

**KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN, LUCKNOW REGION**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (Code No. 184)**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> PRE- BOARD EXAM (2023-24)**  
**CLASS-X**

**Instructions :-**

1. This paper contains three sections  
Section A :- Reading 20 Marks  
Section B :- Grammar / Writing 20 Marks  
Section C :- Literature 40 Marks
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

**Time :- 3 Hours**

**Max Marks :- 80**

**SECTION - A**

1. Read the passage given below carefully. (10 Marks)
1. Everybody wants to succeed in life. For some, success means achieving whatever they desire or dream. For many it is the name, fame and social position. Whatever be the meaning of success, it is success which makes a man popular.
2. All great men have been successful. They are remembered for their great achievements. But it is certain that success comes to those who are sincere, hardworking, loyal and committed to their goals. Success has been man's greatest motivation. It is very important for all. Success has a great effect on life. It brings pleasure and pride. It gives a sense of fulfillment. It means all-around development. Everybody hopes to be successful in life. But success smiles on those who have a proper approach, planning, vision and stamina. A proper and timely application of all these things is bound to bear fruit. One cannot be successful without cultivating these certain basic things in life. It is very difficult to set out on a journey without knowing one's goals and purposes. Clarity of the objective is a must to succeed in life. A focused approach with proper planning is certain to bring success. Indecision and insincerity are big obstacles on the path to success.
3. One should have the capability, capacity and resources to turn one's dreams into reality. Mere desire cannot bring you success. The desire should be weighed against factors like capability and resources. This is the basic requirement of success. The next important thing is the eagerness, seriousness and the urge to be successful. It is the driving force which decides the success. It is the first step on the ladder of success.

4. One needs to pursue one's goals with sincerity and passion. One should always be in high spirit. Lack of such spirit leads to an inferiority complex which is a big obstruction on the path to success. Time is also a deciding factor. Only the punctual and committed have succeeded in life. Lives of great men are examples of this. They had all these qualities in plenty which helped them rise to the peak of success.
5. Hard labour is also one of the basic requirements of success. There is no substitute for hard labour. It alone can take one to the peak of success. Every success has a ratio of five percent inspiration and ninety-five percent perspiration. It is the patience, persistence and perseverance which play a decisive role in achieving success. Failures are the pillars of success as they are our stepping-stones and we must get up and start again and be motivated.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions.**

- i. According to the author, what is the first and foremost step on the journey to achieve success? (2)
- ii. Choose the option that best conveys the message in – ‘It gives a sense of fulfillment. (1)
- (a) Failure makes you understand success.
- (b) Achieving success feels like a person's life's purpose is fulfilled.
- (c) Hard work never goes unrewarded.
- (d) Success means achieving everything you want.
- iii. Select the option with the underlined words that can suitably replace ‘persistence’ (paragraph 5). (1)
- (a) He admired her dogged continuing effort in pursuing the job.
- (b) By the time the rebel troops arrived, the village had already been cast aside.
- (c) The son was reluctant to turn over involvement in the company.
- (d) This illness induced a spiritual change, and he resolved to sign away whatever kept him back from God.
- iv. A Metaphor is a figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable. (1)
- From the options given below, select a phrase from the above passage that can be an example of metaphor.
- (a) “...labour is also one of the basic requirements...”
- (b) “... they are our stepping-stones...”
- (c) “It is the first step on the ladder of success.”

- (d) Both (b) and (c)
- v. Which of the following shows the correct meaning of the phrase – “Whatever be the meaning of success”?
- (1)
- (a) Success means to become powerful, rich and famous.
- (b) Success can mean different thing to different people.
- (c) Success is the acquiring of money through whichever method possible.
- (d) Success is the acquiring of knowledge through whichever method possible.
- vi. Study the following statements.
- (1)
- (A) Everybody wants to succeed in life.
- (B) Hard work cannot be substituted with anything.
- (a) (A) is right (B) is wrong
- (b) (B) is right (A) is wrong
- (c) Both (A) and (B) are right
- (d) Both (A) and (B) are wrong
- vii. What qualities did the great men who have been successful display, according to the author?
- (2)
- viii. What does the writer advise, in paragraph 4?
- (1)
- (a) To work diligently
- (b) To be a lethargic person to achieve success
- (c) To be passionate and sincere
- (d) To dream of riches and success

