



Delhi Public School, Howrah

PERIODIC TEST I (2024-2025)

Class-XII

Care must be taken not to write anything on the question paper. All the questions must be attempted in the correct sequence.

SUBJECT: ENGLISH CORE (CODE - 301)

Time: - 3 Hours

Maximum Marks- 80

General instructions:

- i. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
- ii. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.
- iii. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions and follow them.
- iv. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions

Q. No	SECTION A – READING	22
1.	<p>Read the passage given below.</p> <p>1. Apollo, the Greek god of music and healing, always maintained that he was the greatest musician in the world, until Marsyas, who was part animal and part human, played the flute. Apollo's jealousy and insecurity drove him to eventually slay Marsyas so that his status as the greatest musician remained unchallenged. One's usual imagination of a god is a being who is all-knowing and pure in every intention. What makes the Greek gods interesting is that they are shown as flawed beings who do not always act like 'Gods'</p> <p>2. In appearance, the gods resemble mortals, whom, however, they far surpass in beauty, grandeur, and strength; they are also more commanding in stature, height being considered by the Greeks an attractive feature in men or women. They resemble human beings in their feelings and habits, marrying and having children with them. They require daily nourishment to maintain their strength, and sleep to restore their energy. Their blood, a bright magical fluid called Ichor, never causes disease, and, when shed, produces new life.</p> <p>3. The Greeks believed that the mental qualifications of their gods were much higher than those of men, but, nevertheless, displayed human passions like revenge, deceit, and jealousy. In mythological tales, the gods always punish the evil-doer and administer dire punishments to any mortal who dares to neglect their worship. They often visit mankind and partake of their hospitality, and in many tales, both gods and goddesses become attached to mortals. Although there were so many points of resemblance between gods and men, there remained the one great characteristic distinction: immortality. Still, the gods were not invulnerable, and were often wounded and suffered so much that they'd pray for death. The gods could transport themselves to incredible distances with the speed of thought.</p> <p>4. They could be invisible at will, and could take the forms of men or animals as it suited their convenience. They could also transform human beings into trees, stones, or animals. Their robes were like those worn by mortals, but were perfect in form and much finer in texture. Their weapons also resembled those used by mankind. They often used spears, shields, helmets, bows and arrows. Most of these divinities lived on the summit of Mount Olympus, each having his or her own palace. Magnificent temples were erected to their honour, rich gifts were presented to them, and living creatures were sacrificed on their altars.</p> <p>5. In Greek mythology, the gods take every opportunity to reveal and establish their divinity but also fall prey to human impulses. Perhaps the Greeks did so to help generations of readers reflect on important life lessons to avoid tragic downfalls.</p>	12

E. M. Berens

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

i.'... they are shown as flawed beings who do not always act like 'Gods'.

Which of these are examples of the above statement?

- I. Gods getting attached and falling in love
- II. Gods punishing mortals for their wrongdoing
- III. Gods showing kindness and compassion to all I
- IV. Gods deceiving everyone for their personal gain
- V. Gods killing a mortal out of jealousy and insecurity.

- A. Only I and III
- B. Only II and V
- C. Only I, IV, and V
- D. Only II, IV, and V

ii. Which of these would Apollo most likely say about Marsyas' musical ability?

- A. 'Why does everyone think he plays music well? It is obvious that he doesn't have talent.'
- B. 'Why is he challenging me like that? I wonder what is troubling him that I can heal.'
- C. 'How can an animal play the flute? Such creatures must know their place.'
- D. 'How dare he play better than me? I am supposed to be the best in the world.'

iii. Why does the author begin the passage with a description of Apollo?

- A. To show that the Greek Gods have immense power and influence over the mortals.
- B. To emphasise the point that the Greek Gods are based in interesting stories.
- C. To highlight the point that the Greek Gods are more human-like in nature.
- D. To state that the Greek Gods are also allowed to make mistakes.

iv. What is ironic about Apollo being the one who slays Marsyas? Answer in about 40 words.

v. Based on your reading of paragraph 3, explain what 'invulnerable' means. Answer in one sentence.

vi. In 40 words, state any two ways that the Greek gods are superior to human beings

vii. Complete the given sentence with ONE word. From the fact that the Greek gods punish any mortal who neglects their worship, we can infer that they are _____.

viii. Imagine that someone was born from Ichor. In which of these situations would the Ichor be most useful?

