



**INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR**  
**PERIODIC TEST III (2023-24)**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)**

CLASS: X

SET A

MAX. MARKS: 80

DATE: 05/12/2023

TIME: 3 HOURS

**General Instructions:**

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections -READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

**SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 MARKS)****1. Read the following text.****10**

- (1) Humility treads the fine line between arrogance and self-deprecation. Humility, modesty and down-to-earth are synonyms derived from the Latin, 'humus', translatable as 'grounded or from the earth'. So, what makes someone humble? Are the humble meek or psychologically weak?
- (2) In today's stressful world, greatly concerned with the pursuit of happiness, a bit of humility can deliver great reserves of inner strength.
- (3) Gandhiji felt that humility is an essential virtue that must exist in a person for other virtues to emerge. To Swami Vivekananda, humility did not mean crawling on all fours and calling oneself a sinner. Instead, it meant recognizing and feeling oneness with everyone and everything else in the universe, without inferiority or superiority or any other bias.
- (4) Although humility is deeply revered in most spiritual traditions, in interpersonal narrative or management lingua, it hasn't found much salience. Fortunately, a great deal of management and psychological research today is devoted to the role of humility in character building and leadership.
- (5) From the interpersonal perspective, being humble facilitates trust, and builds relationships. The humble may be more talented, gifted, or skilled than anyone else and above all better learners and problem solvers. In fact, studies show that humility is more important as a predictive performance indicator than IQ. With humbleness comes a self-acceptance from grounding one's worth in one's intrinsic value as human beings rather than other trappings of power and wealth.
- (6) Is it possible to develop humility? We must first embrace our humanness and have an accurate understanding of our strengths and weaknesses. Expressing gratitude can induce humility in us, and humble people have a greater capacity for conveying gratitude.
- (7) Holding nature in high esteem, recognizing it as an overwhelming and awe-inspiring force reminds us of our own insignificance in the cosmic scale. Being curious and open to learning fosters humility. Emulating great people and imbibing from them what we lack in our own understanding can build our own reserves of humility. After all, as Socrates said, wisdom is, above all, knowing what we don't know.

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**

- i. The author uses the expression 'treads the fine line' to mean: (Paragraph 1) 1

A. to create a borderline	C. to discuss different options
B. to strike a balance	D. to take the path of one's choice
- ii. Based on your reading of the text, list ways to develop humility. Give your response in about 30-40 words. 2
- iii. What connection does the writer draw out between recognizing the power of nature and own self? 1
- iv. Select the option that aptly conveys the main idea of the passage. 1

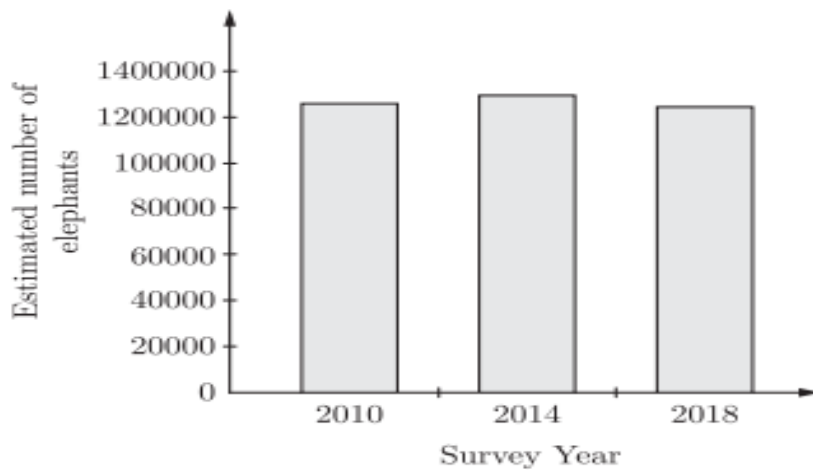
A. Humility is nothing but truth, and pride is nothing but lying. - Saint Vincent de Paul	
B. Humility is royalty without a crown. -Spencer W Kimball	
C. There is no respect for others without humility in one's self. - Henri Frederic Amiel	
D. True humility is staying teachable, regardless of how much you already know. - Anonymous	
- v. What does the author want to convey by describing power and money as 'trappings'? 1

