

**PRACTICE PAPER 2**  
**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**

The First sign of Hope

Christy Brown was one of the thirteen children of a Dublin couple. He was born with cerebral palsy. He could not control his crooked body and was thought to be mentally defective. Until he was five years old, he showed no sign of being able to communicate. He was quite unable to speak in spite of his mother's efforts to help him. He remembers his first step that enabled him to become a famous writer.

One snowy December day, when he was five, Christy saw one of his sisters writing with a chalk on a slate. Attracted by the color of the chalk, Christy picked up a piece of it with his left foot. His surprised family watched him silently, and then his mother came over to him.

Taking another piece of chalk from Mona, she hesitated, and then very deliberately drew, on the floor in front of me, the single letter 'A'.

'Copy that' she said, looking steadily at me. 'Copy it, Christy'. I couldn't.

I looked about me, looked around at the faces that were turned towards me, tense, excited faces that were at the moment frozen, immobile, eagerly waiting for a miracle in their midst.

The stillness was profound. The room was full of flame and shadow that danced before my eyes and lulled my taut nerves into a sort of waking sleep. I could hear the sound of the water tap dripping in the pantry, the loud ticking of the clock on the mantel shelf, and the soft hiss and crackle of the logs on the open hearth.

I tried again. Put out my foot and made a wild jerking stab with chalk which produced a very crooked line and nothing more. Mother held the slate ready for me. 'TRY AGAIN, Chris', she whispered in my ear. 'Again.'

I did. I stiffened my body and put my left foot out again for the third time, drew one side of the letter. I drew half the other side. Then the stick of chalk broke and I was left with a stump. I wanted to fling it away and give it up. Then I felt my mother's hand on my shoulder. I tried once more. Out went my foot. I shook; I sweated and strained every muscle. My hands were so tightly clenched that my finger nails bit into the flesh. I set my teeth so hard that I nearly pierced my lower lip. Everything in the room swam till the faces around me were mere patches of white. But—I drew it—the Letter A. There it was on the floor before me. Shaky with awkward wobbly sides and a very uneven centre line, but it was the letter A. I looked up. I saw

my mother's face for a moment, tears on her cheeks. Then my father stooped and hoisted me on to his shoulder.

I had done it. It had started – the thing that was to give my mind its chances of expressing itself. True, I couldn't speak with my lips. But now I would speak through something more lasting than spoken words - written words.

**1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage given above answer the following questions : 1x8=8 marks**

- a. Where did Christy's mother draw the letter 'A'?
  - i. on the slate
  - ii. on the desk
  - iii. on the floor
  - iv. on the hand
  
- b. What was the attitude of the members of the family when they watched him trying to draw?
  - i. Sad
  - ii. Angry
  - iii. Surprised and tense
  - iv. Nervous
  
- c. What sounds could Christy hear in the still room?
  - i. The water tap dripping
  - ii. The tickling of the clock
  - iii. Crackle of the logs
  - iv. All the three
  
- d. How did he draw it first time?
  - i. A circle
  - ii. A straight line
  - iii. A very crooked line
  - iv. A half circle
  
- e. The physical challenge that Christy Brown faced was \_\_\_\_\_
  
- f. What were the reactions of Christy's mother and father when he had drawn the letter?
  
- g. Christy would speak through \_\_\_\_\_
  
- h. What effort did he make when he finally drew it?

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

**12**

1. Great people are born to produce an influence on society. One such personality, who was so humble and lived his complete life with determination and purpose to achieve certain aims was Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar. He was a great social reformer, writer, educator and worked endlessly to transform the society. He strongly protested against polygamy and child marriage. He favoured

widow remarriage and women's education in India. The Widow Remarriage Act was passed in 1856 making the marriage of widows legal because of his efforts to solve these problems

2. Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar refined the way the Bengali language was written and taught. His book 'Homo Porichoy' (Introduction to the Alphabet) is still used as the introductory text to teach Bengali alphabet. Thus, he brought about a revolution in the Bengali Education System. Vidyasagar is credited with the role of completely changing the old method of teaching which prevailed in Sanskrit College. As a professor at Sanskrit College, he brought modern outlook into the method of teaching. He included English and Bengali as mediums of learning, besides Sanskrit. He, also, introduced courses in European History, Philosophy and Science alongside Vedic scriptures. He encouraged students to study these subjects and make the best of both the worlds.
3. Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar was a strong advocate of women education. He rightly viewed education as the primary way for women to achieve emancipation from society's oppression they had to face at that time. He exercised his power to open schools for girls and even outlined a suitable curriculum to educate them. He went from door to door, requesting heads of families to allow their daughters to be enrolled in schools.
4. Ishwar Chandra was a man who defined his own path of action. He never listened to what others said about his work and made decisions based on his own judgement. He was famous for all these qualities. He was also known for his great courage. Vidyasagar had a very soft heart that sympathised with those in trouble. He was easily moved to tears when he saw someone in pain and was always the first one to offer his help to colleagues and friends in distress. After his death, Rabindranath Tagore said, "One wonders how God, in the process of producing forty million Bengalis, produced a man!"

**2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any four of the following questions in about 30-40 words each: 2x4=8**

- (i) What kind of life did Ishwar Chandra lead?
- (ii) What changes did Vidyasagar bring about in the method of teaching at Sanskrit college?
- (iii) What was Vidyasagar's contribution as a professor in the Sanskrit college?
- (iv) How did Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar promote women education?
- (v) How can we say that Vidyasagar was a soft-hearted man?

