

CLASS: IX

SUBJECT: ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE

TIME: 3 HOURS

M. MARKS: 80

General Instructions:

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

- I. This question paper has 10 questions. All questions are compulsory.
- II. This question paper contains four sections:
Section A: Reading Skills,
Section B: Writing Skills
Section C: Grammar
Section D: Literature Textbook
- III. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
- IV. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
- V. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A: READING (20 MARKS)

Q1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

Childhood is a phase of life filled with wonder, innocence, and boundless imagination. It is the time when curiosity knows no bounds, and every experience is a new adventure. A child's mind is like a blank canvas, ready to be painted with the colours of knowledge, emotions, and experiences. From learning to walk and talk to exploring the world with wide-eyed amazement, every moment is a step toward growth and self-discovery.

One of the most remarkable qualities of children is their ability to find joy in the simplest things. A puddle of water can turn into a playground, a cardboard box into a spaceship, and a bedtime story into a magical journey. Their imagination is limitless, and their creativity knows no restrictions. This phase of life is also crucial for developing emotional intelligence, as children learn to express love, anger, fear, and excitement.

Education plays a vital role in shaping a child's future. The early years are the foundation for learning, where children develop cognitive skills, social behaviour, and moral values. Schools and families play a crucial role in nurturing these young minds, ensuring they grow up with confidence and a sense of responsibility. However, not all children are fortunate enough to receive proper education and care. Child labour, poverty, and lack of opportunities deprive many children of their right to a happy and healthy childhood.

Parents and teachers must create a nurturing environment where children feel safe and encouraged to explore their potential. Listening to children, understanding their thoughts, and respecting their individuality are essential aspects of their growth. They should be taught the importance of kindness, empathy, and perseverance, values that will shape them into responsible and compassionate adults.

Unfortunately, in today's fast-paced world, technology and digital distractions have started replacing outdoor play and real-world interactions. While technology has its advantages, excessive screen time can limit a child's creativity, physical activity, and social skills. Encouraging children to spend time outdoors, engage in physical activities, and interact with peers is vital for their holistic development.

In conclusion, childhood is a priceless stage of life that should be nurtured with love, care, and learning. It is the foundation of the future, shaping individuals who will contribute to society in meaningful ways. By ensuring every child gets the right environment to learn and grow, we are investing in a brighter and more compassionate world.

Answer the following questions based on the passage above.

1. What is a key characteristic of childhood according to the passage?

1 Mark

- a) Strict discipline
b) Endless curiosity
- c) Fear of new experiences
d) Lack of imagination
2. Complete the following sentence. 1 Mark
_____ play a crucial role in nurturing young minds.
3. State whether the given sentence is true and false. 1 Mark
Excessive screen time enhances a child's creativity and social skills.
4. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a challenge faced by children? 1 Mark
a) Child labour
b) Poverty
c) Lack of creativity
d) Limited education opportunities
5. Match the following: 1 Mark
a) Imagination → (i) Outdoor play
b) Technology → (ii) Digital distractions
c) Education → (iii) Cognitive growth
6. How does the passage suggest balancing technology and real-world experiences for children? 1 Mark
7. Why is emotional intelligence important in a child's development? 1 Mark
8. What role do parents and teachers play in shaping a child's future? 1 Mark
9. Find a word from the passage that means "having no limits". 1 Mark
10. Give a synonym for "holistic" as used in the passage. 1 Mark

Q2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

The environment is the foundation of life on Earth, providing essential resources such as air, water, and food. However, human activities have increasingly threatened the planet's ecosystems, leading to deforestation, pollution, climate change, and habitat destruction. These environmental issues not only affect human survival but also put numerous species at risk of extinction.

Endangered species are animals and plants that are at risk of disappearing due to habitat loss, poaching, pollution, and climate change. Iconic species like the Bengal tiger, giant panda, African elephant, and marine turtles face severe threats. Deforestation destroys the natural habitats of countless species, forcing them into smaller, unliveable spaces. Illegal hunting and poaching for fur, ivory, and traditional medicine further endanger animal populations. Additionally, plastic pollution in oceans threatens marine life, with sea turtles and seabirds often ingesting plastic waste.

