

Class : XI Question Bank (Unseen Passages)

Q1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

(10 marks)

1. Currently most reading is either of the printed word from ink or toner on paper, such as in a book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet or notebook or electronic displays, such as computer displays, television, mobile phones or readers. Handwritten text may also be produced using a graphite pencil or pen. Short texts may be written or painted on an object. Often the text relates to the object, such as an address on an envelope, product into on packaging, or text on a traffic or street sign. A slogan may be painted on a wall. A text may also be produced by arranging stones of a different color in a wall or road. Short texts like these are sometimes referred to as environmental print. Sometimes text or images are in relief, with or without using a color contrast. Words or images can be carved in stone, wood or metal, instructions can be printed in relief on a plastic housing of a home appliance, or myriad other examples.

2. A requirement for reading is a good contrast between letters and background and a suitable font size. In the case of a computer screen, it is important to be able to see an entire line of text without scrolling. The field of visual word recognition studies how people read individual words. A key technique in studying how individuals read text is eye tracking. This has revealed that reading is performed as a series of eye fixation with saccades between them. Fix it on every word in a text, but instead fix it to some words while apparently filling, in the missing information using context. This is possible because human languages show certain linguistic regularities. The process of recording information to be read later is writing. In the case of computer and micro fiche storage, there is the separate step of displaying the written text. For few months, reading is usually faster and easier than writing.

3. Reading is typically an individual activity, although on occasion a person will read out loud for the benefit of other listeners. Reading aloud for one's own use, for better comprehension, is a form of interpersonal communication. In the early 1970s has been proposed the dual route hypothesis to read aloud, accordingly to which there were two separate mental mechanisms or cognitive routes, that are involved in this case, with output of both mechanism contributing to the pronunciation of a written stimulus.

4. Reading to young children is a recommended way to instill language and expression, and to promote comprehension of text personalized books for children are recommended to improve engagement and, reading by featuring the child themselves in the story. Before the re-introduction of separated text in the late middle ages, the ability to read silently was considered rather remarkable.

1. On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below. (1x10 = 10)

i) Words and images can be carved in:

(a) stone (b) wood (c) metal (d) all of the above

ii) Which of the following is a requirement of reading on a computer screen?

(a) Good contrast with letters (b) Important to see entire line of text without Scrolling
(c) Both (a) and (b) (d) None of the above

iii) Human languages show : (a) linguistic regularities (b) recording information (c) mental mechanisms (d) cognitive routes

iv) Which routes have been proposed in the early 1970? (a) Mental mechanisms (b) Cognitive routes (c) Both (a) and (b) (d) None of the above

v) Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the correct sequence of the passage.

1. Words or images can be carved in stone, wood or metal instructions can be printed in relief on a plastic housing of a home appliance.

2. Reading is typically on individual activity.

3. Short text may be written or painted on an object.

4. Reading to young children is a recommended way to instill language and expression.

5. The process of recording information to be read later is writing.

(a) 3,1,5,2,4

(b) 2, 4,5, 1,3

(c) 3,2, 1,5, 4

(d) 4, 3, 2, 5, 1

vi) Which of the following is faster in humans?

(a) Writing (b) Reading (c) Listening (d) All of the above

vii) Text relates to the :

(a) object (b) images (c) colour contrast (d) all of the above

viii) Find the synonym of the word "showed" given in the options below.

(a) displayed (b) produced (c) painted (d) slogan

ix) Find the synonym of the word "build" given in the options below.

(a) instructions (b) referred (c) produced (d) fixate

x) Find the antonym of the word "vanish" given in the options below.

(a) reveal (b) appear (c) apparently (d) separate

Q2) Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

(10 marks)

1. It's the quality, not the quantity that counts. What has happened to the art of conversation? By conversation, I do not mean mere word exchanges between individuals. I am thinking, rather of the ability to convey images from one mind to another; the ability to build a mutual edifice of ideas, in short, the ability to engage in a civilizing experience.

2. But where does one find good conversation these days? Certainly not in the presence of television set. No matter how rewarding 'bridge talk' may be, it is not conversation.

