



Delhi Public School Howrah

FINAL EXAMINATION (2024-2025)

Class-XI

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.
3. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions and follow them.
4. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Q. No	SECTION A – READING	26
1.	<p>Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.</p> <p>1. If you enjoy watching crime shows on TV, you know that fingerprints play a large role in identifying people. But you might be surprised to find out that using fingerprints for identification is not a new science. In fact, it is very old, dating back at least as far as 1885-1913 B.C.E. In Babylon, when people agreed to a business contract, they pressed their fingerprints into the clay in which the contract was written. Thumbprints have also been found on clay seals from ancient China.</p> <p>2. In 14th century Persia, which is now Iran, a government doctor recognized that all fingerprints are different. In 1684, a British doctor, Nehemiah Grew, spoke about the ridged surfaces of the fingers. In 1686, a professor of anatomy (the study of the structure of the human body) named Marcello Malpighi wrote about the ridges and loops in fingerprints. Malpighi's work was considered so important that a layer of skin found on the fingertips was named after him. This layer of skin is called the Malpighian layer. Although scientists had studied fingerprints, the value of fingerprinting in the identification of individuals did not become clear until later.</p> <p>3. Sir William James Herschel is generally thought to be the first European to realize that fingerprints were unique to each person. In his work as chief magistrate in the Hooghly district in Jungipoor, India, Herschel asked people to put their handprints on contracts. Herschel believed that personal contact with the contracts made people more likely to honor their commitments, or to keep their promises. As he looked at more and more handprints, he began to see that all the handprints were different. He started to believe that fingerprints were unique, which means they are different from each other, and permanent, which means that they do not ever change. To prove that they never change, Herschel kept track of his own fingerprints over his entire lifetime.</p> <p>4. Dr. Henry Faulds, a British surgeon at a Japanese hospital, began studying the furrows (also called ridges) on fingertips in the 1870s. He published an article in a scientific journal about the use of fingerprints as a tool in identification. He also devised, or invented, a system of classifying fingerprints. He wrote to Charles Darwin about his findings, but Darwin was getting too old to work on the findings. So, he promised to pass the information to his cousin, Sir Francis Galton. Using Henry Faulds' findings, Galton published a major book on classifying fingerprints based on arches, loops, and whorls. His work with Sir Edward R. Henry on fingerprint classification was the basis of a classification system which is still used by law enforcement agencies in English-speaking countries.</p>	10

5. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) now uses a variation of the Galton- Henry system. Although the use of fingerprinting in identification originated in Britain, it has been developed in the United States. In 1924, two large fingerprint collections were combined to form the foundation of the Identification Division of the FBI. Within the Identification Division, the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems (IAFIS) can search and find fingerprints anywhere in the United States within thirty minutes. The IAFIS can compare results with automated fingerprint systems in countries around the world. The IAFIS has the fingerprints of more than 250 million people on file.

6. About one in six Americans has fingerprints on file with the FBI. But not all fingerprints are related to criminal investigations. People need to have their fingerprints taken for many other reasons. People have their fingerprints taken for employment, licenses, and adoption. For example, when people want to work for the government in classified, secret jobs, their fingerprints are checked to be sure they do not have a criminal background. When prospective parents adopt a child, their fingerprints are matched against those of all criminals for the safety of the child.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the questions that follow.

i. Identify the first person to recognize that all fingerprints are different.

- (a) a British doctor.
- (b) a professor Anatomy.
- (c) a Persian government doctor.
- (d) a British surgeon.

1

ii. State whether the following statement is True or False.

1

Sir Nehemiah Grew spoke about rigid surface of fingers that were unique to each person.

2

iii. What did the people in Babylon do when they agreed to a business contract?

1

iv. Choose the suitable option(s) given below to complete the following statement.

According to Galton- Henry, fingerprints' classification varies into _____.

- 1. shapes
- 2. sizes
- 3. arches
- 4. loops and whirls

(a) Both 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 (c) Both 3 and 4 (d) Only 4

1

v. Where was the use of fingerprints in identification originated?

