

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT - III 2025 - 26

ENGLISH

Std : IX

Time : 2½ hrs

Total Score: 80

INSTRUCTIONS:

- ◆ 15 minutes is given as cool off time.
- ◆ This time is to be used for reading the question paper.
- ◆ You are not supposed to write anything during the cool off time.
- ◆ Attempt the questions according to the instructions.

Questions 1 - 5: Read the excerpt from *A Shield of Courage* and answer the questions that follow.
(5x1=5)

The hijackers had gained access to the aircraft posing as airport security personnel. After the passengers and crew boarded the aircraft in Karachi, the hijackers took control of the plane. The incident lasted around seventeen hours and the passengers and crew were held hostage. The passengers were from various countries, including the United States. The hijackers demanded the release of certain prisoners and threatened to kill the passengers if their demands were not met.

Neerja, the senior flight purser, played a crucial role in ensuring the safety of the passengers. She managed to hide the passports of American passengers, preventing the hijackers from identifying them. This helped save lives as they were targeting Americans. As hours passed, tension escalated. The hijackers became increasingly agitated, and the situation grew more and more dangerous. Neerja's leadership and quick thinking were instrumental in guiding the passengers to escape through emergency exits, taking advantage of the chaos and confusion.

1. How did the hijackers gain access to the aircraft?
2. Why was hiding the passports of American passengers a crucial decision during the hijacking?
 - A) It didn't allow the hijackers to free them.
 - B) It confused the crew.
 - C) It prevented the hijackers from identifying their main targets.
 - D) It destroyed official documents.
3. Which actions of Neerja helped in saving the passengers?
 - i) Hiding the passports of American passengers
 - ii) Guiding the passengers to escape through emergency exits
 - iii) Negotiating directly with the hijackers
 - iv) Remaining calm and alert throughout the crisis

Choose the correct option:

- A) i, ii and iv
- B) i and iii
- C) ii and iii
- D) All the above

4. What do we infer about Neerja from the passage?
5. Identify the **Noun Phrase** in the subject position and the **Verb Phrase** in the sentence below.

Neerja's leadership and quick thinking were instrumental in guiding the passengers to escape.

Questions 6 - 9: Read the lines from the poem *Walk Alone* and answer the questions that follow.

(4x1=4)

If everyone turns away, oh my hapless one,
 If as you walk alone on a dark road
 No one joins you on your journey,
 Then you must crush the thorns in your path
 With your bleeding feet and walk ahead alone.

If no one holds up a light, oh my hapless one,
 If on a dark, stormy, and rainy night
 Everyone seeks refuge behind a closed door,
 Then, with the flame from a roaring lightning
 Set your own heart on fire
 And shine alone that many may aspire.

5. According to the poet, what should a person do when no one joins him on a dark road?

- A) Turn back and wait
 B) Give up the journey
 C) Walk ahead alone despite the pain
 D) Sit down and rest

7. What is the significance of the phrase "crush the thorns in your path with your bleeding feet"?
8. What does the expression "dark, stormy, and rainy night" imply?
9. Identify an instance of auditory image from the options given.

- A) Dark road B) Roaring lightning C) Thorny path D) Bleeding feet

10. [A] Read the following lines from *Let it Go* and prepare a note of **appreciation** focusing on its theme, images and poetic devices.

(1x5=5)

The snow glows white on the mountain tonight
 Not a footprint to be seen
 A kingdom of isolation
 And it looks like I'm the queen
 The wind is howling like this swirling storm inside
 Couldn't keep it in, Heaven knows I tried.

[Pre-Chorus]

Don't let them in, don't let them see
 Be the good girl you always have to be
 Conceal, don't feel, don't let them know

Well, now they know.

OR

10. [B] Write a paragraph comparing and contrasting the themes of the poems below.

Walk Alone - Rabindranath Tagore	Invictus - William Ernest Henley
If no one listens to your call Then you must walk on alone. Move on alone, move on alone, and move on alone. If no one speaks to you - oh, oh my hapless one, If everyone turns the other way; if everyone is afraid, Then open your heart and speak out your mind alone. If everyone turns away, oh my hapless one, If as you walk alone on a dark road No one joins you on your journey, Then you must crush the thorns in your path With your bleeding feet and walk ahead alone.	Out of the night that covers me, Black as the pit from pole to pole, I thank whatever gods may be For my unconquerable soul. In the fell clutch of circumstance I have not winced nor cried aloud. Under the bludgeoning of chance My head is bloody, but unbowed. * wince – to move the body to show pain * bludgeon – to hit someone hard

Questions 11 - 14: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

(4x1=4)

A small seed lay on the hard, dry ground. It felt weak and afraid of the harsh sun, but it resolved to grow. Every day it pushed a tiny root into the soil and a small shoot towards the light. Birds tried to peck at it, and heavy rains sometimes battered it, but the seedling never gave up. Slowly, it grew stronger, and its leaves reached out to the sun.

