

BCM SCHOOL, BASANT AVENUE, DUGRI, LDH
ENGLISH ASSIGNMENT 1
CLASS: IX

SECTION A- READING SKILLS

Q 1. Read the passage given below.

1. Nature is our mother, our first teacher. The greatest lesson that she teaches us is to maintain an equilibrium in life. We learn to maintain composure through our joys, sorrows and fears. In fact, there are a thousand lessons that nature can teach us, provided we look for them.

2. With time, a sapling grows into a full-grown tree; something so tiny and delicate develops into a strong tree capable of supporting others. No matter how tall it grows, how much it may flourish, or how many animals and birds it may support, its roots are firmly buried from where once it rose. That's a lesson – to keep ourselves grounded, respect and embrace our roots, and give something back to those humble belongings that nurtured us into who we are.

3. Then there is a message of peaceful coexistence. 'I am because we are'. Nature provides every creature a chance to exist. However, the existence of one creature or being depends on the existence of others. The tiger eats the antelope; without the antelope, the tiger wouldn't survive. Likewise, without tiger, the abundance of antelopes would cause them to starve to death.

4. I wonder if you have noticed that when the birds or squirrels see a predator, they give out an alarm call to their fellow creatures about the lurking danger. They put themselves in danger to save the lives of others. Many animals, like the salmon, usually die after they spawn, but this doesn't stop them. One life extinguished for the betterment of others is a small price to pay.

5. The snow melt in the warmth of spring to give birth to fresh green leaves. In autumn these leaves age into shades of gold only to be buried in the cold grave of winter. Change is inevitable; the sooner we embrace this, the better is for us. We must also understand that even in pain there is growth. If you cut a hole in a tree, it will grow around it. No matter what may come in its way, a river will continue to flow. Similarly, no matter what grief may break your heart, nature teaches that life goes on.

6. Keep in mind life isn't about making lists and trying to be one step ahead of others. Life is to live. Take a break - stop being a workaholic, and smell the rose, do whatever makes you feel happy and most of all spend some time with nature to pick up some valuable lessons.

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

- i. According to the author, what is the greatest lesson being taught by nature?
- ii. What does the writer advise in the para 6?
- iii. What does the phrase 'I am because we are' convey?
- iv. List one quality that the birds and squirrels display when they warn others of possible danger.
- v. Select the option with the underlined words that can substitute the word *lurking* in one phrase (paragraph 4).
 - a. The policeman caught the person who was wondering aimlessly through the city.
 - b. The thief knew that remaining hidden was the best strategy to avoid being caught.
 - c. The policeman was caught on camera while pouncing with force, to grab the culprit.
 - d. The burglar was walking boldly into the house thinking it was devoid of residents.
- vi. A portmanteau word like smog (smoke + fog), is a blend of words which are parts of multiple words combined into new words. From the option given below, select a portmanteau word that appears in para 6.
 - a. coexistence
 - b. full- grown
 - c. workaholic
 - d. flourish

vii. The 'change of season' in the passage is an example of the fact that nothing lasts forever.

(True / False)

viii. Complete the given analogy correctly with a word from para 2.

Survive: vanish:: _____ strong

Q 2. Read the following passage:

(1) Over the past two decades, India has experienced significant changes in its transportation and mobility landscape. The number of registered vehicles increased from 55 million in 2003 to more than 295 million by 2023, a nearly fivefold rise. The growth has been driven largely by the proliferation of two-wheelers, which made up over 75 per cent of all vehicles in India by 2023, reflecting their affordability and utility in both urban and rural areas.

(2) A key transformation has been the rise of electric vehicles (EVs). In 2013, EV adoption was minimal, with fewer than 5,000 electric vehicles sold annually. By 2023, more than 1.6 million electric vehicles, including 1.1 million electric two-wheelers, were on Indian roads, spurred by government incentives and increasing environmental concerns.

(3) The expansion of public transportation has also been notable. In 2003, India had only one metro rail system, located in Kolkata. By 2023, 20 cities across the country had operational metro networks, including Delhi, Mumbai, and Bengaluru. The Delhi Metro, which started in 2002, saw its daily ridership grow from 1 million passengers in 2003 to over 2.9 million passengers in 2023, playing a critical role in easing urban congestion.

(4) Air travel in India has surged as well. Domestic air passengers grew from 44 million in 2003 to more than 185 million in 2023, thanks to the expansion of low-cost airlines and greater connectivity between cities.

(5) These shifts highlight India's transition towards more diverse, sustainable, and efficient transportation modes over the last two decades, driven by economic growth, technological advancements, and urbanisation.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

I. What does the phrase "proliferation of two-wheelers" in paragraph 1 imply about their role in India's transportation landscape?

- (A) Two-wheelers became the primary mode of transport due to their affordability and versatility.
- (B) Two-wheelers were gradually replaced by electric vehicles.
- (C) Two-wheelers remained restricted to rural areas.
- (D) Two-wheelers contributed to the decline of public transportation.

II. Select the option that is true for the assertion and reason given below:

(1) Assertion (A): The adoption of electric vehicles (EVs.) in India has grown significantly.

Reason (R): Government incentives and environmental concerns have driven this growth.

