

KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN, LUCKNOW REGION

MONTHLY TEST (OCTOBER)

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS: XII

MM: 40

TIME: 90 MINUTES

General Instructions:

- (i) 15-minutes prior reading time is allotted for question paper reading.
- (ii) The question paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
- (iii) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option/s being attempted.

SECTION A: READING

Q1. Read the passage given below.

1. Educational technology is the combined use of computer hardware, software, educational theory, and practice to facilitate learning. When referred to with its abbreviations Ed Tech, it points to the industry of companies that create educational technology. With education growing online, India's Ed Tech market size is expected to grow 37 times in next five years.
2. Education in both rural and urban India is expected to be supported by technology in the near future.
3. As per 2019-2020 report, only 22.3 percent of schools had an internet connection. Moreover, 61 percent of schools in the country didn't even have computers.
4. With the internet rate estimated to reach above 55 percent by the end of 2025 in India, digitation of education will impact the country's development and become one of the topmost priorities of the government.
5. Budget 2021-22 allocated Rs.93, 224.31 crore to the Ministry of Education. It was an increase of over Rs. 8100 crore from the revised estimates for the current fiscal year and the Department of Higher Education was allocated Rs. 38,350.65 crore.
6. The role of technology in education is more critical now than ever in addressing educational disparity. It has already made learning affordable and accessible. In particular, the use of technology in education in rural India is one of the biggest boons of recent times.
7. With the help from apps and software, teachers can enhance their teaching ability and provide information about the most recent developments. Students can enjoy an interactive learning experience. Teachers can employ animation, powerpoint slides and graphs to catch the interest of their pupils. Gamification lends interest in the subject.
8. The online education system is a sector in which growth and development will work for the betterment of many sectors which include educating learners and increasing job opportunities for educators and technical teams.

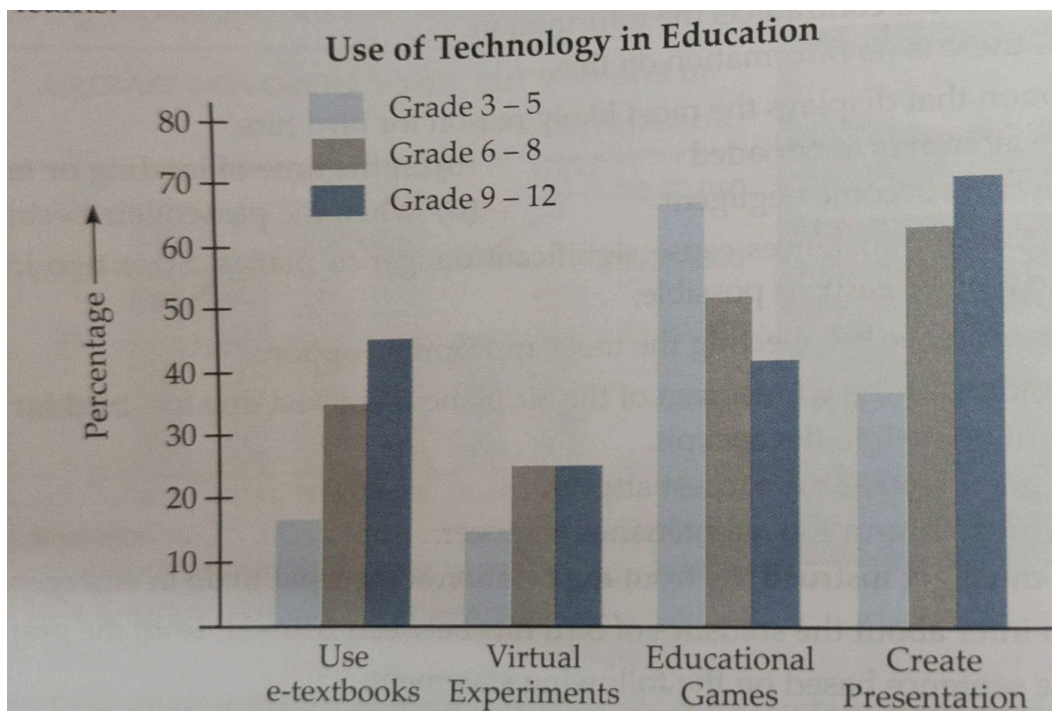


Table: Reasons For Boom In Edtech

1. Lower cost involved in the dissemination of online education.
2. Convenient, flexible and affordable.
3. Initiatives by the government which include programmes like SWAYAM and DIKSHA
4. Increasing number of education based start ups
5. Increasing in the internet user base.
6. Increasing penetration of mobile devices.
7. Inflow of investment and acquisitions in this sector
8. It overcomes the geographical barriers.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions: (1x6=6)