3. What makes good conversation? In the first place, it is essentially a mutual search for the essence of things. It is a lively exchange of ideas, not a briefing or lecture. The Russian poet Alexander Pushkin correctly identified the willingness to listen as one of the vital ingredients of any exchange. When two people are talking at the same time, it is not conversation -it is collision.

4. Nothing is more destructive to good talk than for one participant to hold the ball too long, like an over-zealous football dribbler playing to the crowd. Pity the husband or wife with a garrulous mate who insists on talking long past the point where he or she has anything to say. To be meaningful, a conversation should head in a general direction. It need not be artfully plotted but it should be gracefully kept on course, guided by unforeseen ideas.

5. It has been said that if speech is silver, silence is golden. Certainly silence is preferable, under most circumstances, to inconsequential chit-chat. Why, then, are so many people discomfited by the absence of human sound waves? Why are they not willing merely to sit with each other, silently enjoying the unheard, but real linkages, of congeniality and understanding? Made conversations should not be a necessity among intimates. If there is nothing to say- don't say it.

6. It is true that strangers meeting for the first time seem to feel uncomfortable if they do not engage in small talk. Usually this is harmless and even necessary if strangers are to size each other up. But, small talk aside, what are some elementary rules for general conversation? In the first place, certain subjects should be taboo. Kitchen topics, the best cleansers, business, bus time-tables and other dull or

specialized things should be barred from general discussion. Next, let us remember that our illnesses and operations are not something to be offered to friends at conversation time.

7. Then there is the conversationalist who must under every circumstance be right, one who always has to win the game. And there are those of us who want to moralize. Let's not. Conversation need not always be purposeful, but it must at least be for pleasure. It must be congenial, aiming for example, at knowing better one's conversation partner. Above all, it should be joyful and amiable, for, as the essayist Joseph Addison put it, 'Good nature is more agreeable in conversation than wit'.

8. I do not object to enforced conversation, say by the hostess who interrupts an after dinner group with, 'We simply must hear about John's trip to Africa.' I am less tolerant, however of those who halt a good conversation with a flat, 'Come now, let's stop all this serious talk.' A good conversation is a fragile thing that must be nurtured carefully.

1 Answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option.
(1x10=10 marks)

i. What does conversation mean?

- a. Exchange of words between individuals.
- b. Exchange of ideas between individuals.
- c. The ability to convey images from one mind to another.
- d. None of the above.

ii. The essential features of a good conversation do not include:

- a. Mutual understanding.
- b. Lively exchange of ideas.
- c. Giving lectures.
- d. Ability to convey images in each other's mind.

iii. The elementary rules of general conversation include:

- a. Kitchen topics, the best cleansers, business talk.
- b. Illnesses and operations.
- c. Deep silence.
- d. It must be at least for pleasure if not for purpose.

iv. A good conversation is fragile and must be nurtured...

- a. carelessly.
- b. silently.
- c. carefully.

d. hastily.

v. According to Pushkin, one of the important aspects of any exchange is:

- a. the ability to talk fluently.
- b. the willingness to listen.
- c. the ability to moralize.
- d. the ability to be witty.

vi. The word ‘garrulous’ in the above passage cannot be replaced by :

- a. talkative
- b. chatty
- c. argumentative
- d. voluble

vii. Find a word from the passage that means opposite of the word ‘hostile’:

- a. graceful
- b. congenial
- c. collision
- d. stranger

viii. What does the writer intend by using the proverb, “If speech is silver, silence is golden.”

- a. The one who does not speak is more talented than the other who speaks.
- b. It’s not always necessary to speak when you understand each other well.
- c. Keeping quiet will resolve all conflicts.
- d. You should be able to listen to the next person silently.

ix. The writer asks us not to :

- a. moralise the conversation.
- b. dominate during conversation.
- c. interrupt a good conversation.
- d. All of the above.

x. The apt title for the passage is:

- a. What not to do in conversation.
- b. How to talk with strangers.
- c. Communication without words.
- d. Tips to build up a good conversation.

