

**DAV PUBLIC SCHOOLS, ODISHA
PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION, 2023-24**

- Please check that this question paper contains 11 printed pages.
- Set number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer book by the candidate.
- Check that this question paper contains 11 questions.
- Write down the Serial Number of the question in the left side of the margin before attempting it.
- 15 minutes time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the examination. The students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer script during this period.

**CLASS-X
SUB: ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)**

Time allowed: 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three sections: A, B & C.
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.
4. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

**SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)
Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages.**

1. Read the following text.

10

1A crisis is a true test of character. And given how several people find themselves in a crisis these days, it's useful to remember some basic lessons in surviving, nay thriving in, troubled times. Ups and downs are a part of business and of life but how you tackle the downs holds the key to the highs that might occur later in life.

2At times you could find yourself laid off, burdened with some emotional upheaval or a health problem that lays you low. In such cases, it is important to ensure that you don't get petrified into inaction like a deer caught in a car's headlights. You must keep moving, keep fighting and keep trying. Sure, merely fighting hard in what looks like a hopeless situation won't guarantee success. But remember, not trying and simply giving up will only guarantee failure. When you feel you are going deeper and farther into a deep black hole, remind yourself of that fidgety frog and the pail of milk.

3 There was this frog who accidentally landed in a pail of fresh milk. He tried to jump out but the walls were way too high. He tried to push himself off the bottom of the pail but it was far too deep. But the frog was not about to give up. He kicked, he squirmed, he splashed even though there was no hope in sight. All that churning eventually had its impact, as the milk turned into a lump of butter. The frog jumped on top of the butter and escaped to freedom!

4 When you are down in the dumps, remember to keep kicking, to keep fighting. What you do in these difficult times will determine what happens to you next. Not only could this be the key to your survival, it could potentially be a life changer.

5 It doesn't matter whether you are a frog or the world's greatest swimmer ever. The lesson is the same. When you are down and in trouble, keep fighting, keep kicking. Turn the milk into butter. It won't help to wallow in self-pity, or curse your stars or play the blame game. Every adversity has an opportunity couched within. It is up to us to grab it. And what you do when the going gets tough, is what defines your outcomes.

6 You could give up trying to scale the walls of the pail- and drown in the milk. Or you could choose to keep kicking away and turn the milk into butter, and make it a lifesaver. Perhaps this explains, in a somewhat convoluted way, the origin of the phrase 'alive and kicking! Get a life. Keep kicking!'

(Article from Journal on Communicating in a Crisis / 444 words)

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i. Which of the following best describes the author's attitude towards dealing with a crisis? **1**

- A. Finding different people react differently to similar adverse situations
- B. Believing that a crisis in life teaches some valuable life lessons
- C. Recognizing the challenges in overcoming an adverse situation in life
- D. Feeling that consistent efforts can transform a crisis into an opportunity to succeed

ii. What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from *paragraph 5*? Rationalize your response in about 40 words. **2**

“And what you do when the going gets tough, is what defines your outcomes”.

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately. **1**

The author’s mention of the fidgety frog leaves a great impact on the readers because _____.

iv. The passage includes some words that are opposite to each other. From the sets (a)-(e) below, identify two sets of antonyms: **1**

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Fighting and kicking | b. success and failure | c. deeper and farther |
| d. ups and downs | e. petrified and hopeless | |

v. Complete the sentence appropriately. **1**

We can say that the author's tone becomes more convincing and appealing in the statement

*‘not trying-and simply giving up will only guarantee failure’*because _____.

vi. Based on the reading of the passage, examine in about 40 words, how keeping kicking in a crisis is like turning the milk into a lump of butter. 2

vii. What is the message conveyed by the following excerpt from the life story of Michael Jordan? 1

Jordan was cut from his high school basketball team — a heart breaking experience for any teenager. Then he became one of the greatest basketball players in the history of the game.