- (i) Does the following statement agree with the information given in para 1?
Education technology is the practice of introducing information and communication technology tools into the classroom.
Select from the following:
True- if the statement agrees with the information.
False- if the statement contradicts the information.
Not Given- if there is no information on this.
- (ii) The word 'critical' in paragraph 6 most nearly means
 - (a) Difficult
 - (b) Crucial
 - (c) Complementary
 - (d) Causative
- (iii) Select the option which displays that use of technology in education in rural India is one of the biggest boons of recent times.
 - (a) Frees up the teacher to be able to concentrate on farming.
 - (b) Teachers can enhance their teaching ability and provide more value to the students.
 - (c) It understands what is needed and technology is subsequently development effectively.
 - (d) Simplifies assignment management with user-friendly methods.

- (iv) Give one reason why Edtech is more critical now?
- (v) Complete the given sentence by supplying the most appropriate word(s):
Technology in education works for the betterment of many sectors such as _____.
- (vi) Based on the graph, state the items which have the highest percentage of technology used by students of grades 9-12 and by students of grades 3-5.

SECTION B: CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

Q2. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 50 words. (4)

- A. On 30th November, your school is going to hold its annual sports day. You want Mr. DhirajPilai, a noted hockey player to give away the prizes to the budding sportspersons of the school. Write a formal invitation in about 50 words requesting him to grace the occasion. You are Karuna/Karan, Sports Secretary, Sunrise Global School, Agra.

OR

- B. You are Natasha residing in Pune. Your cousin, from the same city is hosting your grandmother's 80th birth anniversary and has extended an invite to you. He has also requested your assistance for arrangements needed. Draft a reply of acceptance in not more than 50 words.

Q3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 120-150 words. (5)

- A. You are Amit of 24, Model Town, Delhi. You have seen an advertisement in The Hindu for the post of Chief Chef in a 5 star hotel. Apply for the job with complete biodata.

OR

- B. You are Shantanu, residing at Ghar B-94, Balimela Road, Malkangiri. You came across the following classified advertisement in a local daily. Write a letter in about 120-150 words, applying for the position of a volunteer for the 'Each One Teach One' Campaign.

SITUATION VACANT

WANTED committed volunteers, aged 18 years and above, to teach underprivileged children, for one hour a week, in the district of Malkangiri. Ability to speak, read and write Odiya fluently, important. Experience not necessary. All volunteers to receive training. Contact Nethra N, Coordinator (Each One Teach One), 4 Literacy, Ambaguda, Malkangiri, Odisha-764045.

Q4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 120-150 words. (5)

- A. Many children get nervous before the board exams, which affects their health and performance. Good counselling is needed to help them overcome what is called 'exam fever'. Write an article in 120-150 words on 'Need for Counselling before Board Exams'. You are Mallika/Mihir. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this **article**.

Pressure from the school
Mechanism to destress
Organizing workshops/counselling sessions
Help of professionals
Help from parents

OR

- B. You are Naveen/Neha. You have just visited a glass factory which employs children and have witnessed the awful condition of the children and their place of work. You share your experience with your classmates, who recount the plight of child labour engaged in carpet and cracker industry,

brick-kilns, roadside restaurants and as domestic helps. With the help of the cues given below and your own ideas write an **article** in about 120-150 words advocating a total ban on child labour.

Plight of the children
Exploitation motivated by greed
Poverty, hunger and unemployment
Cheap, docile and unorganized
Offenders must be penalized and punished

SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT

Q5. Read the given extract and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (1x5=5)

A. Those who prepare green wars

Wars with gas, wars with fire,

Victory with no survivors,

Would put on clean clothes

And walk about with their brothers

In the shade, doing nothing.

- (i) What is a common outcome of all the wars described?
- (ii) What does the imagery of 'walking about with their brothers in the shade' primarily represent?
 - (a) The readiness for further conflicts.
 - (b) A return to normal activities post-conflict.
 - (c) A moment of unity and peaceful reflection.
 - (d) The physical environment of a typical war zone.
- (iii) Complete the following suitably.
The putting on of 'clean clothes' by war mongers, symbolizes_____.
- (iv) Select the correct option from the given brackets, to fill up the following.
The excerpt tells us that the speaker_____ (condemns/glorifies) the destructive nature of the modern warfare.
- (v) Read the assertion and the reason given below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion: the poet advocates for 'doing nothing' as a way to prevent the devastation of the war.
Reason: 'doing nothing' refers to a time for stopping any action for a few moments.

Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.

