

CBSE Class 10 English Question Paper 2020



Series JBB/C

SET-1

Code No. **1/C/1**

Roll No.

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Candidates must write the Code on the title page of the answer-book.

- Please check that this question paper contains **8** printed pages.
- Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains **11** questions.
- Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book before attempting it.
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.



ENGLISH



(Communicative)

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 80



General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

- (i) The question paper is divided into **three** sections — A, B, and C.
Section A — Reading 20 Marks
Section B — Writing and Grammar 30 Marks
Section C — Literature 30 Marks
- (ii) There are **11** questions in the question paper. **All** questions are compulsory.
- (iii) Answers should be brief and to the point. Also the prescribed word limit be adhered to as far as possible.
- (iv) You may attempt any section at a time.
- (v) All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.
- (vi) Instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.

SECTION A – (Reading)

20

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : 8

- 1 Before starting an operation, the nurse in charge usually counts the cotton mops. A mop is a piece of sterilized cotton gauze. At the end of the operation, she counts the used and unused mops and totals them. This figure should tally with the number of mops counted at the start of the surgery. This procedure is followed strictly to prevent the possibility of a mop getting left behind in a patient's body through oversight.
- 2 The operation was successful and the surgeon was about to sew up and close the abdomen. In keeping with the routine, he asked the OT nurse, 'Sister, is the mop count okay ? If it is fine, give me the needle and catgut.' The young nurse counted the mops and said, 'Sorry doctor, the count is not okay. There is a difference of one mop.'
- 3 The surgeon started searching inside the abdomen. He found no mop. 'No sister, there's nothing inside,' he told her. The nurse searched the OT, but she too could not find the missing mop. She was quite concerned. If the mop count did not tally, the surgeon could not stitch up the patient's abdomen. The surgeon was concerned too. He insisted that if the missing mop was not found, then there must have been an error in the initial count. Politely, but firmly, she said, 'No sir, unless I find that missing mop, I cannot give you the needle and catgut.'



- 4 The surgeon controlled his rising anger and searched the abdomen once again. The nurse was in a dilemma. But she did not change her stand. The surgeon warned angrily, 'If you do not obey my instructions, I will dismiss you after the operation.'
- 5 The inexperienced nurse's apparent defiance made the surgeon angry. He looked down in frustration. To his amazement, he saw the blood-soaked cotton mop lying on the OT floor. 'Hey, the mop is here,' he exclaimed. 'Now the count is complete. Give me the ...' Before he could complete the sentence, the needle and catgut were in his hands.
- 6 After everything was over, the surgeon called the young nurse aside and expressed his appreciation. He told her, 'I am sorry that I put extra pressure on you, sister. However, I am curious to know how you could stand your ground even after I threatened you. She said hesitantly, 'Sir, I merely obeyed the principle taught to me by my teacher — if the mop count is not correct, then the needle and catgut should not be given to the surgeon. I just followed my teacher's words.'

The surgeon was wonderstruck and immensely pleased.

- 1.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer **any eight** of the following questions : 1×8=8

- (a) What is a mop ?
- (b) What is the responsibility of the nurse in charge after an operation ?
- (c) Why is it important to count the mops ?
- (d) Although the nurse feared losing her job, yet _____.
- (e) What did the surgeon insist on ?
- (f) Despite pressure from the surgeon, why did the nurse stand her ground ?
- (g) What made the surgeon angry ?
- (h) Where was the missing mop found ?
- (i) Which word in paragraph 4 means the same as 'a situation in which you have to make a difficult choice' ?



2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

12

Wildlife Conservation

- 1 Wildlife traditionally refers to the wild animal species that are not domesticated. It plays an important role in maintaining a healthy ecological balance on the Earth. Wildlife conservation is a well-planned way to protect the wild animal species and their habitats and plants. Every species in this world needs food, water, shelter and most importantly opportunities to reproduce. Habitat destruction by human activity is the primary threat to the species. Forests are the habitat for wildlife and for the smooth functioning of biological cycles of the Earth; we must conserve forests along with animal species.
- 2 We should avoid sports like hunting. Rather, we should use our camera to take shots. Wildlife conservation is important for maintaining a healthy ecological balance among all the living creatures. Every living creature on this Earth has a unique place in the food chain and thus, they contribute to the ecosystem in their own different ways. But sadly, for land development, many natural habitats of animals are being destroyed by humans. Another factor that contributes to wildlife extinction is the hunting of animals for fur, jewellery, meat and leather.
- 3 For a healthy ecosystem, the disappearance of a single wildlife species from the ecosystem may disturb the whole food chain. Wildlife conservation is also important for medicines as a huge number of plants and animal species are used to produce some essential drugs. Moreover, Ayurveda, the ancient medicinal system of India also uses extracts of various plants and herbs. Wildlife plays a very significant role in the growth of agricultural crops and a large section of population in this world is dependent on these crops. For maintaining a clean and healthy environment, wildlife conservation is essential. For example, birds like the eagle and the vulture contribute to nature by removing dead bodies of animals and keep the environment clean.
- 4 Wildlife conservation can be categorized into two interesting phrases namely “in situ conservation” which protects the endangered animal or plant on site in its natural habitat, and, “ex situ conservation” which literally means off-site conservation of wild animals and plants by removing and relocating some part of a population to a protected habitat.