- A. Adversities are often uninvited. B. Winners never quit.
C. Success and failure are predetermined. D. Experience is the greatest teacher.

viii. State whether the following quote encourages us to ‘do mistakes’/‘feel pain’/ ‘keep trying’. 1

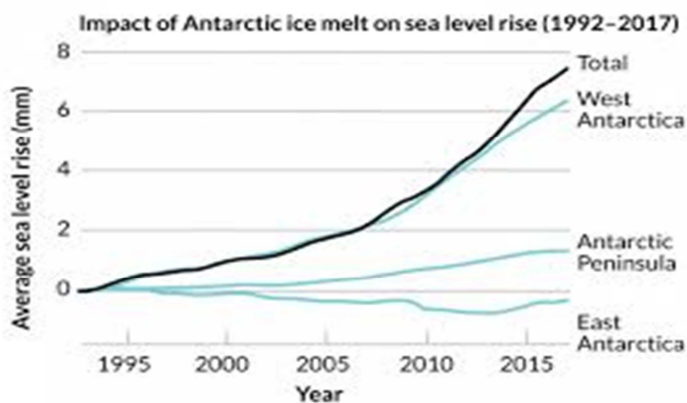
‘As long as you feel pain, you’re still alive.

As long as you make mistakes, you’re still human.

And as long as you keep trying, there’s still hope.’

2. Read the following text. 10

- 1 Even though Antarctica is the world's most remote and desolate continent, the damaging effects of human activity have reached this distant and pristine place.
- 2 Antarctica is owned by no one. 43 nations are joined in an agreement which allows it to be used only for science and tourism. Ironically, these agreements may not withstand pressures to exploit the continent's mineral resources or prevent shipping accidents into the Southern Ocean leading to devastating oil spills. The U.K. is therefore, trying to introduce a new 'Antarctic Code' for shipping.



3 Perhaps the most worrying threat to Antarctica's wildlife comes from the atmosphere. Air pollution has triggered the appearance of a vast hole in the ozone which blocks out the sun's harmful ultraviolet radiation. The plankton in the sea, on which many fish depend, may also be killed off. This is a real cry for help.

4 Global warming could have an even more devastating effect. Average temperatures in Antarctica have risen to 25°C in the last 50 years, and the ice sheet is melting more rapidly than scientists anticipated. Large chunks of ice are now actually breaking off or 'calving' to create icebergs like those in the Arctic disrupting penguins' breeding grounds in the process. The huge Larsen B Ice Shelf—a 200 metres thick sheet of floating ice as big as Jamaica, recently broke up shocking scientists, who had not thought it would happen so soon. A 2018 study estimated that ice loss across the entire continent was 43 giga tonnes per year on average during the period from 1992

to 2002 but accelerated to an average of 220 pips tonnes per year during the five years from 2012 to 2017. The total contribution to sea level rise has been estimated as 8 mm to 14 mm of sea level rise. **(Adopted for Academic Usage/272 words)**

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of *paragraph- 1*. **1**

We can say that the situation of human activity having damaging effects on Antarctica which is a distant and pristine place is comparable with Mount Everest because hordes of mountaineers_____.

- ii. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of *paragraph 4*. **1**

The statement that the breeding grounds of the penguins are getting disrupted in Antarctica due to disruption by icebergs is a _____. **(fact/ opinion)** because it is a/an _____. **(subjective judgment /objective detail)**

- iii. Justify the following, in about 40 words. **2**

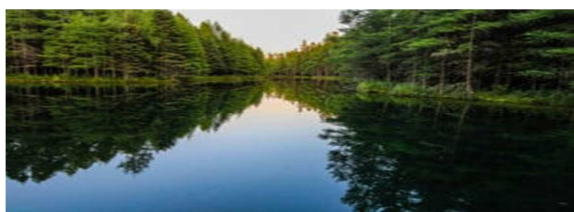
In the last thirty years, calving in Antarctica has turned the estimates of scientists upside down.

- iv. Based on the environmental changes, which two concerns are scientists worried about? **1**

- v. Study the statement, "Antarctica is under co-owned by as many as forty-three countries yet they have not been able to preserve it."

State any one inference that can be drawn from this.

- vi. Select the option that correctly displays what 'pristine 'signifies. (ref. Paragraph-1)



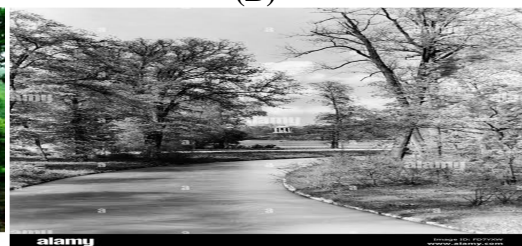
(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)

(A)A and C

(B) B and D

(C)A and D

(D) C and D

- vii. Co-ownership of 43 countries over Antarctica does not yield any satisfactory result. Rationalize the statement in about 40 words. **2**

- viii. Which of the following is the main take away from the analysis of the climate changes happening in Antarctica as mentioned in the passage? **1**

(A) Global Warming is a real threat to the world.