LITERATURE WORKSHEET (HORNBILL)

Class: XI

Subject: English

Lesson 1. The Portrait of a Lady

A. Choose the correct option.

1. Author's Grandmother had been old and pretty for the last

- (a) thirty years (b) twenty years
- (c) ten years (d) fifteen years

2. Where was grandfather's portrait hung?

- (a) above the mantelpiece (b) below the photograph of the grandmother
- (c) above the bureau (d) above the table

3. Which thought was almost revolting ?

- (a) Grandmother being young and pretty.
- (b) Games grandmother used to play as a child.
- (c) Grandfather being young and handsome.
- (d) Grandfather's long and white beard.

4. Who had always been short and fat and slightly bent?

- (a) Grandfather (b) Grandmother
- (c) Author's Great grandmother. (d) Author's mother

5. Who used to hobbled about the house?

- (a) Grandfather (b) Grandmother
- (c) Author's mother (d) Author's father

6. Name the poetic device in 'She was like the winter landscape in the mountains, an expanse of pure white serenity'.

- (a) Metaphor (b) Simile
- (c) Personification (d) Alliteration.

7. My grandmother and I were good friends. Who said this line.

- (a) Khuswant Singh (b) Khuswant Singh's brother
- (c) Khuswant Singh's Sister (d) Khuswant Singh's Mother

8. 'That was a turning-point in our friendship'. What was the turning point?

- (a) When author shifted to city.
- (b) When the author joined English school.
- (c) When Author's Grandmother and author shifted to city.
- (d) When author shifted to village.

9. Who accepted her seclusion with resignation.

- (a) Grandfather (b) Grandmother
- (c) Parents (d) Author's friend

10. After five years I came back home. I refer to

- (a) Grandmother (b) Grandfather
- (c) Author (d) Author's friend

11. Name the poetic device in 'Terribly Tarnsient Feet'

- (a) Synecdoche (b) Oymoron
- (c) Epithet (d) Personfication

12. Who went to the beach for the paddling?

- (a) Betty and Dolly (b) Poetess and her mother
- (c) Betty alone (d) Betty,Dolly and poetess's mother

13. Name the poetic device in 'Both wry with the laboured ease of loss'

- (a) Metaphor (b) Similie
- (c) Oxymoron (d) personification

14. How many years ago had the poetess's mother died?

- (a) 12 years (b) 13 years
- (c) 30 years (d) 15 years

15. When was the snapshot taken?

- (a) 20-30 years ago (b) 15-20 years ago
- (c) 10-12 years ago (d) 12-20 years ago

B. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words.

1. Why was it hard for the author to believe that his grandmother was once young and pretty?
2. How did Khushwant Singh portray his grandfather in the lesson?
3. How were the grandmother and the narrator good and intimate friends?
4. Describe the grandmother's feeding the village dogs.
5. What impression did the grandmother form of the English schools in the city?

6. When was the common link of friendship between the narrator and the grandmother snapped?
7. How did the grandmother react when the author decided to go abroad?
8. Describe 'the happiest half-hour of the day' for the grandmother.
9. How did the grandmother celebrate the home coming of her grandson?
10. How did the sparrows pay their last homage to the grandmother?

C. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTION

(Word Limit: 150 words)

Q1. Describe the three phases of the author's relationship with his grandmother before he left the country to study abroad.

Q2. The grandmother is a silent voice in the story. However, her actions reveal her personality. Draw a character sketch for the grandmother using these words: affectionate, caring, kind and benevolent, religious and strong. Give suitable examples from the text.

Q3. Describe how the bond of friendship between the author and his grandmother grew strong and then weak with the passage of time

Lesson: 02 We Are Not Afraid to Die....

