

**PERIODIC TEST- II**  
**SUBJECT- ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)**  
**SESSION- 2023-24**

TIME- 3hrs

**CLASS- X**

M.M.- 80

**General Instructions:**

- 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.
- The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
- Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

**READING SECTION**

**1. Read the passage given below and answer the following questions- (10x1=10)**

The choices we make on a daily basis—wearing a seatbelt, lifting heavy objects correctly or purposely staying out of any dangerous situation—can either ensure our safety or bring about potentially harmful circumstances.

You and I need to make a decision that we are going to get our lives in order. Exercising self-control, self-discipline and establishing boundaries and borders in our lives are some of the most important things we can do. A life without discipline is one that's filled with carelessness.

We can think it's kind of exciting to live life on the edge. We like the image of "Yeah! That's me! Living on the edge! Woo-hoo!" It's become a popular way to look at life. But if you see, even highways have lines, which provide margins for our safety while we're driving. If we go over one side, we'll go into the ditch. If we cross over the line in the middle, we could get killed. And we like those lines because they help to keep us safe. Sometimes we don't even realize how lines help to keep us safe.

I'm not proud of this, but for the first 20 years of my life at work, I ignored my limits. I felt horrible, physically, most of the time. I used to tell myself, "I know I have limits and that I've reached them, but I'm going to ignore them and see if or how long I can get by with it." I ran to doctors, trying to make myself feel better through pills, vitamins, natural stuff and anything I could get my hands on. Some of the doctors would tell me, "It's just stress." That just made me mad. I thought stress meant you don't like what you do or can't handle life, and I love what I do. But I kept pushing myself, travelling, doing speaking engagements and so on— simply exhausting myself.

Finally, I understood I was living an unsustainable life and needed to make some changes in my outlook and lifestyle.

You and I don't have to be like everyone else or keep up with anyone else. Each of us needs to be exactly the way we are, and we don't have to apologize for it. We're not all alike, and we need to find a comfort zone in which we can enjoy our lives instead of making ourselves sick with an overload of stress and pressure.

**Q1) Which of the characteristics are apt about the writer in the following context: "I know I have limits and that I've reached them, but I'm going to ignore them and see if or how long I can get by with it." ?**

1. negligent 2. Indecisive 3. Spontaneous 4. Reckless 5. Purposeless 6. patient

a) 2 and 5   b) 3 and 6   c) 1 and 4   d) 2 and 3

Q2) The reason why living on the edge has become popular is because of the

- a) constant need for something different.   b) population being much younger.  
c) exhausting effort to make changes.   d) strong tendency to stay within our limits.

Q3) The phrase "potentially harmful circumstances" refers to circumstances that can

- (a) certainly be dangerous.   (b) be fairly dangerous.  
(c) be possibly dangerous.   (d) seldom be dangerous.

Q4). Choose the option that correctly states the two meanings of 'outlook', as used in the passage.

1. A person's evaluation of life   2. A person's experiences in life   3. A person's point of view towards life  
4. A person's regrets in life   5. A person's general attitude to life

a) (1) and (4)   b) (2) and (3)   c) (3) and (5)   d) (4) and (5)

Q5) Choose the option that best captures the central idea of the passage from the given quotes.

1. It's all about quality of life and finding a happy balance between work and friends.  
2. To go beyond is as wrong as to fall short.  
3. Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.  
4. Balance is not something you find. It's something you create.

a) Option (1)   b) Option (2)   c) Option (3)   d) Option (4)

Q6) The author explains the importance of discipline and boundaries in our lives using the example of

- a) road accidents.   b) traffic rules   c) lines on the highway.   d) safe driving.

Q7) The author attempts to \_\_\_\_\_ the readers through this write-up.

- a) rebuke   b) question   c) offer aid to   d) offer advice to

Q8) What is the message conveyed in the last paragraph of the passage?

- a) Love what you do.   b) Love yourself to love others.   c) Be the best version of yourself.   d) Be yourself

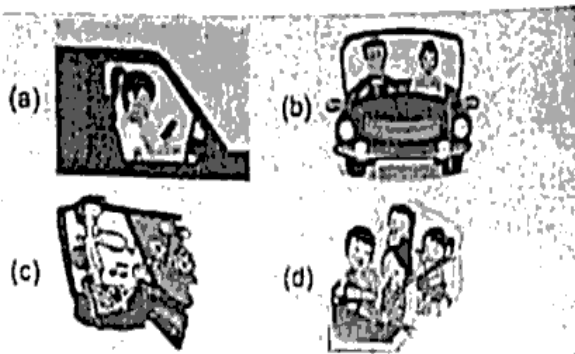
Q9) Which of the following will be the most appropriate title for the passage?

