3 questions. Read the instructions and adhere the word limit given with each question.

**SECTION-A**

**Reading Section (22 Marks)**

1. Read the passage given below. (12)
  - 1 "Whose picture, is it?" I asked.  
"A little girl's, of course," said Grandmother. "Can't you tell?"  
"Yes, but did you know the girl?"  
"Yes, I knew her," said Granny, "but she was a very wicked girl and I shouldn't tell you about her. But I'll tell you about the photograph. It was taken in your grandfather's house, about sixty years ago and that's the garden wall, and over the wall there was a road going to town."  
"Whose hands are they,' I asked, 'coming up from the other side?"
  - 2 Grandmother squinted and looked closely at the picture, and shook her head. "It's the first time I've noticed," she said. "That must have been the sweeper boy's. Or maybe they were your grandfathers'."  
"They don't look like grandfather's hands," I said. "His hands are all bony."  
"Yes, but this was sixty years ago."  
"Didn't he climb up the wall, after the photo?"  
"No, nobody climbed up. At least, I don't remember."  
"And you remember well, Granny."
  - 3 "Yes, I remember.... I remember what is not in the photograph. It was a spring day, and there was a cool breeze blowing, nothing like this. Those flowers at the girl's feet, they were marigolds, and the bougainvillea creeper, it was a mass of purple. You cannot see these colours in the photo, and even if you could, as nowadays, you wouldn't be able to smell the flowers or feel the breeze."  
"And what about the girl?" I said. "Tell me about the girl."  
"Well, she was a wicked girl," said Granny. You don't know the trouble they had getting her into those fine clothes she's wearing."  
"I think they are terrible clothes," I said.
  - 4 "So did she. Most of the time, she hardly wore a thing. She used to go swimming in a muddy pool with a lot of ruffianly boys, and ride on the backs of buffaloes. No boy ever teased her, though, because she could kick and scratch and pull his hair out!"  
"She looks like it too," I said. "You can tell by the way she's smiling. At any moment something's going to happen."  
"Something did happen," said Granny. "Her mother wouldn't let her take off the clothes afterwards, so she went swimming in them, and lay for half an hour in the mud." I laughed heartily and Grandmother laughed too.

- 5 “Who was the girl?” I said. “You must tell me who she was.”  
 “No, that wouldn’t do,” said Grandmother, but I pretended I didn’t know. I knew, because Grandmother still smiled in the same way, even though she didn’t have as many teeth. “Come on, Granny,” I said, “tell me, tell me.” But Grandmother shook her head and carried on with the knitting; and I held the photograph in my hand looking from it to my grandmother and back again, trying to find points in common between the old lady and the little pig-tailed girl.
- 6 A lemon-coloured butterfly settled on the end of Grandmother’s knitting needle, and stayed there while the needles clicked away. I made a grab at the butterfly, and it flew off in a dipping flight and settled on a sunflower. “I wonder whose hands they were,” whispered Grandmother to herself, with her head bowed, and her needles clicking away in the soft warm silence of that summer afternoon.

**Source: An excerpt from “The Photograph” by Ruskin Bond**

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions of total 12 marks.

- (i) What tone is predominant in the passage? (1)  
 (A) Nostalgia  
 (B) Anger  
 (C) Mystery  
 (D) Regret
- (ii) What would you say the nature of this passage is? (1)  
 (A) Historical (B) Fictitious  
 (C) Satirical (D) Socio-Cultural
- (iii) “Granny was a roguish and headstrong child.” Justify the statement with evidence from the excerpt. (2)
- (iv) “A photograph memorialises moments but fails to capture the essence of its liveliness.” Justify the statement with the help of the excerpt. (2)
- (v) What figure of speech is predominant in paragraph 3 of the passage? (1)  
 (A) Onomatopoeia  
 (B) Imagery  
 (C) Hyperbole  
 (D) Synecdoche
- (vi) What were the narrator and his grandmother curious about? (1)  
 (A) What kind of child his granny was  
 (B) Who had clicked the photograph  
 (C) Whose hand could be seen on the wall behind granny in the photograph  
 (D) Why was the girl wearing that dress
- (vii) Choose the correct statements. (1)
- i. Grandmother did not like the narrator probing into her past.
  - ii. Old memories resurface as old photographs are fished out of dusty boxes.
  - iii. The narrator loves old things and is proud of his family heirlooms.
  - iv. The narrator and his granny both hate the dress the girl was wearing in the picture.
  - v. Granny was a troublesome child.
- (A) i, ii, iii (B) ii, iv, v  
 (C) i, iii, v (D) ii, iii, iv