Q. 1. Read the following statements and put a tick mark against the correct option:

1. The narrator along with his wife, son and daughter set sail from the following place:

a) Plymouth b) Cape Town c) London

2. What was the name of the ship in which the narrator set sail to duplicate the round the world voyage?

a) Wavewalker b) INS Vikram c) INS Vikrant

3. Who were Larry Vigil and Herb Seigler?

a) passengers b) ministers c) crewmen

4. 'May Day Calls' are:

a) International Radio Distress Signals

b) Sea waves c) Movie Songs

5. The message of the lesson 'We're not..... together' is –
a) not do any adventures b) teamwork wins any crisis
c) to live always in a comfortable zone
6. Jonathan and Suzanne are:
a) crewmen b) the narrator's niece and nephew
c) the narrator's son and daughter
7. Where did they celebrate Christmas?
a) East of Cape Town b) West of Cape Town c) North-West of Cape Town
8. Captain James Cook whom the narrator wanted to duplicate the round the world voyage made 200 years earlier, was ..
a) famous businessman b) famous leader c) famous explorer
9. Ile-Amsterdam, where the narrator landed his boat, had _____ number of inhabitants.
a) 30 b) 29 c) 28
10. Who is the writer of the lesson 'We're not..... together'?
a) James Cook b) Gordon Cook and Alan East c) G. B. Shaw

Q2. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words.

1. Give a brief description of the narrator's boat. How was it equipped and tested?
2. How did Jonathan react to the desperate situation they found themselves in on 5th January?
3. How did the narrator respond to little John's words? What do his actions reveal about his character?
4. How did Sue try to enliven the gloomy atmosphere?
5. Why did the narrator search for an island so eagerly?
6. Why do you think did the narrator call Ile Amsterdam, the most beautiful island in the world'?

7. What did the narrator think of on landing at Ile Amsterdam?
8. How can you say that Suzanne's injuries were serious?

Q3. Answer the following questions in 120-150 words:

1. What efforts did the narrator make to save the ship and its passengers?
2. What damage did 'Wavewalker' suffer as a result of bad weather?

Poem 01: A Photograph

Shirley Toulson

A. Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow:

**1. ...A sweet face, My mother's, that was before I was born
And the sea, which appears to have changed less
Washed their terribly transient feet.**

- a. When did this incident take place?
- b. How is the poet able to remember her mother's childhood?
- c. What has stood the onslaught of time and what has not?

**2. Some twenty- thirty- years later
She'd laugh at the snapshot. "See Betty
And Dolly," she'd say, "and look how they
Dressed us for the beach."**

- a. Who would laugh at the snapshot after twenty – thirty years later?
- b. How did mother remember her past?
. Who were Betty and Dolly?

B. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words.

- 1) What does the word 'cardboard' denote in the poem? Why has this word been used?

- 2) What has the camera captured?
- 3) What has stood the onslaught of time and what has not?
- 4) The poet's mother laughed at the snapshot. What did this laugh indicate?
- 5) What is the meaning of the line "Both wry with the laboured ease of loss".
- 6) What does "this circumstance" refer to?
- 7) Explain the line, 'Washed their terribly transient feet.'
- 8) The three stanzas depict three different phases. What are they?
- 9) Comment on the tone of the poem.
- 10) The poet's mother laughs at her photograph. How does the poet react at her past?

Lesson 01: 'The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse'

A. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words.

1. What was the Garoghlanian tribe known for over the centuries?
2. Why was it difficult for Aram to believe the sight of his cousin Mourad with the beautiful white horse?
3. What was Aram's experience when he first rode the horse?
4. What did the farmer John Byro tell the two boys when one day they accidentally met him with his horse in their custody?
5. What points were put forward by Aram in defense of Mourad's act of stealing the horse?
6. "I knew my cousin Mourad enjoyed being alive more than anybody else who had ever fallen into the world by mistake". Explain.
7. What arguments did John Byro advance to prove the usefulness of a horse to a country dweller?
8. Describe Mourad's parting from the beautiful white horse.

9. Explain “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.”

10. “We’ll either take him back or hide him until tomorrow morning.” Which course of action did the speaker take and why?

B. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTION

(Word Limit: 150 words)

Q1. Mourad was the natural descendant of the crazy streak of uncle Khosrove. Explain the statement giving instances from the story, ‘The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse’?

Q2. Relate some of the humorous incidents in the story, ‘The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse’.