- a) Much too soon   b) Enough is enough   c) How much is too much?   d) Have enough to do?

Q10) The author uses colloquial words such as "yeah" and "Woo-hoo!". Which of the following is NOT a colloquial word?

- a) hooked   b) guy   c) stuff   d) stress

5. Which best expresses the main idea of the fifth paragraph?  
 (a) Seat belts are a waste of money. (b) People don't like to give money away.  
 (c) Not wearing a seat belt may cost you. (d) Seat belt laws save lives.
6. Which best defines the word invincible as it is used in the last paragraph?  
 (a) Uncool (b) Difficult or impossible to see (c) Glow-in-the-dark (d) Unable to be harmed
7. Which statement would the author most likely agree with?  
 (a) Being safe is more important than being cool. (b) Moving freely around a car is worth the risks.  
 (c) Seat belts will keep you safe in any car accident. (d) You should be most concerned with your comfort.
8. Which argument is not made by the author?  
 (a) Not wearing a seat belt can be expensive. (b) Penalties for not wearing a seat belt should increase.  
 (c) Seat belts keep you from flying through the windshield.  
 (d) Wearing a seat belt is cooler than suffering an injury.
9. Based on this passage, which of the following drivers would you call the 'coolest'?



10. The opposite of 'fewer' would be.....  
 (a) lesser (b) longer (c) shorter (d) more

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### GRAMMAR & WRITING SECTION

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3. Complete the following tasks, as directed- (15x1=15)  
 a- The following passages have not been edited. There is an error in each line against which a numeral is given. Write the incorrect word and the correction in the space provided. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied.

		<u>Incorrect</u>	<u>Correct</u>
Amongst young peoples, motorcyclists and	e.g.	peoples	peoples
cooterists are the great cause of danger.	(a)	.....	.....
They often try to show of by driving	(b)	.....	.....
at break-neck speed; they risk there own	(c)	.....	.....
life as well as that of other.	(d)	.....	.....
Rash driving is one of the greatest cause	(e)	.....	.....
of road accidents. Bicyclists are also involving in	(f)	.....	.....
a lot of accidents. While driving alongwith the	(g)	.....	.....
road or at the cross roads, they should be		.....	.....
so careful.	(h)	.....	.....

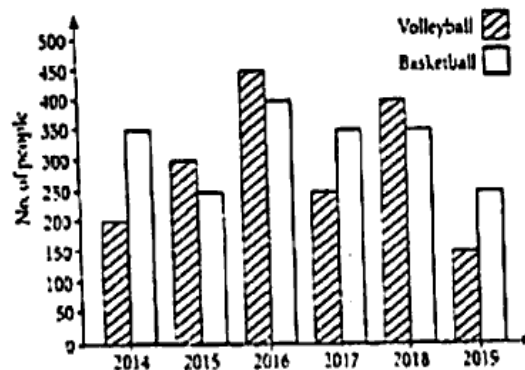
b- Choose the right/most appropriate word from the options given below and complete the following passage.

The students (i) \_\_\_\_\_ talking as Miss Sarkar (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ the classroom. Then in a loud voice (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ said 'Good Morning' and (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ quickly around the room. All the children (v) \_\_\_\_\_ her intently to find out what sort of a person she (vi) \_\_\_\_\_ "I suppose you (vii) \_\_\_\_\_ to know my name," she said.

- (i) (a) are (b) was (c) were (d) been  
(ii) (a) enters (b) entered (c) entering (d) enters  
(iii) (a) she (b) they (c) he (d) them  
(iv) (a) glance (b) glancing (c) glanced (d) glancing  
(v) (a) observe (b) watching (c) watch (d) watched  
(vi) (a) is (b) was (c) been (d) being  
(vii) (a) wants (b) liked (c) knew (d) want

4. The given double bar graph shows the preferences of children in a school in playing different games over the span of six years. Write an analytical paragraph about the given information.

[5]



OR

Your grandfather is very upset about the rising prices and keeps thinking of his olden times when things were very cheap. You are convinced that inflation has made life difficult for common man. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the editor of a national daily describing the difficulties faced by poor families.

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### LITERATURE SECTION

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5. Read the given extract and answer any ONE of the following-

(5x1=5)

TENTH May dawned bright and clear. For the past few days I had been pleasantly besieged by dignitaries and world leaders who were coming to pay their respects before the inauguration. The inauguration would be the largest gathering ever of international leaders on South African soil

1. What is the significance of TENTH May?

- a) It is the beginning of a new month.    b) It is the date of a major event.  
c) It is the day of a national holiday.    d) It is a day with no significance.

