

DAV PUBLIC SCHOOLS, ODISHA ZONE
PERIODIC ASSESSMENT: I, 2023-24

- Please check that this question paper contains **4** printed pages.
- Check that this question paper contains **6** questions.
- Write down the Serial Number of the question in the left side of the margin before attempting it.

CLASS – X

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (Code No. 184)

Time: 1 ½ Hours

Maximum Marks: 40

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three parts: A, B and C.
Section A: Reading **10 Marks**
Section B: Grammar & Creative Writing Skills **10 Marks**
Section C: Literature **20 Marks**
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions carefully and follow them.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (10 MARKS)

Reading comprehension through unseen passage

1.	Read the passage carefully.	10
1	Nature is our mother, our first teacher. The greatest lesson that she teaches us is to maintain an equilibrium in life. We learn to maintain composure through our joys, sorrows and fears. In fact, there are a thousand lessons that nature can teach us, provided we look for them.	
2	With time, a sapling grows into a full-grown tree; something so tiny and delicate develops into a strong tree capable of supporting others. No matter how tall it grows, how much it may flourish, or how many animals and birds it may support, its roots are firmly buried from where it once rose. That's a precious lesson -to keep ourselves grounded, respect and embrace our roots, and give something back to those humble beginnings that nurtured us into who we are.	
3	Then there is the message of peaceful coexistence. 'I am because we are.' Nature provides every creature a chance to exist. However, the existence of one creature or being depends on the existence of the other. The tiger eats the antelope; without the antelope, the tiger wouldn't survive. Likewise, without tigers, the over-abundance of antelopes would cause them to starve to death.	
4	I wonder if you have noticed that when birds or squirrels see a predator, they give out an alarm call to their fellow creatures, of the lurking danger. They put themselves in danger to save the lives of others. Many animals, like the salmon, usually die after they spawn, but this doesn't stop them. One life extinguished for the betterment of others is a small price to pay.	
5	The snow melts in the warmth of spring to give birth to fresh green leaves. In Autumn these leaves age into shades of gold only to be buried in the cold grave of winter. Change is inevitable; the sooner we embrace this, the better it is for us. We must also understand that even in pain there is growth. If you cut a hole in the tree, it will grow around it. No matter what may come in its way, a river will continue to flow. Similarly, no matter what grief may break your heart, nature teaches us that life goes on.	
6	Keep in mind life isn't about making lists and trying to be one step ahead of others. Life is to live. Take a break-stop being a workaholic, and smell the roses, do whatever makes you feel happy and most of all spend some time with nature to pick up invaluable lessons.	
<i>(Created for academic usage/ 418 words)</i>		

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.		
(i)	Which of the following statements best describes the author’s attitude towards Nature? a. Finds Nature to be malevolent. b. Believes that Nature is all powerful. c. Recognizes the deep impact that Nature has on all living creatures. d. Feels that Nature favours the strong and powerful.	1
(ii)	What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from paragraph (2)? Rationalise your response in about 40 words. That’s a precious lesson -to keep ourselves grounded, respect and embrace our roots, and give something back to those humble beginnings that nurtured us into who we are.	2
(iii)	Complete the sentence appropriately. The author’s use of the expression ‘I am because we are.’ affects the reader because _____	1
(iv)	The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets (a)-(e) below, identify two sets of antonyms: (a) invaluable-precious (b) exist-survive (c) delicate-strong (d) grief – pain (e) joys-sorrows	1
(v)	Complete the sentence appropriately. We can say that the author’s tone becomes more philosophical when he states that even in pain there is growth and we have to accept it because _____.	1
(vi)	Based on the reading of the passage, examine, in about 40 words, how Nature helps us lead a balanced life.	2
(vii)	What is the message conveyed by Sara’s experience, in the following case? Sara a 32year old marketing executive, had been experiencing chronic stress, anxiety and burnout due to the demanding nature of her job. Seeking respite, she embarked on a week-long solo retreat in a secluded cabin nestled in the lap of nature. She spent her days exploring the surrounding forest and engaging in activities like nature walks and meditation. She found solace in Nature and slowly she experienced a sense of calm, serenity and a renewed appreciation of life’s simple joys. a. Nature is all powerful. b. Only by engaging in meditation and nature walks we can better our life c. Professional success is inversely proportional to stress and anxiety. d. Nature has profound healing and restorative powers.	1
(viii)	State whether the following lines display an example of Nature as a Creator/ Destroyer/ Teacher/ Healer. “One impulse from a vernal wood May teach you more of man, Of moral evil and of good, Than all the sages can.”	1
SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (10 marks)		
GRAMMAR		05
2.	Complete the following tasks, as directed.	(1x5)
(i)	Report the following statement of Naveena. Naveena asked her friend, ‘Did you meet Shephali at the exhibition yesterday?’	1
(ii)	Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report: Education plays an important role in building the individual’s identity and personality.	1

