

CBSE Board
Class IX English
Communicative

Maximum Marks: 70

Time – 3 hours

The question paper is divided into the following sections.

Section A:	Reading	20 marks
Section B:	Writing & Grammar	25 marks
Section C:	Literature	25 marks

SECTION A
Reading

Q1. Read the following passage carefully:

The Siachen Glacier is the longest glacier in the Karakoram and second-longest in the world's non-polar areas. The average winter snowfall in this region is more than 1000 cm (35 ft) and temperatures can go as low as -50°C (-58°F). Both India and Pakistan assert control over the entire Siachen region. In 1984, India launched a military operation called Operation Meghdoot, which gave India control over all of the Siachen Glacier, including its tributaries. Frequent clashes took place between India and Pakistan between 1984 and 1999. However, more soldiers have died from the harsh weather than from military combat. Apart from the Indian and Pakistani military force, the Siachen glacier remains unpopulated.

The melting waters of the glacier are the main source of the Nubra River in Ladakh. This in turn drains into the Shyok River, which joins the 3000 kilometer-long Indus River flowing through Pakistan. The glacier feeds the world's largest irrigation system in the world.

Research has revealed that the glacier has been melting at an alarming rate for the past thirty years. The glacier was uninhabited until 1984. However, the presence of military troops has led to dumping of non-biodegradable waste in large quantities. This has affected the eco-system of the region. Mountaineers have witnessed large amount of garbage, empty ammunition shells, parachutes etc. dumped on the glacier while on climbing expeditions. This neither decomposes nor can be burned because of the extreme climatic conditions. Almost forty percent (40%) of the waste left at the glacier comprises plastic and metal composition, including toxins such as cobalt, cadmium and chromium.

The Siachen glacier is home to rare species including snow leopard, brown bear and ibex. Sadly, the military presence has affected the flora and fauna of the Siachen region.

I. Complete the following sentences based on your reading of the text: [3]

1. The presence of military troops on the Siachen glacier has _____.
2. More soldiers have died on the glacier due to _____.
3. The melting waters of the glacier are _____.

II. Fill in the blanks with ONE word only: [4]

In 1984, India (a) _____ a military operation called Operation Meghdoot to get control over the Siachen glacier. The glacier was uninhabited (b) _____ 1984. The military operation gave India control over all of the Siachen Glacier, including its (c) _____. The glacier feeds the world's (d) _____ irrigation system in the world.

III. Find a word in the passage that means the following: [1]

1. battle: _____
2. unusual: _____

Q2. Read the following poem carefully: [5]

The Leader

Patient and steady with all he must bear,
Ready to meet every challenge with care,
Easy in manner, yet solid as steel,
Strong in his faith, refreshingly real,
Isn't afraid to propose what is bold,
Doesn't conform to the usual mould,
Eyes that have foresight, for hindsight won't do,
Never backs down when he sees what is true,
Tells it all straight, and means it all too.
Going forward and knowing he's right,
Even when doubted for why he would fight,
Over and over he makes his case clear
Reaching to touch the ones who won't hear.
Growing in strength, he won't be unnerved,
Ever assuring he'll stand by his word.
Wanting the world to join his firm stand,
Bracing for war, but praying for peace,
Using his power so evil will cease:
So much a leader and worthy of trust,
Here stands a man who will do what he must.

Answer the following questions by choosing the appropriate option from those given below: **[5]**

1. This poem is about _____.
 - a. the qualities a leader should possess
 - b. a person who has been a good leader
 - c. what leaders used to be like
 - d. a present day leader

2. 'Doesn't conform to the usual mould' suggests the person being described _____.
 - a. doesn't look like others
 - b. has qualities that are different
 - c. doesn't mix up with people
 - d. breaks rules laid down by society

3. The leader would fight war bravely
 - a. because he wants to prove his valour
 - b. because he wants to kill his enemy
 - c. and turn out victorious
 - d. but want peace

4. 'Using his power so evil will cease'. Here 'cease' means
 - a. begin
 - b. become strong
 - c. come to an end
 - d. rule over everyone

5. A true leader is a man who possesses
 - a. physical strength and daredevilry
 - b. courage and conviction
 - c. religious beliefs and faith
 - d. strength and faith