**Q2. Read the passage given below carefully.**

**(10 Marks)**

- (1) If you went only by the number of shopping malls in the country, you would think the brick-and-mortar retail space in India is booming. By the end of this year, India will have more than 87 million square feet of shopping space in its malls. The country already has 570 functional malls, with this number having doubled over the last five years.
- (2) There is, however, one problem: buyers are no longer doing their shopping at malls. What looked like India's great retail growth story is turning out to be a tale of empty shopping complexes and stalled projects, with developers giving up midway instead of trying to make these projects profitable. The culprit, data suggests, could be online shopping.
- (3) A report by The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India pegs the growth rate of e-commerce in India at 40-50% in the next five years. Physical stores are the ones bearing the brunt of massive discounts and comfort that e-commerce has brought to the desks and palms of the youngsters who no longer feel it necessary to visit a retail outlet to buy something. According to the report, 80-85% of the space in the new malls is lying vacant. This problem is being faced by mall owners across the board, starting with metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai, followed by Ahmedabad and Hyderabad. In each of these cities, mall rentals fell by more than 40% owing to

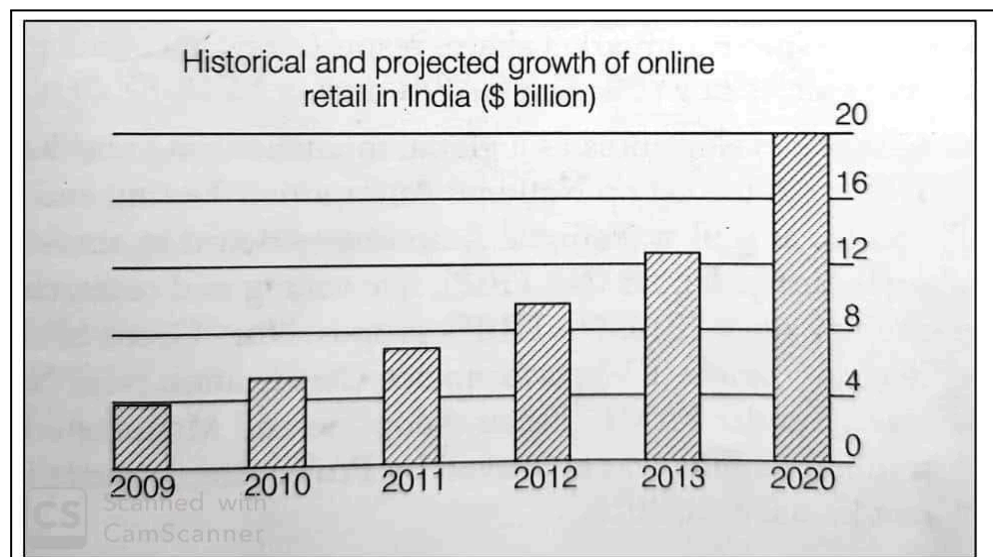
(4) fewer footfalls.

At the same time, online shopping grew by over 350% in just one year, the report adds. "Apart from convenience, rising fuel price, security reasons, online discounts and availability with abundance of choices are keeping consumers indoors," said DS Rawat, Secretary General of ASSOCHAM.

(5) Even then, revenues continue to come in for some of the malls. The reason: anchor stores. Anchor stores are those specialized stores that offer exclusive products generally not available online. Brands like Zara, H&M and even Starbucks are acting as anchor stores for mall owners, who are rushing to sign them, at times with revenue sharing models and larger exclusive spaces.

(6) Evidently, the surge of online retail has also forced mall owners to set their priorities straight, as watching movies and dining out remains among the last few things that people cannot get delivered to their doorstep. "The arrival of the mall syndrome has accelerated the growth of cineplexes as multiplexes are the anchor tenants in most of these malls," Shravan Shroff, managing director, Srinagar Cinemas.

(7) Only 17% of Indians are online as of now, a low number compared to other countries. However, these numbers are soon set to swell up exponentially as India hits the mark of 300 million people online before the year ends, leaving mall owners as well as retailers with the mammoth task of luring people away from their computers and phones to physical stores at a time when developers are slowing down on projects.



**On the basis of your understanding of the passage, attempt the questions that follow:**

i. Complete the following analogy appropriately based on your understanding of paragraph.

We can say that Mall Owners are rushing to sign the anchor stores because \_\_\_\_\_.

ii. The \_\_\_\_\_ don't buy anything at shopping malls and thus it turns out to be a tale of \_\_\_\_\_.

iii. **Justify the following in about 40 words:**

Evidently, the surge of online retail has also forced mall owners to set their priorities straight, as watching movies and dining out remains among the last few things that people cannot get delivered to their doorstep.

iv. Based on the graph, what was the approximate growth of online retail in India in 2013?

