



**INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR**  
**PRE-BOARD 1 EXAMINATION (2023-24)**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)**

CLASS: X

SET A

MAX. MARKS: 80

DATE: 07/01/2024

TIME: 3 HOURS

**General Instructions:**

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections -READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

**SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)****1. Read the following text.****10**

- (1) The world is big but in a sense, it starts with me. Knowledge and awareness about my own self have to precede my knowledge of things other than me. If I want the external environment to appreciate value, I need to do it by myself, first. In order to make the atmosphere around me green, I have to be green myself, in belief and action.
- (2) From dusk to dawn and dawn to dusk, our every activity leaves its footprint on the environment and ecology. It is a 24 x 7, eternal phenomenon. A laboured consciousness of having to go green in all possible areas is required in each one of us. It is, after all, our own self-interest and that of our descendants. The conscious application of change is going to become a habit and one's culture in due course. Though we read and hear a lot of green initiatives, we hardly tweak our routines to suit the larger picture.
- (3) Greenery in the surroundings prevents dust and noise pollution. The way we water and manure plants also matters. Water is also a fast-depleting resource. Sprinklers are one example to use and conserve it. Compost from bio waste can be used as manure for plants which is cost-effective and eco-friendly. We can also contribute to the preservation of water bodies by not dumping our garbage in them. The use of public transport systems in the place of individual modes can reduce carbon footprint.
- (4) 'Reuse', 'Recycle', 'Re-engineer' and 'Renew' are the mantras. Let us appreciate, support and contribute our might to the promotional efforts of the community in this direction. Remember, my ecology is also the community, society and nation that I care for, which in turn cares for me. In other words, all these seemingly outward initiatives done for others are going to make my life more comfortable ultimately.
- (5) I have to be, therefore, concerned about what sort of environment I am responsible for, for my own sustenance, livelihood and progress. As long as my impact is positive, my presence will be welcome. If it is otherwise, I am going to be shunned. It is either 'Embrace' or 'Embarrass'.
- (6) Green initiatives are anti-scorch Earth. Air, water and soil need to be conserved for the thriving of mankind in the future. The increasing onslaughts on the quality of air and soil need to be reversed. The indiscriminate exploitation of water- consumable water is only 0.3% of freshwater, needs to be stopped. The Earth ought not to shrink further, continue to breathe easy. Mother Earth looks for only love and cares from her children and nothing more in return for all the wealth she has so generously showered on us.

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**

- i. Why does the author say that one should be concerned about the environment? 1
  - A. For future generations
  - B. For the betterment of country
  - C. For the betterment of culture
  - D. For better sustenance
- ii. The writer is all for measures to be taken to save the planet Earth when he says, 'Air, water and soil need to be conserved for the thriving of mankind in the future.' (Paragraph 6)  
 State any two solutions he offers in the extract in about 40 words. 2
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1  
 We need to conserve water because \_\_\_\_\_.

- iv. The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets (A)-(E) given below, identify two sets of antonyms. 1
- A. Belief and action
  - B. Knowledge and awareness
  - C. Reduce and increasing
  - D. Indiscriminate and change
  - E. Dusk and dawn
- v. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1  
 The author says that the Earth ought not to shrink further and continue to breathe easy because \_\_\_\_\_.
- vi. Supply one point to justify the following in about 40 words. 2  
 I need to do it by myself, first. In order to make the atmosphere around me green, I have to be green myself, in belief and action.
- vii. Why does the writer say “The use of public transport systems in the place of individual modes...”? 1
- A. to manage ecosystem
  - B. to enhance air quality
  - C. to reduce carbon footprint
  - D. to reduce noise pollution
- viii. Based on your reading of the text, list any 2 preventive measures for the author’s statement. 1  
 “Water is also a fast-depleting resource,” in Paragraph 3. 1

