



Delhi Public School, Howrah

PERIODIC TEST- II (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:

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-Section A - (READING), Section B- (WRITING) and Section C (LITERATURE).
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option/s being attempted.
3. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions and follow them.

Q. No	SECTION A – READING SKILLS	22
1.	<p>Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Convenient, inexpensive, nutritious, good for you and delicious: they have it all! Peanuts are the most popular and consumed nuts in the United States and can be found nearly everywhere. Perfect for a quick snack, a handful of these nuts provide a highly nutrient food for less than 200 calories.2. According to the Peanut Institute, the peanut plan originated in South America, probably first domesticated and cultivated in the valleys of Paraguay. Spread by the European explorers and traders, the plant eventually reached Asia, Africa and North America. Millions of peanuts are grown and consumed around the world. Peanuts started to be produced in large quantities in the 1900s due to the growing popularity of peanut butter, peanut candies and other peanut products.3. Although peanuts come in many varieties, four main types can be found in the United States: Virginia Peanuts, Runner Peanuts, Spanish Peanuts and Valencia Peanuts. Peanuts are a wonderful foods, rich in nutrients and flavour. The combination of fibre and protein in peanuts satiates hunger. Thus, eating peanuts helps manage weight and provides the key nutrients that are important to diet. Peanuts are also natural energy boosters that contain healthy fats, proteins and antioxidants. Research shows that eating peanuts can decrease your risk of heart disease, diabetes and other chronic health conditions. Peanut butter is also full of the good kind of fat, also known as monounsaturated fat that is heart-friendly and prevents belly fat that people get from carbohydrates or saturated fat.	

4. For centuries, peanuts have been used in many culinary applications, including Chinese, African and Western cooking- in stews, sauces, mixed dishes, boiled or even plain- nourishing various populations with an enjoyable flavour. The great advantages of using peanuts in the kitchen are their availability and affordability. Peanut oil is also becoming a popular option for cooking because of its healthy fats and high cooking temperature.
5. Pureed peanuts is also great to infuse nutty goodness into a variety of dishes such as soups, sauces, bread mixes, salsa recipes, salad dressings and pasta dishes. For those who like hummus, pureed peanuts and chickpeas are a great combination. On the sweet side, peanuts are commonly used for ice-creams, brownie mix or cake batter. Peanut flour is an asset for pastry chefs because of its ability to act as a fat binder in confectionery products or to add flavour and extend shelf-life.
6. A long-time American favourite, peanuts offer countless healthy properties and natural nutrients to all populations and age-groups, peanuts enhance the flavour and boos the nutritional value of food dishes from breakfast and snacks to dinner and dessert. As a nut, oil, flour or butter, peanuts are a very versatile and tasty ingredient.

Answer the questions that follow.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Select the option that displays the key reason why peanuts are regarded as ‘healthy fats’. | 1 |
| a. It provides key nutrients for cooking. | |
| b. It is full of monounsaturated fats that is heart-healthy. | |
| c. It is popular option for cooking at high temperature. | |
| d. It is a natural oil and boosts the energy of hearts. | |
| 2. Choose the option that conveys the most likely reason for including peanuts in diets. | 1 |
| a. It was found that peanuts in America had four varieties. | |
| b. It was found that peanuts satiate hunger. | |
| c. Peanuts decreased the risk of heart disease, diabetes and other heart related problems. | |
| d. It was found to be a healthy food because of its flavors. | |
| 3. Share the evidence from the text, in about 40 words, to support the view that the writers’ writing style is descriptive and informative. | 2 |
| 4. Complete the sentence appropriately with a characteristic or description.
The popularity of peanuts in cuisines across the world is because of their _____. | 1 |
| 5. Find out the synonym of the word ‘sateiate’ from the given options. | 1 |
| a. Slave b. satisfy c. hungry d. honourable | |
| 6. Explain in about 40 words, the reason for peanuts being a favourite with pastry cooks. | 2 |
| 7. In the line, ‘Peanuts enhance the flavour and boost the nutritional value of food dishes, from breakfast and snacks, to dinner and dessert’. What does the word ‘enhance’ mean here? | 1 |
| 8. How does the following line ‘the spread of peanuts can be attributed to European traders and explorers’ impact the readers? | 2 |
| 9. Read the statement (i) to (v) given below. | |
| i. The concluding sentence of the text makes for a clear case of peanuts is a healthy options for all ages of people. | 1 |
| ii. The concluding sentence of the text makes for a clear case of peanuts is what makes bakers and cooks in America want to cook. | |
| iii. The concluding sentence of the text makes for a clear case of old and young can together enjoy cooking and eating peanuts. | |

