CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2025

ENGLISH

(Solved)

Time allowed : 3 hours | Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them :

i. This question paper contains **34 questions.** All questions are **compulsory.**

ii. This question paper is divided into **8 sections.**

iii. **Section A** – questions number **1 to 4** are case based questions

iv. **Section B** – questions number **5 to 6** are unseen passage

v. **Section C** – questions number **7 to 14** are grammar short

vi. **Section D** – questions number **15 to 18** are grammar mcqs

vii. **Section E** – questions number **19 to 26** are short answer

viii. **Section F** – questions number **27 to 28** are letter

ix. **Section G** – questions number **29 to 30** are paragraph

x. **Section H** – questions number **31 to 34** are long answer

xi. There is no overall choice given in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions.

xii. Use of calculator is NOT allowed.

Section A

Question 1.

The moon was coming up in the east, behind me, and stars were shining in the clear sky above me. There wasn't a cloud in the sky. I was happy to be alone high up above the sleeping countryside. I was flying my old Dakota aeroplane over France back to England. I was dreaming of my holiday and

looking forward to being with my family. I 'looked at my watch: one thirty in the morning. (Two Stories About Flying)

(1)

What time of the day is the above extract set in ?

(A) dawn

(B) afternoon

(C) night

(D) dusk

[1 Marks]

(2)

State any one inference about the writer from the given context. “I was looking forward to being with my family.”

[1 Marks]

(3)

Fill in the blank with the correct word from the brackets. The use of the phrase ‘clear sky’ adds to a sense of _____(favourable/flavourful) weather conditions.

[1 Marks]

(4)

How does the serene atmosphere described by the narrator contribute to the mood and anticipation of his journey back to England ? Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract.

[2 Marks]

Question 2.

“It’s not my balcony,” Ausable said with extreme irritation. “It belongs to the next apartment.” He glanced explanatorily at Fowler. “You see,” he said, “this room used to be part of a large unit, and the next room — through that door there — used to be the living room. It had the balcony, which extends under my window now. You can get onto it from the empty room two doors down — and somebody did, last month. The management promised to block it off. But they haven’t.” (The Midnight Visitor)

(1)

What was the management supposed to do regarding the balcony ?

[1 Marks]

(2)

Which of the following was the reason that irritated Ausable about the balcony ?

(A) its size and layout

(B) its location relative to his apartment

(C) its accessibility from the neighbouring unit

(D) its maintenance by the apartment management

[1 Marks]

(3)

How does Ausable’s detailed explanation of the balcony’s history and current accessibility contribute to the atmosphere of suspense or tension in the story ? Answer in about 40 words.

[2 Marks]

(4)

Fill in the blank with the correct word from the brackets. The reference to ‘last month’ and ‘now’ adds to a sense of_____- (reconciliation/mystery).

[1 Marks]

Question 3.

The way a crow

Shook down on me

The dust of snow

From a hemlock tree

Has given my heart

A change of mood (Dust of Snow)

(1)

Fill the blank to complete the sentence.

Shaking down of dust of snow gave the speaker a change of heart by_____.

[1 Marks]

(2)

How does the interaction between the natural elements (crow, snow, hemlock tree) contribute to the speaker's emotional transformation in the poem ? Answer in about 40 words.

[2 Marks]

(3)

Dust of Snow' is referred to as :

(A) mist

(B) dust of branches

(C) snow residue

(D) snowflakes

[1 Marks]

(4)

The crow and the hemlock tree represent _____

1. Sorrow

2. elation

3. hope

4. anxiety

5.enthusiasm

(A) 1only

(B) 2,3 and 5

(C) 4 only

(D) 1,4and5

[1 Marks]

Question 4.

Don’t bite your nails, Amanda!

Don’t hunch your shoulders, Amanda!

Stop that slouching and sit up straight,

Amanda!

(There is a languid, emerald sea,

where the sole inhabitant is me —

a mermaid, drifting blissfully.) (Amanda)

(1)

How does the poet reinforce the contrast between what the narrator wants and what Amanda desires ?

[2 Marks]

(2)

What tone is conveyed through the repetition of Amanda’s name in the line ?

(A) loving

(B) instructive

(C) indifferent

(D) playful

[1 Marks]

(3)

Select the option that applies the same rhyme scheme as the lines of the given extract.

(A) Sitting by the pond Waving my wand Awaiting my dearest I looked above and beyond Awaiting my love A sudden sound, fluttered the dove The crackle stopped, as so did my heart

(B) Sitting by the pond Holding tight to my bond I looked above and beyond Awaiting my love I heard her come, a sudden sound The crackle stopped, as so did my heart

(C) I sat beside the pond with her Awaiting for her to come I looked above and beyond Awaiting my love A sudden sound, I turned back The crackle stopped, as so did my heart

(D) Sitting by the pond Awaiting my love I looked above and beyond A sudden scream, I looked around Then a shadow fell and there was no sound The crackle stopped, as so did my heart

[1 Marks]

(4)

How does the imagery of the emerald sea with the mermaid contrast with Amanda’s actions ?