As the days passed, the seedling faced more challenges. Weeds grew around it, blocking sunlight, and insects tried to eat its tender leaves. Yet, it continued to push itself upward, learning to bend and sway with the wind without breaking. Neighbouring plants whispered stories of storms and harsh winters, but the seedling listened carefully and used the lessons to prepare itself.

Over time, the seedling became a small plant, resilient and full of life. Its leaves glistened with dew, and its roots held firmly in the ground. People who passed by admired its strength and patience. They realised that determination, persistence, and patience could overcome even the toughest challenges.

By the end of the season, the small plant had grown into a young tree. Birds began to perch on its branches, and its shade offered relief to weary travellers. The seedling's journey, from a fragile seed to a thriving tree, became an example for all: growth is not instant, but with effort, courage, and perseverance, even the smallest beginnings can lead to greatness.

11. What challenges did the seedling face in the beginning?
12. How did the people react to the growth of the seedling?
13. What helps the seedling cope with challenges?

- A) Perseverance and resilience
- B) Fear of challenges

C) Pessimistic outlook

D) Buckling under pressure

14. Which of the following statements are TRUE?

- i) The seedling learned lessons from neighbouring plants.
- ii) The seedling immediately became a tree without challenges.
- iii) The tree's shade provided relief to people.
- iv) The tree was not a source of rest for the birds.

Choose the correct option:

A) i and iii

B) i, ii and iii

C) ii and iv

D) iii and iv

Questions 15 - 18: Answer either A or B.

15. [A] Advertisements significantly influence children's preferences, self-image and buying behaviour. Based on the reading of the article *Toys to Teens*, prepare a **write-up** on the topic "The evolution of a consumer from early childhood to adolescence." (1x7=7)

[Hints: Advertisements – early psychological target – influence children – interest shifts from toys to appearance – based products – nag factor – brand loyalty – the shift in spending power – cradle to grave]

OR

15. [B] The lesson *Toys to Teens* reveals how advertisements profoundly influence consumer behaviour, with a strong impact on young people. Write the script of a **speech** that details the negative effects of advertisements on youngsters.

[Hints: Advertisements mainly target youngsters - Marketers use sophisticated strategies - influence young minds - increased purchasing power of children – teen's role in household spending – celebrity endorsement to persuade consumers – negative impact on child's self-esteem and body image]

16. [A] Neerja's quick thinking, leadership, heroic efforts, and selflessness saved the lives of many passengers on Pan Am Flight 73. Prepare the **character sketch** of Neerja Bhanot. (1x6=6)

OR

16. [B] *The Ink and the Melody* presents the meeting of two legends—Michael Jackson and Joseph Barbera—where both express their admiration for each other. **Narrate** the event in your own words, highlighting the emotional moments.

17. [A] The Literary Club of your school plans to honour Anita Nair, one of the celebrated Indo-Anglian writers, on 23 April, World Book Day. As the secretary of the Literary club, you are asked to write a letter to her inquiring about her availability for the event. Prepare the likely **letter**. (1x6=6)

OR

17. [B] The hijacking of Pan Am Flight 73 and Neerja Bhanot's valiant efforts were widely reported in newspapers the following day. Draft the likely **news report**.

18. [A] India continues to face a severe road safety crisis, with almost 1.7 lakh fatalities in 2025 alone. Road safety literacy can go a long way in saving precious lives. Prepare a **paragraph** on the rules and regulations to be followed on Indian roads and the punishment for their violations. (1x4=4)

OR

18. [B] We live in a world where the use of internet has become an integral part of life. Learning to use internet responsibly is the need of the hour. Write a **paragraph** about the prospects and pitfalls, and the dos and don'ts of the cyber world.

Questions 19 - 21: Answer all the questions.

19. Prepare a short **profile** of Anita Nair from the details given below. (1x6=6)

- Birth : 26 January 1966, Shoranur, Kerala
Education : Degree from NSS College, Ottapalam, Fellowship from Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, USA
Career path : Creative director in advertising agency in the beginning, later a full time writer
Founder : Creative writing and mentorship programme 'Anita's Attic'
Famous as : Novelist, short story writer, essayist
Notable works: *The Better Man, Ladies Coupe, Mistress, Lessons in Forgetting, Cut Like Wound*
Awards : Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award (2012), Bal Sahitya Puraskar (2013), appointed as high profile supporter of the UNCHR

20. Read the picture given below. Using the visual hints and your imagination, write a **story** not exceeding 100 words. (1x4=4)



21. Read the passage given below and frame three Wh - questions and one Yes/No question based on it.
(4x1=4)

During his visit to England, Gandhiji attended many meetings that were organised to honour him. The students of France organised a reception for the 'spiritual ambassador of India'. They welcomed him as one bringing light to the exploitation-blinded West and acting as a healing balm to the war-weary Europe. In his reply, Gandhiji addressed them as friends and fellow students. "Since I visited France as a student to see the Exhibition at Paris in 1890, I have learnt something of the traditions of your country, and of the teachings of Rousseau and Victor Hugo. Now, on my entering upon my mission -- my very difficult mission in India -- it heartens me to find a welcome from you."