- v. What is the reason behind 'customers are indoors'?
- vi. Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the ways in which the E-Commerce industry has taken over malls.

i	ii	iii	iv	v	vi
Discounts	Offers	Traveling	Security	Choices	Convenience

- A. i, ii, iii  
B. iv, v, vi  
C. i, ii, iv  
D. All of the above

- vii. Infer one benefit and one drawback of online retailing.
- viii. Choose the option that lists the statement that is **NOT TRUE** according to the given graph:
- A. Between the years 2013 and 2020 online shopping has become exponential growth.  
B. Online shopping became a part of the Indian shopping market in 2009.  
C. Online shopping saw consistency between 2009 to 2012.  
D. Online shopping drastically changed the shopping scenario after 2012.

## SECTION – B

### Grammar

(10 Marks)

3. Attempt Any Ten of the following.

- i) Fill in the blank by using correct option.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it.....two or three days to cross North America by a covered wagon.

- a) took      b) takes      c) take      d) will take

- ii) Read the conversation and complete the sentence correctly.

Divya : I am planning to buy a car.

Arti :Which car do you intend to buy?

Divya told Arti that she was planning to buy a car. Then Arti asked her.....

- iii) Select the correct option to fill in the blank

The disabled.....easier access to public buildings.

- a) demand      c) were demanded

- b) has demanding      d) demanded

- iv) Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

One morning I finished one business at the bank and returned to pick up my motorbike.

Option	error	correction
A	finished	finishing
B	one	some
C	at	in
D	and	but

- v) Complete the given narration by filling in the blank with correct option.

He went there so that he.....borrow money.

- a) May                      c) might  
b) will                      d) should

- vi) Complete the sentence by using the correct word.

Nobody .....(know) the problems I have faced .

- vii) Report the dialogue between mother and daughter by completing the sentence.

Mother: Who is dear to you mother or grandmother?

Daughter: Anyone who shows kindness.

In response to the question, grand daughter says that..... .

- viii) Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction:

Bad movies who have adversely affected the life style of the youth should be banned.

Error	Correction

- ix) Transform the following direct speech into reported speech:

He said, "Reena,do you want to buy a house in Noida?"

- x) Fill in the blank choosing correct option.

There are.....books in the library.

- a) Some              b) few              c) many              d) a

- xi) Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Shilpa and Jaya:

**Shilpa:** Can I borrow your English textbook.

**Jaya:** Sure you can. But when will you return?

Shilpa wants to borrow Jaya's English textbook but she asks her.....

- a) When she will return

- b) When she had returned
- c) When she would return
- d) When are you return

xii) Identify the error and supply the correction, for the following sentence:

Every trees have a single woody stem called a trunk which supports a mass of branches carrying leaves.

Error	Correction

4. **Attempt ANY ONE of the following:** (5 Marks)

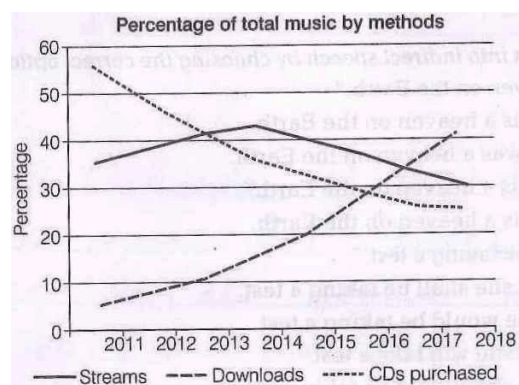
You are Priya/ Prem Aggarwal, Vice Principal of ABC School, Park Street, Bengaluru. You have ordered some textbooks from GenX Books Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru. Write a letter to cancel the order since you no longer need them. (100-120 words)

**OR**

There has been a spate of chain and mobile snatching incidents in your locality. Masked youths come on motorbikes, commit the crime and run away without being caught or traced causing a lot of insecurity and fear among the residents. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the editor of a local newspaper drawing attention of the concerned authorities to the problem. You are Shweta Kapoor, Secretary, RWA Anand Niketan, Agra.

5. **Attempt ANY ONE of the following:** (5 Marks)

The graph below shows how people buy music. Analyse the given data and write an analytical paragraph in 100-120 words.



OR

Given below is a graph illustrating behaviour of people while streaming shows on various sites such as Netflix, Amazon Prime, etc. Write an analytical paragraph on the binging habits of people in 100-120 words.



### SECTION – C

#### 6. Attempt ANY ONE of the following:

A. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. (5 Marks)

*All through the night, Lencho thought only of his one hope: the help of God, whose eyes, as he had been instructed, see everything, even what is deep in one's conscience. Lencho was an ox of a man, working like an animal in the fields, but still he knew how to write.*

- (i) 'Lencho thought only of his one hope, whose eyes see everything'. 1
- a) His own eyes
  - b) The postman's eyes
  - c) God's eyes
  - d) None of the above
- (ii) Lencho was hoping for help as 1
- (a) his fields were destroyed by pests.
  - (b) his fields had been destroyed due to floods.