(a) Britain (b) China (c) India (d) Iran

2

vi. How did a layer of skin get the name of 'Malpighian layer'?

1

vii. Pick the option from the following which corresponds to the word 'potential'.

(a) Adoption (b) Investigations (c) Classified (d) Prospective

viii. State Herschel's belief in your own words.

1

2.

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

1X8=8

1. It is generally accepted that leadership development should be a part of the education system's responsibility for preparing individuals to participate in a democratic and progressive society. Many schools, colleges and universities, across nations, provide their students with leadership courses, curricular programs and co-curricular programs that are designed to develop students' formal knowledge about leadership as well as opportunities and experiences to develop students as leaders and actually practise leadership. Yet, only a handful of studies have sought to

understand leader development from the students' point of view, with students describing their own experiences and what they learned from them in their own words.

2. A 2014 descriptive study sought to understand student leadership with research through key events via the following research questions:

Research Question 1: What key events do student leaders in college, report as significantly impacting their development as a leader?

Research Question 2: What lessons do student leaders in college, report learning as a result of the key events they have experienced?

Research Question 3: Are certain key events more likely to be linked to particular lessons?

3. Approximately 130 students were contacted and the 72 interested, were interviewed. Two members of the research team were present for each 15-45-minute interview, one member served as the primary interviewer while the second ran the audio equipment. The results for lessons learned (Table 1), were varied, but there were a few that were frequently quoted.

This study described the rich array of leadership lessons that students are learning through their experiences. It revealed that student leaders are learning foundational leadership skills and competencies that have positively impacted how to accomplish work, how to work with others and how to be both supported by and support others.

Result Table: Leadership Lessons from Student Experiences

Key Event	Leadership Lesson Learned	Core Skills Developed
Leading a project	Task management & accountability	Planning, execution, delegation
Handling conflicts	Communication & problem-solving	Conflict resolution, active listening
Facing a failure	Resilience & adaptability	Growth mindset, persistence
Making difficult decisions	Decision-making & critical thinking	Risk assessment, strategic thinking
Collaborating with teams	Teamwork & interpersonal skills	Cooperation, negotiation, empathy
Seeking guidance from mentors	Receiving & providing support	Leadership coaching, mentorship
Organizing an event or initiative	Coordination & responsibility	Leadership execution, logistics planning

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the questions that follow .

- i. Do you think researchers of the study aimed to change students' outlook towards the development of leadership skills, directly or indirectly? Support your answer with reference from the text.
- ii. Select the option that displays the most likely reason for including Research Question 3 in the 2014 study.

- a) Learning opportunities shape students' overall personality.
 - b) Leadership lessons are the results of the designed learning opportunities.
 - c) All learning opportunities cater to a specific reason.
 - d) Certain lessons are common in more than one learning opportunities.
- iii. Complete the following sentence:
More than 50% of the identified student respondents were keen to participate in the 2014 study. We can say this because _____.
- iv. Which key event has been designed with 'Balancing Roles' as the objectives?
- a) Students will be able to manage the responsibilities of a mentor, planner, researcher and presenter.
 - b) Students will be able to debate the issue at hand with different teams.
 - c) Students will be able to surmount minor problems and focus on the final goal.
 - d) Students will be able to explain concepts and clarify them for peers.
- v. The 2014 study attempts to understand student leadership by focusing on ____.
- a) Experiences that shaped students overall personality.
 - b) Lessons gained by students as they grow up.
 - c) Relationship of key events with particular lessons.
 - d) Students in leadership roles.
- vi. The lessons for 'Individual competencies' had a range of responses. Give one reason why having the least number of responses for 'Decision Making', is a matter that needs attention.
- vii. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option.
The concluding sentence of the text makes a clear case for by listing it as a core competency for student leadership.
- a) collaboration b) flexibility c) hard-work d) observation
- viii. Complete the sentence appropriately with one/ two words.
 In the context of 'working with others' as per the table, the core skill of 'negotiation' refers to _____.