Q3. Read the following passage carefully:**[7]**

Papaya is the healthiest fruit with a list of properties that is long and exhaustive. Papaya favours digestion as well as cures skin irritation and sun burns. You can munch on it as a salad, have it cooked or boiled or just drink it up as milkshake or juice. The most important of these virtues is the protein-digesting enzyme in the milky juice or latex. The enzyme is similar to pepsin in its digestive action and is said to be so powerful that it can digest 200 times its own weight in protein. It assists the body in assimilating the maximum nutritional value from food to provide energy and body-building materials. Papain in raw papaya makes up for the deficiency of gastric juice and fights excess of unhealthy mucus in the stomach, dyspepsia and intestinal irritation. The ripe fruit, if eaten regularly corrects habitual constipation, bleeding piles and chronic diarrhea. The juice of the papaya seeds also assists in the above-mentioned ailments. The juice, used as a cosmetic, removes freckles or brown spots due to exposure to sunlight and makes the skin smooth and delicate. A paste of papaya seeds is applied in skin diseases like those caused by ringworm. The black seeds of the papaya are highly beneficial in the treatment of cirrhosis of the liver caused by alcoholism, malnutrition, etc. A tablespoonful of its juice, combined with a hint of fresh lime juice, should be consumed once or twice daily for a month. The fresh juice of raw papaya mixed with honey can be applied over inflamed tonsils, for diphtheria and other throat disorders. It dissolves the membrane and prevents infection from spreading.

Q1. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate alternative from the ones given.**[5]**

I.

1. The protein-digesting enzyme in papaya can _____.
 - a) remove freckles or brown spots
 - b) make up for the deficiency of gastric juice
 - c) applied over inflamed tonsils
 - d) can digest 200 times its own weight in protein
2. Intestinal irritation can be overcome by
 - a. chewing the seeds of the fruit
 - b. drinking papaya juice
 - c. eating raw papaya
 - d. eating ripe papaya salad
3. Throat disorders can be cured if
 - a. one drinks the juice of a raw papaya
 - b. one applies honey and the juice of a raw papaya on it
 - c. one eats ripe papaya mixed with honey
 - d. one drinks the juice of ripe papaya with honey

4. 'The juice can be used as a cosmetic' means
- the juice has medicinal properties.
 - the juice can be used to treat internal diseases
 - the juice can be used to rectify physical defects
 - the juice can be used to make the skin look more attractive
5. The fact that papaya is a versatile fruit is evident from
- the fact that it can be drunk as a milkshake
 - the fact that it can be eaten as a salad, cooked, boiled or just drunk
 - the fact that its seeds can be applied on the skin
 - the fact that it can be eaten, drunk and also used externally

II. Find words from the passage that mean

- shortage: _____
- swollen: _____

SECTION B
(WRITING & GRAMMAR- 25 MARKS)

Q3. Write an article in about 180 words for your school magazine on fresh water pollution. [5]

Q4. Write a short story with the help of outline below. [10]

A poor boy-selling toys at traffic signal- a rich boy in a car- sees the poor boy daily-feels sad for him – asks his father why he is not going to school- father says his parents don't have money – rich boy decides to help the poor boy- collects his old books in the evening- waves out to the poor boy the next day- hands over a bag- bag full of books, pencils and colours- poor boy happy- rich boy's father proud of his son.

Q5. Complete the passage by choosing the correct option from those given in brackets: [3]

When television was invented, it was expected to prove a boon but (a) _____ the passage of time, it's turning into a curse. There was a time when television used to operate (b) _____ limited hours with only the national channel but with the arrival of dish antenna, it now works for 24 hours. The TV telecasts movies, songs, cartoon shows, fashion shows, cookery shows as well as educational programmes. Different channels provide the telecast (c) _____ latest news items. Even the latest movies can be watched with the help of CDs (d) _____ DVD players. Television is a boon (e) _____ good programmes are telecast and if watched in limit. Unfortunately, television nowadays shows a lot of violent content which affects the development of children and compromises on quality time (f) _____ family.

Q6. The following passage has not been edited. There is ONE error in each of the lines. Write the missing word against the correct blank number in your answer sheets. [4]

Correction

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a) Robert Frost was American poet. | _____ |
| b) He is highly regarded his realistic | _____ |
| c) depictions rural life. Frost's father | _____ |
| d) a teacher and later an editor of | _____ |
| e) San Francisco Evening Bulletin. | _____ |
| f) Frost won first his four Pulitzer Prizes | _____ |
| g) 1924. He received over 40 honorary degrees | _____ |
| h) universities such as Cambridge and Oxford. | _____ |

Q7. Rearrange the following words and phrases to make meaningful sentences. [3]

- streets /during/ can see/ slogans/ elections,/ supporters/ political parties/ the/ shouting /of/ in / we.
- opportunity/ they/ the/ of / catch/ shaking hands/ anyone/ meet/ they/ with.
- to exercise/ votes / candidates/ urge/them/ their/ in favour.

