

St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

9th Avenue, I.P. Extension, Patparganj, Delhi – 110092

Session: 2025-2026 Sample Paper

Class : X

Subject : English

Sample Paper No.2

Section -A Literature

Q1. Read the following passage carefully.

(1) Our daily choices, whether it's following health guidelines, managing our workload effectively, or avoiding unnecessary risks, significantly impact our overall well-being. Making responsible decisions helps us lead healthier lives and avoid potential hazards.

(2) We must commit to organising our lives efficiently. Developing self-control, practising moderation, and setting personal boundaries are crucial for maintaining balance. A life without these disciplines is often chaotic and unstable.

(3) While it may seem thrilling to live recklessly and embrace a high-risk lifestyle, true safety often comes from having clear guidelines and limits. For instance, traffic lanes provide safety margins to prevent accidents. Deviating from these lines can lead to danger. We might not always recognise their importance, but these boundaries are essential for our protection.

(4) I regret to admit that, for years, I ignored my personal limits at work. Despite feeling unwell and seeking various remedies, I continued to overextend myself, believing I could handle it all. It took a toll on my health and well-being. Eventually, I realised that living beyond my limits was unsustainable and made the necessary changes to improve my lifestyle.

(5) We don't need to conform to others' expectations or push ourselves excessively. It's essential to find a personal balance that allows us to enjoy life without succumbing to undue stress and pressure.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage.

(A) Why does the writer refer to "a life without these disciplines" as chaotic and unstable in Paragraph 2?

- (a) Because undisciplined people tend to disrupt others' routines.
- (b) Because such a life lacks the structure needed for emotional and physical well-being.
- (c) Because unpredictability is desirable only for short-term excitement.



Edit with WPS Office

(d) Because balance is impossible in a world without control mechanisms.

(B) Fill in the blank by choosing the appropriate option from those given in the brackets.

Paragraph 2 emphasises the importance of _____(discipline /entertainment / luxury) in leading a stable life.

(C) Which sentence from paragraph 5 conveys that people should avoid living under excessive external expectations?

(D) Give two suggestions the passage offers for living a balanced and healthy life. Answer in 30-40 words.

(E) Explain (in 30-40 words) any two elements that convey the importance of boundaries in the passage.

(F) Complete the following with the appropriate option.

The sentence "living beyond my limits was unsustainable" brings up the imagery of a _____ . (Paragraph 4)

(a) candle burning at both ends, showing exhaustion

(b) river flowing steadily, symbolising calmness

(c) mountain peak, achievement highlighting

(d) sunrise, suggesting hope and renewal

(G) Complete the following with the correct option from those given in the brackets.

In the line "Deviating from these lines can lead to danger", the word 'deviating' suggests _____(staying away from the expected course / experimenting with new ways / following a winding road). (Paragraph 3)

(H) Which of the following best captures the essence of Paragraph 3?

(a) Safety Measures in Modern Transport.

(b) Boundaries: Invisible Rules for a Safer Life

(c) How to Break Free From Restrictive Lifestyles

(d) Thrill-Seeking Versus Safety Concerns in Travel

(I) What is meant by 'clear guidelines and limits' in the line "true safety often comes from having clear guidelines and limits"? (Paragraph 3)

Select the correct option to complete the answer.



Edit with WPS Office

It refers to _____.

- (a) strict laws imposed by the government
- (b) boundaries that ensure freedom from danger
- (c) rules designed for professional growth
- (d) road signs and warning signals

2. Read the following report.

City Park Hosts Successful Community Clean-Up Drive

Mumbai, September 9, 20XX: The City Park was abuzz with activity on Sunday as over 200 volunteers participated in a community clean-up drive organised by the GreenEarth Initiative, a local environmental group. The event aimed to raise awareness about environmental conservation and encourage residents to take an active role in keeping their surroundings clean.

Volunteers from all walks of life, including students, professionals, and senior citizens, gathered early in the morning to clean up the park. Armed with gloves, trash bags, and a strong sense of civic duty, they worked tirelessly to collect litter, remove debris, and beautify the park's green spaces. By the end of the day, the park was transformed, with clean walkways, vibrant flowerbeds, and clear water bodies.

The event also featured educational workshops on waste management and recycling, where participants learned how to reduce their environmental footprint. Local businesses supported the drive by donating supplies and refreshments, while city officials commended the volunteers for their efforts.

The clean-up drive was a resounding success, leaving a lasting impact on the community and setting a positive example for future environmental initiatives in the city.