- (B) The ozone layer becoming a sieve is a reality.
- (C) Ice is melting and the sea-level is rising.
- (D) The sea plankton and penguins are suffering.

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)

GRAMMAR (10 MARKS)

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed. (1x10)

i. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter. 1

Dear Sir

I have just _____ (appear) for my senior secondary board examination and am interested in pursuing a course in Visual Communication.

ii. Identify the *error* in the given sentence, from an article of a research project and supply the *correction*. 1

The goal of this new research movement, calling cognitive science, is to produce an applied science of learning.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

iii. Rohan and Avneesh had a conversation regarding job scarcity in the country. Report Rohan's question. 1

"What have you been thinking about, if you can share?"

iv. Read the conversation between a teacher and his student. Complete the sentence by reporting the student's reply. 1

Teacher: Why are you late today?

Sumit: Sir, I missed my school bus, so I came on foot.

The teacher asked Sumit why he was late that day. Sumit replied politely _____, so he had come on foot.

- A. that he had missed his school bus
- B. that he missed his school bus
- C. that he had missed my school bus
- D. that he would miss his school bus

v. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct option. 1

_____ students succeeded in passing the PA-II examination than they did last year last year.

- (A) Few
- (B) Fewer
- (C) Little
- (D) Much

vi. Identify the *error* in the given sentence about the highest mountains in the world and supply the *correction*. 1

The Himalayas is the highest mountains in the world and almost everybody knows well about it. Use the given format for your response.

ERROR	CORRECTION

vii. Select the option that identifies the *error* and supplies the *correction* for the following line, from the headline of a news report: 1

TWO CHILDREN DIE AFTER MASSIVE FIRE BROKE OUT IN TIRUPATI

OPTION	ERROR	CORRECTION
A	CHILD	CHILDREN
B	DIE	DIES
C	BROKE	BREAKS
D	IN	AT

viii. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the sentence in an NGO report. 1

It _____ be helpful to set your watch just two minutes ahead instead of five or ten.

- A. ought to
- B. must
- C. might
- D. will

ix. Read the conversation between a man and his nephew. Complete the sentence by reporting the dialogue. 1

Uncle: Let us go and see the Great Apollo Circus this weekend.

Nephew: The ticket is on you because you lost all the games in cards yesterday.

Uncle invited his nephew to see the Great Apollo Circus coming weekend but the nephew reminded him _____.

x. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence. 1

The organising committee _____ for an exciting and informative conference programme including plenary lecture, symposia, workshops on a variety of topics, poster presentations and various programmes for participants.

- A. has geared up
- B. geared up
- C. has been gearing up
- D. is gearing up

xi. Complete the line from a self - awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option. 1

"Where the mind _____ forward by thee

Into ever - widening thought and action

Into that heaven of freedom my Father, let my country awake."

- A. was led
- B. has been led
- C. is led
- D. had led

xii. Identify the error and supply the correction, for the following:

1

VACCINATE YOURSELF TO COMBAT CORONA

No prior appointment required, Walk-in & get your job
Facilities have been available for 18 years and above

Health Department, Chandigarh Administration

ERROR	CORRECTION

WRITING (10 MARKS)

Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

4(A) Though there are many schemes and movements like 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' and "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" and 'Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan' for enrolling underprivileged children in schools. There are still many who do not go to school or have never even seen one. It is indeed disturbing. You decide to write a letter to the Editor of a national newspaper expressing your views and the steps to be taken. Write the letter in about 100-120 words. Sign yourself as Siddharth Singh/Snigdha. 5

OR

4(B) As Anmol/ Anwasha, the Activity in charge of Blossoms International School, Lawrence Road, Shimla, write a letter to the Manager, Sohan Instruments 76 Lane, Park Path, New Delhi, placing an order of musical instruments for the School Annual function.

