

INTERNATIONAL INDIAN SCHOOL BURAI DAH
CLASS 11-ENGLISH CORE (CODE 301)
FIRST TERM EXAMINATION (2025-26)
SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER

MAX MARKS: 80

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

General Instructions:

The Question Paper contains three sections.

Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section A (Reading)

Q1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

(1X10=10)

1. As the family finally sets off from home after many arguments, there is a moment of lull as the car takes off. "Alright, so where are we going for dinner now?" asks the one at the driving wheel. What follows is a chaos, as multiple voices makes as many suggestions.
2. By the time, order is restored and a decision is arrived at, tempers have risen, feelings injured and there is at least one person grumbling.
3. Twenty years ago, you would step out of home, decision of meal and venue already made with no arguments or opposition and everybody looked forward to the meal with equal enthusiasm. The decision was made by the head of the family and the others fell in line. Today every member of the family has a say in every decision which also promotes a sense of togetherness and bonding.
4. We empower our kids to take their own decisions from a very early age. We ask them the cuisine they prefer, the movie they want to see, the holiday they wish to go on and the subjects they wish to study.
5. It's a closely connected world out there, where children consult and guide each other. A parent's well meaning advice can sound like nothing more than unnecessary preaching.

How then do we reach our children through all the conflicting views and make the voice of reason be heard? Children today question choices and prefer to go with the flow.

What then is the best path to take? I would say the most important thing one can do is to listen. Listen to your children and their silences. Ensure that you keep some time aside for them, insist that they share their stories with you. Step into their world. It is not as complicated as it sounds; just a daily half an hour of the quality time would do the trick.

i. According to the passage, who said, "so, where are we going for dinner now?"

- a. narrator
- b. one at the steering
- c. one of the passengers
- d. one of the guests

ii. Twenty years ago, according to the passage, decisions were _____.

- a. unanimous, with no argument
- b. made by the children
- c. taken by the head of the family
- d. not taken by elders

iii. The passage concludes that in modern times, children are _____ to take their own decision from a very early age.

- a. forbidden
- b. trained
- c. not given permission
- d. allowed

iv. Choose the antonym as given in para 6 of this passage.

Word	Antonym
Simple	_____

- v. Twenty years ago, the decision was made by the head of the family and the others fell in line. How the decision are taken now a days?**

- vi. What is the message conveyed by this passage? Write any two points.
 1. _____
 2. _____
- vii. After arriving at a decision almost everyone is _____ in the family mentioned above.
 a. happy
 b. excited
 c. hurt
 d. elated
- viii. In modern times, the way each family member in decision making points towards _____ in the family.
 a. grudges
 b. perfect bonding
 c. individual opinions
 d. none of these
- ix. The writer used word “hurt” in para 2. What is the synonym of hurt as used in this paragraph
- x. The word which means the same as a style or method of cooking in para 4 is _____.
 a. gourmet
 b. cuisine
 c. gastric
 d. science

Q2. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

(1X8=8)

Poverty estimation in India The percentage of the population living below the poverty line in India decreased to 22% in 2011-12 from 37% in 2004-05, according to data released by the Planning Commission in July 2013. This blog presents data on recent poverty estimates and goes on to provide a brief history of poverty estimation in the country. National and state-wise poverty estimate: The Planning Commission estimates levels of poverty in the country on the basis of consumer expenditure surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. National poverty estimates (% below poverty line) (1993 - 2012).

The current methodology for poverty estimation is based on the recommendations of an Expert Group to Review the Methodology for Estimation of Poverty (Tendulkar Committee) established in 2005. The Committee calculated poverty levels for the year 2004- 05. Poverty levels for subsequent years were calculated on the basis of the same methodology, after adjusting for the difference in prices due to inflation. The table shows national poverty levels for the last twenty years, using the methodology suggested by the Tendulkar Committee. According to these estimates, poverty declined at an average rate of 0.74 percentage points per year between 1993-94 and 2004-05, and at 2.18 percentage points per year between 2004-05 and 2011-12.