Lesson 02: The Address

Q.1 Fill in the blanks with proper words

(i) is the narrator of the story.

(ii) The narrator’s mother left all her household articles with her friend,.....

(iii) Mrs. Dorling lived at No.46.....street.

(iv) The narrator wanted to get the mother’s articles from the woman as she had an emotional..... for them.

(v) The narrator recognized Mrs. Dorling by her.....

Q.2 State whether the following statements are true/false:--

(i) Mrs. Dorling recognized the narrator immediately.

(ii) The narrator wanted to get back her mother’s household articles.

(iii) Mrs. Dorling took all the belongings from the narrator’s mother with her

consent.

(iv) The narrator visited Mrs. Dorling thrice.

(v) The narrator met Mrs. Dorling on her second visit.

Q.3 Choose the correct option:--

(i) Mrs. Dorling's behavior towards narrator was:--

(A) very sweet (B) very threatening (C) very harsh (D) very descent

(ii) When the narrator visited Mrs. Dorling's home for the second time, she found:---

(A) Mrs. Dorling (B) Mrs. Dorling and her daughter (C) Mrs. Dorling's daughter (D) None of them

(iii) The narrator of the story wanted to forget the address because:---

(A) Mrs. Dorling was very harsh in her behavior.

(B) The address made her recall her mother's memories.

(C) Mrs. Dorling lived far away.

(D) None of these

(iv) Mrs. Dorling's harsh behavior shows that she is:--

(A) an unfriendly lady (B) an ungrateful lady (C) A quarrelsome lady (D) an extrovert lady

Q.4 Arrange following happenings from the lesson in proper sequence

(A) As she was returning to the station she was lost in the memories of days gone by.

(B) The woman didn't allow her to enter into the house.

(C) She resolved to forget the address and move on.

(D) The narrator went to her native place in Poland after the war in search of her mother's belongings.

(E) All those things painfully reminded her of her former life.

(F) The narrator introduced herself as Mrs. S.'s daughter.

(G) A girl of about fifteen opened the door to her.

(H) She found herself in the midst of familiar things which she longed to see again.

(I) She saw the woman was wearing her mother's green knitted cardigan.

Q.5 Match following words with their meanings in the context of the lesson:

(i) Musty (a) Pieces

(ii) Crick (b) Stale

(iii) Cumbersome (c) Humid

(iv) Muggy (d) Strain

(v) Shreds (e) Awkward & burdensome

1. Use the correct forms of the words given in brackets to complete the passage given below. (1/2 x8 =4)

Last Sunday when I (a) (return) home, I was shocked to find my house unlocked. Someone (b) (break) into my house in my absence. All the boxes (c) (be) open. I (d) (check) for the locker in which I (e)..... (put) my money, but it was nowhere. I (f) (report) the matter to the police. They (g)..... (take) some time to register my case. By that time the thief (h) (run) away.

2. The following passage has errors. Identify the errors in each line and write them along with the corrections as shown in the example: (1/2 x 8 = 4)

	Incorrect	Correct
According to the UNICEF report more than	the	a
(a) a third of the world child brides are from India,		
(b) leaving children at an increased risk on exploitation		
(c) despite the country's growing modernity but economic		
(d) wealth. Nearly 25 million women over India were married		
(e) in 2007 by the age of 18, said the report who noted that		
children in India were sometimes married before they turned 10.		
Millions of children are		
(f) also being forced to work in harmful condition, or face violence		
(g) and abuse at home and outside, suffer physical and		
(h) psychological harm beside wide-reaching effects, the report said.		

3. Rearrange the following words into meaningful sentences: (1/2 x 4 = 2)

- (a) old daughter / cannot / Mini / live / my / five-year /chattering / without
- (b) vexed / at / her mother / this / is often
- (c) like to / prattle / I / but / would not / stop her / she / would
- (d) has / a minute / her life / Mini / not spent / in all / in silence/even

4. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with appropriate form of the words given in brackets.