- A. Both assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
- B. Both assertion and reason are true, but reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
- C. The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
- D. The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

OR

B. But although his guest was so well groomed, the ironmaster did not seem pleased. He looked at him with puckered brow, and it was easy to understand that when he had seen the strange fellow in the

uncertain reflection from the furnace he might have made a mistake, but that now, when he stood there in broad day light, it was impossible to mistake him for an old acquaintance.

“What does this mean?” he thundered.

The stranger made no attempt to dissimulate. He saw at once that the splendor had come to an end. “It is not my fault, sir” he said. “I never pretended to be anything but a poor trader, and I pleaded and begged to be allowed to stay in the forge. But no harm has been done. At worst I can put on my rags again and go away.”

- (i) The guest here refers to:
 - (a) The iron master
 - (b) The crofter
 - (c) The peddler
 - (d) Captain Von Stahle
- (ii) Select the correct option from the given brackets, to fill up the following.
The ironmaster was not pleased because the peddler had _____ (hidden/revealed) his identity, when he was brought to the manor house.
- (iii) Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that the stranger had not stolen anything from the ironmaster’s house.
- (iv) Which word from the following means the same as ‘masqueraded’?
 - (a) Dissimulate
 - (b) Puckered
 - (c) Pleaded
 - (d) Thundered
- (v) Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.
It was not the stranger’s fault as-----.

Q6. Read the given extract and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (1x4=4)

A. These single celled plants use the sun’s energy to assimilate carbon and synthesis organic compounds in that wondrous and most important of processes called photosynthesis. Scientists warn that a further depletion in the ozone layer will affect the activities of phytoplankton, which in turn will affect the lives of all the marine animals and birds of the region, and the global carbon cycle. In the parable of the phytoplankton, there is a great metaphor for existence: take care of the small things and the big things will fall into places.

- (i) Name the single celled plants that use the sun’s energy to assimilate carbon and synthesis organic compounds.
- (ii) It has been recently concluded by the scientists that a further depletion in the ozone layer will affect the activities of _____ which ultimately affect the _____ altogether.
- (iii) ‘Take care of the small things and the big things will take care of themselves’. Choose the option stating the significance of this statement depending on the textual context.
 - (a) We should try to focus on smaller regions like Antarctica to improve the rest of the world.
 - (b) We should tend to smaller grasses which eventually become a part of the food chain in order to expect bigger things like animal and human lives to change.
 - (c) We should give more opportunities to the younger generation if we want to see a change in the world.
 - (d) We should save a little every now and then in order to explore bigger opportunities in terms of travel and tourism.
- (iv) List one word substitute as used in the extract for a short allegorical story designed to illustrate some truth or principle.

OR

B. The maharaja's anxiety reached a fever pitch when there remained just one tiger to achieve his tally of a hundred. He had this one thought during the day and the same dream at night. By this time the tiger farms had run dry even in his father-in-law's kingdom. It became impossible to locate tigers anywhere. Yet only one more was needed. If he could kill just that one single beast, the Maharaja would have no fears left. He could give up tiger hunting altogether. But he had to be extremely careful with that last tiger. What had the late chief astrologer said?

- (i) 'The maharaja's anxiety reached a fever pitch...'

Which of these sentences DOES NOT use the phrase 'reached a fever pitch' correctly.

- (a) When the bidding reached a fever pitch, one of the team's absence was notable.
(b) The excitement of the audience reached a fever pitch when they saw the star performing.
(c) The scenic beauty of the place reached a fever pitch when it began to snow.
(d) The climax of the film reached fever pitch when the protagonist was assassinated.
- (ii) "It became impossible to locate tigers anywhere." List the reason for the given statement.
- (iii) Complete the following sentence:
He could give up hunting altogether after_____.
- (iv) How is the Maharaja represented in the above extract?

Q7. Answer ANY THREE of the following in about 40-50 words. (2x3=6)

- (i) When Gandhi got the whole hearted support of the lawyers he said, "The battle of Champaran is won." What was the essence behind this statement?
- (ii) 'In all instances of frustration, you will always find the anger directed towards a single person openly or covertly...'
Do you think it is right to direct our anger towards someone who is not responsible for the cause of anger? Justify.
- (iii) 'Knowing too much of your future is never a good thing.' In light of this quote, examine how knowing the future paved way for the tiger king's end?
- (iv) "Antarctica is a crucial element in this debate". What is the debate and how is Antarctica "a crucial element" in this debate?

Q8. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. You are a blogger who loves to record travel stories. You recently visited a picturesque location and were enamoured by its beauty. Pen down the post for your blog giving vivid descriptions of the natural beauty of this place. Supplement your writing with Keats' ideas about beauty.

OR

B. Imagine you are an ardent environmentalist who is involved in the 'Save the Tiger' campaign. You have been asked to deliver a speech in a seminar related to your campaign and the need for the youth to be involved in such campaigns. Draft your speech.