

DAYANAND ANGLO VEDIC PUBLIC SCHOOL, AIROLI
SAMPLE PAPER-I (2024-25)
SUBJECT: ENGLISH
STD: X

MAX MARKS: 80

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.

2. Attempt question based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A-READING SKILLS

1. Read the passage carefully.

10M

1.The art of living is learnt easily by those who are positive and optimistic. From humble and simple people to great leaders in history, science or literature, we can learn a lot about the art of living, by having a peep into their lives. The daily routines of these great men not only reveal their different, maybe unique life styles but also help us learn certain habits and practices they followed. Here are some; read, enjoy and follow in their footsteps as it suits you.

2.A private workplace always helps. Jane Austen asked that a certain squeaky hinge should never be oiled so that she always had a warning whenever someone was approaching the room where she wrote. William Faulkner, lacking a lock on his study door, detached the doorknob and brought it into the room with him. Mark Twain’s family knew better than to breach his study door - they would blow a horn to draw him out. Graham Greene went even further, renting a secret office; only his wife knew the address and the telephone number. After all everyone of us needs a workplace where we can work on our creation uninterruptedly. Equally we need our private space too!

3.A daily walk has always been a source of inspiration. For many artists, a regular stroll was essentially a creative inspiration. Charles Dickens famously took three hours walks every afternoon, and what he observed on them fed directly into his writing. Nineteenth century composer Erik Satie did the same on his long hikes from Paris to the working - class suburb where he lived, stopping under street lamps to jot down ideas that came on his journey; it’s rumoured that when those lamps were turned off during the war years, his music declined too. Many great people had limited their social life too. One of Simone de Beauvoir’s close friends puts it this way. “There were no receptions, parties. It was an uncluttered kind of life, a simplicity deliberately constructed so that she could do her work”. To Pablo the idea of Sunday was an “at home day”. The routines of these thinkers are difficult. Perhaps it is because they are so unattainable. The very idea that you can organize your time as you like is out of reach for most of us, so I’ll close with a toast to all those who worked with difficulties. Like Francine Prose, who began writing when the school bus picked up her children and stopped when it brought them back; or T.S. Eliot, who found it much easier to write once he had a day job in a bank than he had as a starving poet and even F. Scott Fitzgerald, whose early books were written in his strict schedule as a young military officer. Those days were not as interesting as the nights in Paris that came later, but they were much more productive and no doubt easier on is liver.

4.Being forced to follow someone else’s routine may irritate, but it makes to stay on the path. Whenever we break that trails ourselves or take path of least resistance, perhaps what’s most important is that we keep walking.

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

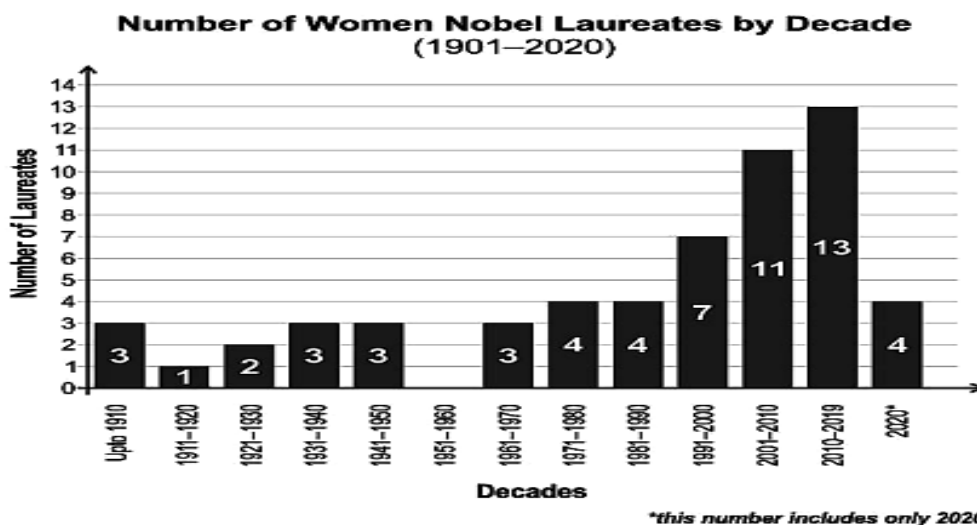
- (i) What was specific about Austen’s workspace? 1
 (a) She did not want anyone coming to her room.
 (b) She wanted a noisy door near her room.
 (c) She did not want a certain squeaky thing to be oiled.
 (d) She wanted people to warn her before coming to her.
- (ii) How can we learn the art of living? Answer in 40 words. 2
- (iii) Complete the following sentence appropriately. 1
 Francine Prose used to write when
- (iv) The passage includes some words that mean the same. From the sets (a)-(e) below, identify two sets of synonyms. 1
 (a) Squeaking and warning
 (b) Detached and uninterrupted
 (c) Positive and optimistic
 (d) Resistance and difficulties
 (e) Humble and simple
- (v) Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
 The family of Mark Twain used to blow a horn instead of knocking at the door
- (vi) State reasons that justify Graham Greene’s decision to have a secret workspace. Answer in more than 40 words. 2
- (vii) According to the passage, what is central to attaining success?
 (a) Concentration (b) Isolation (c) Routine (d) Practical skills
- (viii) Which style did the famous composer Erik Satie follow?