Pre-independence poverty estimates: One of the earliest estimations of poverty was done by Dadabhai Naoroji in his book, ‘Poverty and the Un-British Rule in India’. He formulated a poverty line ranging from Rs 16 to Rs 35 per capita per year, based on 1867-68 prices. The poverty line proposed by him was based on the cost of a subsistence diet consisting of ‘rice or flour, dhal, mutton, vegetables, ghee, vegetable oil and salt’. Next, in 1938, the National Planning Committee (NPC) estimated a poverty line ranging from Rs 15 to Rs 20 per capita per month. Like the earlier method, the NPC also formulated its poverty line based on ‘a minimum standard of living perspective in which nutritional requirements are implicit’. In 1944, the authors of the ‘Bombay Plan’ (Thakurdas et al 1944) suggested a poverty line of Rs 75 per capita per year.

Post-independence poverty estimates: In 1962, the Planning Commission constituted a working group to estimate poverty nationally, and it formulated separate poverty lines for rural and urban areas – of Rs 20 and Rs 25 per capita per year respectively. VM Dandekar and N Rath made the first systematic assessment of poverty in India in 1971, based on the National Sample Survey (NSS) data from 1960-61. They argued that the poverty line must be derived from the expenditure that was adequate to provide 2250 calories per day in both rural and urban areas. This generated debate on minimum calorie consumption norms while estimating poverty and variations in these norms based on age and sex.

Year	Rural	Urban	Total
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1993 – 94	50.1	31.8	45.3
2004 – 05	41.8	25.7	37.2
2009 – 10	33.8	20.9	29.8
2011 – 12	25.7	13.7	21.9

i. The Planning Commission estimates levels of poverty in the country on the basis of:

- after adjusting for the difference in prices due to inflation
- consumer expenditure survey conducted by NSSO
- surveys conducted by the NSSO
- expenditure surveys conducted by NSSO

ii. According to the passage, the percentage of the population living below the poverty line in India has decreased up to _____ from 2004-05 to 2011 -12:

- 15%
- 25%
- 12%
- 13%

iii. Like the earlier method, the NPC also formulated its poverty line... The earlier method here means:

- Method of conducting a survey of consumer's expenditure
- The method mentioned in the book Bombay Plan
- Method formulated by Dadabhai Naoroji
- Method formulated by Tendulkar Committee

iv. This generated debate on minimum calorie consumption norms while estimating poverty and variations in these norms based on age and sex. This here refers to:

- A poverty line ranging from Rs16 to Rs35 per capita per year.
 - A poverty line ranging from Rs15 to Rs20 per capita per month.
 - Poverty lines for rural and urban areas – of Rs20 and Rs25 per capita per year respectively.
 - Poverty line derived from expenditure that was adequate to provide 2250 calories per day in both rural and urban areas.
- Only (iv)
 - Only (i)
 - Only (iii)
 - Only (ii)

v. Based on the passage, choose the options that list the statements that are TRUE according to the information:

- In 1962, the Planning Commission constituted a working group to estimate poverty nationally.
 - The NPC did not formulate its poverty line based on ‘a minimum standard of living perspective in which nutritional requirements are implicit’.
 - In 1938, the National Planning Committee (NPC) estimated a poverty line ranging from Rs15 to Rs20 per capita per month.
 - VM Dandekar and N Rath made the second systematic assessment of poverty in India in 1971.
- A and C
 - B and C
 - A and B
 - B and D

vi. Based on the information given in the passage, choose the correct option:

- The percentage of the population living below the poverty line in India increased to 37% in 2011-12 from 22% in 2004-05.
 - The current methodology for poverty estimation is based on the recommendations of Tendulkar Committee.
 - Poverty declined at an average rate of 2.18 percentage points per year between 1993-94 and 2004-05.
 - In 1944, the authors of the Bombay Plan (Thakurdas et al 1944) suggested a poverty line of Rs100 per capita per year.
- Only (iv)
 - Only (iii)

c. Only (i)

d. Only (ii)

vii. Which of the following statement is NOT substantiated by any information from the passage?

a. The NPC based its poverty estimate calculation on Dadabhai Naoroji's methods.

b. VM Dandekar and N Rath made the first systematic assessment of poverty in India in 1971, based on the National Sample Survey (NSS) data from 1960-61.

c. In 1962, the Planning Commission formulated separate poverty lines for rural and urban areas – of Rs20 and Rs25 per capita per year, respectively.

d. In 1938, the National Planning Committee (NPC) estimated a poverty line ranging from Rs15 to Rs20 per capita per month.

a. Only (i)

b. Only (iii)

c. Only (ii)

d. Only (iv)

viii. V M Dandekar and N Rath made the first systematic assessment of poverty in India in 1971, based on:

a. National Sample Survey (NSS) data from 1960-61

b. National Sample Survey (NSS) data from 1960-71

c. National Sample Survey (NSS) data from 1950-61

d. National Sample Survey (NSS) data from 1960-70

Read the following passage carefully.