- A. A natural disaster that causes the earth to split apart.
- B. A pandemic that has been caused by a contagious virus.
- C. A war that requires transforming into another form quickly.
- D. A competitive entrance exam that is very tough to qualify for.

ix. What does the author mean by 'tragic downfalls' in paragraph 5? Give an example of a tragic downfall in current times in about 40 words.

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

- 2. 1. ChatGPT has been gaining attention for how closely it mimics human-like responses. Created by OpenAI in 2022, it is a chatbot that has been trained to have knowledge of worldly events and phenomena up till September 2021 and to interpret the context of texts to produce meaningful responses. The tool can provide answers on many topics, and often states disclaimers if it cannot answer a prompt accurately. Unlike a search engine, it cannot browse the internet for information. It also does not collect any personal information of users.
- 2. A survey was administered to understand the uses of ChatGPT in the fields of education, healthcare and research. There were 420 participants in the study of which 59 respondents were from the medical field, 118 respondents were students and faculty of the research field, 70 respondents identified as administrative staff, and 173 people marked 'other' as their occupation. Of the 420 respondents, only 40% had used ChatGPT before. More medical trainees and students as well as research students had used ChatGPT as compared to medical staff and research faculty.
- 3. The survey asked about the viability of ChatGPT for its use within the fields of education, research, and healthcare. The following table summarises the responses.

Question	Statement	Number of respondents
Should ChatGPT be used in Education?	No, it should be banned.	11
	I don't know; it is too early to make a statement.	226
	Yes, it should be actively incorporated.	183
Should ChatGPT be used in Research?	No, it should not be used at all.	6
	I don't know; it is too early to make a statement.	75
	Yes, but it should only be used to brainstorm.	68
	Yes, as long as its use is transparently disclosed.	259
	Yes, disclosure is NOT needed.	10
Should ChatGPT be used in Healthcare?	No, it should not be used at all.	15
	I don't know; it is too early to make a statement.	177
	Yes, it can be used for administrative purposes.	176
	Yes, it can be used for any purpose.	51

4. Based on the responses, there was a greater uncertainty around its use in healthcare and education, compared to using it in research. Regarding the use of ChatGPT in healthcare, a significant portion of respondents (42%) approved of using it for administrative purposes (for example, preparing patient profiles or reports) and a smaller population of respondents (12.2%) felt it could be used for any purpose.
5. The current application of ChatGPT and its future potential needs to be examined. It can help students understand texts and write more effectively, simplify medical information for patients and automate administrative tasks, and prepare a summary of information which otherwise would require hours of reading through various resources. However, its negative impact must also be considered before institutions approve its use.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

- i. Complete the given sentence in ONE word. Based on the summary table, the _____ number of respondents think that ChatGPT should not be used. 1
- ii. The following was a prompt posted by a user in ChatGPT as their first question: 'What's my name?' Based on information from the passage, which of these is most likely to be ChatGPT's response? 1
 - A. 'Error 404: page not found.'
 - B. 'Your name is user 1000004.'
 - C. 'Sorry, can you repeat the question?'
 - D. 'Sorry, I don't have access to your data.'
- iii. Imagine that you have to write a news report on a major landslide that occurred in Manipur on 30 June, 2022. Would using only ChatGPT be useful for your project? State why or why not in 40 words. 2
- iv. The following are the profiles of some respondents from the survey. Based on the passage, which of these profiles is MOST LIKELY to be a part of the 40% who have used ChatGPT before? 1
 - A. A manager in a hospital who has done 5 years of administrative work.
 - B. A professor of Psychology who has 30 years of teaching experience.
 - C. A college graduate who is studying in a 2-year Master's course.
 - D. A 25-year-old teacher who is working in a public school.
- v. Which of these is true about the respondents of the survey? 1
 - A. It had 118 respondents who were employed in the field of education.
 - B. It had 70 respondents who had administrative roles in educational institutions.
 - C. It had 173 respondents who were working in the field of research including students.
 - D. It had 59 respondents who were from the medical field including those who study