2. Read the passage carefully.

10M

1. The Nobel Prize is an international award administered by the Nobel Foundation and is based on the fortune of Alfred Nobel, a Swedish inventor and entrepreneur. The Nobel prize is awarded for the best contribution in the fields of Physics, Chemistry, Medicine, Literature and to the person who has contributed by and large to bring Peace on Earth. In 1968, Sweden’s central bank established the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in memory of Alfred Nobel.

2. A look into the history of the recipients of the award reveals that only 57 women have received the award compared to 873 male recipients. There are various historical reasons for why this is the case, but the trend appears to be improving.



3. Goran Hansson, the permanent secretary of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said, " While more women are being recognised now compared with previous decades, only about 10% of the professors in natural sciences in western Europe or North America are women,

and even lower if you go to east Asia." All over the world, the number of men working in STEM fields is much higher than the number of women.

4. Hansson emphasised that they have made sure to identify the problem and also learn about subconscious bias in the prize-awarding committees and academies. "We've had lectures by sociologists, we've had group discussions, we have put quite a lot of effort into it," he said.

5. "In the end, we will give the prize to those who are found the most worthy, those who have made the most important contributions," he added.

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

- (i) According to the passage, the gender disparity among Nobel Prize recipients is due to _____ factors.
- (a) historical (b) economical (c) sociological (d) psychological
- (ii) Based on the passage, what efforts are being made by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences to address the low representation of female scientists?
- A. The Academy is consciously awarding female scientists from the 2000s.
B. The Academy is inviting sociologists to lecture about the gender gap.
C. The Academy is hosting group discussions to boost the intelligence of female scientists.
- (a) only A (b) only B (c) A and C (d) B and C
- (iii) According to the passage, Goran Hansson says that there are _____.
- (a) more female scientists in East Asia than in Europe
(b) fewer male scientists than female scientists in Europe
(c) fewer male scientists being considered for recognition now
(d) more female scientists being recognised for their work now
- (iv) Which of these can be inferred from the graph showing the number of women Nobel laureates by decade?
- (a) No woman received the Nobel prize before the year 1910.
(b) More women have received the Nobel prize since 1971 than men.
(c) At least one woman received the Nobel prize every year since 1901.
(d) Since 1961, women Nobel laureates have been increasing steadily every decade.
- (v) According to Goran Hansson, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences _____.
- (a) researches the cause of gender discrepancy in Nobel prize nominations
(b) nominates fewer men for prestigious awards like the Nobel prize
(c) awards the Nobel prize to the most famous contributors
(d) selects individuals who are not prejudiced in any way
- (vi) Which of these pieces of information is NOT present in the passage?
- (a) number of Nobel prizes given in the year 2009
(b) number of men who have received Nobel prizes till date
(c) percentage of male scientists belonging to eastern countries
(d) percentage of female scientists belonging to western countries
- (vii) Select the sentence that CORRECTLY uses the phrase 'by and large' as used in paragraph I.
- (a) Paula prepared a by and large cake for dinner.
(b) We bought by and large clothes for the campaign.
(c) Most of the lions by and large eat deer when hungry.
(d) She was so excited that she screamed by and large on the road.
- (viii) The Nobel Prize is an international award because it recognises the achievements made _____.
- (a) in all subjects (b) by all genders (c) in all countries (d) by all institutions
- (ix) Identify the opinion from these statements about the information shared in the passage.
- (a) The Nobel prizes have been awarded to more men than women.
(b) Alfred Nobel's wealth is used to award the Nobel prizes to the winners.
(c) The Nobel prize was awarded for the best contribution in only four fields initially.
(d) Women in general are more inclined to working on world peace than on other subjects.
- (x) Find a word from the passage that means the same as 'unfairness'.

the first prize.