Answer the following questions, based on your reading of the given report:

(A) Complete the following with the correct option.

The educational workshops held during the event focused on.....

- (a) energy conservation and green fuels
- (b) composting and urban farming
- (c) waste management and recycling
- (d) forest preservation and wildlife tracking



Edit with WPS Office

(B) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option from those given in the brackets.

The term 'resounding success' suggests that the clean-up drive was _____(enthusiastically supported / quietly completed) and well-received by the community.

(C) What is the most likely reason city officials commended the volunteers publicly?

- (a) To gain political advantage in upcoming elections.
- (b) To reward them with promotions and financial bonuses.
- (c) To encourage continued public participation in such initiatives.
- (d) To meet state-imposed volunteer engagement quotas.

(D) State which of the following is True.

- (a) Volunteers were restricted from entering the park's water bodies.
- (b) The event took place late in the evening.
- (c) Over 200 volunteers took part in cleaning and beautifying the park.

(E) If local businesses supported the event with supplies and refreshments, what does this most likely reflect?

- (a) A strategy to promote their products
- (b) A shared sense of civic responsibility
- (c) An attempt to avoid fines from the municipality
- (d) A temporary sponsorship deal for publicity

(F) What in the passage suggests that the community was actively involved in the clean-up drive?

(G) What skills are the participants expected to develop through the educational workshops on waste management?

(H) Explain how the Green Earth Initiative's community clean-up drive aligns with the broader goals of environmental conservation.

Section -B Writing Skills and Grammar

Q3. Write an application to your principal, in not more than 50 words, asking for permission to install a rainwater harvesting model on the school premises as a part of your science project. You are Tanisha Verma, Class X-C, Environment Coordinator.



Edit with WPS Office

Q4. Write a factual description, in about 100 words, of an artisan painting clay pots at a local fair. Include details of the environment, tools, colours, and his concentration.

Q5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in 120 words.

Your school is planning a series of community outreach programs. Write a formal letter to the District Education Officer in not more than 120 words, suggesting the initiation of a campaign focused on "Educating the Girl Child." Discuss the importance of this initiative, its potential impact, and propose some activities to support this cause. You may use ideas from Unit 2: Education, along with your own ideas to write this letter.

OR

The Eco Club of your school is curating a campaign on climate change awareness. As a core member, you feel that showcasing student initiatives like reducing single-use plastics, composting at home, or green commuting will make the campaign more relatable and impactful. Write a formal letter to the Club Coordinator proposing a segment titled "Everyday Climate Heroes" to encourage peer-led environmental action. Include reasons and ways of presenting these efforts. You are Ishaan Grover, Class X-D. You can use your own ideas and take help from the MCB Unit - 4: Environment.

Q6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in 150 words.

Your school magazine is publishing an article on various ways to enhance local tourism. Write an article on the theme "Promoting Tourism," detailing innovative strategies to attract visitors and the benefits these strategies can bring to the community. Use the given cues, along with your own ideas and those you may have gathered from Unit 5: Travel and Tourism, to create this article. You are Ashish Aggarwal.

Cues:

Introduce the concept of local tourism.

Describe various innovative strategies (events, cultural programs, local tours).

Explain the benefits to the community (economic, cultural, social).

Discuss how these strategies can enhance the local image and attract more visitors.

OR

You are Namrata Sinha of Class X. Write an article for your school's science newsletter titled "The Promise and Peril of Genetic Engineering". With new advances in biotechnology, scientists can now modify genes in crops, animals, and even humans. But how far is too far? Should science have limits? Use inputs from MCB Unit 3: Science, along with your own ideas and opinions.



Edit with WPS Office

Cues:

Benefits: Disease prevention, improved agriculture, medical cures

Concerns: Ethical risks, biodiversity loss, economic inequality

Moral Questions: Do we have the right to redesign life?

Give a balanced view and conclude with whether genetic engineering should be promoted, paused, or regulated more strictly.

Q7. Fill in the blanks (i) - (iii) with the appropriate option from those provided in the brackets.

To achieve financial stability, individuals (i) _____ (can/ should/ must) create and stick to a budget, ensuring that their spending aligns with their income and financial goals. They should also (ii) _____ (have saved/save/ saving) a portion of their income regularly to build an emergency fund and prepare for future expenses. Additionally, seeking advice from financial experts (iii) _____ (often/rarely/ never) can provide valuable insights and help in making informed financial decisions.

Q8. 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.