Questions 22 – 25: Study the details of international cricket tournaments carefully and answer the questions that follow: (4x1=4)

<p>ICC T20 World Cup</p>  <p>Format: Twenty20 (T20)</p> <p>First Held: 2007</p> <p>First winner: India</p> <p>Most Successful Team: India, England and the West Indies</p>	<p>ICC Cricket World Cup</p>  <p>Format: One Day International (ODI)</p> <p>First Held: 1975</p> <p>First winner: West Indies</p> <p>Most Successful Team: Australia (6 titles)</p>	<p>ICC Champions Trophy</p>  <p>Format: One Day International (ODI)</p> <p>First Held: 1998</p> <p>First winner: South Africa</p> <p>Most Successful Team: Australia & India (2 titles each)</p>	<p>Asia Cup</p>  <p>Format: ODI / T20</p> <p>First Held: 1984</p> <p>Host Nations: Asian countries (rotational)</p> <p>First winner: India</p> <p>Most Successful Team: India (8 titles)</p>
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22. Which of the tournaments mentioned above was first held in 1975?

- A) Asia Cup
- B) ICC T20 World Cup
- C) ICC Cricket World Cup
- D) ICC Champions Trophy

23. Which of the following tournaments are played in One Day International (ODI) format only ?

- i) ICC Cricket World Cup
- ii) ICC Champions Trophy
- iii) ICC T20 World Cup
- iv) Asia Cup

Choose the right option:

- A) i and ii
- B) ii and iii

C) i, ii and iv

D) i, iii and iv

24. The format in which two countries share the equal number of titles is

25. Which country was the first title holder and later became the most successful team in that tournament?

26. Complete the following passage choosing appropriate words from those given in brackets.

(6x½=3)

The throngs of children rushed(a)..... the gate,(b)..... was opened again. I bade farewell(c)..... friends and sweethearts and passed(d)..... the gate. I peered around but found no trace(e)..... my father,(f)..... had promised to be there.

(through, to, who, of, toward, for, which)

27. Edit the passage below. The errors are given in bold.

(6x½=3)

Do you **remembered** (a) how you used to **playing** (b) the piano and sing Bellman's songs to us **child** (c) and how you would let us read Tegner and Runeberg and Andersen? It was then that I first **fallen** (d) into debt. Father, how shall I ever repay them for teaching **mine** (e) to love fairy **tails** (f) and sagas of heroes?

28. Complete the conversation between a Dabbawala and his new customer.

(5x1=5)

Customer : You are in charge of collecting tiffin boxes from Andheri,(a).....?

Dabbawala : Yes, I am.

Customer :(b).....?

Dabbawala : Yes, we deliver tiffin boxes in the Churchgate area.

Customer :(c).....?

Dabbawala : We charge about Rs. 500 per customer every month.

Customer : What time should the tiffin box be ready in the morning for collection?

Dabbawala : You had better(d).....

Customer : Sure. 8:00 am would be a convenient time for me.

Dabbawala : If you get late often,(e).....

29. Report the following dialogue.

(2x1=2)

Bethany : Can you explain to me what the treatment is going to be like?

Dr Rovinsky : Bethany, you've lost your arm. My focus is on saving your life.

a)

b)

30. Complete the paragraph using appropriate forms of the phrasal verbs given in brackets.

(4x1=4)

The passengers were(a)..... when the hijackers took control of the plane. The hijacking(b)..... for around seventeen hours and the passengers and the crew were held hostage. The hijackers(c)..... the release of certain prisoners and threatened to kill the passengers if the officials did not(d)..... to their demands.

(go on, give up, give in, taken aback, call for)

31. Complete the passage choosing idioms from the brackets. (2x1=2)

Dr. Rovinsky did not(a).....when he explained to Bethany about the treatment procedures. Bethany(b)..... when the doctor told her that she had lost her arm.

(put on a brave face, a blessing in disguise, beat around the bush)

32. Complete the passage choosing appropriate words from the brackets. (4x½ = 2)

It was an(a)..... experience to witness the young leader handling the crisis with calm confidence. She chose to(b)..... her team immediately, knowing that unity was the key to success. Her decision to listen patiently to every opinion was truly(c)..... , earning her the respect of all present. Throughout the discussion, she remained polite and(d)....., proving that true leadership lies in both strength and humility.

(commendable, endorse, incredible, courteous, summon)