(a) had been won (b) will win (c) was winning (d) has won

(x) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter:

We hope that you continue to work with the same zeal and keep _____ (surprise) us with such remarkable performances. We thank you and wish you good luck for your upcoming projects.

Regards.

(xi) Identify the error and supply correction for the following sentence taken from a copyright's document.

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Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

(xii) Fill in the blank with the suitable word from the given option.

Yesterday, a speeding car hit a biker, who unconscious.

(a) had knocked (b) knocks (c) knocked (d) was knocked

CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS-10M

4.A. You are Nehal Kumar, Head of the Computer Club in Sunshine School, Noida. Digital literacy refers to someone's ability to use digital technology to find, evaluate, create and communicate information. You believe that digital literacy and navigating the digital world responsibly is crucial in today's technology-dependent age. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily, in about 120 words, stressing the need for promoting digital literacy among individuals of all age groups. Discuss the benefits and challenges of digital technology, and propose initiatives to empower people with digital skills. **5M**

OR

4 B. You are Mita / Meet of B-202, Meghdoot Society, Indore. You wish to make a pilgrimage of Badrinath, Kedarnath, Haridwar with your family of six. Write a letter to Motilal Travels, enquiring about the schedule of their conducted tour by Deluxe buses to these places. Ask about the charges, hoarding and lodging arrangements and the total time needed for the tour. (100-120 words)

5. A. You are Sarika / Satish, Store Incharge, Gyan Vardhini Secondary School, Viman Nagar, Pune. Your school requires school bags and accessories in bulk for the commencement of the new session. Write a letter to the Sales Manager, Sky Bags Industries Ltd. 15/3, Shivaji Nagar, Pune to place the order for the required items. (100-120 words) **5M**

OR

5 B. You are Vishnu / Vishakha. You bought a Television set from Tilak Enterprises, Gandhi Marg, Nagpur. It does not function properly. Write a letter to the Sales Manager of the shop, complaining about the defect and asking for immediate replacement or repair, as necessary. (100-120 words)

SECTION C- LITERATURE (40M)

6A. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 5M

Inside the clouds, everything was suddenly black. It was impossible to see anything outside the aeroplane. The old aeroplane jumped and twisted in the air. I looked at the compass. I couldn't believe my eyes: the compass was turning round and round and round. It was dead. It would not work! The other instruments were suddenly dead, too. I tried the radio. "Paris Control? Paris Control? Can you hear me?" There was no answer. The radio was dead too. I had no radio, no compass, and I could not see where I was. I was lost in the storm.

- (i) What happened as soon as the pilot was inside the cloud? 2
- (ii) The devices in the aeroplane were: 1
- (a) malfunctioning (b) broken completely
- (c) giving wrong readings (d) stopped responding completely
- (iii) Select the option that correctly captures the application of the word 'twisted' as used in the extract. 1
- (a) Ragini twisted Raghav's wrist.
- (b) Ragini twisted the story to suit the occasion.
- (c) Ragini did not appreciate Raghav's twisted bent of mind.
- (d) Ragini matched the swimmer as he twisted twice in the air before diving into the water.
- (iv) State True or False: The particular incident took place as the pilot was about to enter the storm clouds. 1
- (a) True (b) False

6 B. Ausable did not fit any description of a secret agent Fowler had ever read. Following him down the musty corridor of the gloomy French hotel where Ausable had a room, Fowler felt let down. It was a small room, on the sixth and top floor, and scarcely a setting for a romantic adventure. Ausable was, for one thing, fat. Very fat. And then there was his accent.

Though he spoke French and German passably, he had never altogether lost the American accent he had brought to Paris from Boston twenty years ago. "You are disappointed," Ausable said wheezily over his shoulder. "You were told that I was a secret agent, a spy, dealing in espionage and danger. You wished to meet me because you are a writer, young and romantic. You envisioned mysterious figures in the night, the crack of pistols, drugs in the wine." (The Midnight Visitor)

- (i) Which of these describes how Fowler felt at the beginning of the extract? 1
- (a) His heart sank. (b) He was shaken up.
- (c) His stomach was in knots. (d) He was at the end of his rope.
- (ii) State one observation about Ausable based on the way he handled Fowler's disappointment with him. 1
- (iii) How did the atmosphere of the French hotel influence Fowler's mood? Answer in 40 words. 2
- (iv) Which of these means the same as 'romantic' in the line below? 1
- It was a small room, on the sixth and top floor, and scarcely a setting for a romantic adventure.
- (a) great (b) exciting (c) idealistic (d) passionate

7A. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 5M

What is the boy now, who has lost his ball,
 What, what is he to do? I saw it go
 Merrily bouncing, down the street, and then
 Merrily over- there it is in the water!