- (viii) Assertion (A): The girl in the photograph was Granny. (1)  
Reason (R): Granny's smile was similar to that of the girl in the photograph.  
(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.  
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.  
(C) A is true but R is false.  
(D) A is false but R is true

- (ix) Fill in the blank with a word from paragraph 5 of the passage. (1)

*The man \_\_\_\_\_ to be dead because he knew he could not outrun the bear.*

- (x) Statement 1: Grandmother remembered every tiny detail of the day the photograph was captured. (1)  
Statement 2: Grandmother did not know whose hand were on the wall in the background.  
Conclusion: Grandmother's memory had become foggy with age.  
(A) Both the statements are correct and the conclusion follows.  
(B) Both the statements are correct but the conclusion does not follow.  
(C) Only Statement 1 is correct.  
(D) Only Statement 2 is correct.

2. The table contains data regarding five women. Read the table carefully and answer the questions that follow. (10)

S.No.	Name	Strengths	Weaknesses	Hobbies	Awards and achievements	Educational Qualifications
1.	Samaira	Good Orator, Adventurous, Polite, imaginative and creative	Procrastinator, Inflexible with her opinions	Reading, Painting, Trekking	Winner of National level debate competition, leader of the debate club in her college	BA, MA History
2.	Krishnaa	Perfectionist, witty, open minded, efficient	Anxious, Loner, Indecisive	Reading, Painting, Writing	Winner of national level essay writing contest, published poet and story writer	BSc. Mathematics, MA English
3.	Sarod	Ambitious, Individualistic, Easy going, Charming	Inattentive, Short tempered	Reading, Travelling, Singing, learning	Head of Singing club in college and Founder of culture promotion society in college	BA, MA Anthropology; BA Geography
4.	Shravani	Self-disciplined, Observant, dependable, responsible	Obsessive, domineering,	Cycling, Running, Trekking, Boxing	5th in an International Triathlon, Head of Data analytics for a center sponsored project	BA, MA Economics; PhD in Statistical Analysis (ongoing)
5.	Mridulaa	Brave, Instinctive, Street Smart, honest and unpretentious	Confrontational, Unpredictable, Volatile	Travelling, Socialising, drama and theatre	Published author, travel blogger, influencer	BA, MA (English Literature), PhD in Indian Literature in English (ongoing)

- (i) Who can be the most eligible spokesperson for the college students Union? (1)  
(A) Sarod (B) Mridulaa  
(C) Samaira (D) Shravani
- (ii) Who do you think will not make a very good team leader and why? (1)

- (iii) If you were responsible for recruitment of employees in a firm, with three possible openings, who among the above candidates would you reject and why? (2)
- (iv) If Shravani : Boxing gloves :: Krishnaa : \_\_\_\_\_? (1)  
 (A) bicycle (B) paintbrush  
 (C) backpack (D) camping tent
- (v) Who would you approach for advice on your yearly essay submission. State one reason justifying your choice. (2)
- (vi) Complete the given sentence with the appropriate reason, with reference to the information in the table. (1)  
*We can infer that Samaira's overall performance may be negatively impacted by her weakness in time management because \_\_\_\_\_.*
- (vii) Who among the above women do you think will be the most eligible for giving a talk on the importance of physical fitness and why? (1)
- (viii) Why do you think Krishnaa will face problems while working with limited time and limited resources? (1)