- iv. The concluding sentence of the text makes for a clear case of as yet no negative conclusions about peanuts have been drawn.
- v. The concluding sentence of the text makes for a clear case of peanuts is an unhealthy option for old people.

Identify the option that displays the correct concluding statements that corresponds with the occurrences in the passage.

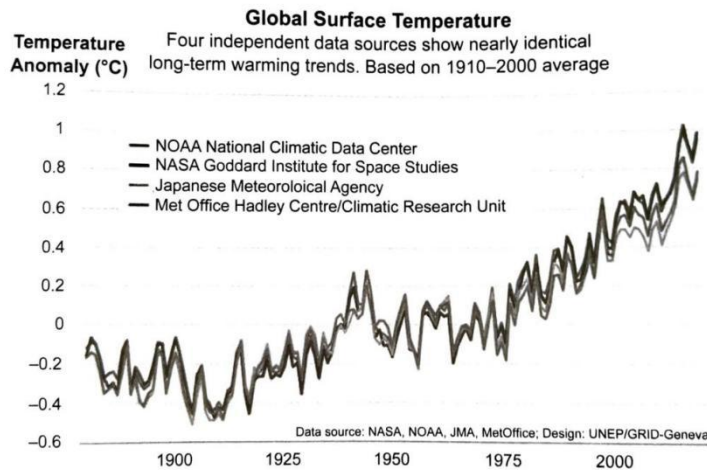
- a. Option i
- b. Options ii and iii
- c. Option v
- d. Options iv and v

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow

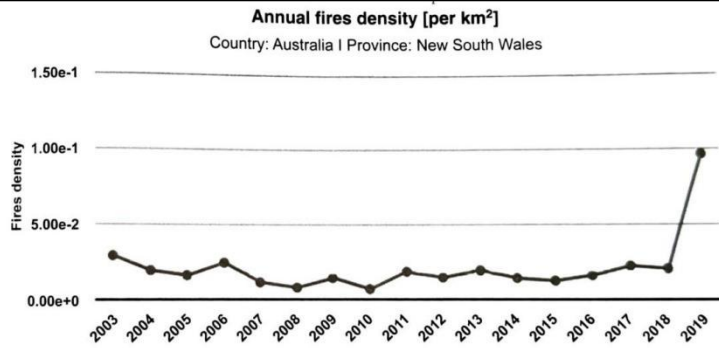
2.

1. Data from satellite sources assembled by the United Nations Environment Programme’s (UNEP) World Environment Situation Room confirms that the wildfires in Australia in the last two months of 2019 and the first six weeks of 2020 were far from normal. 2019 was the second hottest year to record since 1880 and Australia recorded its warmest temperature ever in December 2019.

2. “Rising temperature continue to melt records. The past decade was the hottest on record. Scientists tell us that ocean temperature are now rising at the equivalent of five Hiroshima bombs a second. One million species are in near-term danger of extinction. Our planet is burning,” says the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres.



3. “The trend is very clear: 37 of the last 40 years were the warmest recorded since 1880, and the six warmest years recorded were the last six years,” says Pascal Peduzzi, Director of UNEP’s Global Resource Information Database in Geneva. “For those who think Australia is always burning, graphs clearly show that these fires were exceptional.”



