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**Annual Examination (2025-26)**  
**Standard - XI**

Subject : English

Marks : 80

Date : 25.03.2026

Time : 8.30 am to 11.30 am

**Section A: Prose**

**Q.1 A. Read the following passage and answer the questions. (12)**

In Asarvari village, we asked the sarpanch to help us as we were not very fluent with the local dialect. He sent his assistant Jeevan with us into the hills. After a half-hour walk through thick vegetation, crossing numerous streams and ditches and scrambling over rocks and gravel, we reached the sleepy hamlet of Boripada. There were just two ramshackle houses in front of us and we wondered if this was the right place. A wrinkled old woman sitting before one of the houses looked at us with curiosity. As we approached her we signalled to Jeevan to ask the crucial question. She muttered in reply and we looked at Jeevan for a quick interpretation. He broke into a smile and informed us that she did have the rice and wanted to know who we were and why we wanted it. It was a difficult task to keep a straight face and I had to control a strong desire to hug her. After searching for months, we had found the elusive Kasbai. We explained to her that we were from Peth nearby and we needed the seeds to grow it. We asked for 10 kilograms of rice. She muttered and scowled. Jeevan interpreted that she had never heard of Peth village and also did not have a weighing scale. She was willing to give the seeds only in baskets. We asked for a single basket of rice and Jeevan told us to pay her something. I handed over a 100-rupee note and for the first time in the last ten minutes, her face broke into a smile. She nodded her head in approval. As we walked back, against the fading sunset, leaving behind a smiling old lady, I couldn't help but wonder that here, nestling in the foothills of an unknown mountain away from the hustle and bustle of the road or the city, were the real people of India. These were the people who still held on to the rich biodiversity of our land and no one even cared about them. They had never heard of hybrids, fertilizers or pesticides. They just grew their rice and ate what they got. The old lady we met had probably never left Boripada. Her world was unspoiled by 'progress'. And for once I was grateful for that.

**A1. Global Understanding 2**

**State whether the following statements are True or False.**

1. The narrator and his team were fluent in the local dialect.
2. Boripada had many well-built houses.
3. The old woman agreed to give rice in kilograms.
4. The old lady had probably never left Boripada.

**A2. Complex Factual 2**

**Describe the journey of the narrator and Baban to reach Boripada.**

**A3. Inference/ Interpretation/ Analysis** **2**

What does the narrator mean by saying, “*Her world was unspoilt by ‘progress’*”?

**A4. Personal Response** **2**

Do you think modern progress is always beneficial? Give your opinion in about 4-6 sentences.

**A5. Language Study** **2**

1. Do as directed.
  - i. Identify the tense of the following sentence:  
“*She nodded her head in approval.*”
  - ii. Rewrite the following sentence in Indirect Speech.  
The old woman said, “I do not have a weighing scale.”

**A6. Vocabulary** **2**

Find one word from the extract for the following:

- (a) very difficult to find –
- (b) spoiled or damaged –

**B1. Do as directed.** **(3)**

1. The teacher praised the students. (Change the voice)
2. You \_\_\_\_\_ obey the traffic rules. (Rewrite the sentence using a suitable modal auxiliary (should/must/can/may))
3. They have finished their work, (Add a suitable question tag)

**B2. Spot the error.** **(1)**

1. He asked me where was I going after the programme.

**Q.2 A. Read the following passage and complete the activities given below.** **(12)**

Time management is one of the most important skills that students must develop during their school years. Many students complain that they do not get enough time to study, but in reality, the problem is not lack of time but lack of planning. Every student gets the same twenty-four hours in a day. The difference lies in how effectively they use these hours.

Students who plan their day in advance are usually more relaxed and confident. They prepare a timetable and try to follow it sincerely. They divide their time between study, exercise, hobbies and rest. This balance helps them remain fresh and focused. They also set clear goals for themselves and make sure that they complete their daily tasks on time. As a result, they do not feel burdened when examinations approach.

On the other hand, students who postpone their work often feel stressed before examinations. They waste their time in unnecessary activities and ignore their responsibilities. When exams come near, they try to complete everything at the last moment. This leads to confusion, anxiety and sometimes poor performance. Such students often regret not using their time wisely.