- vi. Based on the reading of the passage, write, in about 30-40 words, the meaning of humility according to the two great leaders of India. 2
- vii. Choose the option that reiterates the author’s claim about a recent study. 1
- A. Humility enhances IQ C. Humility enhances performance  
 B. Performance enhances IQ D. IQ enhances humility
- viii. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE: 1  
 Gandhiji’s view on humility is that humility is ‘being spiritual’.

**2. Read the following text.**

**10**

- (1) Elephant babies like coconut oil. This discovery has saved the life of hundreds of orphaned, unweaned elephants, left behind when their mothers were killed, victims of the ivory wars that have catastrophically reduced elephant populations across Africa.
- (2) The discovery came after two decades of efforts by the renowned conservationist Daphne Sheldrick, who has died aged 83. She devoted most of her life rescuing young elephants and releasing them back into the wild.
- (3) When she first made attempts to keep the orphaned babies alive, often at one or two years old, with other milk sources, they remained malnourished and faded into death. It was only after trying every combination she could find that she hit on one baby milk formula from Europe, which contained coconut oil that seemed to work. She and the elephants never looked back, and now more than 230 elephants in Kenya, and many others in Asia and other parts of Africa, are alive, and mostly in the wild, thanks to her hand-rearing.



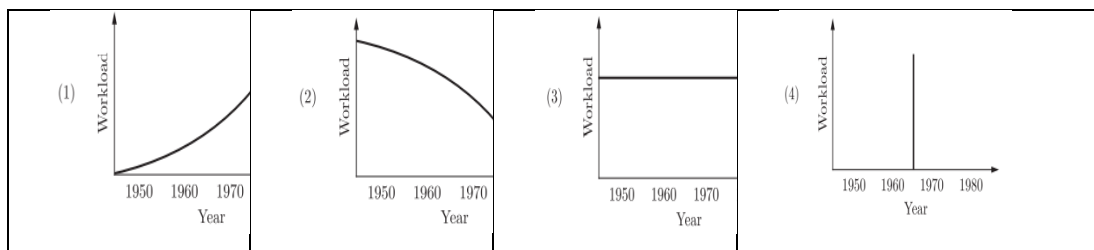
(4) Her work grew from her care of orphaned elephants found by her husband, David Sheldrick, chief warden at the Tsavo National Park in Kenya in the 1960s. By the time her sanctuary was well-established, in the late 70s and 80s, each elephant had its own stall, as otherwise they would disturb one another, was bottle - fed every three hours, and was given blankets, raincoats and sunscreen as needed. A keeper slept with each animal under a year old, alternating lest the babies grow too dependent.

(5) Often, the elephants arrived traumatized, having experienced the lethal violence and cruelty of poaching. It was crucial, in her view, to recognize their grief and help them to overcome it. “They are emotionally human animals, she told journalists. “You have to think in human terms. How does a child feel when it has lost its whole family and is suddenly in the hands of the enemy?”

(6) Throughout her life, Sheldrick championed the ability of elephants to communicate and their capacity for feeling. Once, she recounted how she wrenched the tusks from a newly killed bull elephant and threw them into the jungle, before the eyes of the poachers.