Climate change has also emerged as a significant factor in species endangerment. Rising global temperatures disrupt ecosystems, causing ice caps to melt and altering weather patterns. Polar bears, for example, struggle to survive as Arctic ice melts, reducing their hunting grounds. Coral reefs, home to thousands of marine species, are bleaching due to warming ocean temperatures and increased carbon dioxide levels.

Efforts to protect endangered species and the environment include conservation programs, wildlife reserves, and international agreements. Governments and organizations worldwide are implementing laws against poaching and habitat destruction. Conservationists work to restore damaged ecosystems and breed endangered species in captivity before releasing them into the wild. Individuals can also contribute by reducing waste, recycling, and making sustainable lifestyle choices. Supporting eco-friendly initiatives, reducing carbon footprints, and raising awareness about environmental protection are crucial steps toward a sustainable future.

If we do not take immediate action, many species may disappear forever, disrupting ecosystems and affecting biodiversity. Protecting endangered species is not just about saving animals; it is about maintaining the balance of nature that supports all life forms, including humans. A collective effort from individuals, governments, and global organizations is necessary to ensure that future generations inherit a thriving planet.

Answer the following questions based on the passage above.

1. What is a major cause of species endangerment? 1 Mark
a) Overpopulation
b) Habitat destruction
c) Space exploration
d) Excessive rainfall

2. Complete the following sentence. 1 Mark
_____endanger animal populations.
3. State whether the given statement is true or false. 1 Mark
Climate change does not affect marine life.
4. Which of the following species is mentioned as endangered due to climate change? 1 Mark
- a) Bengal tiger c) African elephant
b) Polar bear d) Giant panda
5. Match the following: 1 Mark
- a) Plastic pollution → (i) Coral bleaching b) Deforestation → (ii) Habitat loss
c) Climate change → (iii) Sea turtles
6. How does climate change threaten biodiversity? 1 Mark
7. What are some ways individuals can help protect the environment and endangered species? 1 Mark
8. Why is it important to save endangered species? 1 Mark
9. Find a word from the passage that means "gradual disappearance". 1 Mark
10. Give a synonym for "sustainable" as used in the passage. 1 Mark

Section B -Writing Skill (24 Marks)

- Q3. You are Secretary of Science Club of your school. Your school is organizing a Science Exhibition. Write a notice in about 50 words for the school notice board, informing students about the event and inviting participants. **4 Marks**
- Q4. A house has been burgled. Write a dialogue between the Police Inspector and Mr Raj lodging a complaint in about 100 words. **5 Marks**
- Q5. Write a letter to your elder sibling in about 120 words seeking advice on how to manage time effectively during board exam preparation. **7 Marks**
- Q6. Write a paragraph in about 150 words on 'Mystery of the Bermuda Triangle'. **8 Marks**

Cues-

- Location of the Bermuda Triangle (between Florida, Bermuda, and Puerto Rico)
- Strange disappearances of ships and planes
- Theories explaining the mystery (magnetic anomalies, methane gas, human errors, or supernatural beliefs)
- Scientific investigations and lack of conclusive evidence
- Is it a real danger or just a myth?

OR

Write a paragraph in about 150 words based on the cues given below:

SAVE WATER - SAVE LIFE!
Water is the Essence of Life
 Water Level Going Low
 Dangerously Year by Year
 Apply
Rain-Water Harvesting



- Don't let rain-water run waste.
- Preserve it in tanks and ponds.
- Save this gift of nature for the coming generation.

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Section C- (Grammar) (10 Marks)

Q7 A. Complete the following passage by filling in the blanks with appropriate words 3 Marks

The Amazon rainforest is one of the most important ecosystems on Earth. It (a) _____ a vast area and is home to numerous species of plants and animals. However, deforestation (b) _____ become a major concern, as it (c) _____ climate patterns and biodiversity.