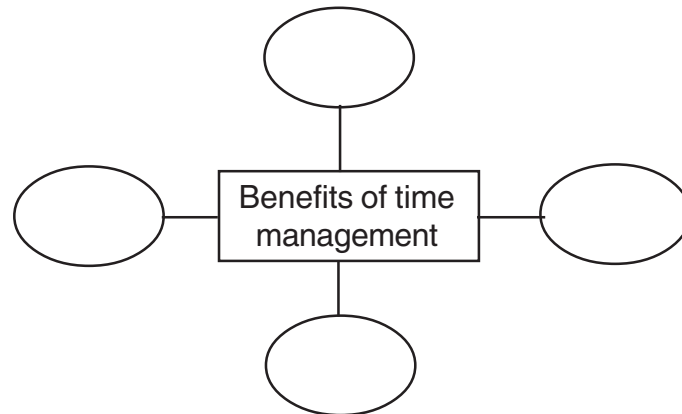
Time once lost can never be regained. Therefore, it is essential to use it wisely. Developing the habit of punctuality and regular study not only improves academic performance but also builds discipline and responsibility. Good time management also teaches students

the value of commitment and self-control. These qualities help students throughout their lives and prepare them to face future challenges confidently.

**A1. Global Understanding.**

**2**

Complete the web showing the benefits of proper time management.



**A2. Complex Factual**

**2**

Explain how students who plan their time are different from those who postpone their work.

**A3. Inference / Interpretation / Analysis**

**2**

Why does the writer consider time management an important skill for life?

**A4. Personal Response**

**2**

How can proper time management reduce stress during examinations?

**A5. Language Study**

**2**

1. Students get twenty-four hours in a day. (Make a Wh-question to get the underlined part as the answer)
2. It improves academic performance. It builds discipline. (Rewrite the following sentence using 'not only... but also')

**A6. Vocabulary.**

**2**

Find words from the passage which mean:

- (a) delay –
- (b) tension –

**B. Summary writing.**

**3**

Write a short summary with a proper title of the above extract [Q. 2(A)] with the help of the given clues.

Importance of time management – planning in advance – difference between planners and postponers – effects of postponing work – lifelong benefits.

**C. Note making.****3**

Read the following extract and make a note of it with the help of the clues provided.

Mountains are large landforms that rise prominently above the surrounding land. They play an important role in influencing climate, rivers and biodiversity. The Himalayas are the highest mountain range in the world and are located in Asia. Mount Everest, the highest peak, is a part of this range. The Andes Mountains are the longest continental mountain range and are situated in South America. The Rocky Mountains stretch across North America and are known for their rich wildlife. The Alps are located in Europe and are famous for tourism and winter sports. The Atlas Mountains are found in North Africa and act as a barrier between the Mediterranean Sea and the Sahara Desert. The Great Dividing Range is located in Australia and influences the climate of eastern Australia.

| Sr.No. | Mountain Range       | Located In    | Special Feature                       |
|--------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1.     | Himalayas            | _____         | Highest range; Mt. Everest            |
| 2.     | Andes                | South America | _____ continental range               |
| 3.     | Rocky Mountains      | _____         | Rich wildlife                         |
| 4.     | Alps                 | Europe        | Famous for _____                      |
| 5.     | Atlas Mountains      | North America | Barrier between Mediterranean & _____ |
| 6.     | Great Dividing Range | _____         | Influences eastern climate            |

**Section B: Poetry****Q.3 A. Read the following poem and answer the questions.****(10)**

They plan. They build. All spaces are gridded  
Filled with permutations of possibilities.  
The buildings are in alignment with the roads  
which meet at desired points  
linked by bridges all hang  
in the grace of mathematics.  
They build and will not stop.  
Even the sea draws back  
and the skies surrender.  
They erase the flaws,  
the blemishes of the past, knock off  
useless blocks with dental dexterity.  
All gaps are plugged  
with gleaming gold.  
The country wears perfect rows  
of shining teeth.  
Anaesthesia, amnesia, hypnosis.  
They have the means.  
They have it all so it will not hurt.

**A1. Global Understanding** **2**

Complete the following statements based on the extract:

1. The planners build spaces filled with \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The buildings are aligned with \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The gaps are plugged with \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The country is compared to \_\_\_\_\_.

**A2. Inference/Interpretation/Analysis** **2**

What does the poet suggest about modern planners by using the words “Anaesthesia, amnesia, hypnosis”?

**A3. Personal Response** **2**

Do you think excessive planning and development can harm nature? Give your opinion.

**A4. Poetic Devices** **2**

Identify and explain the figure of speech in the following line.

“The country wears perfect rows  
of shining teeth.”

**A5. Poetic Creativity** **2**

Compose a poem of 4-6 lines on the topic “Modern Development and Nature”

**B. Poetic appreciation.** **(4)**

Read the following extract and write an appreciation of the same with the help of following points

- About the poem, poet and title
- Theme
- Poetic style, language, poetic devices used in the poem.
- Special features
- Message/values/morals in the poem
- Your opinion about the poem

Between Nose and Eyes a strange contest arose, -  
The spectacles set them unhappily wrong;  
The point in dispute was, as all the world knows,  
To which the said spectacles ought to belong.  
So Tongue was the lawyer, and argued the cause  
With great deal of skill, and a wig full of learning;  
While Chief Baron Ear sat to balance the laws,  
So famed for his talent in nicely discerning.  
'In behalf of the Nose it will quickly appear,  
And your lordship,' he said, 'will undoubtedly find,  
That the Nose has had spectacles always in wear,  
Which amounts to possession time out of mind.'  
Then holding the spectacles up to the court,  
'Your lordship observes they are made with a straddle  
As wide as the ridge of the Nose is; in short,

Designed to sit close to it, just like a saddle.'  
'Again would your lordship a moment suppose,  
( 'Tis a case that has happened, and may be again. ')  
That the visage or countenance had not a Nose,  
Pray who would, or who could, wear spectacles then?

