



**R.D. RAJPAL SCHOOL**  
**SESSION 2025-2026**  
**MID TERM EXAMINATION**

**CLASS: XI**  
**TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS**

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH (SET B)**  
**MAXIMUM MARKS: 80**  
**NO. OF PAGES: 7**

**General Instructions:**

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them;

1. This question paper has 15 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains three sections: Section A: Reading Skills, Section B: Creative Writing Skills & Grammar, Section C: Literature
3. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.

**SECTION A – READING SKILLS**

**26**

1. Read the passage given below:

**10**

1. What's the one thing that you associate with your college days? For me, it was consuming copious amounts of chai. A cup of tea was a panacea to all troubles and the companion to all joys. In this exclusive interview, we caught up with 65-year-old Deepak garg, owner of Ganga Dhaba, a spot that every officer from national Academy of administration has visited multiple times.
2. Deepak begins, "My family has been here for almost 90 years. It was my grandfather who first started working here as the supplier to the hotel that existed then." "In 1964, when Deepak was all of eight, he lost his father and the responsibility of raising four children fell on his mother.
3. "Our growing up years were a huge struggle. My mother used to teach home science at a local balwadi school, and this was also where my siblings and I studies," he says. In 1978, Deepak says that he started a food joint that he named Om Chinese restaurant. "In those days, there was a huge liking for Chinese food and hence the name ad the choice of cuisine," he says.
4. For almost 17 years, things continued and then Deepak got a Public Call Office (PCO) installed for the Officer Trainees. The business did so well that soon he had installed more than ten telephones, with separate cabins, to allow them some privacy while they nade and received their calls.
5. "The OTs who would talk on the PCO from here would always refer to the place as 'Ganga Dhaba'. It was because this place is so close to the Ganga hostel inside the academy, that slowly the name changed and it became Ganga Dhaba. "Since it was the OTs that gave us our identity, we decided to change the name and call it Ganga Dhaba," he says.
6. There have been instances when Deepak and his family members have learnt dishes from the OTs. He says, "So many dishes on our menu today are because some officer came in and decided to teach us how to make them."
7. We have seen two generations of officers, served the parents, who now as the parents come

back to drop their children at the academy and tell us to take care of them. What more can we ask for? While the money we make is not great, the respect and the love we have accumulated over the years is what keeps us going," says Deepak, proudly.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the given questions.

- i. The writer says that 'tea was a panacea to all troubles and companion to all joys.' Share evidence from the passage to suggest that the food joint business was Deepak Garg's panacea to all of his troubles. 2
- ii. When Deepak says that it was the Officer Trainees (OTs) who gave the dhaba its identity, he means to say that \_\_\_\_\_ 1
- iii. "\_\_\_\_\_ his family members learnt dishes from OTs. Choose the option that lists the inference with reference to the above statement. 1
- a. OTs were equally good connoisseurs of food.  
b. His family was mediocre in cooking.  
c. His family had close association and good rapport with OTs.  
d. His family wanted to learn more recipes to expand their business.
- iv. Write one instance from the passage that shows Deepak had an acute business sense. 1
- v. 'While the money we make is not great, the respect and love we have accumulated over the years is what keeps us going.' *comment on the statement.* 1
- vi. Read the following: 1  
Deepak started a Chinese food joint in 1978. Later, he installed a PCO that officer trainees frequently used. The place was eventually renamed Ganga Dhaba, a name given by the trainees themselves.  
Select the option that identifies the correct sequence of events:  
a. PCO installed  $\Rightarrow$  Name Changed  $\Rightarrow$  Restaurant opened  
b. Name changed  $\Rightarrow$  PCO installed  $\Rightarrow$  Restaurant opened  
c. Restaurant opened  $\Rightarrow$  PCO installed  $\Rightarrow$  Name changed  
d. Restaurant opened  $\Rightarrow$  Name changed  $\Rightarrow$  PCO installed
- vii. Explain in 40 words, how has Deepak's business evolved to meet the changing needs of the people around him? 2
- viii. Read the following statements: 1  
1. Mr. Deepak named his food joint Om Chinese.  
2. Chinese food was popular among people.  
Choose the correct option.  
a. 2 is the cause for 1.  
b. 1 is the cause for 2.  
c. 1 is true and 2 is false.  
d. 1 is false and 2 is true.