- 2.1 Based on your reading of the above passage, answer **any four** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each : $2 \times 4 = 8$
- (a) Why are forests important ?
 - (b) Why does man hunt wild animals ?
 - (c) What disturbs the food chain ?
 - (d) How is wildlife conservation important ?
 - (e) Name and explain any one category of wildlife conservation.
- 2.2 On the basis of your reading of the above passage, fill in **any two** of the following blanks with appropriate words/phrases : $1 \times 2 = 2$
- (a) The most important opportunity that every species needs is to _____.
 - (b) In the forest, we should use our _____ instead of a gun.
 - (c) Eagle and vulture keep the _____.
- 2.3 Answer **any two** of the following : $1 \times 2 = 2$
- (a) Which word in the passage means the same as 'preservation' ? (para 1)
 - (b) Which word in the passage is opposite in meaning to the word, 'wild' ? (para 1)
 - (c) Which word in the passage is opposite in meaning to the word, 'modern' ? (para 3)

SECTION B – (Writing and Grammar)

30

3. The Government has recently banned the use of 'single-use' plastic items. This step has been taken to improve the environment. Plastic bags are swallowed by the cattle, clog the drains and pollute the water bodies. Write a letter in 100 – 120 words to the Editor, National Times, Pune praising this move of the Government and describe how it will benefit the society. You are Anil/Anita, 20, Church Road, Pune.

8

OR

You used to go to and come back from school by bus (route no. 29). Recently this service has been discontinued. This has caused a lot of inconvenience to you and many other students. Write a letter in 100 – 120 words to the Director, Transport Authority, Chennai describing your difficulties and requesting him to restart the service. You are Sujatha/T.K. Pramod Kumar, 39, Ambattur Road, Chennai.

8



4. Write a short story in 200 – 250 words with the help of the cues given below. Give a suitable title to the story. 10

Washerman donkey on his way back from the town used to carry a bag of salt stream on the way donkey slipped salt dissolved less weight very happy next day, repeated the trick washerman worried filled the bag with cotton donkey repeated the trick learnt a lesson.

OR

My foot slipped and I fell with a splash the salty water was around full of panic thrashed the water slowly relaxed floating friendly dolphins reached the shore safely.

5. Fill in **any four** of the blanks given below choosing the most appropriate options from the ones that follow. Write the answers in your answer-book against the correct blank numbers. 1 × 4 = 4

- (a) He never raised his voice _____ anyone.
- (b) That day was _____ exception.
- (c) He needed to _____ control.
- (d) Discipline _____ concentration could have helped him.
- (e) Circumstances _____ existed made him angry.

- (a) (i) on (ii) in (iii) of (iv) against
- (b) (i) of (ii) an (iii) on (iv) at
- (c) (i) have exercised (ii) exercises (iii) exercise (iv) exercising
- (d) (i) and (ii) or (iii) if (iv) to
- (e) (i) have (ii) which (iii) what (iv) where

6. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the error and its correction in the space provided. Do **any four**. 1 × 4 = 4

		<i>Error</i>	<i>Correction</i>
His life was misery without	(e.g.)	misery	miserable
his mother. She is nowhere to	(a)	_____	_____
be seen. He was looking to her.	(b)	_____	_____
He did not give in hope. He	(c)	_____	_____
suddenly saw her near an tree.	(d)	_____	_____
He run towards her.	(e)	_____	_____



7. Rearrange **any four** of the following word clusters to make meaningful sentences : 1×4=4

- (a) too / to / the / was / weak / hunt / old tiger
- (b) left / to / he / his / rarely / cave / go out
- (c) the animals / not / of / were / the jungle / of him / scared.
- (d) been / food / long / he / for / had / without
- (e) suddenly / the / spotted / weak tiger / a / deer.