The number of fires in New South Wales remained fairly constant from 2003 to 2018, but more than trebled in 2019 (Fires recorded by MODIS (NASA), trend analysis, UNEP/GRID-Geneva).

4. “This service accessible via the UNEP’s World Environment Situations Room, is provided for all countries at national and provincial levels. It identifies trends in wildlife activities since 2003, when the data first became available and monitoring began. We have sliced and diced the satellite-based data on wildfires worldwide from 2009 to the present day. We analyse the wildfires’ data by month, type of land cover, protected area, province and nation to produce information products,” Peduzzi adds.

Answer the following questions.

- | | | |
|-------|---|----------|
| i. | Infer the point which this report confirms about the 2019-2020 Australian fires. | 2 |
| ii. | What was the difference in the recorded temperatures in 2019 from the 1880s? | 1 |
| | a. 2019 recorded the wettest temperatures since the 1880s. | |
| | b. 2019 recorded the hottest temperatures ever. | |
| | c. 2019 recorded the coldest temperatures than the 1880s. | |
| | d. 2019 recorded the warmest temperatures since the 1880s. | |
| iii. | Bring out the comparison which has been drawn between the rising sea temperatures and Hiroshima. | 1 |
| iv. | Identify the statement through which you can say that the UN is concerned about the rising number of coal plants. | 1 |
| | a. UNDP Secretary General Antonio Guterres is calling for curbs on new plants. | |
| | b. UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres is calling for curbs on new plants. | |
| | c. UN Executive Secretary General is calling for curbs of new plants. | |
| | d. UNEP Secretary General Antonio Guetress is calling sanctions against illegal mining work. | |
| v. | Which of the following independent data source is NOT a contributor the survey report presented through graph 1. | 1 |
| | a. NASA | |
| | b. NOAA | |
| | c. ISRO | |
| | d. JMA | |
| vi. | How many species are in near-term danger of extinction? What did the UN Secretary say about this? | 2 |
| vii. | Complete the sentence appropriately.
The UNEP’s World Environment Situation Room Identifies trends in wildfire activity since 2003, _____. | 1 |
| viii. | Would you consider the title “Rising Temperature in Australia” apt for this passage? Elaborate with one example. | 1 |

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING		18
<i>All the names and addresses used in the questions are fictitious. Resemblance, if any, is purely coincidental.</i>		
3.	<p>Attempt any one of the following</p> <p>a. You are Arav, Secretary, Cultural Club of D.Y. Patil School, Pune. A charity show has been arranged on your school in aid of cancer patients. Draft a notice for the school notice board, addressing students of classes X-XII, informing them about this and urging them to contribute to the endeavour. Word Limit- 50 words</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Or</p> <p>b. Water supply will be suspended for eight hours (10AM to 6PM) on 16th November for cleaning of the society’s water tank. Draft a notice in about 50 words, advising the residents to store water for a day. You are Karan/Karuna, Secretary, Janata Group Housing Society, Palan Vihar Kurnool.</p>	4
4	<p>Attempt any one of the following</p> <p>a. As the Principal of St. Xaveir’s College, Bangalore, you have been invited to inaugurate a Book Exhibition in your neighbourhood. Draft a reply to the invitation, expressing your inability to attend the event, citing proper reasons. You are Tarun/ Tarana Ahuja.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Or</p> <p>b. You are Rachna M, Chief Finance Officer at M/S. Archana and Sons. Your company has declared an Annual General Meeting for all it’s shareholders, to be held at Hotel Crown Palace on 27th December 2024. Draft a formal invite in 50 words, about the said event.</p>	4
5	<p>Attempt any one of the following</p> <p>a. Read the following advertisement given below and write a letter applying for the job. Also give your details resume to be sent along with the letter. You are Pooja Jha of 117-A, Police Colony, Bengaluru.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Situation Vacant</p> <p>Wanted a Post-Graduate Teacher in English to teach Senior Secondary Classes in a reputable school in Bengaluru. Candidates should have a minimum of three years of teaching experience. Apply to Box No. 178, C/O ‘The Deccan Herald’, Bengaluru- 500015.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Or</p> <p>b. You are Renu of 234, Kriti Nagar. Recently you had come across an advertisement in a popular daily regarding an academic certificate course on HR management, which would provide lateral entry to IIM Trichey. You joined the course and later found it to be fraud. Write an editorial letter in not more than 120-150 words, drawing attention of the concerned authorities of IIM Trichey through the your letter, informing them about the fraudulent use of the name of institute to be-fool students. Suggest measures which could be taken against such unscrupulous activities.</p>	5
6	<p>Attempt any one of the following</p> <p>a. The industrial sector is believed to be quite hazardous and has the maximum number of fatal work injuries because apart from other causes, stakeholders in this sector tend to ignore the safety regulations. As a columnist of WION, an e-magazine, draft an article in about 120-150 words, on the theme of importance of work safety in factories. Explore the possible reasons for the prevailing situation and include suggestions for addressing it.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Or</p> <p>b. As a budding reporter for The Indian Express, you had witnessed a public rally on the eve of the Independence Day 2024, protesting about a heinous violation of women rights in the workplace and demanding justice for such violations. Write a report in 120-150 words on the same to be published in your newspaper and add a suitable title to your report.</p>	5