### SECTION-B

#### Writing Skills (22 Marks)

3. You are Aarti/Amar Saxena. Your ward studies in class 10<sup>th</sup>. Due to the Covid pandemic, the company you work in has suffered some heavy damages to its profit and your salary has been cut by the company and hence it is too low to pay the school fees. Write an email to the Principal, requesting him/her to exempt the fee of your ward for the current session. (50 words) (3)
4. Read the hints given below and complete the following description of Agastya's grandmother in not more than 100 words. (4)  
 Sheela Dalvi-72 years old, grey hair, brown eyes, sweet voice-lost her husband at the age of 39-graduate in arts-3 children, 6 grandchildren-keeps unwell, but has a very strong nature, lively-children enjoy listening to her stories/experiences/singing-generation gap but shares a strong bond-best friend.
5. Answer any one from (5a) and (5b) given below in 120 words.
- 5a. You are Sharmishtha/Sunil Chowdhary. You are greatly impressed with the diversity that India enjoys in terms of its culture, heritage, language, food etc. You feel that schools in India should imbibe the value of national integration in their students by celebrating their annual programmes keeping the cultural programmes of other states. Write a letter to the district education officer requesting her/him to direct the schools of your district to celebrate their annual day programme as per the idea reflected above. You may take help from the MCB unit-6 'National Integration'. (7)

#### OR

- 5b. You are Farzana/Shahid Qureshi living at 7, Gulmohar Apartment, Ahmedabad. You believe that India has immense potential in the sector of renewable sources of energy. Renewable sources of energy like solar, wind, hydro power, bioenergy etc. can replace fossil fuels and can save precious foreign currency and environment. Write a letter to the minister of renewable sources of energy to encourage the use of solar panels, bio-fuel, wind turbines etc. by announcing schemes like subsidy on solar panels, supporting companies which use green energy, giving low interest loans to the companies which work in the sectors of renewable energy etc. You may take help from the MCB unit-3 'Science'.

6. Answer any one from (6a) and (6b) given below in 150 words.

6a. Sleep deprivation is a part of modern life these days. People work more each day and often have other activities after work, and usually arrive home late into the evening. By the time people settle into bed, it is very late in the night and they have to wake up early the next morning. It's no surprise that an estimated 60 percent people get less than the recommended seven to nine hours of sleep. While that can just mean feeling a little drowsy after a night, the lack of sleep can have serious consequences. Here are some facts about sleep deprivation. (8)

- Lack of sleep increases the risk of Alzheimer, cancer, causes weight gain, weakens the immune system, increases risk of stroke etc.
- People may have trouble learning, focusing, and reacting.
- Sleep deficiency can interfere with work, school, driving, and social functioning
- Research shows that getting enough quality sleep at the right times is vital for mental health, physical health, quality of life, and safety.

Using the hints given above and from the unit-1 'Health and Medicine' write an article on sleep deprivation. Take yourself as Satnam Saluja/Parvinder Kaur.

**OR**

6b. Global Warming is caused by greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide being released into our atmosphere in great amounts. Trees absorb and store carbon dioxide from the atmosphere while at the same time produce oxygen and release water vapor into the atmosphere. We've destroyed only half of our forests and we're already feeling the effects of global warming. Here are some facts related to destruction of forests;

- 13 million hectares of forest have been converted for other uses or destroyed by natural causes.
- Up to 28,000 species can go extinct in the next quarter century due to deforestation.
- By the year 2030, we might only have 10% of Rainforests left and it can all disappear in a hundred years.
- 10% of the world's forests are now protected areas. This is roughly the size of India.
- Tropical Rainforests store more than 210 gigatons of carbon and deforestation is the cause of 15% of carbon emissions.
- Cures for diseases have been found in plants and the raw materials come from our tropical rainforests.

Take yourself as Peter/Mariam D'souza and write an article on 'Save Environment-Stop Deforestation' using the above given hints, ideas from MCB Unit 4: Environment, and your own ideas.