SECTION C – (Literature)

30

8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. Write each answer in your answer-book in one or two lines only. 1×4=4

My name is Ozymandias, king of kings :
Look on my Works, ye Mighty and despair !
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal wreck

- (a) Who is Ozymandias ? 1
- (b) What do you come to know about him from these lines ? 1
- (c) What does the word 'beside' refer to ? 1
- (d) What had decayed and why ? 1

OR

God save thee, ancient Mariner !
From the fiends that plague thee thus ! –
Why look'st thou so ? –

- (a) Who is the speaker ? 1
- (b) What had the ancient mariner done ? 1
- (c) How did the ancient mariner look ? 1
- (d) What does the word 'plague' mean here ? 1



9. Answer **any four** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each : $2 \times 4 = 8$
- (a) How did Sebastian enter the game in the story, 'Virtually True' ?
 - (b) In the play, 'Dear Departed', grandfather made certain changes in his will. Why did he do that ?
 - (c) Why did the poet regret throwing a log at the snake in the poem, 'Snake' ?
 - (d) Why did Lavinia decide to leave John Hallock in the story, 'A Shady Plot' ?
 - (e) In the story, 'The Letter', why did Ali stop hunting even though he was a skilled shikari ?

10. Answer the following question in 100 – 120 words : 8
- 'Patol Babu walks away before he was paid.' What role does Mr. Pakrashi play in developing this attitude in Patol Babu in the story, 'Patol Babu, Film Star' ?

OR

How far is the nightingale herself responsible for her death ?

(The Frog and the Nightingale)

11. Answer the following question in 200 – 250 words : 10
- What was the cause of tension among the members who were living together in the Annexe ?

OR

What were the character traits displayed by Anne and Peter ? What eventually brought them closer ?

OR

How did Anne Sullivan succeed in transforming Helen's life ?

OR

How did Dr. Bell affect Helen's life ?



Series JBB/C

SET-1

Code No. 2/C/1

Roll No.

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ENGLISH



(Language and Literature)

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 80



General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

- (i) The question paper comprises **three** sections — A, B and C.

Section A — Reading 20 Marks

Section B — Writing and Grammar 30 Marks

Section C — Literature 30 Marks

- (ii) There are **11** questions in the question paper. **All** questions are compulsory.
- (iii) Answers should be brief and to the point. Also the word limit be adhered to as far as possible.
- (iv) There is no overall choice in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in Section B and Section C. Only one of the choices in such questions have to be attempted.
- (v) In addition to this, separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.

SECTION A – (Reading)

20 Marks

1. Read the following passage carefully :

8

- 1 After water, tea is the most popular beverage in the world. Its popularity has survived thousands of years and has played an important role in many cultures. It is enjoyed both hot and cold, as a refreshing drink, as part of a ceremony, or as a tonic for improving health.
- 2 The drink of Asia for hundreds of years, tea is believed to have been brought to Europe by the Dutch. Today, from remote Ladakh in India to Buckingham Palace in London, tea means happiness. It is rightly said that there will be no agreement on a perfect cup of tea. Though for tea drinkers, the drink is addictive, the preferred method of preparation and taste differ from person to person and region to region. From traditional black teas, to the newer, and extraordinarily healthy white teas, and recognizable flavoured teas such as Earl Grey, to exotic blends such as Rooibos Love, there is a flavour and a blend for everyone. Today many varieties of tea and tea brands are available in the market. An innovation is the tea bag that is easy, quick and less messy than traditional ways of making tea. Green tea is popular in China.



- 3 In Japan, the tea ceremony is a traditional way of greeting guests and is a social occasion. Unlike the tea we are familiar with, green tea is not drunk with sugar or milk. It is an olive-coloured liquid served in porcelain cups. In Morocco, green tea is served with freshly plucked mint.
- 4 Some scientists believe that tea prevents tooth decay because it is a rich source of fluoride.
- 5 Tea is also a traditional remedy for stomach upsets, flu and diarrhoea. Tea is also said to have anti-oxidants that fight cancer and also have anti-ageing properties that fight the free radicals in our bodies. Research suggests that drinking tea reduces the risk of heart disease and cancer and lowers cholesterol levels in the blood.
6. A welcome thought for tea drinkers. Tea is the new apple a day to keep the doctor away.