SECTION C – LITERATURE

40

7

Read the following extract and answer the questions accordingly.

Attempt any one of the two extracts.

A “Now we will count to twelve
And we will all keep still.
For once on the face of the Earth
Let’s not speak in any language,
Let’s stop for one second,
And not move our arms so much”

- i. Why is the poet asking people not to speak?
 - a. It creates an uproar.
 - b. The poet does not like talkative people.
 - c. It gives time to introspect their actions.
 - d. All of the above.
- ii. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE, with reference to the extract.
The poet asks the reader to do nothing and remain inactive.
- iii. Complete the given sentence appropriately.
During counting to twelve the poet wants _____.
- iv. The use of the words ‘count up to twelve’ is aptly contrasting with ‘we will keep still’ and both are put together to show _____.
- v. Based on the poem’s rhyme scheme of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 1.
 - a. Shelf
 - b. valve
 - c. help
 - d. weld
- vi. Select the option which is NOT true about the symbolical meaning phrase ‘on the face of the earth’.
 - a. The inter-connectedness of all living being.
 - b. Shared the responsibility we have towards each other.
 - c. Shared the responsibility we have towards our planet.
 - d. Shared responsibility of being violent.

OR

B “And such too is the grandeur of the dooms
We have imagined for the mighty dead;
All lovely tales that we have heard or read;
An endless fountain of immortal drink,
Pouring unto us from heaven’s brink.”

- i. What does the speaker mean when he says ‘And such too is the grandeur of the dooms’?
 - a. Glory and magnificence that the dead are entitled to, on the doom’s day, following their death.
 - b. Glory of the dead that is entitled to be on the doom’s day, following their death.
 - c. Magnificence of the dead that is entitled to be on the doom’s day following their death.
 - d. The honour and tribute paid to the living people on their doom’s day.
- ii. What does the poet want to indicate through the use of the phrase ‘immortal drink’?
- iii. Select the word that WILL NOT complete the sentence appropriately, in context of the poem.
The Earth without the beautiful things is a place full of despair and _____.