- (i) The extract suggests that the poet is 1
- (a) an onlooker observing (b) a parent recounting the incident
- (c) the boy talking about himself (d) imagining the incident
- (ii) The poet seems to have indicated the merry bouncing of the ball to 1
- (a) create a sense of rhythm in these lines.
- (b) support the happiness of the experience of playing.
- (c) contrast with the dejected feeling of the boy.
- (d) indicate the cheerful mood of the boy.
- (iii) Choose the situation that corresponds to the emotion behind the exclamation mark in the poem. 1

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Hey ! Hey! That's no way to dispose off the garbage. Have you no community sense? Please but it in the bin.	I knew it! I knew he'll fare well in his auditions for 'Young Chef'. Now, we prepare for the semi-finals.	I dont know where I've placed my ID-card. Let me check the bag once more. Ah, finally!	I've been trying to call mom for the past 20 minutes and can't get through. I don't know how...Aarrgh! Again!

- (a) option 1 b) option 2 c) option 3 d) option 4
- (iv) The poem begins with a question. Based on your reading of the poem, the speaker 1
 (a) wants the boy to answer the question. (b) expects the passers-by to respond.
 (c) is looking for answers in a self-help book. (d) is thinking to himself.
- (v) Alliteration is a literary device that occurs with the same letter or sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words. 1
 Pick the option that showcases an example of alliteration from the extract.
 (a) What is the boy now (b) who has lost his ball
 (c) I saw it go (d) and then/ Merrily over

7 B. But if it had to perish twice,
 I think I know enough of hate
 To say that for destruction ice
 Is also great
 And would suffice. (Fire and Ice)

- (i) Fill the blank with one word.
 When the speaker says that ice could also bring about the end of the world, he refers to _____, as the means for destruction. 1
- (ii) What does the speaker's alignment with those who favour ice, suggest? 1
- (iii) Which of the following best describes the speaker's attitude towards destruction caused by ice? 1
 (a) Indifferent (b) Fearful (c) Dismissive (d) Respectful
- (iv) Comment on the poet's use of language in these lines. 2

8. Answer the any four of the following questions in about 40-50 words. 3x4=12

- (i) How was Amanda behaving when the poem starts? What did the speaker ask her not to do?
- (ii) 'All knowledge is useful. But not all knowledge is worth the cost.' Elaborate on the quote in the context of the poem 'How to Tell Wild Animals'.
- (iii) The young seagull 'failed to muster up courage to take that plunge'. In what way can the reference to the 'plunge' here be both literal and metaphorical? Explain. (His First Flight)
- (iv) State two ways in which the oppressor and the oppressed are similar, according to Mandela. (Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom)
- (v) Why do you think Mr. Keesing chose the title- 'An Incurable Chatterbox' for Anne to write on?

9. Answer the any two of the following questions in about 40-50 words. 3x2=6

- (i) It's not easy to be mean to people who are nice to you. Do you think that the young thief had to work on giving himself valid reasons to be able to commit the theft? Or did thieving come as naturally to him this time, too? Write a brief analysis of his mood before the theft. (The Thief's Story)
- (ii) The writer has given ample chance to the readers to ridicule the character Max in the chapter 'The Midnight Visitor'. Substantiate your answer with examples from the text.

(iii) Why did the police arrest Horace Danby when he had not kept the jewels stolen from Grange safe? (A Question of Trust)

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100–120 words. 1x6=6

A. Money is external'. Can money buy happiness? Write your opinions in the form of a debate. Also add your counter arguments in favour or against the topic.(The Ball Poem)

B. Imagine Robert Frost from 'A Dust of Snow' met with Lencho from 'A Letter to God' and discussed the various ways nature can influence a person's mood. Create this conversation in not more than 120 words. You may begin this way:

Lencho: As a farmer, my livelihood depends on nature and sometimes nature can be cruel.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100–120 words. 1x6=6

A. Ausable is awarded by his agency as 'The Best Secret Agent of the Year' as he safeguarded the important document successfully. Ausable's employer decides to give a speech appreciating his personality traits in the award ceremony. Draft the speech for him in about 100-120 words.

B. Imagine that Mrs. Pumphrey from 'A Triumph of Surgery', reflects upon her behaviour, learns from her mistakes, and writes a diary entry about the consequences of overindulgence. Write this diary entry as Mrs. Pumphrey in about 120 words.