3

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow

1. Breaking a news story is the thing now-whether it's on television, or scoops and sting operations conducted by magazines and newspapers. These are important, and I believe a journalist is justified in using whatever means he or she can to expose those who profess one thing and do something entirely different. There is far too much skulduggery in today's world and it's the duty of journalists to expose it. Of course, it is important that the journalist must be strictly above board-there have been instances in the past where journalists have ended up as blackmailers. But I'm all for sting operations for the sake of the larger common good, for the sake of public morality.

2. While every citizen has the right to privacy and anyone who invades it deserves to be punished, a distinction should be drawn between a private citizen and persons in public life, such as politicians, civil servants, defense personnel, and members of the judiciary, leaders of religious organizations, business tycoons and others who preach public morality. And if what they profess in public does not correspond with what they are practicing themselves, and if they are cheating the nation or indulging in corrupt practices, then exposing them through sting operations is wholly justified.

3. One tactic that the print media often employs in order to get new readers is to change its look. Meddling too much with the layout of a newspaper or magazine can be very disturbing. It makes the reader very uneasy. Newspapers and weeklies are things of habit and there's a comfort factor for the reader who becomes used to seeing the pages arranged in a particular way. If one has to make changes they should be done subtly and cleverly. Very often, expensive designers are brought in from outside and hired to change the look completely. They make radical changes. When the changes are too drastic, you are sure to lose your readers.

- a. On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary-minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it.

5

	b. Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words.	3
SECTION B – WRITING AND GRAMMAR		23
4.	<p>Attempt any one from the questions given below.</p> <p>A. Prepare a poster on behalf of the Municipal Authority of Howrah, informing the citizens about the 'Dos and Don'ts' to prevent the spread of dengue.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B. The Tourism Department, Government of Uttaranchal has launched an ambitious plan to develop adventure sports and eco-tourism activities in the state. Prepare a suitable poster for display at important public places.</p>	3
5	<p>Attempt any one from the questions given below.</p> <p>A. You are Kamlesh / Kamal and want to sell your scooter which you have been using for two years. Write an advertisement in not more than 50 words, to be published under the classified column of a national daily. Furnish all the necessary details.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B. You are Vikram / Shalini, an honours graduate in Sociology. You are well-acquainted with the social-anthropology of India. You are looking for a job as a tourist guide. Write an advertisement in about 50 words for the Situation Wanted Column of a local newspaper. Your contact number is 9801xxxx78.</p>	3
6	<p>Attempt any one from the questions given below.</p> <p>A. Outdoor exercise or morning and evening walks during the winter have become difficult in the polluted atmosphere of the metropolitan cities. In such a condition, indoor games have become very important. Write a speech within 120-150 words, persuading the students to make more use of facilities for table-tennis and badminton, etc., available in your school. You are Sushil/ Shilja, the Student Representative to Sunshine Public School, Delhi.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B. Youngsters can perform a significant role in curbing corruption. Write a speech within 120-150 words, to be delivered in the morning assembly.</p>	5
7.	<p>Attempt any one from the questions given below.</p> <p>A. Although students have been using cell phones consistently in their daily lives for almost a decade, schools continue to resist allowing the devices into the classroom. Schools generally grapple with new technologies but cell phones' reputation as a nuisance and a distraction has been hard to dislodge. Prepare a debate within 120-150 words, in favour of or against the topic 'Cell Phone should be allowed in schools'.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B. 'India's large population is not a cause of poverty but an asset, a resource in disguise.' Write a debate within 120-150 words either for or against the given motion.</p>	5
8	<p>Fill in the following blanks given below choosing the most appropriate options:</p> <p>It was a cold wintry night. It _____ (a) since morning. A traveller somehow managed to reach a secluded farm house before the night _____ (b). He knocked at the door and waited for somebody _____ (c) the door. Perhaps the tired traveller _____ (d) to sleep after the day's hard labour in the rice fields but there was no response in spite of the repeated knocks.</p> <p>a. (i) raining (ii) rained (iii) was raining (iv) had been raining b. (i) has fallen (ii) had fallen (iii) is falling (iv) falls c. (i) open (ii) opening (iii) has opened (iv) to open d. (i) wants (ii) wanting (iii) wanted (iv) want</p>	1 X4 = 4
9.	<p>A. Do as directed</p> <p>i. John locked up Daliah in a coal-cellar. He knew it would be impossible for her to escape from there (Join the sentences using Relative clause)</p> <p>ii. Do not eat too much. You will be ill. (Combine the following sentences into one complex sentence)</p> <p>iii. I do not consider it to be a wise suggestion. I shall not act upon it. (Combine the following</p>	0.5 x 3 = 1.5