**2. Read the following text. 10**

- (1) Unsafe water kills more people each year than war and all other forms of violence combined. Meanwhile, our drinkable water sources are finite: less than 1 percent of the Earth’s freshwater is actually accessible to us. Without action, the challenges will only increase by 2050, when global demand for freshwater is expected to be one-third greater than it is now.
- (2) Water is uniquely vulnerable to pollution. Known as a ‘universal solvent’, water is able to dissolve more substances than any other liquid on Earth. Water pollution is the release of substance into lakes, streams, rivers, estuaries, and oceans to the point where the substances interfere with beneficial use of the water or with the natural functioning of ecosystems. In addition to the release of substances, such as chemicals, trash or microorganisms, water pollution may also include the release of energy, in the form of radioactivity or heat, into bodies of water. The key causatives of water pollution in India are urbanization, deforestation, industrial effluents and agricultural run-offs with the use of insecticides and pesticides. The other causes are social and religious offerings in water bodies and the use of detergents and fertilizers.



**Major Causes of Water Pollution**

- (3) Water pollution can have disastrous consequences on the ecosystem. Furthermore, toxic chemicals can travel through the food chain and get into our bodies, causing diseases and death.
- (4) There is no single or simple answer to stop the water pollution crisis. However, there are many solutions to prevent water pollution, both in our daily lives and within industries. They are treatment methods, reducing plastic waste and water conservation. In addition to this, we must have water-efficient toilets, storm water management and ozone wastewater treatment.

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**

- i. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from paragraph 2 : 1  
vulnerable: resilient :: artificial : \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. Select the correct option to complete the following sentence : 1  
Water pollution can have disastrous consequences on \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the ecosystem    B. weather conditions    C. unexpected rainfall    D. flash floods
- iii. Explain the following, in about 30-40 words. 2  
"Water is uniquely vulnerable to pollution."
- iv. Infer one reason for the following, based on the information in paragraph 3. 1  
Water pollution impacts human health.
- v. From the chart, identify two causes of water pollution in our homes. 1
- vi. Which of the following is NOT listed as a cause of water pollution in India according to the passage? 1  
A. Industrial effluents    B. Agricultural run-offs  
C. Promotion of water conservation    D. Urbanization
- vii. What are some suggested solutions to prevent water pollution according to the passage. 2
- viii. Select the option which does not title for the passage from the following : 1  
A. Water Pollution - A Concern    B. Unsafe Water - A Menace  
C. Universal Insolvent - Water    D. Global Concern - An Urgent Need

**SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 marks)**

**GRAMMAR**

**10**

**3. Complete ANY TEN of the following twelve tasks, as directed.**

- i. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket for the given line from a daily newspaper : 1  
The cars were stopped from \_\_\_\_\_ (go) any further due to a traffic diversion.
- ii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction: 1  
The stage performance put up by the students were spectacular.  
Use the given format for your response:
- | Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |
- iii. Rohina shared some information with Ruchi regarding her summer internship at the bank. Report Ruchi's question. 1  
What was the duration of your internship?
- iv. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Ajay and his friend. 1  
Friend: Ajay, did you buy a zoom lens with your camera?  
Ajay: No, I did not. I ran out of money.  
Ajay's friend asked Ajay whether he had bought a zoom lens with his camera. Ajay replied that he had not because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. he was running out of money  
B. he has ran out of money  
C. he have run out of money  
D. he had run out of money
- v. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option given in the bracket, to complete the following: 1

The teacher \_\_\_\_\_ (completed/had completed/has completed) the preparations for the function before the term ended.

- vi. Identify the error and supply the correction for the following traffic advisory : 1  
Whoever drove a motor vehicle without a safety belt or carries passengers without seat belts will be fined.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- vii. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line from a sports journal : 1

The captain of the team was accused with not encouraging the team members.

Option No.	Error	Correction
A	the	a
B	with	of
C	encouraging	encouragement
D	members	member

- viii. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option : 1

After many months of research, the scientists \_\_\_\_\_ the invisible barrier.

- A. break down      B. broke out      C. broke in      D. broke through

- ix. Read the conversation between a teacher and a student. Complete the sentence by reporting the reply correctly : 1

Teacher: Would you like to take part in a debate competition?

Student: Yes, when is the competition?

The teacher asked whether the student would like to participate in a debate competition to which the student affirmed \_\_\_\_\_.