- (c) his fields had been destroyed in the storm.
- (d) None of the above
- (iii) What was Lencho going to do? 1
- (a) Go to bank for loan (b) Write a letter to God
- (c) Ask for help (d) Have faith in God
- (iv) What does 'Ox of a man' means? 2

**OR**

*Two days later, Mijbil escaped from my bedroom as I entered it and I turned to see his tail is appearing round the bend of the corridor that led to the bathroom. By the time*

*I got there he was up on the end of the bathtub and fumbling at the chromium taps with his paws. I watched, amazed; in less than a minute he had turned the tap far enough to produce a trickle of water and after a moment or two achieved the full flow.*

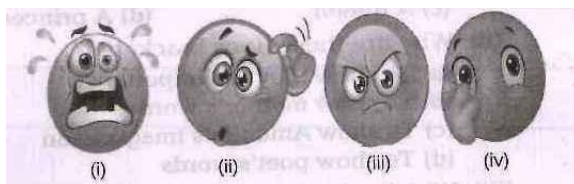
- (i) **A. Mijbil loves water** (1)
- B. Mijbil was intelligent enough to open the water taps.**
- (a) (A) is true (B) is false
- (b) (A) is false (B) is true
- (c) Both are true
- (d) Both are false
- (ii) Mijbil was (1)
- (a) friendly (b) indifferent
- (c) anti-social animal (d) not liked by the author
- (iii) **A. The author was amazed on seeing Mijbil opening the water taps himself.** (1)
- B. Mijbil fumbled with taps but opened it to have a flow of water.**
- (a) (A) is the cause (B) is the effect.
- (b) (B) is the cause (A) is the effect.
- (c) Both are contradictory
- (d) (A) is independent of (B)
- (iv) Mijbil and the author had ..... (2)

**7. Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow. (5M)**

- A. *Don't bite your nails, Amanda!*
- Don't hunch your shoulders, Amanda!*

*Stop that slouching and sit up straight, Amanda!*

- (i) The purpose of the speaker's words in the given extract is to (1)
- a) show the speaker's power over the listener
  - b) make the listener a better human being
  - c) advise the listener as an elder
  - d) improve the listener's posture and habits
- (ii) Pick the options that lists the image which correctly corresponds to the speaker's mood in the extract. (1)



- (a) Image (i) (b) Image (ii)  
(c) Image (iii) (d) Image (iv)
- (iii) What does the repetition of 'Amanda!' at the end of each line reflect? (2)
- (iv) Find another words that fits with the following: (1)
- slouching : straight : : ..... : .....

**OR**

*He is learning, well behind his desperate eyes,  
The epistemology of loss, how to stand up  
Knowing what every man must one day know  
And most know many days, how to stand up.*

- (i) The boy is learning (1)
- (a) the meaning of life
  - (b) meaning of responsibility
  - (c) to cope up with loss
  - (d) meaning of 'epistemology'
- (ii) The word 'epistemology' means (1)
- (a) imitation
  - (b) methodology
  - (c) philosophy
  - (d) assertion

- (iii) What is the rhyming scheme of the stanza? (1)
- (a) abcbc
  - (b) ababab
  - (c) abcba
  - (d) No rhyming scheme
- (iv) What message does the poet convey in this poem? (2)

**8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following questions in 40-50 words each. (4x3=12)**

- (i) According to the poet, what do 'Fire and Ice' represent? Do you agree with him?
- (ii) What tells you that Anne loved her grandmother?
- (iii) Describe the magnificent views of the tea estate with reference to the lesson, 'Tea from Assam'. (Glimpses of India)
- (iv) What happened when Maxwell decided to transport Mijbil to England by air?
- (v) What did the baker do first once he reached a house?

**9. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in 40-50 words each. (3x2=6)**

- (i) Why did Matilda throw the invitation spitefully?
- (ii) What information did Ausable give about the imaginary balcony? Why did he do so?
- (ii) Richard's mother was his companion and spent a lot of time with him. A parent should try to be a companion to a child. Justify.

**10. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 100-120 words. (6 marks)**

Is it right to confine wild animals into cages? Why or Why not?

**OR**

What do you think is the value of courage ? Discuss it in relation to the story 'His First Flight'.

**11. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 100-120 words. (6 marks)**

Hari Singh didn't board the express and returned to Anil. It shows that everyone have some conscience that they do not put in practice. Elaborate with reference to 'The Thief's story'.

**OR**

What changes occurred in Matilda's lifestyle after she had lost the necklace?