 - a. Unpleasantness
 - b. Unhappiness
 - c. Sadness
 - d. Happiness

	<p>iv. Identify the figure of speech present in the quoted line. <i>An endless fountain of immortal drink.</i></p> <p>v. State the message propagated by the quoted extract.</p> <p>vi. Complete the sentence appropriately. The word 'brink' in the line, 'Pouring unto us from heaven's brink' means _____.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Answer any one of the two extracts.</p> <p>A. Read the following extract and answer the questions accordingly.</p> <p>"The corridor I was in began angling left and slanting downward and I thought that was wrong, but I kept on walking. All I could hear was the empty sound of my own footsteps and I didn't pass a soul. Then I heard that sort of hollow roar ahead that means open space and people talking. The tunnel turned sharp left; I went down a short flight of stairs and came out on the third level at Grand Central Station."</p> <p>i. What does the phrase "I didn't pass a soul" mean?</p> <p>a. That the narrator was dead. b. That nobody was there except the narrator. c. That there were so many dead souls roaming. d. That the narrator was thinking about a ghost.</p> <p>ii. Which is the only sound that the speaker heard when he entered the corridor?</p> <p>a. Chirping of the birds b. Voices of the people talking c. Sound of the trains moving at the Grand Station d. Empty sound of his own footsteps</p> <p>iii. Bring out the implication of the phrase 'Began angling'.</p> <p>iv. Why did he choose that path at all?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B "Derry: Things.</p> <p>Mr. Lamb: Its all relative. Beauty and the beast. Derry: What's that supposed to mean? Mr. Lamb: You tell me. Derry: You needn't think they haven't all told me that fairy story before. 'It's not what you look like, it's what you are inside. Handsome is as handsome does. Beauty loved the Mountainous beast for himself and when she kissed him, he changed into a handsome Prince.' Only he wouldn't, he'd have stayed a monstrous beast. I won't changed." Mr. Lamb: In that way? No, you won't.</p> <p>i. List the playwright's purpose of using contradictions in the extract.</p> <p>ii. Infer Derry's attitude towards other people based on his conversation with Mr. Lamb.</p> <p>a. his pessimism was hurting him more than his burnt mark. b. his optimism was hurting him more than his burnt mark. c. his burnt mark was hurting him more than his optimism. d. his burnt mark was hurting him more than his pessimism.</p> <p>iii. The phrase 'handsome is as handsome does' mean that _____.</p> <p>iv. Give one reason why does the narrator use various symbols and imageries borrowed from nature.</p>	<p>1X4 = 4</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Attempt any one of the two extracts.</p> <p>A. Read the following extract and answer the questions accordingly.</p> <p>"But of course it is you, Nils Olof!" he said. "How you do look!"</p> <p>The man with the rattrap had never before seen the ironmaster at Ramsjo and did not even know what his name was. But it occurred to him that if the fine gentleman thought he was an old acquaintance , he might perhaps throw him a couple of kronor. Therefore he did not want to undeceive him all at once."</p>	<p>1X6 = 6</p>

“Yes, God knows things have gone downhill with me,” he said.
“ You should not have resigned from the regiment,” said the ironmaster.

- i. What does the expression ‘things are going downhill’ mean?
- ii. Why does the protagonist not reveal his true identity?
 - a. He was afraid of not getting food and shelter.
 - b. He hoped for some monetary help from the ironmaster.
 - c. He just casually went with the situation.
 - d. He was hoping to escape getting arrested.
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The extract suggests that the peddler was an incorrigible fellow because apparently he _____.
- iv. Pick the evidence from the extract that helps one infer important information about Nils Olof.
- v. Which personality traits of the ironmaster can be distinguished from the extract? Mention any two.
- vi. Which of the following idiomatic expressions best suggests the peddler’s activities?
 - a. The sleep of the just.
 - b. To err is human, to forgive is divine.
 - c. Slip of the tongue.
 - d. Pull wool over someone’s eyes.

OR

B Read the following extract and answer the questions accordingly.

“The next I remember, I was lying on my stomach, beside the pool, vomiting. The chap that threw me in was saying, “But I was only fooling.” Someone said, “The kid could have died. Be all right now. Let’s carry him to the locker room.”

Several hours later, I walked home. I was weak and trembling. I shook and cried when I lay on my bed. I couldn’t eat that night. For days, a haunting fear was in my heart. The slightest exertion upset me, making me wobbly in the knees and sick to my stomach.

