

**PRACTICE PAPER 1**  
**CLASS: X**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE**

**TIME :3HR**

**MM:80**

**General Instructions**

- **The Question paper is divided into three sections: Section A – Reading 20 marks Section B – Writing and Grammar 30 marks Section C – Literature Textbooks and Extended Reading Text 30 marks**
- **All questions are compulsory.**
- **Marks are indicated against each question.**

**SECTION :A (READING)**

**1. Read the passage given below and complete the statements that follow:**

**8**

- (1) Tourists to Jammu and Kashmir have another attraction – a floating post office on the Dal Lake in Srinagar, the first in the country. 'Floating Post Office, Dal Lake' – claimed to be the only one such post office in the world – is built on an intricately carved maroon houseboat, fastened on the western edge of the Dal Lake.
- (2) This post office lets you avail of all the regular postal services available in the country while being afloat. The seal used on everything posted from Floating Post Office is unique – along with the date and address, it bears the design of a boatman rowing a shikara on the Dal Lake. The special feature of this post office is that letters posted from here carry a special design which has the picturesque scenery of Dal Lake and Srinagar city. These pictures reach wherever these letters are posted to and hence promote Kashmir as a tourist destination across the world.
- (3) This is actually a heritage post office that has existed since British times. It was called Nehru Park Post Office before 2011. But then the chief postmaster John Samuel renamed it as 'Floating Post Office'.
- (4) The post office's houseboat has two small rooms – one serves as the office and the other a small museum that traces the philatelic history of the state postal department. It has a shop that sells postage stamps and other products.
- (5) But for the locals, Floating Post office is more than an object of fascination. 1-2 crore is deposited per month in Floating Post Office by communities living in and around the Dal Lake. The lake has several islets that are home to more than 50,000 people.
- (6) The greatest fear is the recurrence of 2014 like floods in which the houseboat had gone for a toss uncontrollably pushed by the flood. Rescue teams had to anchor it using special mechanism in a nearby highland. Then it was brought back on the Dal after the water receded. The biggest boon is that at no time of the year do you need a fan in this post-office !

**1.1 Attempt any eight of the following questions on the basis of the passage you have read : 1'8 = 8**

(i) What is the location of the Floating Post Office in Srinagar?

- (a) On dal lake
- (b) Near centaur
- (c) On Pari Mahal

(ii) What is special about the seal used in the post office?

- (a) design of a houseboat on the Dal Lake
- (b) design of a boatman rowing a shikara on the Dal Lake

(c) design of a chinar tree on the Dal Lake

iii) The post office is helpful in promoting tourism \_\_\_\_\_

(iv) Who renamed the post office as 'Floating Post Office'?

- (a) Chief Postmaster
- (b) Postman
- (c) Delivery agent

(v) The two rooms of the post office are used for \_\_\_\_\_

(vi) The post office is beneficial to the locals \_\_\_\_\_

(vii) What is the greatest fear that the post office has ?

- (a) Floods
- (b) Earthquakes
- (c) Tsunami

(viii) How is the post office a big boon to the people?

- (a) You do not need fan
- (b) You need airconditioning
- (c) You do not need heater

(ix) The flood came in the year \_\_\_\_\_ in Kashmir valley

**2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the following questions:**

**12**

(1) It is an indisputable fact that the world has gone too far with the innovation of new technologies such as mobile phones, the internet and so on, due to which people are able to tour the cosmos virtually sitting at one place using their smart devices or other technological gadgets. Though mobile internet access is oftentimes hurried and short, it can still provide common internet features like alerts, weather data, emails, search engines, instant messages, and game and music downloading.

(2) Due to the easy access of smart phones, communication has been very effective and instant. People are able to convey their message all around the globe to their loved ones without spending hefty sums of money. Adults are always fond of such gadgets and they always welcome and adopt such new technology readily. Further, young people have been able to broaden their minds and improve their skills by doing research on the Internet. For instance, they use smart phones to look up any new word they come across. As we know that most of the universities have online teaching provision and smart phones assist the students to complete their assignments on time.

(3) The mobile phone has been a lifesaver for a lot of people in case of an emergency. Likewise, use of smart phones can be of vital importance in preventing crimes in the society by providing information to the security forces in time.

(4) Nonetheless, for the young the use of mobile phone can be like an addiction and they can misuse it. Young people are also prone to getting involved in undesirable activities on the Internet. This might have adverse effect on their academic performance. Therefore, young people should always be monitored and made aware of its bad outcomes. Also a major contributor to its popularity is the availability of prepaid or pay as you go services from a phone shop or an online store. This allows subscribers to load text or airtime credits to their handsets by the use of their credit cards, debit cards or by buying a prepaid card from the network they subscribe to. This plan also doesn't commit

a particular customer to a contract. If prepaid card is not that appealing to you, then you can opt to subscribe using the pay by month plan.

**1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions in 30 – 40 words .**

**2×4 = 8**

- (i) How are Smart phones helpful in communication?
- (ii) What are the benefits of mobile phones for the young generation?
- (iii) How can Mobile phones be considered 'lifesavers'?
- (iv) Give two demerits of mobile phones?