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage given above, answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate options from the given choices :

1×8=8

- (a) The most popular beverage in the world is
 - (i) cold drink.
 - (ii) tea.
 - (iii) green tea.
 - (iv) water.
- (b) Who introduced tea to Europe ?
 - (i) Indians
 - (ii) Chinese
 - (iii) Dutch
 - (iv) Japanese
- (c) Which kind of tea is **not** mentioned in the passage ?
 - (i) Black tea
 - (ii) Green tea
 - (iii) White tea
 - (iv) Yellow tea
- (d) The new and convenient way of making tea is
 - (i) using many brands of tea.
 - (ii) making flavoured tea.
 - (iii) by using tea bags.
 - (iv) by boiling tea leaves.



- (e) Why is 'a cup of tea a day' compared to 'an apple a day' ?
- (i) Both tea and apple are prescribed by the doctors.
 - (ii) All teas are as inexpensive as apples.
 - (iii) Both tea and apple promote health.
 - (iv) Tea is full of anti-oxidants and apple is very tasty.
- (f) Where is the tea ceremony a traditional way of greeting guests ?
- (i) China
 - (ii) Japan
 - (iii) Morocco
 - (iv) India
- (g) Complete the statement given below :
Fluorides in tea are useful for preventing _____.
- (h) Earl Grey is a green tea. (True/False)

2. Read the following passage carefully :

12

- 1 The difference in the ways of thinking and perception of the people of two different generations, which results in behavioural differences and sometimes, conflict among them is usually called generation gap.
- 2 Generation gap is generally seen in the family between parents and their children. It is not only because of the gap in age, but also because of the way parents react to a particular situation. Children being very young and immature do not understand the way of thinking of their parents. In many cases, the parents, even if they are mature, do not identify with the changing values and thinking patterns of the modern world. This creates a communication gap between these two generations.
- 3 Generation gap between parents and children is mostly caused by parents themselves. They do not talk openly to their children and take no part in solving their problems. This behaviour gives the impression about parents being authoritative persons, because they only dictate without understanding the problems faced by their children. As a result, the children become mentally isolated from their parents. Some parents become so busy with their work that they do not spend quality time with their family, which makes them completely unaware of how their children are growing, what kind of mentality is being developed in them, and so on. This ultimately creates a gap between them. They only realize it when it is too late.



- 4 Changes in technology have led to the generation gap in this modern world. Children tend to spend most of their time with their mobile phones and are so busy with social media, that they do not discuss their problems with their parents. The Internet provides solutions to most of the worldly problems. So children, instead of contacting their own parents, take the help of the Internet in case of any problem, thus again reducing the communication, leading to generation gap between them.
- 5 The generation gap has greatly increased these days because the time is changing fast and people find it difficult to deal with this change. To overcome this problem, parents should show interest in all matters of their children and deal with them positively instead of just scolding them and leaving them alone to deal with their problems. Giving time to the children, having open communication, and allowing the child to feel free and not be under any kind of pressure, will eventually reduce the generation gap to a tolerable extent.

2.1 Answer the following questions in 30 – 40 words each, on the basis of your reading of the above passage : 2×4=8

- (a) What is generation gap ?
- (b) What causes the generation gap in the family ?
- (c) How has advancement in technology led to the generation gap ?
- (d) What steps need to be taken to bridge this generation gap ?

2.2 Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate options from the given choices : 1×4=4

- (a) What is meant by the word, 'particular' ? (para 2)
 - (i) specific
 - (ii) usual
 - (iii) normal
 - (iv) instant
- (b) Which word is similar in meaning to the word, 'isolated' ? (para 3)
 - (i) bound
 - (ii) grown
 - (iii) separated
 - (iv) unconcerned
- (c) Which word is opposite in meaning to the word, 'solutions' ? (para 4)
 - (i) difficulties
 - (ii) irritations
 - (iii) problems
 - (iv) decisions
- (d) Which word is opposite in meaning to the word, 'reduce' ? (para 5)
 - (i) tear
 - (ii) expand
 - (iii) open
 - (iv) abridge

**SECTION B – (Writing and Grammar)****30 Marks**

3. You are Shyam/Shobha of 88, Jal Vihar, Wazirabad, New Delhi. You are disturbed by the increasing level of pollution of the river Yamuna. Household sewage and industrial waste are thrown into the river. Even leftovers from the religious ceremonies (flowers etc.) are dumped into it. As a result living beings in the river are dying. Water is not fit for drinking or even bathing and washing. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper giving your views on the problem in 100 – 150 words. 8

OR

You are Aryan/Anvita. Recently you read a news feature stating that every year thousands of people die in India due to ill-effects of smoking or chewing tobacco. Write an article in 100 – 150 words on the topic, 'Ill-effects of tobacco and tobacco products'. Use the hints given below : 8

why we pick up this habit — peer pressure — curiosity — fashion — lifestyle — effect — leads to cancer and other diseases — how to stop — strict enforcement of laws — warnings in cinema halls, TV commercials, etc.

