

DECODING THE ENGLISH PAPER

CLASS X

2022-2023

SECTIONS IN THE PAPER

The paper will contain the following sections:

- SECTION A (Reading Skill)- 20 Marks
- SECTION B (Writing Skill & Grammar)- 20 Marks
- SECTION C (Literature & Long Reading Text) - 40 Marks

Total marks - 80

Assessment of Speaking and Listening Skill- 20 Marks

TOTAL- 100 Marks

SECTION A- READING SKILL (20 MARKS):

Qs 1-2. This section will have two unseen passages. The arrangement within the reading section is as follows:

Q. 1: A Discursive passage of 400 – 450 words with four short answer type questions to test inference, evaluation and analysis and four MCQs to test vocabulary. 10 marks

Q. 2: Case-based passage (with visual input- statistical data, chart etc.) of 200-250 words. 10 Marks

Reading Section is designed to test the comprehension. Multiple Choice Questions / Objective Type Questions will be asked to assess inference, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and vocabulary.

TIPS ON COMPREHENDING READING PASSAGES

1. **Skimming:** Read the passage carefully to know what the passage is about.
2. **Scanning:** Read the passage again and identify the main points.
3. Read the question one by one and look for the correct option if the question is an MCQ
4. Write the correct option number and the option statement in the answer sheet if the question is an MCQ
5. Where the options are not given, the answer may either be lifted from the passage or would have to be inferred.
6. If the answer is lifted from the passage, then it should be presented in one's own words and not copied from the passage.

FEW PROBABLE EXAMPLES

Question Type – Combination question

Example- In paragraph II, the writer has included information about the Cherokee language to show that _____

- (i) the Cherokees have more advanced language forms than English does.**
- (ii) linguists have ignored the Cherokee culture for years.**
- (iii) primitive cultures also have ingenious language structures.**
- (iv) linguists have worked on sign language.**
- (v) Cherokees and linguists have worked together to add variations to language.**

(a) (i), (iii) and (v)

(b) (i) and (iii) - Ans

(c) (ii), (iv) and (v)

(d) (i) and (v)

FEW PROBABLE QUESTION TYPES

Question Type – Reasoning Type

Example - Select the option that is true for the two statements given below.

- (1) It is easier to give in to the demands of children.**
- (2) Deficient emotional behaviour can be seen in children.**

- (a) (2) is independent of (1)**
- (b) (1) is the reason for (2)**
- (c) (2) is the offshoot of (1) - Ans**
- (d) (1) contradicts (2)**

Question Type – Quotation Based

Example - Choose the option that lists the quote best expressing the central idea of the passage.

- (a) Statistics is the grammar of science. – Karl Pearson**
- (b) Language is the road map of a culture. It tells you where its people come from and where they are going. – Rita Mae Brown - Ans**
- (c) Nature made no man a slave. – Alcidamas**
- (d) I'm proud of being part Cherokee, and I think it's time all us Indians felt the same way. – Loretta Lynn**

SECTION B

WRITING SKILL & GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)

Two questions in writing skill will be tested.

- I. Formal Letter based on a given situation in 100-120 words.
(One out of two questions is to be answered - 5 marks)**
- II. Writing an Analytical Paragraph (100-120 words) on a given
map / Chart/ Graph / Cue or cues .
(One out of two questions is to be answered -5 marks)**

Types of formal letters-

Letters of Complaint (To the Editor, to a particular official or governing body directly, complaint against a product/service), Letter of Inquiry and Letter placing Order

There will be internal choice in these questions.

LETTER WRITING: FORMAL LETTER

Points to Remember

- Try to avoid writing "I" i.e. using first person
- Keep sentences short and to the point.
- Do not use contractions (I've, won't etc).
- End with a short sentence that anticipates the response of the addressee.
- The tone in a formal letter is polite and impersonal.
- Follow the format

FORMAL LETTER

FORMAT :

- ❖ Sender's address
- ❖ Date
- ❖ Receiver's Name, Designation & Address
- ❖ Subject: _____
- ❖ Salutation (Sir / Ma'am)
- ❖ Content

Para 1-Opening statement—introducing oneself, stating the purpose of writing the letter (Topic Statement)

Para 2-Reasons advanced

Para 3- Effects

Para 4- Suggestions to solve the problem at an individual level and as a group

Para 5- Conclusion

- ❖ Subscription (Yours faithfully/ truly)
- ❖ Sender's Name

NOTE : Leave a line after each step

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

IMPORTANT POINTS

- ❖ **Begin with reference to a recent development/ event/ issue (This would be the topic statement)**
- ❖ **Give details of topic—bring out cause-effect relationship.**
- ❖ **Offer suggestions/ solutions**
- ❖ **Do NOT ask the editor to solve the problem as he can only voice your views, ideas.**
- ❖ **Remember that a 'leading national daily' means a newspaper that is popular across the country and is circulated everyday.**

GRAMMAR

- Tenses
- Modals
- Subject – verb concord
- Reported speech
- Commands and requests
- Statements
- Questions
- Determiners

The courses at the secondary level seek to cement high professional grasp of grammatical items and levels of accuracy.

Accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar in context will be assessed through Gap Filling/ Editing/Transformation exercises. **Ten out of 12 questions will have to be attempted.**

SECTION C LITERATURE

LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND LONG READING TEXT

Reference to the Context (5+5 = 10 Marks)

- I. One extract out of two from Drama / Prose.
- II. One extract out of two from poetry.