[1 Marks]

Section B

Question 5.

Read the following passage carefully :

(1) With the growing focus on sustainable living, the importance of kitchen gardens in wurban regions has garnered greater acknowledgement. One significance of kitchen gardens in urban areas is their role in promoting food security. Rapid urbanization has led to increased distances between food production centres and urban settlements, resulting in longer food supply chains and a decrease in the freshness and nutritional value of food.

(2) By having a kitchen garden, urban dwellers can grow their own fresh produce at home, making good use of empty tins, old utensils, and clay flower pots, ensuring a constant supply of nutritious food for themselves and their families. This activity not only saves money and time but can also provide a healthy, practical, and environmentally friendly hobby for the whole family.

(3) Not only do kitchen gardens contribute to food security, but they also play a crucial role in environmental sustainability. Traditional agricultural practices often involve the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, and intensive irrigation methods, which may have adverse effects on the environment. However, kitchen gardens promote organic farming, reducing the use of harmful chemicals and preserving soil health.

(4) In addition to fostering a sustainable environment, kitchen gardens provide numerous health benefits to urban dwellers. The availability of fresh and organic produce from the garden ensures a higher intake of essential nutrients, vitamins, and minerals, promoting better overall health and well-being.

(5) Furthermore, kitchen gardens have proven to be an effective tool for education and community development. They provide an opportunity for individuals to reconnect with nature and learn about the basics of agriculture. Besides providing fruits and vegetables, gardening provides an aesthetic and therapeutic exercise that helps relieve stress. The physical activity involved in tending to a garden helps individuals stay active, reducing the risk of obesity and related health issues.

(6) By involving children in gardening activities, they can develop an appreciation for the environment and learn essential life skills. Moreover, kitchen gardens can also serve as a platform for community engagement, fostering social interactions and promoting a sense of belonging among urban residents.

(7) Despite the numerous benefits of kitchen gardens, establishing and maintaining one in urban areas can be challenging. Limited space, lack of sunlight, and soil quality issues are common obstacles that urban gardeners face. However, innovative solutions such as vertical gardening, hydroponics, and rooftop gardens have emerged to overcome these challenges.

(8) It is imperative to provide support and resources to encourage urban gardening initiatives as this can transform urban areas into sustainable havens where residents not only live but thrive in harmony with nature.

(1)

What does the writer's use of phrases like 'in urban regions kitchen gardens have garnered great acknowledgement' suggest about kitchen gardening today ?

(A) It has reduced inflation.

(B) It is an expensive hobby.

(C) It provides nutritious food.

(D) It does not minimize adverse effects on the environment. Paragraph (1)

[1 Marks]

(2)

Complete the following with a suitable explanation. 1 Growing a kitchen garden is cost effective because _____.Paragraph (2)

[1 Marks]

(3)

Tending to a kitchen garden has many health benefits. Explain in about 40 words. Paragraphs (4) and (5)

[2 Marks]

(4)

Identify two differences between the methods adopted in traditional farming and kitchen gardens.

Paragraph (3)

[2 Marks]

(5)

Substitute the underlined word with the correct word from Paragraph (4).

The local residents' nurturing of their surrounding flora and fauna helps to create awareness about civic responsibilities.

[1 Marks]

(6)

What hurdles do kitchen gardeners face ? Mention any two. Paragraph (7)

[1 Marks]

(7)

State whether the following statement is True or False : Kitchen gardening should be practised by everyone living in the cities.

[1 Marks]

(8)

Select the option that best reflects the concept that kitchen gardening is an effective educational tool for children.

(A) It contributes to effective community development.

(B) It helps develop sensitivity and appreciation for nature. Paragraph (5)

[1 Marks]

Question 6.

Read the following passage carefully :

(1) Silk is a natural protein fibre, some forms of which can be woven into textiles. Silk has a long history in India. It is known as Resham in eastern and northern India, and Pattu in the southern parts of India. India is the second largest producer of silk in the world after China.

(2) Silk is renowned for its luxurious qualities with a natural soft and smooth texture that feels comfortable on the skin. One of its unique qualities is to absorb and release moisture, regulating the body temperature, and keeping the wearer cool and dry. Silk is renowned for its luxurious qualities with a natural soft and smooth texture that feels comfortable on the skin. One of its unique qualities is to absorb and release moisture, regulating the body temperature, and keeping the wearer cool and dry.