**2.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any four of the following: 1x4=4**

- (i) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar was dead against .....  
(a) widow remarriage      (b) women's education  
(c) child marriage      (d) all of these
- (ii) The old method of teaching which prevailed in..... College was completely changed by Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar.  
(a)English      (b) Sanskrit      (c) Hindi      (d) Bengali
- (iii) In paragraph 3, the synonym of an advocate is .....  
(a) caretaker    (b) promoter    (c) neighbour    (d) aggressor
- (iv) In paragraph 4, distress means .....  
(a) unhappiness or pain      (b) safety  
(c) calmness      (d) joy

- (v) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar had .....
- (a) humility                      (b) strong determination  
(c) soft heart                      (d) all of these

**SECTION - B (WRITING and Grammar)**

3: 3. Write a letter to M/s. Oxford Publishing House, London complaining that the books sent by them were not those you had ordered for. Ask for replacement. You are Varun Joshi, Sector-20, Gurgaon. 8

OR

Write an article on 'Importance of Newspapers for students' in 100-120 words. You are Rashmi/Rohan

News of the world – make one aware of various activities – various government policies-public reaction – sports news- a good reading habit – more news than on TV – can be read at one's convenience
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4: **Write a story in about 150-200 words with the following beginning and give a suitable title to it. 10**  
It had been over two hours waiting for the train. Ruhi was getting restless. Suddenly she.....

OR

Two friends —Sheena and Seema —loved to dance —competition held —both participants at inter-school dance competition — both wished each other —audience applauded both of them —the result time — both stood first —became best friends forever.

**Section C (GRAMMAR)**

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

There (a) \_\_\_\_\_ a general brief (b) \_\_\_\_\_ students that (c) \_\_\_\_\_ who write long sentences get (d) \_\_\_\_\_ marks but it is a misconception.

- |                         |                              |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| a. i. Was<br>iii. is    | ii. Has been<br>iv. had been |
| b. i. in<br>iii. among  | ii. Of<br>iv. Between        |
| c. i. they<br>iii. all  | ii. Those<br>iv. Them        |
| d. i. more<br>iii. most | ii. Many<br>iv. Much         |

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
In Himalayas, the desert is turning green.	e.g. the	a
Climate change in a Indian region of	(a) _____	_____
Ladakh has shrunk glaciers or has made rainfall	(b) _____	_____
And temperature unpredictable. Water has	(c) _____	_____

Needed to irrigating the fields. Farmers may require (d) \_\_\_\_\_ aid from the government.

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

(a) in ancient times / sandal and turmeric / blemish-free skin / for a / was used / a paste of / by women /

(b) the sandalwood trees / the purest / comes from / renowned sandal oil / and the / of Mysore

(c) the then ruler / of sandalwood / in 1792. / of Mysore / the commercial significance / Tipu Sultan /recognized /

(d) the sandal city / the sandal tree / and Mysore / called the / was then / Royal tree / was called /

**SECTION D  
(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**

*But he is locked in a concrete cell,  
His strength behind bars,  
Stalking the length of his cage,  
Ignoring visitors*

Questions :

a. What kind of a cage is the tiger locked in ?

- i. An iron cage
- ii. A wooden cage
- iii. A cage made of bricks and cement
- iv. A cage made of stones

b. "His strength behind bars" suggests:

- i. The bars of his cage are strong
- ii. The tiger is very strong but his cage is not.
- iii. The tiger's power is locked in the cage
- iv. The tiger will use his power to break the bars

c. The tiger ignores the visitors because\_\_\_\_\_

d. Find a word which means 'to approach stealthily'

OR

*Writing in a diary is a really strange experience for someone like me. Not only because I've never written anything before, but also because it seems to me that later on neither I nor anyone else will be interested in the musings of a thirteen year old school girl. Oh well, it does not matter. I feel like writing and I have an even greater need to get all kinds of things off my chest.*

*"Paper has more patience than people". I thought of this saying on one of those days when I was feeling a little depressed and was sitting at home with my chin in my hands ,bored and listless, wondering to stay in or go out.*

- a. Whom does 'I' refer to ?
  - i. Anne Frank
  - ii. Margot Frank
  - iii. Van Daan

- iv. Mr. Keesing
  - b. Paper has more patience than people. Why did Anne Frank say so?
    - i. Paper does not offend
    - ii. Paper is more mature and serious
    - iii. One can rely on paper to confide
    - iv. Paper can be hidden easily
  - c. Writing in a diary was really a strange experience for a new hand. (True/False)
  - d. Which word means 'tired and without energy'?

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

**2x5=10**

- a) What are the elders in Goa nostalgic about?
- b) What was Horace Danby suffering from? How did it affect him?
- c) What important decision did Maddie make? Why did she have to think hard to do so?
- d) How does Anne feel about her father, her grandmother, Mrs Kuperus, and Mr Keesing? What do these tell you about her?
- e) What is she proud of? How do you know?

10. "Paper has more patience than people." Elucidate.

8

OR

What message does the story 'His First Flight' convey?

11. Discuss the role of Ebricht's mother in making him a scientist.

8

OR

How would you assess Griffin as a scientist and a human being? What qualities or values would you suggest will make him a better person?