2. What can be inferred about the author's position from the phrase "pleasantly besieged"?

- a) The author was uncomfortable with the attention.    b) The author was overwhelmed by the attention.  
c) The author was pleased with the attention.    d) The author was indifferent to the attention.

3. Based on the paragraph, what can be assumed about the author's reputation?

- a) The author is a well-known figure in South Africa. b) The author is a controversial political figure.  
c) The author is a respected international leader. d) The author is a lesser-known public figure.

4. What does the phrase "largest gathering ever of international leaders on South African soil" suggest?

- a) This is the first time international leaders have visited South Africa.  
b) South Africa has not had any important events in the past.  
c) The event is significant for South Africa's international relations.  
d) The event is not important to South Africa's international relations.

5. What is the tone of the paragraph?

- a) Excited b) Sad c) Worried d) Frustrated

OR

"All the while, Mrs Pumphrey hovered anxiously in the background, ringing a dozen times a day for the latest bulletins. I dodged the questions about whether his cushions were being turned regularly or his correct coat worn according to the weather; but I was able to tell her that the little fellow was out of danger and convalescing rapidly

The word 'convalescing' seemed to do something to Mrs Pumphrey. She started to bring round fresh eggs, two dozen at a time, to build up Tricki's strength. For a happy period my partners and I had two eggs each for breakfast, but when the bottles of wine began to arrive, the real possibilities of the situation began to dawn on the household. It was to enrich Tricki's blood. Lunch became a ceremonial occasion with two glasses of wine before and several during the meal."

1. Why did Mrs. Pumphrey send wine to the narrator's house?

- A) For the other dogs B) To thank the narrator C) To enrich Tricki's blood D) As an apology

2. What did Mrs Pumphrey send after wine?

- A) A dish of pudding B) A quart of milk C) A basket of cakes D) A bottle of brandy

3. Why did lunch become a ceremonial occasion?

- A) Mr. Herriot liked to have the brandy B) Mr. Herriot decided to ask Mrs. Pumphrey for another bottle

C) Mr. Herriot and his people had wine before and during lunch.

D) Mr. Herriot gave the wine and eggs to his dogs.

4. What is the meaning of the word 'convalescing'?

- A) To make progress towards recovery B) To rebuild something over

C) To give new life to something D) To refresh something old

5. What does the narrator mean by the phrase 'the real possibilities of the situation'?

2. Read the passage given below and answer the following questions-

(10x1=10)

1. 'Click!' That's the sound of safety. That's the sound of survival. That's the sound of a seat belt locking in place. Seat belts save lives and that's a fact. That's why I don't drive anywhere until mine is on tight. Choosing to wear your seat belt is as simple as choosing between life and death. Which one do you choose?
2. Think about it. When you're driving in a car, you may be going 60 MPH or faster. That car is zipping down the road. Then somebody ahead of you locks up his or her brakes. Your driver doesn't have time to stop. The car that you are in crashes. Your car was going 60 miles per hour. Now it has suddenly stopped. Your body, however, is still going 60 MPH. What's going to stop your body? Will it be the windshield or your seat belt? Every time that you get into a car you make that choice. I choose the seat belt.
3. Some people think that seat belts are uncool. They think that seat belts cramp their style, or that seat belts are uncomfortable. To them I say, what's more uncomfortable? Wearing a seat belt or flying through a car windshield? What's more uncool? Being safely anchored to a car, or skidding across the road in your jean shorts? Wearing a seat belt is both cooler and more comfortable than the alternatives.
4. Let's just take a closer look at your choices. If you are not wearing your seat belt, you can hop around the car and slide in and out of your seat easily. That sounds like a lot of fun. But, you are also more likely to die or suffer serious injuries. If you are wearing a seat belt, you have to stay in your seat. That's no fun. But, you are much more likely to walk away unharmed from a car accident. Hmmm... A small pleasure for a serious pain. That's a tough choice. I think that I'll avoid the serious pain.
5. How about giving money away? Do you like to give your money away? Probably not. And when you don't wear your seat belt, you are begging to give your money away. That's because kids are required to wear seat belts in every state in several countries. If you're riding in a car, and you don't have a seat belt on, the police can give you or your driver a challan ticket. Then you will have to pay fine for the offence. <https://www.cbseboardonline.com>
6. Wearing a seat belt does not make you invincible. You can still get hurt or killed while wearing your seat belt. But wearing them has proven to be safer than driving without them. You are much less likely to be killed in a car wreck if you are wearing a seat belt. You are much less likely to get seriously injured if you are wearing one. So why not take the safer way? Why not go the way that has been proven to result in fewer deaths? You do want to live, don't you?