5(A) Every four seconds, a new baby is born in India while the death ratio is very low. If the present trend continues, serious consequences will be seen. Pressure is growing on the civic amenities. Over population has become a menace. Being an alert citizen, you feel concerned about it and intend to spread awareness. In this regard you decide to write a paragraph on, "**Over Population - A Hazard**", taking help from the inputs given below along with your own ideas. 5

Causes of Over Population	Effects of Over Population
• High Birth rate	• Strain on Resources
• Lack of Family Planning	• Environmental Degradation
• Improved Health Care	• Over Crowded Cities
• Increase Life expectancy	• Poverty
• Cultural Religious beliefs	• Reduced Quality of Life
• Lack of Education	• Competition for Livelihood

OR

5. (B) Ms Sunayana Ramaswami of class 12 is contesting for the post of Sports Secretary, in the upcoming Students' Council Election. Given below are her character traits, shared in the public domain, by the school counsellor for the awareness of student voters of the school. 5

Strength

- Exceptional athletic skills and performances in court sports events.
- Strong leadership qualities demonstrated through team captaincy.
- Effective communication skills to coordinate and motivate team members.
- Organizational skills for planning and executing sports events.
- Passion for promoting physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle.

Weakness

- Limited experience in sports event management of large scale sports events.
- May need to work on time management to balance sports and academic responsibilities.
- Limited knowledge of rules and regulations relevant to sports events
- Limited knowledge of sports policies and procedures
- Possible need for further development in conflict resolution and problem solving skills.

Analyse the information either to approve or reject Ms Sunayana Ramaswami's candidature for the post of the Sports Secretary. Write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words, by selecting features that support your analysis.

SECTION:C LITERATURE TEXT BOOK & SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 MARKS)

6.A. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 5

“Lomov: But you can see from the documents, honoured Natalya Stepanovna. Oxen Meadows, it's true, were once the subject of dispute, but now everybody knows that they are mine. There's nothing to argue about. You see my aunt's grandmother gave the free use of these meadows in perpetuity to the peasants of your father's grandfather, in return for which they were to make bricks for her. The peasants belonging to your father's grandfather had the free use of the Meadows for forty years, and had got into the habit of regarding them as their own, when it happened that.....”
(The Proposal)

- i. Which of the following is *NOT* a reason why Lomov considers the Oxen Meadows as a part of his property? **1**
- (A) He has documents proving his ownership of the Oxen meadows.
(B) Oxen meadows was once a subject of dispute between the Lomovs and the Chubukovs.
(C) His aunt's grandmother had given the free use of the meadows to the peasants of Natalya's father's grandfather .
(D) Everyone knew that the Oxen meadows belong to him.
- ii. Why is it fair to say that Lomov's tone, when he says “There's nothing to argue about” is assertive and domineering? Answer in about 40 words. **2**
- iii. Read the following descriptions (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract. **1**
- (a) A debate is a formal discussion on a particular topic, usually with two or more people presenting different viewpoints and arguments.
(b) A confrontation is a direct and often hostile or aggressive encounter between two or more individuals or groups in order to address or resolve a conflict, disagreement or issue.
(c) An aside is a brief comment or remark made by a character directly to the audience, which is not intended to be heard by other characters on stage.
- iv. If you were to enact this extract, what would you be required to focus on stage? **1**

OR

B. "Max was slender, a little less than tall, with features that suggested slightly the crafty, pointed countenance of a fox. There was about him —aside from the gun — nothing especially menacing. "The report," he murmured. "The report that is being brought to you tonight concerning some new missiles. I thought I would take it from you. It will be safer in my hands than in yours." Ausable moved to an armchair and sat down heavily. "I'm going to raise the devil with the management this time, and you can bet on it," he said grimly. "This is the second time in a month that somebody has got into my room through that nuisance of a balcony!" Fowler's eyes went to the single window of the room. It was an ordinary window, against which now the night was pressing blackly. "Balcony?" Max said, with a rising inflection. "No, a passkey. I did not know about the balcony. It might have saved me some trouble had I known."

(The Midnight Visitor)

- i. Which of these corresponds to Ausable's pretence to justify his lie about balcony? 1
 - A. I thought I would take it from you
 - B. Ausable moved to an armchair and sat down heavily.
 - C. It will be safer in my hands than in yours.
 - D. Fowler's eyes went to the single window of the room
- ii. State one observation about Ausable based on the way he handled the situation as mentioned in the above extract. 1
- iii. List out the evidences from the above extract that support the justification of Ausable's Balcony theory? (Answer in 40 words.) 2
- iv. Which of these means the same as 'grimly' in the line below? 1

"I'm going to raise the devil with the management this time, and you can bet on it," he said grimly.