### **SECTION-C**

#### **Grammar (10 Marks)**

7. Complete the tasks A-C, as directed.

(A) Fill the blanks (i) -(iii) with the appropriate option from those given. (3)

Physicians in the ancient times were not wholly unskilled. They could remove teeth, set bones, even (i) ..... skin grafts. In the face of the plague, though they (ii) ..... powerless. And, unaware of (iii) ..... cause, they could only guess at its treatment.

- |       |            |           |            |          |
|-------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| (i)   | (A) do     | (B) did   | (C) does   | (D) done |
| (ii)  | (A) had to | (B) were  | (C) should | (D) are  |
| (iii) | (A) it's   | (B) their | (C) there  | (D) its  |

- (B) In the following paragraph, one word has been omitted in each line. In your answer sheets, remember to write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, as shown below. The first one has been done as an example. (4)

	Before	Omitted	After
e.g.	Macbeth not really like to play foul.	Macbeth	did not
(i)	But, the witches promised him greatness,		
(ii)	And, already two of their predictions had proved true.		
(iii)	Now, his mind began to obsessed with the intense		
(iv)	desire for the third prediction come true.		

(C) Do as directed.

- (i) Rearrange the jumbled words/phrases given in the answer to create a meaningful sentence. (1)

**Que.** What is AI in simple words?

**Ans.** of / humans / like / that / intelligence/ is / artificial / making / think / the science / can / machines.

- (ii) Report the dialogues to complete the paragraph that follows. (1+1)

Rajan: Will you write the invitations tomorrow?

Yogita: Yes certainly, I have a lot of time tomorrow after my kitchen work.

Rajan asked Yogita (ii) ..... the invitations the next day. Yogita agreed and said that (iii) ..... after her kitchen work.

## SECTION-D

### Literature Textbook (26 Marks)

8. Read the given excerpts and answer the questions briefly, for ANY TWO excerpts, of the three, given. (4+4=8)
- (A) *“The fair breeze blew, the white foam flew,  
The furrow followed free;  
We were the first that ever burst  
Into that silent sea.”* (4x1=4)
- (i) Why is the sea called ‘silent’?
- (ii) What according to the mariners was the reason for their fate?
- (iii) Explain the line ‘*The fair breeze blew*’.
- (iv) Which poetic device is used in the last line?
- (B) *“Mrs. Slater: I’m not satisfied but it’s the best we can do till our new black’s ready and Ben and Elizabeth will never have thought about mourning yet, so we’ll outshine them there.”* (4x1=4)
- (i) What is Mrs. Slater dissatisfied with?
- (ii) What is the reference to ‘new black’ and why is it required?
- (iii) What does her speech reveal about her character?
- (iv) What does the word ‘outshine’ mean in the extract?
- (C) *“We came away with a virtual reality visor and glove and a handful of the latest interactive psycho-drive games. They’re terrific”* (4x1=4)
- (i) Who are ‘we’?
- (ii) What does he say is “terrific”?
- (iii) Why are they terrific?
- (iv) Use the noun ‘*handful*’ in your own sentence as it is used in the extract.

9. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 30- 40 words each (5x2=10)
- (i) The postmaster says to Ali, 'What a pest you are brother?' Do you agree with the statement? Give reasons.
  - (ii) "Mrs. Packletide was pardonably annoyed at the discovery." What led her to be annoyed?
  - (iii) How does the author of 'A Shady Plot' earn his living?
  - (iv) How do we know that Patol was a meticulous man?
  - (v) Which are the different ways in which the frog asserts his importance?
  - (vi) Why do you think the rich and powerful people get monuments and statues erected in their memory?
10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 150 words. (1x8=8)
- (A) "War is another name for destruction. It brings with it endless number of maladies in the form of poverty, crime, innocent killings, social unrest, food crisis and so on." With reference to the story 'Two Gentlemen of Verona', write an article telling how war has affected the lives of the characters in the story.

**OR**

- (B) Friendship versus deception is an important theme of the drama 'Julius Caesar'. Comment.