Multiple Choice Questions / Objective Type Questions will be asked to assess inference, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and vocabulary.

LITERATURE

Short & Very Long Answer Questions 30 Marks

- I. **Four out of Five** Short Answer Type Questions to be answered in 40-50 words from the book FIRST FLIGHT
(4x3=12 marks)
- II. **Two out of Three** Short Answer Type Questions to be answered in 40-50 words each from FOOTPRINTS WITHOUT FEET.
(2x3=6 marks)
- III. **One out of two** Long Answer Type Questions from FIRST FLIGHT to be answered in about 100-120 words each to assess creativity, imagination and extrapolation beyond the text and across the texts. This can be a passage-based question taken from a situation/plot from the texts. (6 marks)
- IV. **One out of two** Long Answer Type Questions from FOOTPRINTS WITHOUT FEET on theme or plot involving interpretation, extrapolation beyond the text and inference or character sketch to be answered in about 100-120 words. (6 marks)

LITERATURE

Writing skill topics that are adapted as extrapolative questions in the literature section.

These question will be framed on literature chapters from the two literature books 'First FLIGHT' & 'Footprints Without Feet'

The types of questions will be based on:

- 1. Diary Entry**
- 2. Dialogue Writing**
- 3. Informal Letter Writing**

TIME MANAGEMENT

Time Management is a crucial aspect of answering the paper completely and comfortably. Here are a few tips regarding the same.

- **Prior & regular preparation(reading & written Practice)**
- **Repeated practice of every topic.**
- **Answering the Practice papers. (At least 20-25 papers should be answered)**
- **Exam room like environment should be created while answering the practice papers.**
- **After the paper has been answered, the student should understand the weak areas and prepare them again before attempting the next paper.**
- **It is important to get the doubts clarified from time to time**

FEW PROBABLE QUESTION TYPES

Question Type – Application Type

Example - The extract hints at a few qualities that a mother is known to have. Pick the option with the right set of qualities.

- (a) cruel, uncompromising, insensitive, rude.
- (b) **sensitive, uncompromising, caring, kind - Ans**
- (c) harsh, unkind, intuitive, compassionate
- (d) empathetic, unresponsive, impervious, insensitive

Question Type – Quotation Based

Pick the appropriate quote to highlight the seagull's thoughts as his wings spread out into the air.

- (a) Your calm mind is the ultimate weapon against your challenges. —Bryant McGill
- (b) A lifelong learner is a lifelong winner.— Matshona Dhliwayo
- (c) **Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood. --Marie Curie - Ans**
- (d) Every person fails, nobody achieves everything that he or she set out to achieve.

TIME MANAGEMENT

Every question & every section in the English paper has an answering time frame of its own. Let us take a look at that.

Answering time is three hours. Reading time is 15 minutes

Section A (Reading Skill) –

40 minutes (20 minutes for each unseen passage. This will include Reading the passage, reading the questions, looking for the appropriate answers and writing them down in the answer copy..

Section B(Writing Skill & Grammar)

Writing Skill- 40 minutes for two questions. This will include reading the questions, thinking of appropriate content to be written, creating the rough drafts, and writing down the answer in the appropriate format in the answer copy.

Grammar – 20 minutes to read the grammar questions, apply the rules and write down the answer in the answer copy.

Section C (Literature)

One hour should be kept for answering all questions of literature section.

The student will still be left with 20 minutes. A few more minutes can be added to any question or section depending on the difficulty being faced by the student.

10 Minutes should be kept for revision, tying up the answer sheets and filling the gaps(unanswered questions)

HOW TO ANSWER THE PAPER

Points to keep in mind:

- Read each question twice. One reading will not help much.
- Try to read the entire paper, make your choice of questions and look for probable answers during the reading time.
- Read the accompanying instructions carefully.
- Answer all questions of one section together, except for writing skill questions which can be answered later as per the student's convenience.
- Any section can be attempted first or last.
- Leave space for questions that you are not able to answer and move on. Come back to these questions after answering the entire paper.

REFERENCES

Following links and references can be referred to Student Portal on the TAFS School website.

CBSE website for recent updates on class X

CBSE website address - www.CBSE.nic.in

To access the paper layout and the syllabus, please follow this path-

Click on the icon 'academic website' on the CBSE website – click on the icon 'Curriculum'- Click on the relevant year in the drop box- Click on Secondary Curriculum (IX – X)-Click on 'Languages- (Group L)' in the drop box – Click on 'English Language & Literature' in the next drop box – Scroll down – Reach Page no 08 meant for class X

REFERENCES

CBSE website for recent updates on class X

CBSE website address - www.CBSE.nic.in

To access the **Sample Paper**, please follow this path-

Click on the icon 'academic website' on the CBSE website
– click on the icon ' Sample Question Paper' – Click on the relevant year and the relevant class in the drop boxes
– Click on the English Language & Literature Sample Paper & marking Scheme on the page that opens up.

To access the **Question Bank**, please follow this path-

Click on the icon 'academic website' on the CBSE website – click on the icon ' Question Bank' – Click on the relevant class in the drop box – Click on the Subject 'English' on the page that opens up – question Bank will open up.

REFERENCES

Suggested Publishers for Practice Papers, Question Bank & Solved Papers

- **U like**
- **Exam Idea**
- **Together with**

ALL THE BEST