**2.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following :**

**1 ×4 = 4**

- (i) In para 1, synonym of 'innovation' is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(i) production (ii) sincerity (iii) invention (iv) prevention
- (ii) Mobile internet can provide access to:  
(i) telegram (ii) emails (iii) schools (iv) university
- (iii) Meaning of the word 'adverse' in para 4 is:  
(i) positive (ii) negative (iii) admirable (iv) unguided
- (iv) According to the passage, one can opt for \_\_\_\_\_ plan if prepaid plan doesn't suit.  
(i) yearly (ii) weekly (iii) monthly (iv) daily

**SECTION - B (WRITING AND GRAMMAR)**

3: Write a letter to the in-charge of text-books section of NCERT, New Delhi complaining about the non-availability of text books even one month after beginning of new session. You are Rohit Rana reading in St. Xavier's school, Delhi. 8

OR

You have noticed that the number of vehicles is steadily increasing in your city. There are long traffic jams causing a lot of inconvenience to the road users. Write an article in 100 –120 words on the topic, 'Problem of Traffic Jams in Metropolitan Cities'. You are Renu/Rajan.

4: Write a story in about 150-200 words with the following beginning and give a suitable title to it. 10  
*Rahul was alone at home. Suddenly the phone rang .....*

OR

*Mukesh, the grocer, was very greedy. He would mix stones in pulses and coloured sand in spices and sell them to the poor villagers. The villagers complained to him but he turned a deaf ear to them, as his was the only grocery store in the village. The villagers, then decided ...*

**5. Complete the paragraph given below by filling in the blanks choosing the correct option from those that follow –** 4

The story of (a) \_\_\_\_\_ Pashtun merchant from Kabul, (b) \_\_\_\_\_ comes to Kolkata, each year for selling dry-fruits. He (c) \_\_\_\_\_ friends with a five year old girl Mini (d) \_\_\_\_\_ a middle class aristocratic family as she reminds him of his daughter who lives in Kabul.

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| a). i.the     | ii.an         |
| iii.a         | iv.some       |
| b). i.who     | ii. An        |
| iii.whose     | iv. Her       |
| c). i.becomes | ii.became     |
| iii.become    | iv.has become |
| d). i.for     | ii.in         |
| iii.from      | iv.to         |

6.The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line against which a numeral is given. Write the incorrect word and the correction in the space provided. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied.

4

	Error	Correction
a) In a kingdom of fools , the	_____	_____
b) King or the minister were foolish.	_____	_____
c) Under their rule peoples worked	_____	_____
d) during the night but slept during the day.	_____	_____

7. Look at the words and phrases below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences.1X4 = 4

- (a) of the residents / becomes a / it reflects / a house / the personality / home when /  
 (b) has to look / no rules / how our / there are / as to / home /  
 (c) thing is / inhabiting them / should enjoy / the important / that we /  
 (d) about / houses are / our lives / personal statements /

**SECTION C  
(LITERATURE)**

8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. Write each answer in your answer sheet in one or two sentences only. 4

*At the age of twenty two ,a former 'scout of the year' excited the scientific world with a new theory on how cells work. Richard H. Ebright and his college room-mate explained the theory in an article in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science.*

- a. Who excited the scientific world with a theory on how cells work?
  - i. Dr.Urquhart
  - ii. James R.Wong
  - iii. Mr.Weisherer
  - iv. Richard E.Bright
  
- b. How was the theory explained?
  - i. In a book
  - ii. In an article
  - iii. In a file
  - iv. In a question
  
- c. The theory was explained in the proceedings of \_\_\_\_\_
  
- d. Give the antonym of 'former'
  - i. Latter
  - ii. later

- iii. earlier
- iv. sooner

OR

*I stand and look at them long and long  
They do not sweat and whine about their  
condition*

Questions :

- a. 'They' in the above lines are \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. Human beings
  - ii. Animals
  - iii. The poets
  - iv. The audience
  
- b. The author keeps looking at them for long because he \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. Never finds them unhappy or dissatisfied
  - ii. Finds them calm and peaceful
  - iii. Feels more at home with them
  - iv. All of the above
  
- c. They are unlike human beings who are \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. Always complaining
  - ii. Calm and quiet
  - iii. Contented
  - iv. Not prone to anger
  
- d. The synonym of 'cry' in the above passage is \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each**

**2x5=10**

- a) Where were the monthly accounts of the baker recorded?
- b) Bholi was a neglected child. Explain
- c) Why does Wanda's house remind Maddie of Wanda's blue dress?
- d) How did Anne justify her being a chatterbox in her essay?
- e) Why did Hari Singh think that Anil's job was queer?

10. Give the character-sketch of Nelson Mandela.

8

OR

Fear and lack of confidence stop one from learning new things. Do you agree? How did these two traits of the young seagull make him coward? How did he overcome these short comings?

11. Richard Ebright displayed a well-rounded personality. Do you agree? Elucidate in the context of the given text.

8

OR

Give a character-sketch of Griffin. Why did his discovery of invisibility make the brilliant scientist a lawless person who brought sufferings to himself and the people around him?