(3) Silk is one of the strongest natural fibres, but it loses up to 20% of its strength when wet. Its elasticity is moderate to poor: if elongated even a small amount, it remains stretched. It can be weakened if exposed to too much sunlight. It may also be attacked by insects, especially if left dirty.

(4) The process of silk production is known as sericulture. Silk is produced by several insects; but, generally, only the silk of moth caterpillars has been used for textile manufacturing. To produce 1 kg of silk, 104 kg of mulberry leaves must be eaten by 3000 silkworms.

(5) So what makes silk so costly ? Firstly, cultivation of silk is a labour-intensive work. Secondly, the silk fabric is carefully derived from the larva of the silkworms which spin silk threads around themselves to make cocoons from natural sources. This makes the production limited due to factors like — climate, availability of quality mulberry leaves and time required by silkworms to complete their lifecycle. Thirdly, the intensive work can only be carried out with specialized knowledge and expertise by skilled artisans and craftsmanship. Lastly, superior quality silk fabrics are made from long and uniform silk fibres giving them a smooth and lustrous appearance. Thus, production requires careful selection, adding to the cost.

In 2021, Karnataka was the highest producer of raw silk at 8483 metric tonnes followed by Andhra Pradesh at 5520 metric tonnes with Assam close behind at 5038 metric tonnes. At the other end of the spectrum there was Chhattisgarh (248 metric tonnes), Nagaland (230 metric tonnes) and UP trailed behind at 179 metric tonnes.

> **(1) Silk is a popular fabric in India. Support the above statement in 40 words with evidence from the text.**
>
> [2 Marks]

(2)

Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below.

Assertion : Silk feels comfortable to the skin.

Reason : It made of natural protein fibre.

(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.

(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.

(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.

(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

[1 Marks]

(3)

Complete the sentence suitably. To carry out silk production requires careful selection because_____.

[1 Marks]

(4)

According to the passage, in what way is sunlight harmful to silk ?

[1 Marks]

(5)

“To produce 1 kg of silk, 104 kg of mulberry leaves must be eaten by 3000 silkworms.”

State any one inference that can be drawn from the above statement.

[1 Marks]

(6)

Complete the following with one suitable reason from the text : Silk production work can be carried out by skilled artisans because_____.

[1 Marks]

(7)

Justify the following statement :

Though one of the strongest natural fibres, silk remains stretched.

[1 Marks]

(8)

Based on the given text, which state was the smallest producer of silk.

[1 Marks]

(9)

Give one reason to support why production of silk is limited.

[1 Marks]

Section C

Question 7.

Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the brackets, for the given portion of a letter.
Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any further questions or if I can be of_____ (assist) in any way.

[1 Marks]

Question 8.

Read the given sentence from a travel blog. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.

Spend a night under the stars in a traditional camp, where you can experience the warmth of our hospitable and savour the delicious local cuisine.

Use the given format for your response.

[1 Marks]

Error	*Correction*

Question 9.

Kriva and Manish had a conversation about the engagement of Kriva's brother. Report Manish's question.

How far is the engagement venue from your house ?

[1 Marks]

Question 10.

Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete a description of Notice Writing.

A notice is a type of social _____(conversation/conveyance/communication) used to notify or present information to a specific set of people.

[1 Marks]

Question 11.

Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from an advertisement.

The board invite online applications from eligible candidates for the post of a senior English teacher.

Use the given format for your response.

[1 Marks]

Error	*Correction*

Question 12.

Identify and correct the error in the given line taken from a user manual of an ironing board.

Place the garment on the ironing board, smoothening out as many wrinkle as possible.

[1 Marks]

Option No.	*Error*	*Correction*
(A)	on	in
(B)	many	any
(C)	wrinkle	wrinkles
(D)	possible	impossible

Question 13.

Report the dialogue between two friends by completing the sentence.

Ankita : Will you help me plan my itinerary ?

Tanu : Yes, indeed ! Where are you going ?

Ankita asked Tanu if _____. Tanu enthusiastically replied in the affirmative and asked where she was going.

[1 Marks]

Question 14.

Identify the error and supply the correction for the following note on a food packet.

This product is manufacturing for infants and contains no additives.

[1 Marks]

Error	*Correction*

Section D

Question 15.

Read the dialogue between Ankita and her mentor, Sharwari, about the cultural exchange programme. Ankita : Are we going to get some time off for sightseeing ?

Sharwart: Oh yes! All the students will get two days for sightseeing.

Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.

Ankita asked Sharwari if they were going to get some time off for sightseeing, to which Sharwari replied in the affirmative two days for sightseeing.

[1 Marks]

(A) that all students must be getting

(B) that all the students would get

(C) that all the students ought to get

(D) that all the students should get

Question 16.