Many great inventions are greeted with ridicule and disbelief. The invention of the airplane was no exception. Although many people who heard about the first powered flight on December 17, 1903, were excited and impressed, others reacted with peals of laughter. The idea of flying an aircraft was repulsive to some people. Such people called Wilbur and Orville Wright, the inventors of the first flying machine, impulsive fools. Negative reactions, however, did not stop the Wrights. Impelled by their desire to succeed, they continued their experiments in aviation.

Orville and Wilbur Wright had always had a compelling interest in aeronautics and mechanics. As young boys they earned money by making and selling kites and mechanical toys. Later, they designed a newspaper-folding machine, built a printing press, and operated a bicycle-repair shop.

In 1896, when they read about the death of Otto Lilienthal, the brother's interest in flight grew into a compulsion. Lilienthal, a pioneer in hang-gliding, had controlled his gliders by shifting his body in the desired direction. This idea was repellent to the Wright brothers, however, and they searched for more efficient methods to control the balance of airborne vehicles. In 1900 and 1901, the Wrights tested numerous gliders and developed control techniques. The brothers' inability to obtain enough lift power for the gliders almost led them to abandon their efforts.

After further study, the Wright brothers concluded that the published tables of air pressure on curved surfaces must be wrong. They set up a wind tunnel and began a series of experiments with model wings. Because of their efforts, the old tables were repealed in time and replaced by the first reliable figures for air pressure on curved surfaces. This work, in turn, made it possible for them to design a machine that would fly. In 1903 the Wrights built their first airplane, which cost less than one thousand dollars. They even designed and built their own source of propulsion lightweight gasoline engine. When they started the engine on December 17, the airplane pulsated wildly before taking off. The plane managed to stay aloft for twelve seconds, however, and it flew one hundred twenty feet.

By 1905 the Wrights had perfected the first airplane that could turn, circle, and remain airborne for half an hour at a time. Others had flown in balloons or in hang gliders, but the Wright brothers were the first to build a full-size machine that could fly under its own power. As the contributors of one of the most outstanding engineering achievements in history, the Wright brothers are accurately called the fathers of aviation.

Q3. Based on your reading of the above passage, make notes on it, using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations. Supply a suitable title.

(5)

Q4. Write a summary of the passage.

(3)

Section B Grammar & Writing Skills

Q5. Fill in the blanks in the telephone conversation given below with the correct present tense form of the verb given in brackets. (4)

Sameer : Savita! How (i) (be) you? This is Sameer.

Savita: Ahhh.....Sameer! I (ii) (be) fine. How are you?

Sameer: I'm great, thanks.

Savita: That (iii) (be) good. So, what's up?

Sameer: Well, I (iv) (has) a problem for you to solve.

Savita: Sure, just say it.

Q6. Rearrange the words in correct order.

(3)

i. exorbitant/farmers/taxes/poor/pay/were/to/forced/the

ii. a/ strong/ has/ animal/ affinity/ he /with

iii. advocated/ release/ birds/ he/ caged/ the/ for/ of

Q7. (a) You want to purchase a flat. Draft an advertisement in about 50 words for a newspaper, detailing your requirements and your capacity to pay. (3)

OR

(b) You are running a publishing company and want to appoint some editors in English Language. Draft an advertisement for the classified columns under the heading 'Situation Vacant'.

Q8.(a) You are a member of the SPCA. Draft a poster in not more than 50 words to create awareness on the need to prevent cruelty to animals. You are Suhas/Suhasini. (3)

OR

(b) You are Rohit, sports captain of Global Public School, Bangalore. Your school has decided to organize a marathon to promote care and concern towards mentally challenged. Design a visually appealing poster about this in about 50 words. Include all relevant details.

Q9.(a) 'Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise' is a well-known saying. You are Kavi / Kavita of class XI. Write a speech in 120-150 words to be delivered in the school morning assembly on the benefits of rising early. (5)

OR

(b) You have to speak in the school's morning assembly on 'The Harm that Mobile Phones and Smart phones are creating in Students' Lives'. Write the speech in 120-150 words. You are Javed / Jyotsna of class XI.