	<p>medicine</p> <p>vi. Why do you think some respondents feel that ChatGPT should be banned in education? State a reason in 40 words.</p> <p>vii. Locate a detail from the passage that shows that we still do not know enough about ChatGPT. Answer in one sentence.</p> <p>viii. State TRUE or FALSE. More than half of the respondents think it is ok to use ChatGPT in research if one clearly states its contribution.</p>	2 1 1
SECTION B – WRITING		18
3.	<p>Attempt any one from the questions given below.</p> <p>a. Maruti Public School announces an exciting opportunity for students of Class XI and XII. In this course, students will learn to understand news reports, build the habit of reading the news regularly, and will have a chance to interact with well-known journalists. As Ritwik Sen, Editor of the school magazine, draft a notice in about 50 words for the school notice board, urging students to sign up for this course. Mention any other relevant details required for the notice.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>b. Draft a notice within 50 words for the young residents of EcoTech World, Sector 13, Chandigarh, informing them about the free yoga classes organized by The Teen Well-Being Association, to be held on Sunday mornings in the common hall.</p>	4
4.	<p>Attempt any one from the questions given below.</p> <p>a. In India, the prevalence of lifestyle disorders like diabetes, obesity, hypertension, and heart disease has increased. Lifestyle diseases account for 53 percent of deaths. Write a letter within 120 words outlining the problem and your comprehension of the underlying causes to the editor of a national newspaper. Provide advice on how to manage these conditions and lower one's chance of contracting them.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>b. Write a letter to the editor of a prominent newspaper discussing the impact of social media on the mental health of teenagers. Highlight both the positive and negative aspects, providing examples and suggesting measures that can be taken by parents, schools, and social media companies to mitigate the adverse effects while promoting responsible use within 120 words.</p>	4
5.	<p>Attempt any one from the questions given below.</p> <p>a. You are Class XII student Sneha Hassan. Compose an article about the value of active listening for the school magazine within 150 words. Describe in more detail how listening skills enable one to see things from different angles, work well in a team, and foster a compassionate and understanding environment.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Or</p> <p>b. Advertisements have become a big business. They are promoted by celebrities drawn from various fields like films, sports, etc., leaving their influence on all people specially the young. Write an article within 150 words on 'The Impact of Advertisements on the younger generation'.</p>	5
6.	<p>Attempt any one from the questions given below.</p> <p>a. Your school organised an exhibition-cum-sale of the items prepared under Work Experience by your school students. There was an overwhelming response from the public. You are the Coordinator, S.U.P.W. activities, Nita School, Gurgaon. Prepare a report in 100-125 words for a local daily.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>a. A major bus mishap which left several people seriously injured took place at Nicholas Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai. Luckily no life was lost. Collect the information from the eyewitnesses and send a report in 100-125 words to 'The Nungambakkam Times'. You are Vinod/Vinodhini, a reporter.</p>	5
SECTION C – LITERATURE		40
7.	<p>Read the following extract and answer the questions accordingly.</p> <p>Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given</p> <p>A. What I want should not be confused</p>	6X1 = 6

with total inactivity.

Life is what it is about;

I want no truck with death.

If we were not so single-minded

about keeping our lives moving

and for once could do nothing,

perhaps a huge silence

might interrupt this sadness

of never understanding ourselves

and of threatening ourselves with death.

i. Which of these does the speaker imply through the following lines: Life is what it is about; I want no truck with death.

A. Life is meant to be lived and death should not be the focus here.

B. Life is meant to teach us lessons and near-death experiences are not always bad.

C. Life is full of adventures and the fear of death should not stop us from exploring them all.

D. Life is full of many choices and thoughts about death should not be a point of consideration.

ii. Complete the given sentence appropriately. Based on the extract, silence would help humanity to _____.

iii. When the speaker refers to them as "single-minded," what does he mean?

A. People who only work towards understanding themselves.

B. People who are driven by only one passion in their life.

C. People who only focus on rushing through their life.

D. People who can focus on only one task at a time.

iv. Explain why the following claim is untrue. 'The speaker in the excerpt is directing readers to do specific activities'.

v. Based on the extract, how do you think the speaker feels about humanity? Answer in one sentence.

vi. Take note of how the poem's lines end at specific words. Give one explanation for the poet's choice of line structure.

OR

B. I saw my mother,
beside me, doze, open mouthed,
her face ashen like that
of a corpse and realised with
pain that she was as old as she looked but soon put
that thought away, and
looked out at Young
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes,

i. Why is her mother's visage compared to a corpse by the poet? Answer in one sentence.

ii. What impact does the poem bear with the use of the term "open mouthed"?