- x. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the sentence. 1

Don't you have \_\_\_\_\_ friends in the school?

- A. much      B. few      C. little      D. any

- xi. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line. 1

You \_\_\_\_\_ keep your promise.

- A. may      B. can      C. shall      D. must

- xii. Identify the error on a shop's hoarding and supply the correction. 1

World Wide Travels Pvt. Ltd. <span style="float: right;">Beaspur, Sewana</span>
For travel informations, contact the twenty-four hour help-desk.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

### WRITING

10

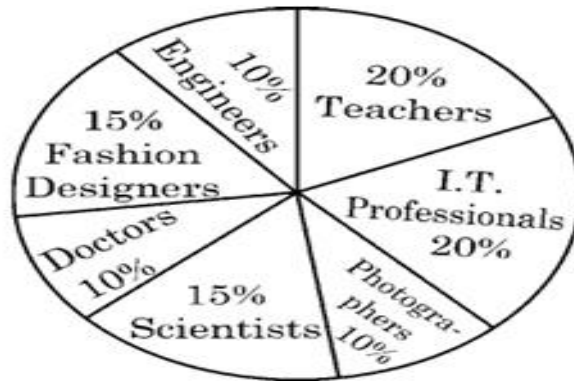
**Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.**

4. A. You are Reema/Rajesh living at Mayur Colony, Mumbai. Write a letter of enquiry in 100 - 120 words to the Director of National Science Centre, ABC Street, Mumbai, to gather relevant information as you are interested in joining their Astronomy Club. Inquire about eligibility, activities, frequency of meetings and other details. 5

OR

4. B. Digital devices like mobile phones, tablets, computers, video games have already affected the good old habit of reading books. Children no longer have the attention and interest in good reading. Write a letter to the editor in 100-120 words emphasizing the need of promoting good reading habits among school students.

5. A. In an exclusive survey conducted by a leading daily, students of class X expressed their job preferences. On the basis of the information given in the pie chart, write a paragraph analysing the careers they want to pursue after school in 100 -120 words. 5



**OR**

5. B. Read the following excerpt from an article that appeared in the magazine section of a local daily:

The ban on single-use plastic is impractical. The purpose of articles such as bags and packing material is ultimately to make human life easier. Plastic articles make this convenient, so they should not be banned.

Write an analytical paragraph in 100-120 words for the given argument. You could give rationale/evidence that would counter/strengthen the argument.

**SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)**

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 5

A. But Horace found that the flowers were hindering him in his work. He buried his face in his handkerchief. Then he heard a voice say from the doorway. "What is it? A cold or hay fever?" Before he could think, Horace said, "Hay fever," and found himself sneezing again. The voice went on, "You can cure it with a special treatment, you know, if you find out just what plant gives you the disease. I think you'd better see a doctor, if you're serious about your work. I heard you from the top of the house just now." (A Question of Trust)

i. State any one inference about Horace from the given context. 1

But Horace found that the flowers were hindering him in his work.

ii. State TRUE or FALSE. 1

None of the options from (A) to (D) can be applied to the given question or context.

Who asked Horace, "What is it? A cold or hay fever"?

- A. Probably, it was the mistress of the Grange.
- B. It was another thief.
- C. It could have been the housekeeper of the Grange.
- D. In all probability, it was a neighbour keeping an eye on the Grange.

iii. What advice did the lady give Horace regarding his hay fever? Was she really interested in his health? Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract. 2

iv. Which phrase/word would correctly substitute 'buried' as given in the extract? 1

He buried his face in his handkerchief.

**OR**

B. Let me put this more clearly, since no one will believe that a thirteen-year old girl is completely alone in this world. And I'm not. I have loving parents and a sixteen year old sister, and there are almost thirty people I can call friends. I have a family, loving aunts and a good house. No, on the surface I seem to have everything, except my one true friend. All I think about when I am with friends is having a good time. I can't bring myself to talk about anything, but ordinary everyday things.