Q10.(a) 'Our large population is not a cause of poverty but an asset, a resource.' Write a debate in 120-150 words either for or against the motion. (5)

OR

(b) 'Academic excellence is the only requirement for the successful career'. Write a debate in 120-150 words either for or against the motion. (120-150 words)

Section C: Literature

Q11. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

(1X3=3)

Some twenty-thirty-years later

She'd laugh at the snapshot. "See Betty

And Dolly," she'd say, "and look how they

Dressed us for the beach." The sea holiday

Was her past, mine is her laughter. Both wry

With the laboured ease of loss

- i. Who does 'she' in these lines refer to?
- ii. What snapshot is the poet talking about?
- iii. Who were Betty and Dolly?

OR

"A few leaves yellowing, all its seeds fallen
Till the goldfinch comes, with a twitching chirrup
A suddenness, a startlement, at a branch end".

- i. What has happened to the tree?
- ii. How does the mood change on the arrival of the goldfinch?
- iii. There is a comparison of the goldfinch with an animal. Which animal is that?

Q12. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

(1X3=3)

She had always been short and fat and slightly bent. Her face was a criss-cross of wrinkles running from everywhere to everywhere. No, we were certain she had always been as we had known her. Old, so terribly old that she could not have grown older, and had stayed at the same age for twenty years.

- i. Who is 'She' in the above lines?
- ii. What was the physical state of hers?
- iii. Find the synonym of 'corpulent' from the extract.

OR

Carter—Howard Carter, that is — was the British archaeologist who in 1922 discovered Tut's tomb after years of futile searching. Its contents, though hastily ransacked in antiquity, were surprisingly complete. They remain the richest royal collection ever found and have become part of the pharaoh's legend. Stunning artefacts in gold, their eternal brilliance meant to guarantee resurrection, caused a sensation at the time of the discovery — and still get the most attention. But Tut was also buried with everyday things he'd want in the afterlife: board games, a bronze razor, linen undergarments, cases of food and wine.

- i. Who found King Tut's mummy?
- ii. What was the mummy laden with?
- iii. Why were kings laden with riches?

Q13. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

(1X4=4)

CYRIL: [briskly] Hello-Mum. Tea ready?

MRS PEARSON: No.

CYRIL: [moving to the table; annoyed] Why not?

MRS PEARSON: [coolly] I couldn't bother.

CYRIL: Feeling off- color or something?

MRS PEARSON: Never felt better in my life.

CYRIL: [aggressively] What's the idea then?

MRS PEARSON: Just a change.

CYRIL: [briskly] Well, snap out of it, Ma, and get cracking. Haven't too much time.

- i. Who is Cyril?
- ii. What does Cyril want from Mrs. Pearson?
- iii. What does feeling 'Off-color' mean?
- iv. Name the chapter and the author.

OR

Every time she leaves here she takes something home with her," said my mother. "She took all the table silver in one go. And then the antique plates that hung there. She had trouble lugging those large vases, and I'm worried she got a crick in her back from the crockery. My mother shook her head pityingly. I would never have dared ask her. She suggested it to

me herself. She even insisted. She wanted to save all my nice things. If we have to leave here we shall lose everything, she says.

- i. Why did Mrs. Dorling take all their belongings?
- ii. What does the word 'Lugging' mean?
- iii. Name the chapter and the author.
- iv. Why did Mrs. S have to give everything to Mrs. Dorling?

Q14. Answer any two questions in about 40-50 words:

(2x3=6)

- i. How did the narrator manage to survive through the attacks of subsequent waves in the lesson 'We are not afraid to die'?
- ii. How can you say that the photograph was taken on a windy day?
- iii. Describe in brief how the grandmother spent half-an-hour with the sparrows. How did she feel then? Answer in the context of The Portrait of a Lady.
- iv. How is the tree transformed during the bird's visit?

Q15. Answer any one question in about 40-50 words:

(1x3=3)

- i. Who is Mrs Fitzgerald? How is she different from Mrs Annie Pearson in looks and speech?
- ii. Who was uncle Khosrov?

Q16. Answer the following question in about 120-150 words.

(6)

- i. Nature echoed the unnatural happenings with King Tut's body. Comment.

OR

- ii. From a foster mother in the village to a lonely old lady in the city describe the grandmother's journey through the later part of her life.

Q17. Answer any ONE in about 120 – 150 words:

(6)

- i. You will probably agree that the story, The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse, does not have breathless adventure and exciting action. Then what in your opinion makes it interesting?

OR

- ii. Mother is the axis around whom the family revolves. Mother should always be respected. Elaborate.