	Option no.	Error	Correction					
	A	Plays	play					
	B	An	a					
	C	In	for					
	D	the	an					
(iii)	<p>Read the dialogue given below and fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. Teacher: Why were you absent yesterday? Student: Sorry teacher. I was suffering from eye- infection. In response to the question regarding his absence, the student replied that he _____ from eye- infection. i. had suffering ii. had been suffering iii. was suffering iv. had suffered</p>			1				
(iv)	<p>Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction. It is estimated that nearly 40,000 people succumb to air pollution each year in major cities of India.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Error</th> <th>Correction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Error	Correction			1
Error	Correction							
(v)	<p>Fill the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the concluding line of an agenda meeting scheduled. In the meeting agenda, the discussion on the budget proposal is scheduled for 10:00 AM and _____ (that/ then/ this) will be followed by a Q&A session with the finance team.</p>			1				
WRITING SKILLS				05				
<i>Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.</i>								
3	Attempt any ONE from A and B given below.			(5x1)				
A	<p>You are Nutan/Nitin, a resident of Basanti Colony, Station Bazar, Rourkela. The residents feel inconvenient due to the frequent digging up of roads by various departments such as electricity, water supply, sewage, telephone, etc. Write a letter to the Editor, The Times of India, ventilating your concern about the problem and suggesting some remedial measures. (100 to 120 words)</p>			5				
B	<p>There is a flood of advertisements on television channels these days. Useless commodities and superstitious beliefs are promoted through glamorous and exaggerated presentations. Write a letter to the Editor, The New Indian Express, about the negative influence that such advertisements have on the minds of the people. You are Radha/Ramesh of Mayur Vihar, Lucknow. (100-120 words)</p>							
SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXT BOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (20 marks)								
4.	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.			(5)				
A	<p>When he finished, he went to the window to buy a stamp which he licked and then affixed to the envelope with a blow of his fist. The moment the letter fell into the mailbox the postmaster went to open it. It said: "God: of the money that I asked for, only seventy pesos reached me. Send me the rest, since I need it very much. But don't send it to me through the mail because the post office employees are a bunch of crooks. Lencho."</p>							
(i)	<p>State one inference about the Postmaster from the given context: 'The moment the letter fell into the mailbox the postmaster went to open it.'</p>			1				
(ii)	<p>Read the following descriptions a-c and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract. a. 'Every living being is a temple of God', though man believes in this maxim but fails to imbibe the virtue within. b. Often God wants the true generosity that lies in offering enough prayer than being benevolent towards the fellow humans. c. People adorning the highest positions must seek God's permission before discharging any earthly decisions.</p>			1				

(iii)	Which of the following is a reason why Lencho does NOT want God to send him the rest of the money through mail. a. The previous mail got too delayed to be delivered. b. Unethical practices applied by the post office employees cost him thirty peso from the total. c. The post office employees never entertain a correspondence from God. d. The postmaster raises a question on financial transactions of a rural folk.	1
(iv)	Why is it fair to say that Lencho's tone, when he says 'the post office employees are a bunch of crooks', is purely disdain and disrespect to the act of God? Answer in about 40 words.	2
OR		
B	But he is locked in a concrete cell. His strength behind bars, Stalking the length of his cage, Ignoring visitors. He hears the last voice at night, The patrolling cars, And stares with his brilliant eyes At the brilliant stars. (A Tiger in the Zoo)	
(i)	Fill in the blank with one word/ Phrase The stalking of the majestic creature inside the protective custody speaks about his _____	1
(ii)	How does the poet's choice of words, specifically "brilliant," contribute to the portrayal of the tiger and what effect does it have on the reader's perception of the tiger's presence in the zoo? Provide a brief answer in about 40 words.	2
(iii)	Mention the option that best describes the speaker's attitude towards the tiger in the zoo? a) Indifferent (b) Considerate (c) Contented (d) Reverential	1
(iv)	'Ignoring visitors' is a silent protest by the caged creature. Do you agree? State your views	1
5	Answer ANY THREE of the following questions, in about 40-50 words each.	3x3
(i)	The poem "Dust of Snow" by Robert Frost reflects the skill of resilience. Explain the specific event or situation in the poem that highlights the speaker's ability to bounce back from a negative experience and find solace in nature.	3
(ii)	Nelson Mandela in his inaugural speech used these two phrases, 'an extraordinary human disaster' and 'glorious human achievement'. What does he mean by that?	3
(iii)	Herriot appears to be a duty bound physician who values others' emotions above his own. Substantiate your response with reference to the chapter 'A Triumph for Surgery'.	3
(iv)	Stereotypes are often misleading. Do you agree with the fact that wisdom is more powerful than other weapons? (The Midnight Visitor)	3
6	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.	1x6
A	It is true that all parental acts are for the betterment of the children. However, one has to make efforts through trials and errors shedding off one's early hesitations and fears to succeed in any enterprise. Justify the statement in the light of the chapter "His First Flight".	6
OR		
B	Anil's compassion along with Hari Singh's passion for education finally makes him a respectable man. Imagine yourself to be Hari Singh and write a letter of gratitude to Anil. (A Thief's Story) You can start the letter like this : Gandhinagar Lucknow 5 Aug 1980 Dear Sir My unsettled juvenile period could not have been streamlined had you not accepted me with your generous spirit.	6