	sentences into one compound sentence)	0.5 x 3 = 1.5
	<p>B. Re-arrange the following to make a complete meaningful sentence.</p> <p>i. Pride/ took utmost/ the / in/ well-being/ Egyptians/ Pharaohs/ their/ of.</p> <p>ii. Willingly/ many/ travails/ undergo/ the/ of/ difficult/ journeys/ people.</p> <p>iii. Ventures/ extravagant/ by/ losses/ he/ home/ undergoes/ if/ even/ to return/ him/ wants/ the father.</p>	
	SECTION C – LITERATURE	31
10.	<p>Read the following extract and answer the questions accordingly.</p> <p>A. "Then with eerie delicate whistle-chirrup whisperings She launches away, towards the infinite. And the laburnum subsides to empty."</p> <p>i. The beauty of the 'eerie delicate whistle-chirrup whisperings' is _____</p> <p>a) The call of the finch is strangely soft. b) The bird whistles in a high pitch c) The feeding over finch sings peculiarly in a gentle and pleasant manner d) The mother finch's song is strange.</p> <p>ii "She launches away, towards the infinite" means _____</p> <p>a) She flies away b) She departs to bring more food c) She takes off like an airplane d) She disappears towards the oblivion</p> <p>iii The line "And the Laburnum subsides to empty" refers to _____</p> <p>a) Its growing dark and the birds have gone back to their nests b) The young ones are quiet in the nest c) The goldfinch has flown away d) The tree has also settled down to a period of stillness again</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B. "To use whichever way I choose, Producing thoughts that were not those of other people, But my own, and mine alone Was that the day!"</p> <p>i. Which day is the poet talking about?</p> <p>a) The day he realised the fundamental truth b) The day when he realised that he could make his own choice c) The day he found out that his mind was really his own. d) The day he realised the truth about his life and about the loss of his childhood.</p> <p>ii. What is the poem childhood about?</p> <p>a) The poet's lost childhood b) Childhood of every person c) Universality associated with infancy d) Didactic nature of growing up</p> <p>iii. Where can the poet find his childhood now?</p> <p>a) Only in his memories b) In an infant's face c) In the pages of some long lost poem d) Nowhere</p>	1X3 = 3
11.	<p>Read the following extract and answer the questions accordingly.</p> <p>A. 'Tired and hungry, I started breathing through my mouth. After a while, I switched to single-nostril power which seemed to be admitting enough oxygen but, just as I was drifting off, I woke up abruptly. Something was wrong. My chest felt strangely heavy and I sat up, a movement that cleared my nasal passages almost instantly and relieved the feeling in my chest. Curious, I thought.'</p> <p>i. What was the protagonist actually experiencing? Why?</p> <p>ii. Find out the synonym of 'relaxed' from the given extract.</p>	3x1=3
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iii. Where did Tsetan take the protagonist to seek medical help because of this usual bodily activity given in the extract?

OR

B. "She used to wake me up in the morning and get me ready for school. She said her morning prayer in a monotonous sing-song while she bathed and dressed me, in the hope that I would listen and get to know it by heart; I listened because I loved her voice but never bothered to learn it."

i. What is the narrator's attitude towards the lady whom he is referring to?

ii. Read the following statements and answer accordingly.