4. Complete the following story in 150 – 200 words using the beginning given below : 10
Rohini went for a vacation to Goa. She decided to enjoy a boat ride. When she reached the beach, she saw

OR

Develop the following story in 150 – 200 words using the clues given below : 10

The date of examination declared — was nervous — parents helped me — reached the examination centre — examination commenced — knew all the answers — a sigh of relief — stood first in the class.

5. Read the paragraph given below and fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate words from the given options : 1×4=4

Birds and animals live in the lap (a) nature and can predict the likely changes accurately. Swallows usually fly high (b) the sky. But during a storm, they come down (c) fly close (d) the ground.

- | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-------|-----|------|-------|
| (a) | (i) | in | (ii) | of | (iii) | on | (iv) | for |
| (b) | (i) | in | (ii) | of | (iii) | on | (iv) | to |
| (c) | (i) | nor | (ii) | or | (iii) | but | (iv) | and |
| (d) | (i) | on | (ii) | with | (iii) | to | (iv) | along |



6. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line against which a blank has been given. Write the error and the correction in your answer-book against the correct blank number. $1 \times 4 = 4$

		<i>Error</i>	<i>Correction</i>
Airports have become an important	(a)	_____	_____
part of big city now. Small planes	(b)	_____	_____
are being use by some people to	(c)	_____	_____
travelling from one city to another.	(d)	_____	_____

7. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences : $1 \times 4 = 4$

- (a) holy / the Hindus / is a / the Gita / book / of
 (b) but / are / good / human beings / its teachings / for / all
 (c) good / it / do / deeds / teaches / to / us
 (d) the / we / about / result / should / worry / not

SECTION C – (Literature)

30 Marks

8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : $1 \times 4 = 4$

His ball went. I would not intrude on him;
 A dime, another ball, is worthless. Now
 He senses first responsibility
 In a world of possessions.

- (a) The loss of the ball will help the child to understand his _____.
 (i) possessions (ii) mood
 (iii) first responsibility (iv) life
- (b) Giving another ball to the child is _____.
 (i) intruding on him (ii) worthless
 (iii) going to make him upset (iv) going to make him happy
- (c) The boy is sad because _____.
- (d) The ball is called worthless because it costs only _____.

OR



Max bit his lip nervously. The knocking was repeated.

“What will you do now, Max ?” Ausable asked.

“If I do not answer the door, they will enter anyway. The door is unlocked. And they will not hesitate to shoot.”

Max’s face was black with anger as he backed swiftly towards the window.

- (a) Who was knocking at the door ?
- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| (i) A waiter | (ii) A policeman |
| (iii) A friend | (iv) A guest |
- (b) Ausable, by profession, was a
- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| (i) salesman | (ii) player |
| (iii) secret agent | (iv) policeman |
- (c) Max bit his lip nervously because _____.
- (d) Max went towards the window to _____.

9. Answer any **five** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each : 2×5=10

- (a) Hari Singh is both a thief and a human being. Comment.
- (b) What lesson did Ebright learn when he entered the country science fair in the seventh grade ?
- (c) Bholi’s heart was overflowing with a ‘new hope and a new life’. What does the phrase “a new hope and a new life” mean to Bholi ?
- (d) What does Mandela refer to as ‘so glorious a human achievement’ ?
- (e) Why does the poet show a preference for living with the animals ?
- (f) How was Lencho’s cornfield destroyed ? Had he any hope of help ?

10. Through the story of Kisa Gotami, what did the Buddha try to preach to the common man ? (100 – 150 words) 8

OR

“Valli’s bus journey was a joyride full of pleasant and new experiences.”
Why / Why not ? (100 – 150 words) 8

11. What changes occurred in Matilda’s lifestyle after she had lost the necklace ? (100 – 150 words) 8

OR

How would you assess Griffin as a scientist and a human being ? What qualities or values would you suggest which might make him a better person ? (100 – 150 words) 8