2. Read the passage given below:

1. We're all familiar with the usual reasons workers cite for wanting to stay away even after lockdowns have long ended: flexible schedules, not having to commute, and of course, increased productivity. However, productivity isn't the only reason people want to stay away from the office. We recently surveyed 1,000 remote workers to find out what's really keeping them tied to their work-from-home lives.
2. The findings include: 72% want to be able to take a nap or exercise during the day. Nearly three out of four remote workers surveyed stated that the ability to take a nap or workout during the workday was one of the reasons they wanted to stay home. Though these activities may very well increase worker productivity, there's no doubt that a nap on the kitchen couch would be frowned upon in the office.
3. 73% want to be able to watch TV while they work. Three out of four respondents again say that being able to entertain themselves with TV, podcasts, music, or other media is one of the reasons they want to keep their work-from-home lifestyle.
4. 62% cite concerns about their appearance. Well over half of respondents stated that they are concerned about their co-workers seeing them in-person again after such a long time apart. Whether it's weight loss or gain, not having the right clothes, or another concern about appearance, most would rather not have to worry about the way they look to their co-workers outside a Zoom call.
5. When asked to choose the reason that most affects their desire to keep working from home, predictable answers like caring for children and lack of a commute were still the most common number one reasons. 14% of respondents stated that working remotely was so important to them, that they would not go back to work in-person even if their employers required it.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the given questions.

- i. What would the following be classified as?  
Nearly three out of four remote workers surveyed stated that the ability to take a nap or workout during the workday was one of the reasons they wanted to stay home.  
Select the appropriate response.  
a. A survey  
b. Analytical study  
c. A research  
d. An outcome 1
- ii. The passage ends on a note that some people are resolved to \_\_\_\_\_ 1
- iii. As per the survey, why do health conscious people prefer to work from home? 2
- iv. '...these activities will increase productivity'. By 'productivity', the author refers to \_\_\_\_\_ 1  
a. products produced  
b. efficiency of the employee

- v. When asked to choose the reason that most affects their desire to keep working from home, what were the predictable answers? 1
- a. Caring for children, lack of commute, working remotely
  - b. Caring for children and non-availability of transportation
  - c. Caring for elders and hard communication
  - d. Low on commute
- vi. As per the survey, what top priorities of people prevent them from going to office? 1
- vii. Explain one inference that can be drawn from paragraph 1 about the reason for people's preference to work from home. 1
3. Read the following passage carefully. 8
1. In democratic countries any efforts to restrict the freedom of the Press are rightly condemned. However, this freedom can be easily abused. Stories about people often attract far more public attention than political events. Though we may enjoy reading about the lives of others, it is extremely doubtful whether we would equally enjoy reading about ourselves. Acting on the contention that facts are sacred, reporters can cause untold sufferings to individuals by publishing details about their private lives. Newspapers exert such tremendous influence that they can not only bring about major changes to the lives of ordinary people, but can even overthrow a government.
  2. The story of a poor family that acquired fame and fortune overnight, dramatically illustrates the power of the press. The family lives in Aberdeen, a small town of 25,000 inhabitants in South Dakota. As the parents had five children, life was a perpetual struggle against poverty. They were expecting their sixth child and were faced with even more pressing economic problems. If they had only one more child the fact would have passed unnoticed. They would have continued to struggle against economic odds and would have lived in obscurity. But they suddenly became the parents of quintuplets, four girls and a boy, an event which radically changed their lives. The day after the birth of the five children, an aeroplane arrived in Aberdeen bringing sixty reporters and photographers. The news was of national importance, for the couple had become the parents of the only quintuplets in America.
  3. Their rise to fame was swift. Television cameras and newspapers carried the news to everyone in the country. Newspapers and magazines offered the family huge sums for the exclusive right to publish photographs. Gifts poured in not only from unknown people, but from baby food and soap manufacturers who wished to advertise their products. The old farmhouse the family lived in was to be replaced by a new \$100,000 home. Reporters kept pressing for interviews so lawyers had to be employed to act as the spokesmen of the family at press conferences. The event brought serious changes to the town itself. Plans were announced to build a huge new highway, as Aberdeen was not now likely to attract thousands of tourists. Signposts erected on the outskirts of the town directed tourists not to Aberdeen, but to 'Quint-City USA'. The local authorities discussed the possibility of erecting a 'Quint Museum' to satisfy the curiosity of the public and to protect the family from inquisitive tourists. While the five babies were still quietly sleeping in oxygen tents in a hospital nursery, their parents were paying the price for fame. It would never again be possible for them to lead normal lives. They had become victims of commercialization, for

their names had acquired a market value. The town itself received so much attention that almost every one of the inhabitants was affected to a greater or less degree.