I never went back to the pool, I feared water. I avoided it whenever I could.”

- i. What does the writer wish to tell the readers through the opening statement: “The next I remember, I was lying on my stomach beside the pool, vomiting.”?
- ii. The sentence, “Several hours later, I walked home” shows which of the following attributes of the narrator?
 - a. Determination and resoluteness.
 - b. Optimism and foresight.
 - c. Stamina and courage.
 - d. Resilience and perseverance.
- iii. Explain any one possible inference that can be drawn from the line, “But I was only fooling.”
- iv. Identify the line from the text that bears the evidence to the fact that the narrator felt possessed.
- v. Based on the context provided in the extract, select the most likely comment that the narrator would have made.
 - a. Get beyond a joke.
 - b. The joke is on someone.
 - c. The joker in the pact.
 - d. A whole new ball game.
- vi. Complete the sentence with the synonym **ONE** particular word from the extract, which is also functions as an adverb.
After this incident, the narrator _____ went back to the pool.

10	<p>Attempt any five of following in about 40-50 words each.</p> <p>i. The villagers were sitting at the back in M. Hamel’s classroom. Comment on this statement in the context of ‘The Last Lesson’.</p> <p>ii. State the reason for the feeling of an ‘old familiar ache’ about which Kamala Das speaks of in “My Mother at Sixty Six”.</p> <p>iii. The narrator says that, “Little has moved with time, it seems, in Firozabad”. Explain.</p> <p>iv. In the poem, Neruda emphasizes on ‘an exotic moment without rush’. Comment on this in the light of the poem “Keeping Quiet”</p> <p>v. Examine the ‘rattrap’ as a metaphor in the story “The Rattrap”.</p> <p>vi. Aunt Jennifer was a true victim. How does the poet use the image of ‘fingers fluttering through the wool’ to highlight this?</p>	5X2=10
11	<p>Attempt any two of following in about 40-50 words each.</p> <p>i. Comment on the conversational style of writing, prevalent in the story “The Tiger King”.</p> <p>ii. Why Sadao’s acceptance of the General’s plan to assassinate Tom was counterproductive to having put him on the path of recovery?</p> <p>iii. In his letter to Charley, Sam writes, ‘...then I got to believing you were right’. Elaborate with reference to the thing that could have made Sam begin to believe.</p>	2X2=4
12	<p>Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words.</p>	5X1=5
	<p>i. “Poor man! It was in honour of this last lesson that he had put on his fine Sunday clothes, and now I understood why the old men of the village were sitting there in the back of the room.” M. Hamel was dressed formally as a mark of honour to his last lesson, he had served his institution for forty years and now it was time for his to bid adieu. The villagers had also come to display their respect both for M. Hamel and their language. After reading ‘Last Lesson’, can you compare any of your teachers with M.Hamel? What values did he possess that every teacher should be endowed with? What would your opinion be on such a day if you were one of those villagers?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>ii. “The reader’s sympathy is with the rattrap peddler right from the beginning of the story. Why is it so? Is this sympathy justified? Elaborate your answer with reference with the short story “The Rattrap”</p>	
13	<p>Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words.</p> <p>i. What was the General’s plan to get rid of the American prisoner? Was it executed? What traits of General’s character are highlighted in the lesson? You also wish to include a cameo of another character for the above explanation in your upcoming blog-post [<i>A short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something</i>] As a part of the research for your blog-post, what do you infer about the General and his plan? Write your blog with references to ‘The Enemy’.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>ii. “If we affect the elements of nature, nature does affect us in return. In the prose, “The Tiger King”, the hundredth tiger, an element of nature, finally takes its revenge on the King. Imagine yourself to be an environmentalist, write an article on the retributive justice of nature, to restore the balance. Your article should have some inputs for the short story “The Tiger King.”</p>	5X1=5