SECTION D (LITERATURE - 25 MARKS)

Q8. Read the given extract and answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option. [3]

I am beautiful pearls, plucked from the
Crown of Ishtar by the daughter of Dawn
To embellish the gardens.

1. What is being referred to as 'pearls' in the above lines?

- rain drops
- flowers
- buds
- silver threads

2. What does Ishtar refer to?

- Goddess of Dawn
- Goddess of Flowers
- Daughter of Dawn
- Goddess of Fertility

3. The two poetic devices used in the above lines are

- i. personification and allusion
- ii. allusion and alliteration
- iii. personification and metaphor
- iv. simile and alliteration

Q9. Answer the following questions in about 30 – 40 words each. [8]

- 1. What did the Professor mean by "intelligent reading"?
- 2. What was John A. Pescud's opinion about best sellers? Why?
- 3. Why did the poet go to the dentist? How could she have avoided it?
- 4. Who was Jerry Fisher? What did he say to try and convince Bill to change his mind?

Q10. How has Shakespeare compared man's life to a stage play? [4]

Q11. Which situations in the convict's life can be termed as the turning points in his life? [10]

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Solution**

**SECTION A
Reading**

Q1.

I.

1. led to dumping of non-biodegradable waste in large quantities.
2. harsh weather than from military combat..
3. the main source of the Nubra River in Ladakh.

II.

- a) launched
- b) until
- c) tributaries
- d) largest

III.

1. battle: combat
2. unusual: rare

Q2.

1. (a) the qualities a leader should possess
2. (b) has qualities that are different
3. (d) but want peace
4. (c) come to an end
5. (b) courage and conviction

Q3.

I.

1. (d) can digest 200 times its own weight in protein
2. (c) eating raw papaya
3. (a) one drinks the juice of a raw papaya
4. (d) the juice can be used to make the skin look more attractive
5. (b) the fact that it can be eaten as a salad, cooked, boiled or just drunk

II.

- a. shortage: deficiency
- b. swollen: inflamed

SECTION B WRITING & GRAMMAR

Q3.

Fresh Water Pollution

Water that contains less than 1,000 milligrams per litre of dissolved solids is known as freshwater. When the level of oxygen in the water decreases because of human activities, we face the problem of freshwater pollution.

Commercial activities such as industrialisation and tourism have led to an increase in the level of pollutants in the freshwater resources. Freshwater sources become the dumping ground for industrial waste products and other biomedical wastes. Reckless tourist activities also contribute to pollution. While it is obvious that living things need potable water to survive, freshwater pollution also threatens the habitat of a wide variety of flora and fauna.

People may not realise the gravity of the situation unless it affects them in profound ways. Creating awareness through government programmes may be helpful as it may capture the attention of the people. Corporates should also pitch in and try to take up the problem as a social responsibility. Along with the reduction of carbon footprint, freshwater preservation should be promoted. Tourist organisations should also lay some ground rules for reckless tourists. Together, we should battle this problem lest we see a day when living things die for the want of water. Let us take small steps to effect big changes in the future.

Q4.

An act of kindness

The signal at Milan Junction took at least five minutes to turn green. It is during this time that Rohan saw a poor boy of his age, dressed in rags, selling toys at the signal.

“Why doesn’t he go to school, daddy?” Rohan asked his father, who was waiting for the signal to turn green.

“May be his parents cannot afford to send him to school, son,” his father replied.

Rohan had been seeing the boy for almost a year. He sold toys in the morning at Milan Junction and in the afternoon at Surendra Nagar near Rohan’s house. His father’s words kept ringing in his mind. He felt really sad for that poor boy and wanted to do something for him.

That evening when he went home, he spent a good deal of time in the store room. In fact, his mother had to call him thrice for dinner.

The next day, while returning home from school, Rohan’s eyes constantly searched for the boy. Probably he might want to buy some toys to make him happy, thought Rohan’s father.

“So what have to decided to buy from that little chap?” asked his father.

Rohan was not interested in replying. He kept looking out on the streets searching for the boy. After some time, he could see the boy coming out into the main street from a lane. Rohan started waving out to him vigorously. It took a while for the boy to realise that Rohan was calling him. As he dragged himself towards Rohan’s car, Rohan noticed that his bare feet were sore because of the heat.