Complete the given sentence by filling in the blank with the correct option. After she _____ her homework, Anaisha finally relaxed and watched a movie with her friends.

[1 Marks]

(A) will finish

(B) finished

(C) have finished

(D) had finished

Question 17. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the pop-up message appearing on a website. Welcome to our website! You _____ enjoy 10 percent off on your first purchase with code WELCOME. Click here to start shopping!

[1 Marks]

(A) may

(B) will

(C) might

(D) should

Question 18.

Complete the given sentence about the reaction of some students, by selecting the correct option.
Since morning the group of students _____excited about the forthcoming cultural fest.

[1 Marks]

(A) was

(B) has been

(C) were

(D) are

Section E

Question 19.

The young seagull's fear of flying and reluctance to leave his ledge contribute to the development of the theme of independence and courage in the story. Justify. (Two Stories about Flying)

[3 Marks]

Question 20.

In what ways does the contrast between the tiger's natural habitat and its confinement in a concrete cell enhance the poem's exploration of captivity and its consequences for wild animals ? (A Tiger in the Zoo)

[3 Marks]

Question 21.

The portrayal of the baker's attire and role in the village emphasize the cultural and social significance of bread-making within the community. Elaborate. (Glimpses of India — A Baker from Goa)

[3 Marks]

Question 22.

What happens to the house when the trees move out of it ? Comment. (The Trees)

[3 Marks]

Question 23.

How does Valli's desire to ride the bus reflect her aspirations and challenges in context of her daily life ? (Madam Rides the Bus)

[3 Marks]

Question 24.

How do Anil's initial reaction to Hari Singh's cooking and his subsequent actions reflect Anil's evolving relationship with Hari Singh ? (The Thief's Story)

[3 Marks]

Question 25.

The unexpected encounter with the voice in the doorway affects Horace's burglary attempt. Elaborate. (A Question of Trust)

[3 Marks]

Question 26.

The play, 'The Book that Saved the Earth', uses humour and misunderstandings between the Martians and Earthlings to explore the themes of perception and cultural differences. Comment.

[3 Marks]

Section F

Question 27.

You are Neha/Nehal Panjwani, residing at 8576, Sarita Apartments, Hanger Street. As a responsible citizen, you believe in promoting environmentally responsible practices. Write a letter to the Director, Alternate Energy Commission, in about 120 words, sharing your views about 'Reducing the Carbon Footprint' by encouraging the use of renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power and to provide subsidies to families who want to avail the facility.

[5 Marks]

Question 28.

As Shobita/Shobhit Das, a responsible citizen, residing in 14-A, GVR Colony, Hoshiyarbad, you have noticed that a road crossing in your area does not have a traffic signal which leads to chaos and traffic jams during peak hours. It is also an accident-prone area. Despite writing numerous letters to the Traffic Commissioner, no action has yet been taken. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, in

about 120 words, to draw the attention of concerned authorities to address the pressing issue affecting the commuters.

[5 Marks]

Section G

Question 29.

The effects of technology on education have been profound and multifaceted; influencing both teaching and learning in various ways. The data below shows the rising enrolment in online courses over the years. Analyze the data and write an analytical paragraph, in about 120 words, about how technology has transformed teaching and learning by shifting from classrooms to digital devices. Discuss benefits such as access to information and challenges like digital divide.

[5 Marks]

S. No.	Year	Total number of enrolments (in millions)
1.	2017	26
2.	2018	43
3.	2019	59
4.	2020	76
5.	2021	143
6.	2022	189

Question 30.

Read the given details about the pros and cons of artificial intelligence (AI). With the help of the given cues and your own ideas write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words on “Al — Benefits and Drawbacks”.

[5 Marks]

- AI is possessed by machines
- Impacted our lives in many ways
- AI – Google maps
- Knowledge at our fingertips
- Cannot wholly replicate humans
- Increase in cyber crime

Section H

Question 31.

Comment on the reactions and feelings of Lencho and Nelson Mandela when they faced challenges in their lives. (A Letter to God and Nelson Mandela : Long Walk to Freedom)

[6 Marks]

Question 32.

Discuss how the writers use language to create humour in the poem ‘The Tale of Custard the Dragon’ and the play ‘The Proposal’.

[6 Marks]

Question 33.

Discuss how Bholi evolves through the story. What are the qualities that contribute to her transformation from a timid girl to a confident young woman ? (Bholi)

[6 Marks]

Question 34.

Hari’s character evolves from being deceitful and opportunistic to remorseful and seeking redemption.

In the light of the above information, describe how his decision to return the money signifies a moral awakening in him and a newfound appreciation for Anil’s kindness and mentorship.

(The Thief's Story)

[6 Marks]