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**

- i. Infer one reason for the following, based on information in Paragraph 4. 1  
 Each elephant had its own stall.
- ii. Select the appropriate option to fill in the blank. While referring to the emotional side of the elephants, Sheldrick said that \_\_\_\_\_. 1  
 A. they are babies C. they are like human beings  
 B. they are weak D. they are like women
- iii. What was the reason for the death of baby elephants? What attempts were made by Daphne Sheldrick to keep the orphaned elephant babies alive? 2
- iv. Substitute the word 'trying' from Paragraph 3, with ONE WORD similar in meaning, in the following, sentence:  
 It was only after **trying** every combination she could find that she hit on one baby milk formula from Europe, which contained coconut oil that seemed to work. 1
- v. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from Paragraph 2: 1  
 Critical : crucial :: \_\_\_\_\_ : eminent
- vi. Select the chart that appropriately represents the workload of the conservationist Daphne Sheldrick through the given years, as per Paragraph 4. 1



- A. Option 1      B. Option 2      C. Option 3      D. Option 4

- vii. What was the reason that Daphne Sheldrick told journalists- "You have to think in human terms"? 2
- viii. Select the option that titles paragraphs 4-6 appropriately, with reference to information in the text. 1  
 A. (1) National Park and Sanctuary (2) Cruelty of Poaching (3) Deep Sympathy  
 B. (1) Zoological Park (2) Poaching as an Art (3) Deep Sympathy  
 C. (1) National Park and Sanctuary (2) Concern for Tigers (3) Love for Animals  
 D. (1) National Park (2) Passionate Towards Hunting, (3) Bird Sanctuaries

**SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)**

**GRAMMAR**

**10**

**3. Complete ANY TEN of the following twelve tasks, as directed.**

- i. This is a line from a horoscope corner of a newspaper- Supply the correct use of the word given in bracket. 1  
 'Spend quality time with your family. A short trip ..... (be) likely to happen in the coming days.'
- ii. Identify the error in the given sentence, and supply the correction. 1  
 The little effort towards saving the environment is better than no effort.  
 Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- iii. Sara shared some information, with Sudha, about her friends. Report Sudha's question. 1  
 "Did they meet each other at school?"
- iv. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between a father and daughter: 1  
 Yesterday, Dad was out for the shopping. He came and said to me, "Bring a glass of water, please."  
 Choose the correct option reporting her sentence.

- A. He commands me to bring a glass of water.
- B. He requested me to bring a glass of water.
- C. He asked me to brought a glass of water.
- D. He ordered me to bring her a glass of water.

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

Each student ..... (has/have/are/were) to understand the issue.

vi. Identify the error on the sign board in a bus and supply the correction. 1

' Please vacate this seat for unabled passengers.'

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

vii. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following sentence. 1

He was quite amusing when he heard what had happened.

Option No.	Error	Correction
A	was	is
B	amusing	amused
C	heard	hears
D	had	has

viii. Complete the given narrative, by filling in the blank with the correct option: 1

The swimming pool \_\_\_\_\_ at 6 a.m. daily.

- A. open
- B. opened
- C. is opening
- D. opens

ix. This is a statement from the interview of a ranker in CSE. " A novice like me was guided by the able mentors of my school." Complete the sentence by reporting it correctly: 1

Choose the correct reporting of his statement

- A. He said that a novice like him had been guided by the able mentors of his school.
- B. He said that a novice like him is guided by the able mentors of his school.
- C. He said that a novice like him was guided by the able mentors of my school.
- D. He said that a novice like me was guided by the able mentors of his school.

x. Report the dialogue between Maya and Rani, by completing the sentence : 1

Maya: I am surprised to see you here in Delhi. When did you come?

Rani: I came here yesterday. I have been offered a job here.

Maya told Rani that she was surprised to see her there in Delhi and asked when she had come.

Rani replied that she had come there the previous day and added that \_\_\_\_\_.

xi. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the permission. 1

When you've finished the test, you \_\_\_\_\_ quietly leave the room.

