

ENGLISH — CLASS 12 (2nd Year)

Paper Pairing Scheme & Exam Strategy 2026

AJK (Mirpur) Board | Federal Board — National Book Foundation | Total Marks: 100

Key 2026 Shift: The board has moved away from rote memorisation toward **conceptual grammar and logical language use**. Students must understand the *function* of language — not just definitions. Error detection, phrase identification, and tense transformation now require applied understanding rather than memorised rules.

AT-A-GLANCE: MARKS BREAKDOWN — ALL SECTIONS

Section	Content Area	Marks	Key Sub-components
Section A	Objective (Grammar & Language)	20	Parts of Speech (5), Types of Phrases (4), Connotative/Denotative Meanings (3), Figures of Speech (3), Synonyms/Antonyms (2), Elements of Novel (2), Types of Sentences (1)
Section B	Comprehension	28	Summary Writing — body (7) + title (1) = 8 marks; Q/A — 5 questions x 4 marks = 20 marks
Poetry	Poetry Stanza Questions	6	3 questions x 2 marks from a given stanza; one question targets Figures of Speech specifically
Novel	Novel Section	6	Elements of Plot, Characters, Conflict; prepare 5 most important character and plot questions
Section C	Writing & Grammar	40	Essay Writing (12), Error Detection/S-V Agreement (6), Types of Phrases (6), Tense Transformation (5), Parts of Speech Detection (5), Transitional Devices (5)
	Grand Total	100	

SECTION A — OBJECTIVE (20 Marks)

Topic	Marks	What to Focus On
Parts of Speech	5	MCQ format — identify noun, pronoun, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition, conjunction, interjection from underlined words in sentences; focus on function in context, not just definition
Types of Phrases	4	Identify type: Noun Phrase, Adjective Phrase, Adverbial Phrase, Gerund Phrase, Participial Phrase, Infinitive Phrase; understand the head word and function of each phrase
Connotative & Denotative Meanings	3	Denotative = dictionary/literal meaning; Connotative = emotional/cultural association Examples: "snake" (denotation: reptile connotation: treachery); "home" (denotation: dwelling connotation: warmth, safety)

Figures of Speech	3	Simile (as/like), Metaphor (direct comparison), Personification, Hyperbole, Alliteration, Onomatopoeia, Irony, Oxymoron — identification and naming from given lines
Synonyms & Antonyms	2	Vocabulary from textbook passages and essays; revise word meanings lesson by lesson
Elements of Novel	2	Setting, Plot, Theme, Character types, Narrator, Conflict, Climax, Resolution — MCQ-based from the prescribed novel
Types of Sentences	1	Simple, Compound, Complex, Compound-Complex — identification from given sentences

SECTION B — COMPREHENSION (28 Marks)

Component	Marks	Strategy & Tips
Summary Writing (Body)	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write in your own words — paraphrase, do not copy phrases Cover all key ideas in approximately 1/3 of the original length One clear paragraph; avoid examples, opinions, and repetition Passage expected to be 200–250 words from textbook prose
Summary — Title	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflects the central idea of the passage in 4–6 words Written at the top after completing the summary body
Question / Answers (5 Qs)	20 (4 each)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 questions based on the comprehension passage Write complete, contextual answers (3–5 lines per question) Use evidence from the passage; avoid opinions unless asked Answer in complete sentences; reward is for accuracy + expression

POETRY — 6 Marks | NOVEL — 6 Marks

Poetry Section — 6 Marks

- A stanza from a textbook poem is given
- 3 questions x 2 marks each
- One question specifically targets Figures of Speech
- Know the theme, tone, and main poetic devices of every prescribed poem
- Prepare brief notes on each poem: central idea, speaker, mood, and key literary devices used

Novel Section — 6 Marks

- Based on the prescribed novel
- Focus on: Plot elements, Character roles, Central Conflict, and Theme
- Prepare 5 most important questions:
 - Character sketch of the protagonist
 - The central conflict and its resolution
 - Theme or moral of the novel
 - A key turning point in the plot
 - Role of a supporting character

SECTION C — WRITING & GRAMMAR (40 Marks)