- a. Make notes on the passage in a suitable format using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Give a suitable title to the passage. 5
- b. Write a summary of the passage in about 50 words based on the notes made. 3

**SECTION B – GRAMMAR AND CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS 23**

4. Your school is planning to organize a Water Conservation Awareness Programme for the students. As school captain of SLV Public School, Lucknow, draft a notice in about 50 words informing the students about the programme mentioning day, date, time and venue. You are Sanjay/Sanjana. 3
5. Prepare a poster in about 50 words on Say No To Plastic Bags. 3
6. Write a letter to the school Principal seeking permission for the re-examination of your paper as you were unable to give. You are Shami/Shivani of Class XI. 5
7. India is a large country having a very rich cultural tradition. It has the potential to provide great geographical and cultural diversity. Even then we have not been able to attract tourists to the extent that even the small countries have been able to do. Write an article in 120-150 words on how to promote tourism in the country. You are Mohan/Mohini. 5

**OR**

In your locality a blood donation camp was organized by an NGO-‘For Your Health’. Many people visited the camp and donated blood. Write a report in 120-150 words for a local newspaper covering the arrangements, doctors’ team, refreshment served, etc.

8. Do as directed. 7
- i. Read the following passage and fill in the missing word. 4
- There (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (be) a great rush at the counter yesterday. I (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (want) to get a ticket for the movie. It (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (be) the first day of the release. The manager suddenly (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (appear) on the scene and announced that the show had been cancelled for reasons beyond control.
- ii. Your brother is coming to pick you. (Use Question Tag) 1
- iii. She was writing a story. (Change the voice) 1
- iv. If you water the plants they will not die. (Remove If and use Unless ) 1

**SECTION-C LITERATURE 31**

9. Read the given extract to attempt the questions with reference to context. 3
- Archaeology has changed substantially in the intervening decades, focusing less on treasure and more on the fascinating details of life and intriguing mysteries of death. It also uses more sophisticated tools, including medical technology. In 1968, more than 40 years after

Carter's discovery, an anatomy professor X rayed the mummy and revealed a startling fact: beneath the resin that cokes his chest, his breast-bone and front ribs are missing.

- i. Archaeology has undergone a transformation in that it now emphasizes more on \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. artefacts and treasures
  - b. details of life
  - c. mysteries of death
  - d. religion and beliefs
- ii. The expression "the resin that cokes his chest" here means \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. What does the phrase "in the intervening decades" refer to?

10. Read the given extract to attempt the questions with reference to context. 3

Then sleek as a lizard, and alert, and abrupt,  
She enters the thickness, and a machine starts up  
Of chitterlings, and a tremor of wings, and trillings –  
The whole tree trembles and thrills.

- i. The 'machine' referred to in the second line is \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. Explain the literary device used in the first line.
- iii. What does the expression 'a machine starts up' mean?

11. Read the given extract to attempt the questions with reference to context. 4

A man could be the father of his son's flesh, but that did not mean that he was also the father of his spirit. The distribution of the various kinds of spirit of our tribe had been from the beginning capricious and vagrant.

- i. The phrase "the various kinds of spirit" refers to \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. What does the author mean by the words 'capricious' and 'vagrant'?
- iii. What does the statement "A man could be...his spirit" mean in other words?
  - a. A man is responsible for both the flesh and the spirit of his child.
  - b. A man is not responsible for the soul of his child.
  - c. A child may not inherit his personality or temperament from his father.
  - d. A child has his own flesh.
- iv. The paragraph is talking about \_\_\_\_\_

12. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in 60-80 words. 2x3=6

- i. Explain: "Its silence silence". (A Photograph)
- ii. Why did the grandmother disapprove of music being taught at school?
- iii. How did the children respond when the captain went into cabin to comfort them?

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 60-80 words each. 1x3=3

- i. How did Aram justify Mourad's act of stealing a horse?

ii. What was the narrator in the story "The Address" in search of? Why?

14. Answer the following in about 120-150 words. 6

There are references to the religious beliefs/practice of some characters in 'The Portrait of a Lady' and 'Discovering Tut'. What are they? Elaborate.

15. Answer the following in about 120-150 words. 6

What hardships do you think the girl underwent during the Pre-War and Post-War times.  
(The Address)