- A. will
- B. may
- C. dare
- D. could

xii. Identify the error in the given description about Sachin Tendulkar and supply the correction. 1

Sachin Tendulkar is the best cricketer in India. He has played for many than twenty years for the country.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

### WRITING

**10**

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

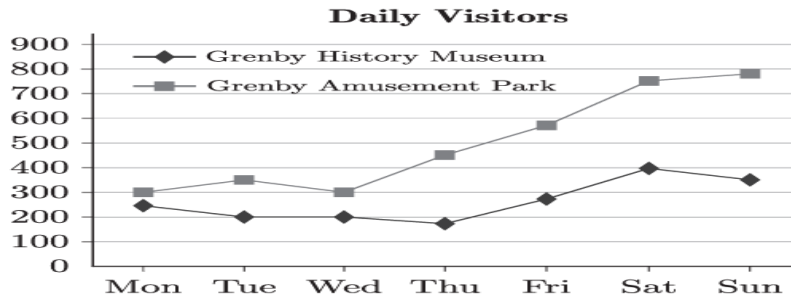
4. A Write a letter to Superior Books Stall, Nai Sarak, New Delhi, in about 100 - 120 words, telling them that the books you had ordered have arrived, and the books are not in proper shape and a number of pages were missing. Ask for replacement of the books. You are Ankita/Akash, C-10 Vidyanagar, New Delhi.

5

OR

4. B You are Manoj who recently visited Delhi and Gurugram as a tourist from Goa. You noticed the marked increase in the number of private vehicles, pollution, and industrial units in both cities. Alarmed by the rise in health issues owing to these developments, you decide to pen a letter to the editor of a national daily. Write the letter in about 100-120 words including some suggestions to reduce the effects of environmental damage. 5

5. A The graph below shows the number of visitors to two different tourist attractions in the city of Grenby during one particular week. Write an analytical paragraph in 100 -120 words by selecting and reporting the main features, and making comparisons where relevant. 5



OR

5. B Read the following excerpt from an article that appeared in the magazine section of a local daily: The World Health Organization defines mental health as a “state of well-being whereby individuals recognize their abilities, are able to cope with the normal stresses of life, work productively and fruitfully, and make a contribution to their communities.” Write an analytical paragraph in about 100 – 120 words to analyse the given argument. 5

**SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 MARKS)**

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

A. “He knows that I am lost”, I thought “He’s trying to help me.” He turned his aeroplane slowly to the north, in front of my Dakota, so that it would be easier for me to follow him. I was very happy to go behind the strange aeroplane like an obedient child. After half an hour the strange black aeroplane was still there in front of me in the clouds. Now, there was only enough fuel in the old Dakota’s last tank to fly for five or ten minutes more. I was starting to feel frightened again. But then he started to go down and I followed through the storm. (Two Stories about Flying—Black Aeroplane)

i. State TRUE or FALSE. 1

None of the following points perfectly justifies this statement.

“He knows that I am lost”, I thought “He’s trying to help me.”

- (a) It’s true because the stranger-pilot knew how to negotiate the storm quite well.
- (b) It’s false because the stranger-pilot was out to trick the author.
- (c) Definitely true because the stranger pilot had been sent by God to help the author.
- (d) It was probably the author’s subconscious that was trying to find a way out.

ii. The author says, “But then he started to go down and I followed through the storm.” What happened after this? Answer in about 40 words. 2

iii. Which figure of speech has been used in the given statement: “I was very happy to go behind the strange aeroplane like an obedient child”? 1

iv. " I was starting to feel frightened again." Why was he frightened 'again'? 1

OR

B. This, I was to learn, is a characteristic of otters; every drop of water must be, so to speak, extended and spread about the place; a bowl must at once be overturned, or, if it will not be overturned, be sat in

and splashed in until it overflows. Water must be kept on the move and made to do things; when static it is wasted and provoking. Two days later, Mijbil escaped from my bedroom as I entered it, and I turned to see his tail disappearing round the bend of the corridor that led to the bathroom. (Mijbil the Otter)

i. Fill in the blank with ONE WORD only.