Task	Marks	Board Criteria & Preparation Tips
Essay Writing	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The instructor provides an "All-in-One Essay" adaptable to 40+ topics Structure: Introduction (hook + thesis), 3–4 body paragraphs, conclusion Board criteria: clarity, coherence, vocabulary range, grammar accuracy Prepare 5–6 essay outlines on common topics (technology, environment, education, social media, youth, health)

Error Detection (Subject-Verb Agreement)	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify grammatical errors in given sentences Focus on: singular/plural agreement, collective nouns, indefinite pronouns (everyone, nobody, each), inverted sentences, intervening phrases Conceptual understanding required — not memorisation
Types of Phrases	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subjective identification format — underline the phrase and name its type Types: Noun, Adjective, Adverbial, Gerund, Participial, Infinitive, Prepositional Understand the head word and grammatical function of each
Tense Transformation / Detection	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convert sentences between tenses — e.g., Present Perfect to Future Identify the tense of underlined verbs in a paragraph Revise all 12 tense structures with signal words Practise transformation drills from textbook exercises
Parts of Speech Detection	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the part of speech of underlined words in a paragraph Context matters — "fast" can be adjective, adverb, or verb Revise how the same word functions differently in different sentences
Transitional Devices	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use correct transitional words to link sentences or ideas Categories: Addition (furthermore, moreover), Contrast (however, nevertheless), Result (therefore, consequently), Sequence (firstly, subsequently, finally), Concession (although, even though) Practise filling in blanks with the most logical connector

All-in-One Essay Strategy: The instructor provides a flexible essay framework that can be adapted for 40+ different topics. Master ONE well-structured essay template with strong vocabulary, and adapt the introduction and body points to the given topic. The concluding paragraph and transition sentence structure stay the same for every essay. This approach covers the 12-mark essay for any topic given on exam day.

FINAL PREPARATION PRIORITY LIST

Rank	Task	Section	What to Do
1st	Comprehension Q/A (20 marks)	Section B	Highest single sub-component — practise answering passage questions with complete contextual sentences and textbook evidence
2nd	Essay Writing (12 marks)	Section C	Master the All-in-One adaptable essay format; prepare 5–6 topic outlines; focus on coherence and vocabulary range
3rd	Error Detection — S-V Agreement (6 marks)	Section C	Conceptual understanding required — singular/plural rules, collective nouns, indefinite pronouns, inverted sentences
4th	Types of Phrases (6 marks)	Section C + A	Appears twice (Section A: 4 mk + Section C: 6 mk = 10 total); understand head word and function of all phrase types
5th	Summary Writing (8 marks)	Section B	Body (7) + Title (1) — practise paraphrasing 200-word passages into 60–70 words in own words

6th	Transitional Devices (5 marks)	Section C	Learn categories (addition/contrast/result/sequence); fill-in-blank drills are the best practice format
7th	Tense Transformation (5 marks)	Section C	Revise all 12 tense structures and signal words; practise sentence conversion drills from textbook
8th	Parts of Speech — Section A (5 mk) + Detection (5 mk)	A + C	10 marks combined — context-based identification; same word functions differently in different sentences
9th	Connotative & Denotative Meanings (3 marks)	Section A	Learn the distinction and practise with common word pairs; emotional vs literal associations
10th	Poetry + Novel (6 + 6 marks)	Poetry + Novel	Know all textbook poems (theme, devices); prepare the 5 most important novel questions (character, plot, conflict)

QUICK REVISION CARD

Section	Key Focus	Marks	Quick Tip
A — Objective	Parts of Speech (5), Phrases (4), Connotative (3), Figures (3)	20	Phrases appear in both Sec A and Sec C — 10 marks total
B — Comprehension	Q/A (20) + Summary body (7) + Title (1)	28	Largest section — must practise daily
Poetry	Stanza Qs x3 (2 mk each); Figures of Speech mandatory	6	Know all textbook poems thoroughly
Novel	Plot, Characters, Conflict	6	Prepare the 5 essential novel questions
C — Writing	Essay (12), Error Detection (6), Phrases (6), Tense (5)	40	Section C = 40 marks — heaviest section; prioritise
C — Grammar	Parts of Speech Detection (5), Transitional Devices (5)	10	Context-based — cannot be memorised; must be understood