- (a) i. cover ii. covers iii. covered iv. Covering
 (b) i. has ii. have iii. had iv. having
 (c) i. affecting ii. affect iii. affects iv. affected

Q7B. The following passage has an error in each line. Identify the incorrect word and write the correction. 4 Marks

	Error	Correction
(a) Trees are an essential resources for everyone.	_____	_____
(b) They provides oxygen and food to living beings.	_____	_____
(c) Beside, they give us shade in summer.	_____	_____
(d) Deforestation are causing a rapid increase in global warming.	_____	_____

Q7C. Do as directed.

(a). Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases to create a meaningful sentence. 1 Mark

contribute/can/trees/by/ planting/we/ global/reducing/warming/to/and/awareness/conservation/about the/spreading/natural resources/of

(b). Report the dialogues to complete the paragraph that follows. 2 Marks

Ram: Where is my car? I remember parking it here.

Policeman: Your car has been towed away as you parked in NO PARKING zone.

Ram asked the policeman standing there (i) _____ and further added that he remembered parking it there. The policeman replied that (ii) _____.

Section D – Literature (26 Marks)

Q8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions briefly, for ANY TWO excerpts, of the three given.

4+4=8 Marks

(a) “Before the coming of Harold, he had been proud of being a professional boxer. His ability to paste his fellow-man in the eye while apparently meditating an attack on his stomach, and vice versa, had filled him with that genial glow of self-satisfaction which comes to philanthropists and other benefactors of the species. It had seemed to him a thing on which to congratulate himself that of all London’s teeming millions there was not a man, weighing eight stone four, whom he could not overcome in a twenty-round contest. He was delighted to be the possessor of a left hook which had won the approval of the newspapers.”

1. What was the speaker's profession before Harold was born?
2. What weight category did the speaker dominate?
3. Which specific boxing move of the speaker gained recognition from newspapers?
4. Find the word from the passage which means a person who helps the needy especially by giving money.

(b) “Behold her, single in the field,

Yon solitary Highland Lass!

Reaping and singing by herself;

Stop here, or gently pass!

Alone she cuts and binds the grain,

And sings a melancholy strain;

O listen! for the Vale profound

Is overflowing with the sound.”

1. Who is referred to as the "solitary Highland Lass"?
2. What kind of song is the reaper singing?
3. What fills the profound vale, according to the poet?
4. Name the poetic device used in the line ‘Alone she cuts and binds the grain, And sings a melancholy strain.’

(c) “When I cry the hills laugh;

When I humble myself the flowers rejoice;

When I bow, all things are elated.

The field and the cloud are lovers

And between them I am a messenger of mercy.

I quench the thirst of one;

I cure the ailment of the other.”

1. How do the flowers react when the speaker humbles itself?
2. Who are described as lovers in the extract?
3. What two roles does the speaker play between the field and the cloud?

4. Identify and explain the literary device used in the line, "The field and the cloud are lovers."

Q9. Answer any SIX questions in about 30-40 words.

2x6=12

- a. How does the Bishop's act of kindness transform the convict's life and highlight the theme of forgiveness?
- b. The story "Best Seller" uses irony to reveal the contrast between the narrator's perception of John and the reality of his life. How?
- c. Why did Harold's parents keep the truth about his father's profession hidden from him?
- d. How does Duke's loyalty and determination contribute to Chuck's recovery and highlight the bond between humans and animals?
- e. What does the title "Villa for Sale" symbolize in the play, and how does it connect to the larger theme of human desires and materialism?
- f. Did Private Quelch's day to day practices take him closer towards his goal? How can you make out?
- g. Describe the two roads that the poet comes across in the poem "The Road Not Taken".

Q10. Answer any ONE question in about 120 words.

6x1=6Marks

- a. Compare and contrast the themes of "A Dog Named Duke" and "Keeping it from Harold". How do both stories explore the emotional aspects of relationships?
- b. How does the story of "How I Taught My Grandmother to Read" highlight the value of education and the importance of determination through the relationship between the grandmother and her granddaughter?