Mijbil's \_\_\_\_\_ comes through clearly when the author mentions his habit of constantly keeping water on the move. 1

ii. Select the option that correctly captures the application of the word 'round' as used in the extract. 1

- A. Rohan lives round the corner of our school neighbourhood with his parents.
- B. The best quality pearls are the ones that are lustrous and perfectly round in shape.
- C. We were lost for an hour on the road and just driving round and round on the expressway.
- D. The kids were insistent on riding a merry go round in the amusement park.

iii. How according to the author does Mijbil react when he sees water? Provide a brief explanation in about 30-40 words. 2

iv. Why did Mijbil escape from the bedroom to the bathroom? 1

**7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 5**

A. The fog comes on little cat feet.  
It sits looking over harbour and city  
on silent haunches and then moves on. (Fog)

i. Highlight any two characteristics of fog from its description in the poem. 1

ii. How does the poet compare fog to a cat? Answer in about 40 words. 2

iii. Why do you think fog is a free verse poem? 1

- A. It has only six lines. C. It is divided in two paragraphs.
- B. It has no regular rhyme scheme. D. Both (A) and (B)

iv. Comment, in detail, on the significance of the closing phrase of the poem- 'moves on'. 1

**OR**

B. He stalks in his vivid stripes  
The few steps of his cage  
On pads of velvet quiet  
In his quiet rage  
He should be lurking in shadow  
Sliding through long grass  
Near the water hole where plump deer pass. (A Tiger in the Zoo)

i. Name the poetic device used in the last line of the given extract is \_\_\_\_\_. 1

ii. What is the significance of the use of the phrase 'quiet rage' to describe the mood of the tiger in the poem and how does this word choice contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem? Answer in about 40 words. 2

iii. Complete the sentence with the appropriate option. 1

According to the extract, the poet wishes for the tiger to be 'sliding' through the foliage as this would

- (a) keep the prey unsuspecting of the predator's footsteps
- (b) aid in camouflaging the presence of the predator before it rushes in
- (c) help the predator pounce on the prey comfortably without getting tired
- (d) support the predator's vision as it eyes its prey

iv. Identify the type of imagery used in the lines of the poem. 1

8. Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words each. **4x3=12**
- A. 'Money is external.' What does the poet John Berryman mean by these words? (The Ball Poem)
  - B. How did Valli manage to leave her house? (Madam Rides the Bus)
  - C. Kitty was a trusted friend to Anne. Elaborate. (From the Diary of Anne Frank)
  - D. Why does the postmaster send money to Lencho? Why does he sign the letter 'God'? (A Letter to God)
  - E. How can one obtain peace of mind after a dear one's death? (The Sermon at Benares)

9. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words each. **2x3=6**
- A. What opinion did Mr. Weiherer, Ebright's Social Science teacher have about him? (The Making of a Scientist)
  - B. "How foolish people are when they own valuable things" Support your answer with instances from "A Question of Trust".
  - C. Why did Hari Singh change his name every month? (The Thief's Story)

10. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. **1x6=6**
- A. How does Amanda tackle the nagging nature of her parents? Explain with examples from the poem 'Amanda!'. What values does it portray about Amanda?

**OR**

- B. The Baker from Goa and an inhabitant of Coorg happen to meet each other and talk about their distinct traits that make them stand out and keep them shoulders above the rest. Write this conversation as per your understanding of Glimpses of India. You may begin like this:
- Baker : Your attire and your appearance tell me that .....
- Coorgi : Oh! Yes I am from Coorg. (Glimpses of India)

11. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. **1x6=6**
- A. Appearances can be deceptive. Analyse this in detail, with reference to the characters, the Lady in Red (*Question of Trust*) and Ausable (*The Midnight Visitor*).

**OR**

- B. Those who are satisfied with what they have are happy in life. Those who aspire more than what they can afford ruin their life. Matilda was one such person. If she were content with her life she would have led a happy life. Elaborate on the basis of the chapter 'The Necklace.'

\*\*\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*