We often (i) (go) for a morning walk. Yesterday, my younger brother also (ii) (accompany) us. He got up early in the morning and (iii) (knock) at my door. I (iv) wake up with a start and (v) started for the walk. While I (vi) (come) out of the room I saw my grandmother coming out of her room. She (vii) (tell) us it was just three o'clock. My brother (viii) (lose) count of time in excitement.

5. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate words

My Elder brother (i) _____ not speak Bengali. But he (ii) _____ do so when

he was in Kolkata about 20 years back. If he tries once again he (iii) _____ speak even now. I speak it, of course not fluently. But I (iv) _____ interact with local people for my everyday need.

6. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with appropriate form of the words given in brackets:-

Robin (i) _____ (want) to go to the US for his advance studies in telecommunication systems. He (ii) _____ (propose) to prepare for competitive exams for at least one year. He (iii) _____ (know) that a systematic preparation is necessary to ensure success. His sister from New York (iv) _____ (write) that he must (v) _____ (obtain) sample practice papers and (vi) _____ (join) some good coaching centre in India. He (vii) _____ (attend) the Bright Coaching Centre in Imphal. The centre (viii) _____ (assign) regularly a lot of home assignment for exhaustive practice.

7. . Complete the following sentences to make them meaningful.

(i) Dr. Samuel is a nuclear scientist who _____ as a consultant for several years before his

_____ (ii) People who _____ to listen to their beloved leader were shivering in the snow and cold winds.

Writing Skills Worksheet

Poster Writing (50 words)

1. Draft a poster for a school fete.
2. Draft a poster for an Anti smoking campaign.
3. 'Say no to Plastic Bags' Prepare a poster to bring out the harmful consequence of using plastic bags.

NOTICE (50 WORDS – 4MARKS)

Answer the following in about 50 words each

1. As the Secretary of your Cultural and Activity Club draft a notice for the students secondary & Sr. Secondary deptt. about the inter house debate competition to be held. Give all the necessary information.

2. As the President of your Resident welfare Association draft a notice for a blood donation camp to be held in the community centre of your locality. Urge the residents to come forward for this noble cause.
3. Your school is organizing a trip to Mt. Abu. As the Head Boy write a notice informing the students giving all the necessary details.

ADVERTISEMENTS (50 WRDS – 4 MARKS) CLASSIFIEDS

1. You are Manoj / Abha of 354, Pitampura, New Delhi. You want to sell the 1st Floor of your flat. Draft an advertisement for the same in classified columns under 'Property' section. Include relevant details of the flat.
2. Amarnath wants to sell his 2nd hand car. Draft an Advt. for him in this regard.
3. Your Grandfather had an accident and he's laid up in bed. You need a trained nurse for him. Draft an ad. in situation column.

Business Letter

Letter of Enquiry conferring for & giving information :-

1. You R. Malhotra, Purchase Officer, Mohan Electronics, G.M.K. Gandhi Road, Pune, Maharashtra. Write a letter to M/s Spectrum Electronics, 26, Nai Wala Chowk, New Delhi asking about terms and conditions for their electronic appliances like T.V. Sets & V.C.D.s etc.
2. You Akhil / Anita of 126, Mall Road, Shimla you are interested in doing short term course in computer during your summer vacation. Write to Director, Computer would sector-5, Chandigarh enquiring about per course & terms and conditions for admission.
3. You are T.R. Chopra Sales Officer, Spectrum Electronics, 126, Nai Wala Chowk, New Delhi. Write a letter to R. Malhotra Purchase Officer, Mohan Electronics, 6 ,M.K. Gandhi Road, Pune giving information about the Electronic appliances to be supplied by you and the discount offered.

Letter Placing Orders

1. As the Sports Instructor of your school, place an order with M/s Gulati Sports Store, 26, Arya Samaj Road, Karol Bagh for buying cricket bats, volleyball nets, badminton racquets etc.
2. Write a reply for the aboveletter giving your terms & conditions of sale letter for jobs. (Job Applications + Biodata)
3. Anuradha Dutta read an Ad. for Marketing Executive, where a smart young males / females are required Experience would not be necessary as training is given on the jobs. She decide to apply write her covering letter along with the Bio-data for her.