A. It builds a mood of surprise and shock in the poem.

B. It reveals the speaker's fear of her own death and mortality.

C. It adds to the imagery of the speaker's mother appearing dead.

D. It highlights the speaker's attempt at hiding her emotions from her mother.

iii. Complete the given sentence appropriately. The contrast present in the given extract is between _____.

iv. Give a justification for the following. While travelling with her mother, the speaker stares out the window.

v. Which of these sentences makes use of the same literary method as the extract's next line? looked out at Young Trees sprinting...

A. that restaurant is as nice as the Big Fish

B. the pen became my highway to success

C. that fluffy cloud crying with sadness

D. the tall trees with many branches

vi. Why do you think the poet has placed the word 'pain' on a separate line? Give a reason.

4X1 = 4

8.

Read the following extract and answer the questions accordingly.
Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given:

A. The presidents of the New York Central and the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroads will swear on a stack of timetables that there are only two. But I say there are three, because I've been on the third level of the Grand Central Station. Yes, I've taken the obvious step: I talked to a psychiatrist friend of mine, among others. I told him about the third level at Grand Central Station, and he said it was a waking-dream wish fulfillment. He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it, and that I just want to escape. Well, who doesn't? Everybody I know wants to escape, but they don't wander down into any third level at Grand Central Station.

- i. Complete the given sentence appropriately. Unlike the two levels that have 'a stack of timetables' to prove their existence, the third level has _____.
- ii. Yes, I've taken the obvious step. What is the narrator assuming that the reader is thinking when he says the above line?
- iii. According to the extract, which of these is an illustration of "a waking-dream wish fulfillment"?
 - A. Meenal loses her book and swears that it is her enemy who stole it.
 - B. Milind claims that he was petting his beloved dog whom he lost a few years ago.
 - C. Malini tells everyone that she saw a Cheetah though she herself knows it is a lie.
 - D. Mrinal thinks that he saw a spaceship in the sky which later turned out to be a normal aircraft.
- iv. Based on the extract, what does the narrator think about the psychiatrist's opinion?

OR

B. "We must simply tell them that we intend to give him to the police — as indeed we must, Sadao. We must think of the children and your position. It would endanger all of us if we did not give this man over as a prisoner of war." "Certainly," Sadao agreed. "I would not think of doing anything else."

- i. Why is Sadao advised to give the man to the police?
 - A) To protect the man from harm.
 - B) To help him escape.
 - C) To ensure the safety of Sadao's family.
 - D) To prevent him from being captured by the enemy.
- ii. How does Sadao respond to the advice?
 - A) He disagrees and decides to help the man escape.
 - B) He agrees and decides to give the man to the police.
 - C) He decides to keep the man hidden in his house.
 - D) He decides to confront the man directly.
- iii. What is the main concern behind giving the man to the police?
 - A) Sadao's reputation.
 - B) The safety of Sadao's family.
 - C) The man's well-being.
 - D) Avoiding trouble with the authorities.
- iv. What does Sadao's agreement reveal about his character?
 - A) He is compassionate.
 - B) He is loyal to his country.
 - C) He is fearful of the consequences.
 - D) He is conflicted about his decision.

Read the following extract and answer the questions accordingly.

Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given:

A. "Please don't think that I have such a fine home that you cannot show yourself there", He said... "Elizabeth is dead, as you may already have heard. My boys are abroad, and there is no one at home except my oldest daughter and myself. We were just saying that it was too bad we didn't have any company for Christmas. Now come along with me and help us make the Christmas food disappear a little faster."

i. What is the speaker's main reason for inviting the traveller?

- A) To discuss the recent death of Elizabeth.
- B) To offer a warm and inviting home.
- C) To provide company for Christmas.
- D) To help with chores around the house.

ii. Who else is mentioned as being at the speaker's home?

- A) The speaker's sons.
- B) The speaker's oldest daughter.
- C) The speaker's wife.
- D) The speaker's friends.

iii. What does the speaker suggest about the Christmas food?

- A) It needs to be cooked faster.
- B) It should be shared with the traveller.
- C) It should be eaten quickly.
- D) It is too much for just the speaker and his daughter.

iv. What is the tone of the speaker's invitation?

- A) Sad
- B) Excited
- C) Reluctant
- D) Hospitable

v) What is the speaker trying to convey by saying "Please don't think that I have such a fine home that you cannot show yourself there"?