- A. Seriously
- B. Randomly
- C. Profusely
- D. Passionately

7. Attempt ANY ONE of the two extracts given. 5

A. Custard the dragon had big sharp teeth,
And spikes on top of him and scales underneath,
Mouth like a fireplace, chimney for a nose,
And realio, trulio, daggers on his toes.

Belinda was as brave as a barrel full of bears,
Cage And Ink and Blink chased lions down the stairs,
Mustard was as brave as a tiger in a rage
But Custard cried for a nice safe cage.

(A Tale of Custard the Dragon)

- i. Complete the following sentence meaningfully:
The speaker mentions the custard as '*cried for a nice safe cage*' to mean that _____. 1
- ii. What is the contrast between the appearance and character of Custard as mentioned in the above stanzas? Answer in about 40 words. 2
- iii. Which of these does contain the same poetic device as used in '*And spikes on top of him and scales underneath*'? 1
 - A. This is the land where the sun rays were rare.
 - B. The flowers do hug my soul and humbles its agony.
 - C. As critically as a poet the fly rejects the call of stale food.
 - D. The stars do shine in their best grandeur.

iv. Validate the suitability of the use of words 'realio, trulio' in the above 2nd stanza.

1

OR

B.The fog comes
on little cat feet.
It sits looking
over harbour and city
on silent haunches
and then moves on.

(Fog)

i. Complete the conversation with what *Fog* would most likely say. Answer in one sentence.

Radha: Where do you come from?

Fog: _____.

1

ii. Which line has a *word* that personifies fog thus making the complex concepts more accessible to the readers?

1

- A. on little cat feet.
- B. It sits looking
- C. over harbour and city
- D. on silent haunches

iii. Identify the type of imagery used in these lines.

1

iv. Can 'cat' be synonymous with fog? Support your response in about 40 words.

2

OR

8. Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following five questions in about 40–50 words each.

4x3=12

i. "There are dreamers, and there are planners; the planners make their dreams come true." –
(Dale Carnegie)

In the chapter "Madam Rides the Bus" Valli was able to fulfil her dreams through meticulous planning. Cite examples from the text to show that Valli was a meticulous planner.

ii. How does Robert Frost use vivid imagery and metaphorical language in 'Fire and Ice' to effectively depict the destructive human emotions as potential catalysts for the end of the world?

iii. W. B Yeats poem 'For Anne Gregory' challenges society's perception of a perfect woman. Validate

iv. "Freedom is a birth right. It is the most beautiful gift of God. It is valuable for all human beings as well as for creatures," Discuss with reference to the poem "A Tiger in the Zoo."

v. Would you agree that the "depths of oppression create heights of character? How does Mandela illustrate this?

9. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions in about 40 -50 words each.

2x3

(i) When we don't accept our circumstances, we may fall deep into the pit of pain and misery. Defend statement with evidences from the story "*The Necklace*".

(ii) "The most successful people work smart, not hard." Justify the quote with the help of relevant instances from the story "*A Question of Trust*".

(iii) Hari Singh gave up the dream of an alluring Arab life and preferred to be an assistant to Anil. Validate the statement with reasons.
(The Thief's Story)

10. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following *two* questions, in about 100-120 words.

1x6=6

A. “Not from weeping, or from grieving will anyone obtain peace of mind.”

If you had to use the message of the given quote from the Buddha’s Sermon to help the boy cope up with the loss of his ball, what would you include in your advice? Sum up your answer precisely.

(*The Sermon at Benares & The Ball Poem*)

OR

B. Imagine Lesli Noris from *The Tiger in the Zoo* met with Amanda from *Amanda* and discussed the kind of misery she was going through at her home because of her mother.

Compose this conversation in not more than 120 words. You may begin this way:

Lesli: Why do you look so sad, dear Amanda?

Amanda: _____ (*The Tiger in the Zoo & Amanda*)

11. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following *two* questions, in about 100-120 words

1x6=6

A. Richard Ebright and Griffin are fine specimen of brilliant scientists. Elaborate how the former dedicates his life by making the judicious use of science for the benefit of mankind and the latter makes extreme misuse of science for his whimsical temperament.

(*Foot Print Without Feet & Making of A Scientist*)

OR

B. Read the following *quote* by an American author E.E. Hale.

“I am only one but, I am one. I cannot do everything but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I do.” Bholi’s evolution from a ‘dumb cow’ to a ‘masterpiece’ supports the given quote. Justify. (*Bholi*)