“Yes, sahib, what would you like to buy?” asked the boy.

Rohan quickly jumped onto the back seat of his car and took out a bag. He opened the door and handed over the bag to the boy.

“This is for you. I know you have to work. But it will be nice if you find time and use these too!” Rohan said as he gave the bag to the boy.

When the boy opened the bag, he was grinning from ear to ear. The bag was full of Rohan’s old books, pencils, colours, notebooks, and a pair of sandals. They fit the boy perfectly. And there was also a cap for him. The boy looked at Rohan, overwhelmed and happy.

“Now you can sell your toys without being bothered about the heat!” said Rohan.

Rohan’s father was shocked to see his six-year-old son showing compassion and kindness for a stranger. He was proud of his son. On their way back home, the proud father couldn’t stop grinning thinking about what his son had just done.

Q5.

- a) with
- b) for
- c) of
- d) and
- e) if
- a) with

Q6

Correction

- a) Robert Frost was American poet. an
- b) He is highly regarded his realistic for
- c) depictions rural life. Frost's father of
- d) a teacher and later an editor of was
- e) San Francisco Evening Bulletin. the
- f) Frost won first his four Pulitzer Prizes of
- g) 1924. He received over 40 honorary degrees in
- h) universities such as Cambridge and Oxford. from

Q7.

- a) During elections, we can see supporters of political parties shouting slogans in the streets.
- b) They catch the opportunity of shaking hands with anyone they meet.
- c) Candidates urge them to exercise votes in their favour.

SECTION D
LITERATURE

Q8.

1. rain drops
2. Goddess of Fertility
3. personification and allusion

Q9.

1. By "intelligent reading" the Professor means to do a thorough study and have all knowledge available on a particular subject. For instance, if one is studying about 'the mechanism of a service rifle', one must know every detail-technical definition, the parts of the rifle, its uses and care, muzzle velocity everything by heart.
2. John A. Pescud disapproved of today's best sellers as he believed them all to be very similar. He found these stories to be unrealistic as according to him you never see or hear of any of the incidents that you read about in bestsellers in real life.
3. The poet visited the dentist because she developed cavities and her teeth were decaying. They needed to be drilled, treated and then capped. She could have avoided visiting the dentist had she changed her diet and stopped eating so many sweets that are harmful to the teeth.
4. Jerry Fisher was Mr Bramble's trainer at White Hart. He tried to convince Bill to go back with him to train at the White Hart. He believed that if he didn't fight, the media and the spectators would be unkind to him. Conversely, if he did, Mr. Bramble would not only gain a fortune, but also garner popularity.

Q10.

In the monologue *The Seven Ages*, Shakespeare compares life to a stage and divides man's life into seven stages. The first stage is that of a helpless infant 'mulling and puking' all the time, being looked after by the nurse. At the second stage, he is a schoolboy, 'whining' and unwilling to go to school. The third stage is that of a lover, 'sighing like a furnace' and always full of emotions. At the fourth stage, man is a soldier, a striking contrast to his earlier roles. He is out there to do anything to keep his word. The fifth stage of man's life shows him as a mature person who makes responsible decisions and takes care of his family. He becomes wise and experienced, and also advises people. At the sixth stage, man is shown aging and slowing down. His 'big manly voice' turns 'again toward childish treble'. Finally, the last stage of man's life makes him a child again, just like he was in the first stage, devoid of senses and reason.

Q11.

In the play *The Bishop's Candlesticks*, the convict goes through several situations that proved to be a turning point in his life. Initially, the convict lived a normal life with his wife in a little cottage. However, he lost his job and his wife fell ill. They were starving and she was dying. As he needed money for food he resorted to stealing but was caught and thrown into prison for ten years. During his time in the prison, his wife died while he was tortured in the prison. These bitter experiences changed him and he became inhuman. One day the convict was lucky enough to escape from the prison when one of the jailers was careless and forgot to chain him up. The convict spent six weeks on the road stealing. When he found the Bishop's house, he experienced the kindness and generosity of the Bishop. However, instead of being grateful to him, he stole the Bishop's silver candlesticks. When the Sergeant arrested the convict with the candlesticks and brought him to the Bishop's house, the Bishop did not accuse him of stealing but said that those sticks were a gift to him. The convict was moved by the kind-heartedness of the Bishop. He repented and had a change of heart. He also asked the Bishop to bless him.