### **Section C: Writing Skills**

**Q.4 A. Attempt any ONE of the following. (4)**

#### **Letter writing-**

You have noticed that street lights in your area are not working properly, causing inconvenience to residents.

Write a letter to the Municipal Corporation requesting immediate action.

OR

#### **E-mail writing-**

You purchased a laptop two months ago from *Digital World Computers*. It has started overheating frequently and shuts down automatically. The warranty period is still valid. Write an E-mail to the shop owner complaining about the problem and requesting repair or replacement.

**B. Attempt any ONE of the following. (4)**

#### **Expansion of idea-**

"Little drops make the mighty ocean."

OR

#### **Blog writing-**

Write a blog on "The Value of Reading Books" in 100-150 words with the help of the following points:

- Importance of reading
- Benefits for knowledge and personality
- Types of books students should read
- Conclusion.

OR

#### **Film review -**

Write a review of a film you have recently seen based on any five following points-

- Names of the characters.
- Why do you like/not like the film?
- Special features Music/Dance/Songs/Action/Direction
- Should others watch this film/would you recommend your friends to watch this film? Why?

**C. Attempt any ONE of the following. (4)**

Prepare an appeal on the topic “Avoid Food Wastage” with the help of the following points:

- Prepare effective slogans.
- Use a logo/picture/chart.
- Effects of food wastage.
- Make the appeal persuasive.

OR

**Report writing-**

Your junior college celebrated “Teacher’s Day”. Write a report of it with the help of the following points:

- Date and time
- Welcome programme
- Performances by students
- Felicitation of teachers

OR

**Counter view-**

Read the following view section and develop counter view section in about 120 words and suggest suitable title.

View Section:

- College students should have flexible attendance.
- Helps manage personal work
- Reduces stress
- Encourages responsibility
- Freedom of choice

**D. Any ONE of the following. (4)**

**Interview Questions-**

As a reporter of *The Economic Times*, you met a business leader and learnt about his achievements in business and social initiatives. Frame 8–10 questions.

|                                        |  |
|----------------------------------------|--|
| Name of the interviewee                |  |
| Area of Success/Reputation             |  |
| Date/Venue/Time                        |  |
| Duration of Interview                  |  |
| Questions:                             |  |
| 1) Inspiration behind entrepreneurship |  |
| 2) Family support                      |  |
| 3) Daily routine                       |  |
| 4) Key strengths and lessons learned   |  |
| 5) Success mantra                      |  |

|    |                            |  |
|----|----------------------------|--|
| 6) | Work life balance          |  |
| 7) | Memorable decision         |  |
| 8) | Other interest             |  |
| 9) | Message for future leaders |  |

OR

### Compering –

Imagine that you are compering on the ‘Independence Day ‘ of your junior college. Prepare a script for compering the programme with the help of the following points.

- Brief introduction about the significance of Independence Day
- Welcome song or patriotic performance
- Welcoming the chief guest and dignitaries
- Felicitation (if any special awards or guest honor)
- Main programme (flag hoisting, speeches, cultural events)
- Presidential speech
- Vote of thanks

OR

### Speech -

Write a speech on the topic “Value of Hard Work in Student Life” in about 100-150 words.

### Section D: Literary Genre (Drama)

- Q.5 A) Complete the activities as per the instructions. (4)**
1. Fill in the blanks. 2
    - a) The series of events is known as\_\_\_\_\_.
    - b) The\_\_\_\_\_ is the main character in a play.
    - c) \_\_\_\_\_ means to speak to oneself.
    - d) There are\_\_\_\_\_ elements of drama.
  2. Compare the features of comedy and tragedy. 2
- B) Answer the questions given below in about 50 words. (4)**
1. Describe the settings of “The Rising of the Moon.” 2
  2. Draw the character sketch of ‘man’ from the play “The Rising of the moon”.
- C) Answer the questions given below in about 50 words. (4)**
1. A Midsummer Night’s Dream is a comedy. Justify. 2
  2. Describe the theme of the play “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”. 2
- D) Answer the questions given below in about 50 words. (4)**
1. Write the character sketch of Dr. Stockmann. 2
  2. Write down the characteristics of Ibsen’s play. 2