Statement 1: The grandmother was always coaxing her ideas on the narrator.

Statement 2: The narrator had a lot of disdain for his grandmother yet he couldn't protest because he loved her.

- a) Both the options are correct.
- b) Statement 1 and 2 are correct but not related to each other.
- c) Statement 1 is correct but Statement 2 is incorrect.
- d) Neither of the statement is applicable to the context.

iii. What idea do you get about the narrator from the mentioned extract?

12.

Read the following extract and answer the questions accordingly.

A. "It's the ruin of them as well as you. Husbands, sons, daughters should be taking notice of wives an' mothers, not giving 'em orders an' treating 'em like dirt. An' don't tell me you don't know what I mean, for I know more than you've told me."

i. Identify the speaker.

ii. Which literary device has been used in 'Treating them like dirt'?

- a) Similie
- b) Metaphor
- c) Personification
- d) Transferred epithet

iii. What message does the author of "Mother's Day" try to convey?

- a) To appreciate wives/ mothers for their work
- b) To work hard for your mother
- c) To spend time with family
- d) To respect everyone

iv. How would you describe Mrs. Pearson?

- a) Dominating
- b) Considerate
- c) Compliant
- d) Both (b) and (c)

OR

B. "I could not go back there because the objects that are linked in your memory with the familiar life of former times instantly lose their value when, severed from them, you see them again in strange surroundings. And what should I have done with them in a small rented room where the shreds of black-out paper still hung along the windows and no more than a handful of cutlery fitted in the narrow table drawer?"

i. Why did the narrator not want to go back?

- a) Because she felt that her belongings had lost their value.
- b) Because it was very far from her house
- c) Because the lady was rude to her
- d) Because the belongings did not have any monetary value

ii. Why did she not claim her mother's belongings?

- a) Because she did not care for her mother
- b) Because it brought back painful memories
- c) Because she did not have any place to keep them
- d) Because she understood that the lady won't give them back

1x4=4

	<p>iii. The closing lines of the passage depict _____.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The mental depression of the narrator 2. The suffering brought by the war 3. The pain caused by the rudeness of the lady 4. The disinterested attitude of the narrator <p>a) Only 1 b) Both 1 and 2 c) Both 3 and 4 d) Only 2</p> <p>iv. The depiction of the author's room is symbolic of _____.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The consequences of war on families b) The deaths piling up due to war c) The economic conditions of families d) All of the above 	
13.	<p>Attempt <u>any one</u> question from each part in about 40-50 words each.</p> <p>PART A:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. 'Gangadharpan could not help comparing the country he knew with what he was witnessing around him'. Explain. ii. 'The grandmother was not pretty but beautiful'. Elaborate. <p>PART B:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Write a short note on the conflict presented in the poem "Father to Son". ii. What is the <u>impact of growing up</u> as reflected in the poem "Childhood"? 	3X2=6
14.	<p>Attempt <u>any one</u> of following in about 40-50 words each.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Comment on the verse form used for narration in the poem "The Tale of Melon City". ii. State Dr. Andrew's view on marriage? Why was he resentful and confused? 	3X1=3
15.	<p>Answer <u>any one</u> of the following questions in about 120-150 words.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. What was the purpose of the narrator's journey? Why was the route more important than the destination? Justify this answer with reference to "Silk Road". <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Markus Natten, though showing disapproval regarding the behavior of adults, also raises a very important point, that of independent thinking and individuality. Do you agree that independent thinking and individuality make us sensible? Elaborate in the context of the poem "Childhood" 	1 x 6=6
16.	<p>Answer <u>any one</u> of the following questions in about 120-150 words.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. In the story "Birth", Dr. Andrew leaves the Morgan house with a sense of relief. He is happy to have achieved something great in his professional as well as in his personal life. As Dr. Andrews, draft a diary entry expressing your thoughts on his professional and personal upliftment. <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ii. The play "Mother's Day" is an ironical portrayal of the status of mothers in a family. Write a speech stressing the need to value women in our contemporary society. 	1 x 6=6