No.	Text	Word before	Omission	Word after
1	Regular exercise is a key component maintaining			
2	overall health and well being. It is important to aside			
3	time physical activity, even amidst busy schedules, as			
4	It can greatly improve mood boost productivity.			

Q9. Do as directed.

(A) Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence.

Atul: Have you ever thought about the impact of renewable energy on the environment?

Sona: No, I haven't. What does renewable energy mean?



Edit with WPS Office

Atul: (i) Energy / Sources / Are / That / Renewable / Constantly / Can Be /Replaced / Such As / Solar / Wind / And /Hydro / Resources

(B) Report the dialogues to complete the paragraph that follows.

Teacher: I am considering incorporating more interactive activities into our lessons.

Student: That sounds interesting! Do you usually use interactive activities in class?

Teacher: Not usually. I believe that adding these activities will make the lessons more engaging and beneficial for everyone.

The teacher told the student that she was considering incorporating more interactive activities into their lessons. The student expressed interest and asked his teacher (i)_____. The teacher responded that (ii)but believed that adding these activities would make the lessons more engaging and beneficial for everyone.

Section -C Literature

Q10. Read the given extracts and answer the questions briefly, for ANY TWO extracts, of the three, given.

(A) Ali was leaning on a stick, and the tears were wet on his face as they had been when the clerk left him. But his features had been hard then, and now they were softened by lines of kindness. He lifted his eyes and in them was a light so unearthly that the postmaster shrank back in fear and astonishment. (The Letter)

(i) What impact did the light in Ali's eyes create on the postmaster?

(ii) What does the postmaster shrinking back in fear and astonishment suggest about his changing view of Ali?

(iii) What feelings did the postmaster's reaction to Ali's eyes reflect? (any two)

(iv) What might the phrase 'a light so unearthly' in Ali's eyes symbolise in the story?

(B) BRUTUS: This dream is all amiss interpreted: It was a vision fair and fortunate: Your statue spouting blood in many pipes, In which so many smiling Romans bathed, Signifies that from you great Rome shall suck Reviving blood, and that great men shall press For tinctures, stains, relics and cognizance. This by Calpurnia's dream is signified. (Julius Caesar)

(i) How does Brutus contrast Calpurnia's fearful vision with his own interpretation?

(ii) How does Brutus's speech reflect his manipulation of symbolism to alter Caesar's perception of danger?

(iii) What is the tone of Brutus's statement when he says, "This dream is all amiss interpreted"?

(iv) What does the phrase "great men shall press / For tinctures, stains, relics and cognizance"



Edit with WPS Office

suggest about Caesar's legacy?

(C) Evidently the wrong animal had been hit, and the beast of prey had succumbed to heart-failure, caused by the sudden report of the rifle, accelerated by senile decay. Mrs. Packletide was pardonably annoyed at the discovery; but, at any rate, she was the possessor of a dead tiger, and the villagers, anxious for their thousand rupees, gladly connived at the fiction that she had shot the beast. (Mrs. Packletide's Tiger)

(i) Why was the discovery of the wrong animal being hit 'pardonably' annoying for Mrs. Packletide?

(ii) How does the phrase 'possessor of a dead tiger' reflect Mrs. Packletide's true objective?

(iii) How does the use of the word 'fiction' highlight the theme of pretense and social vanity?

(iv) How does the sentence "the beast of prey had succumbed to heart-failure reflect the irony in the situation?

Q11. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 30-40 words each. 5 x 2 = 10

(A) Explain briefly how does Shelley highlight Ozymandias's conflict between pride and the decline of power in the poem 'Ozymandias'.

(B) How does the setting of the cyber world function as a structural element in 'Virtually True'?

(C) Evaluate how the Mariner's recounting of the ship's journey affects the Wedding-Guest's emotional response in 'The Rime of the Ancient Mariner'.

(D) How does the narrator's experience in 'A Shady Plot' reflect the challenges faced by individuals in the world of publishing and writing?

(E) How does the author use humour as a narrative device in the story 'Mrs. Packletide's Tiger'?

(F) Support the view that the use of dramatic irony enhances the themes of greed and hypocrisy in 'The Dear Departed'.

Q12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 150 words.

Compare the attitudes towards power and influence in 'The Frog and the Nightingale' and 'Not Marble nor the Gilded Monuments'. How do these attitudes impact the characters' fates in each poem?

OR

In what ways do 'The Letter' and 'Two Gentlemen of Verona' reflect selfless love and sacrifice? Analyse how these portrayals enhance the moral impact of the stories.



Edit with WPS Office