- A) The speaker lives in a very grand house.
- B) The speaker's home is too simple for guests.
- C) The speaker wants to reassure the listener that they are welcome.
- D) The speaker is reluctant to invite the listener.

vi) Based on the extract, which of the following best describes the speaker's current family situation?

- A) The speaker is living alone after the death of Elizabeth.
- B) The speaker has a large family currently living with him.
- C) The speaker and his oldest daughter are the only ones at home.
- D) The speaker has his boys living abroad and his daughter visiting for Christmas

OR

B. Whenever I looked up from my writing I saw M. Hamel sitting motionless in his chair and gazing first at one thing, then at another, as if he wanted to fix in his mind just how everything looked in that little school-room. Fancy! For forty years he had been there in the same place, with his garden outside the window and his class in front of him.

i. What is the narrator doing while observing M. Hamel?

- A) Reading
- B) Writing
- C) Drawing
- D) Listening

ii. How long had M. Hamel been in the same place?

- A) 10 years
- B) 20 years
- C) 30 years
- D) 40 years

	<p>iii. What did M. Hamel seem to be trying to do?</p> <p>A) Fix everything in his mind B) Rest his eyes C) Avoid looking at the students D) Plan his next lesson</p> <p>iv. What did the narrator find surprising about M. Hamel?</p> <p>A) His age B) His dedication C) His appearance D) His teaching style</p> <p>v) What is the significance of M. Hamel's motionless state as described in the extract?</p> <p>A) It indicates that he is too tired to move. B) It reflects his deep contemplation and emotional state. C) It shows that he is trying to scare the students into silence. D) It suggests that he has nothing left to teach the class.</p> <p>vi) What does the phrase "as if he wanted to fix in his mind just how everything looked in that little school-room" imply about the situation?</p> <p>A) M. Hamel is planning to redecorate the classroom. B) M. Hamel is trying to remember every detail because it might be his last day. C) M. Hamel is bored and looking for something to do. D) M. Hamel is thinking about the next lesson plan.</p>	
10.	<p>Answer <u>any five</u> of following in about 40-50 words each.</p> <p>i. "You realise the true value of a thing only on losing it." Comment on this statement in the light of the story, The Last Lesson.</p> <p>ii. State the common issue faced by most of the aged in the current times, with reference to the poem My Mother at Sixty-six.</p> <p>iii. Give two reasons why, according to Pablo Neruda, is 'Keeping Quiet' essential to attaining a better, more peaceful world.</p> <p>iv. Point out two strategies that helped the narrator to overcome his fear of water that one can apply in their own life for facing any major fear.</p> <p>v. What do we come to know about the author of Lost Spring, Anees Jung, through her interactions with Saheb and Mukesh?</p> <p>vi. If the Christmas spirit is about selflessness, forgiveness and becoming 'better' versions of ourselves amongst other things, Edla Willmannson is the epitome of this spirit. Justify.</p>	5 x 2 = 10
11.	<p>Attempt <u>any two</u> of following in about 40-50 words each.</p> <p>i. Why does Dr. Sadao initially hesitate to help the wounded American soldier?</p> <p>ii. 'It's easy to judge others and give advice, but much more difficult to apply it to ourselves.' Elaborate with reference to the character of Sam in The Third Level.</p> <p>iii. How does Hana, Dr. Sadao's wife, react to the presence of the wounded soldier?</p>	2 x 2 = 4
12.	<p>Answer <u>ANY ONE</u> of the following in about 120-150 words.</p> <p>a. The prose selections, Deep Water and Indigo, bring out the importance of overcoming fear. Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in 120 – 150 words elaborating on occurrences from the two texts to inspire your audience. You may begin like this ... Good morning, students! We all know what it's like to be afraid. It's the body's natural response to a threat or danger. But when ...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>b. How does the story, 'Rattrap' highlight the importance of community over isolation? Support your rationale with textual evidence.</p>	1 x 5 = 5
13.	<p>Answer <u>ANY ONE</u> of the following in about 120-150 words.</p> <p>a. To choose between professional loyalty and patriotism was a dilemma for Dr. Sadao. Comment.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>b. Analyze Charley's encounter with the third level and its significance in his life. Discuss how his longing for a simpler time reflects his struggle with the pressures of contemporary life.</p>	1 x 5 = 5