(From the Diary of Anne Frank)

- i. How can we infer that the speaker felt alone in the world? 1
- ii. Complete the analogy by selecting the suitable word from the text : 1  
alone: friends : : nothing : -----
- iii. Why does Anne say she doesn't have friends when she can actually count about thirty people as her friends? Provide a brief explanation in about 30-40 words. 2
- iv. Select the option that correctly captures the usage of the idiom 'bring myself' from the extract: 1  
A. to do something willingly                      B. to do something unwillingly  
C. a charitable act                                      D. an involuntary act

**7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 5**

A.                                      He stalks in his vivid stripes  
  The few steps of his cage,  
  On pads of velvet quiet,  
  In his quiet rage.  
  He should be lurking in shadow,  
  Sliding through long grass  
  Near the water hole  
  Where plump deer pass.                                      (A Tiger in the Zoo)

- i. State TRUE or FALSE: 1  
None of the terms (A) - (D) given below, can be applied to the line- On pads of velvet quiet, in his quiet rage.  
A. Repetition- a poetic device that is used to create a musical effect by repeating single words, phrases or even stanzas at intervals to make the poem more appealing.  
B. Alliteration- the occurrence of words that begin with the same sound placed close together to create a rhythmic effect.  
C. Metaphor- a literary device used to make a comparison without using the words 'like' or 'as'.  
D. Simile- a word or phrase that compares something to something else, using the words 'like' or 'as'.
- ii. Why does the poet describe the cage as having 'few steps'? 1
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1  
The contrast indicated in the given extract is between..... .
- iv. What does the poet say about a tiger in his natural surroundings? 2

**OR**

B.                                      Custard the dragon had big sharp teeth,  
  And spikes on top of him and scales underneath,  
  Mouth like a fireplace, chimney for a nose,  
  And realio, trulio daggers on his toes.  
  Belinda was as brave as a barrel full of bears,  
  And Ink and Blink chased lions down the stairs,  
  Mustard was as brave as a tiger in a rage,  
  But Custard cried for a nice safe cage.

*(The Tale of Custard the Dragon)*

- i. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1  
It is clear that 'Metaphor' is the poetic device used for 'chimney for a nose' because -----.  
(Clue: explain how metaphor applies here)
- ii. Which one of the following is not a feature of the Dragon? 1  
A. big sharp teeth                                      B. spikes on the top  
C. brave as a lion                                      D. could release fire from the mouth

- iii. State whether the following statement is True or False based on the given extract: 1  
Custard's formidable appearance was a true reflection of his courage.
- iv. Describe the bravery of everyone in the house. 2
8. Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words. **4x3=12**
- A. 'He senses first responsibility'—what responsibility is referred to here? (The Ball Poem)
- B. Family played a vital role in the first flight of the young seagull. Give examples to substantiate the above statement. (Two Stories About Flying)
- C. Coorgis belong to a valorous and hospitable race. Comment on this statement with reference to the text. (Glimpses of India)
- D. The poem, 'The Tale of Custard the Dragon', is a perfect example of humility is a virtue worth possessing. Explain.
- E. "...every drop of water must be, so to speak, extended and spread about the place..." Describe Maxwell's observation regarding Mij with reference to the given quote. (Mijbil the Otter)
9. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. **2x3=6**
- A. What kind of person is Matilda's husband? Support your answer giving examples from the text. (The Necklace)
- B. Mr. Jaffers was a committed policeman. Give reasons. (Footprints Without Feet)
- C. What guesses are made by Think-Tank about the books found on Earth? (The Book that Saved the Earth)
10. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. **1x6=6**
- (A) Valli was an extra-ordinary girl who had self-confidence and courage to realise her ambition by planning and drawing on her spirit of adventure. Discuss in reference to the chapter 'Madam Rides the Bus'.

**OR**

- (B) Physical beauty is not permanent, but the beauty of character or internal beauty is permanent. Justify on the basis of your reading of 'For Anne Gregory'.
11. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. **1x6=6**
- (A) Parents play a crucial role in the upbringing of their children. Critically examine the parents of Bholi and Ebright, highlighting their impact on their children's lives.

**OR**

- (B) Trust and compassion can reform a person. Justify this statement in the light of the lesson 'The Thief's Story.'

\*\*\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*