1. Which title best expresses the main idea of this text?
- (a) Car Accidents: Ways That We Can Prevent Them  
(b) Slow Down : Save Lives By Driving Slower  
(c) Seat Belts : Wear Them to Survive Any Wreck  
(d) Why Not? Improve Your Odds with Seat Belts
2. Which best expresses the author's main purpose in writing this text?
- (a) To inform readers about seat belt laws (b) To persuade readers to wear seat belts  
(c) To entertain readers with stories and jokes about seat belts  
(d) To describe what car accidents are like without seat belts
3. Which best describes the text structure in the fourth paragraph?
- (a) Compare and contrast (b) Chronological order (c) Sequential order (d) Problem and solution
4. Which best defines the word alternatives as it is used in the third paragraph?
- (a) Being safe (b) Being unsafe (c) Other choices (d) Driving fast

a) Option 1   b) Option 2   c) Option 3   d) Option 4

iv. Why does the speaker choose not to intrude? This is so because the poet

- a) knows that it would embarrass the boy in his moment of grief.
- b) feels that it's important that the boy learn an important life lesson, undisturbed.
- c) realises that he doesn't have sufficient funds to purchase a new ball for the boy.
- d) Experiences a sense of distress himself, by looking at the boy's condition.

v. Choose the option that lists the meaning of 'harbour' as used in the extract.

Noun:

- (1) a place on the coast where ships may moor in shelter.
- (2) a place of refuge.

Verb:

(3) keep (a thought or feeling, typically a negative one) in one's mind, especially secretly.

(4) shelter or hide (a criminal or wanted person).

a) Option 1   b) Option 2   c) Option 3   d) Option 4

7. Answer any FOUR questions of the following in about 40-50 words- (4x3=12)

- I. Grandma had a significant place in Anne's heart. Explain.
  - II. Do you sympathise with the seagull? Give reasons.
  - III. What does the poet want to convey through this poem?
  - IV. Why did Nelson Mandela said, "The oppressed and the oppressor alike are robbed of their humanity."
  - V. What does Anne write in her first essay?
8. Answer any TWO questions of the following in about 40-50 words- (2x3=6)
- I. How did lunch become 'a ceremonial occasion' for Mr Herriot and his partners?
  - II. Sometimes deception is a way of life. Highlight this statement by illustrating facts from the lesson 'The thief's story'.
  - III. Why did Ausable frame the story of the balcony?
9. Answer any ONE questions of the following in about 120-150 words- (6)
- How did Anne respond to the punishment by Mr. Keesing? What light does it throw on her nature?

OR

Elaborate the idea that one should learn to accept and let go and not stick to something that we can not have.

10. Answer any ONE questions of the following in about 120-150 words- (6)

What thought crossed Hari Singh's mind when he was waiting on the railway platform?

OR

Why did Fowler become white faced at the end of the story?

- A) The concern that Mrs. Pumphrey showed      B) The advantages of keeping Tricki  
 C) The hospitality of Mrs. Pumphrey              D) The convalescent condition of Tricki

(5x1=5)

6. Read the given extract and answer any ONE of the following-

"The way a crow  
 Shook down on me  
 The dust of snow  
 From a hemlock tree"

1: What is the 'crow' symbolic of?

- (i) sadness (ii) anger (iii) joy (iv) ugliness

2: Where was the crow sitting?

- (i) under the hemlock tree (ii) on the hemlock tree (iii) on the dust of snow (iv) on the small white flowers

3: What does the hemlock tree signify?

- (i) youthfulness and joy (ii) hatred and anger (iii) mindfulness and attentiveness (iv) death and fear

4: How did the crow change the poet's mood?

OR

An ultimate shaking grief fixes the boy  
 As he stands rigid, trembling, staring down  
 All his young days into the harbour where  
 His ball went. I would not intrude on him;

i. The poet uses the word 'ultimate' to describe the boy's reaction. Pick the meaning that DOES NOT display what, 'ultimate' means in the context given.

- a) consequent b) final c) conclusive d) fateful

ii. The boy is very young in this poem. As a mature, balanced grown-up, he might look back and think that his reaction of 'ultimate shaking grief' was

- 1) disproportionate to the loss 2) pretension to procure a new toy.  
 3) according to his exposure and experience then. 4) a reaction to the failure of retrieving the toy.  
 5) justified and similar to what it would be currently.

- a) 5 & 2 b) 1 & 3 c) 2 & 4 d) 3 & 5

iii. Pick the option that lists the boy's thoughts, matching with the line-As he stands rigid, trembling, staring down.