- (A) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
- (B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
- (C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
- (D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

III. Identify the term in paragraph 3 that signifies a "remarkable change" in public transportation systems in India.

IV. Explain, how metro rail systems have contributed to reducing urban congestion in India over the last two decades. (paragraph 3)

V. Complete the following with the correct figure:

The number of registered vehicles in India grew from 55 million in 2003 to more than _____ by 2023. (paragraph 1)

VI. Based on paragraph 4, what does the surge in domestic air travel suggest about changes in Indian society over the past two decades?

VII. Complete the sentence suitably:

The rise in electric vehicle adoption underscores the need for _____.

VIII. Complete the following with a suitable reason:

The writer suggests that India's transportation landscape has become more sustainable over the years because _____.

IX. In the context of paragraph 5, analyse the role of technological advancements in shaping India's transportation sector.

SECTION B- GRAMMAR AND WRITING SKILLS

Q 3. Do as directed:

i. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

People of different countries who live together did not turn against one another.

Error	Correction

ii. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line.

Today, the number of people who enjoys winter sports is bigger than that of twenty years ago.

Error	Correction
(a) the	a
(b) people	the people
(c) enjoys	enjoy
(d) is	are

iii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

After using computers for a long time, looking into a distance for about five minutes relaxed the eyes.

Error	Correction

iv. Read the following sentence. One word has been omitted. Rewrite the sentence with omission.

Students must be aware importance of environmental conservation.

Q 4. Rearrange the jumbled words to make meaningful sentences:

(A) significance / rarely / do / true / realise / we / silence// the

(B) than / is / not / success / what / important / achieve /how/more / you / it

(C) individuals/digital/ in / age / struggle / the/modern to / meaningful/maintain / relationships

Q 5. Do as directed:

i. Report the dialogue between Amar and Ankit.

Amar: What is your plan for today, Ankit?

Amar asked Ankit _____.

ii. Amita said, "Why didn't you deposit money?"

Wanda said, "I don't want to continue with this membership."

Amita asked Wanda why she had not deposited money. Wanda replied her _____.

a. that I didn't want to continue with that membership

b.to she don't want to continue with that membership

c. that she didn't want to continue with that membership

d.. she didn't want to continue with this membership

iii. Report the dialogue between Shiva and doctor, by completing the sentence:

Shiva: How is she doing doctor?

Doctor: Your mother will recover quickly.

In response to the question about the well-being of Shiva's mother, the doctor said that _____.

iv. He says, "I don't want to play anymore."

Reported speech: _____

- a) He says that he didn't want to play anymore.
- b) He says that I didn't want to play anymore.
- c) He says that I don't want to play anymore.
- d) He says that he doesn't want to play anymore.

Q 6. You are Rohan/Riya, the cultural secretary of Greenfield public School, Delhi. Your school is organising an Inter-School Debate Competition on the topic "Artificial Intelligence: A Threat or Opportunity". Draft a notice in about 50 words informing students of Classes IX- XI, about the event. Mention date, venue, selection process and last date for registration.

Q 7. Write an email to your school principal requesting to organise a book donation drive. (word limit 120-150 words)

Q 8. You recently visited a science exhibition organised in your city where innovative models and experiments were displayed. Write a descriptive paragraph in about 120 words, describing your experience, the exhibits and what you learned.

Q 9. Write a narrative essay on the topic 'Mental Health Matters: Breaking the Silence Among '.

- You may use the following cues:
- academic pressure and stress
- importance of talking about emotions
- role of family, friends and teachers
- social stigma around mental health
- ways to prompt mental well-being (counselling hobbies, mindfulness)

SECTION C – LITERATURE

Q 10. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow.

*Palette of earth, rich and deep,
Where dreams of gardeners seep.
Brushstrokes of seeds, planted true,
Awaiting spring's vibrant hue.*

(i) What does the phrase "**Palette of earth**" suggest?

- (A) The soil is dry and lifeless.
- (B) The soil is rich with possibilities for growth.
- (C) The soil is difficult to cultivate.
- (D) The soil is used only for painting.

(ii) Complete the sentence appropriately.

The phrase "**dreams of gardeners seep**" suggests that the gardeners' hopes and aspirations _____.

(iii) Identify the poetic device used in "**Brushstrokes of seeds**".

- (A) Simile
- (B) Metaphor
- (C) Personification
- (D) Alliteration

(iv) How does the poet compare gardening with the creation of a painting?

(v) Complete the analogy:

Seeds : Brushstrokes :: Earth : _____

Q 11. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

Sentila had been fascinated by pot making from a very young age. Although her mother wanted her to learn weaving, Sentila quietly visited the village potters whenever she got an opportunity. She watched carefully as they softened the clay, shaped it with their hands and used a spatula to give it the desired form. The rhythmic sound of the tool and the transformation of shapeless clay into beautiful pots filled her with wonder. Her passion for the craft continued to grow despite her mother's objections.

(i) Why did Sentila visit the village potters secretly?

(ii) Complete the sentence appropriately.

Sentila's fascination with pot making grew because she _____.

(iii) What does the transformation of "shapeless clay into beautiful pots" suggest?

(A) The work was effortless

(B) Skill and patience can create something valuable

(C) Pottery was a modern profession

(D) Sentila disliked the craft

(iv) How does Sentila's behaviour demonstrate determination and curiosity?

(v) What message does the extract convey about following one's passion?

Q12. Answer any five of the following six questions in about 40-50 words each.

(i) What insight does the poem "I Cannot Remember My Mother" provide into the emotional bond between a mother and child?

(ii) At the beginning of "Vitamin-M", Grandpa appears forgetful. Provide two instances from the text that contradict this impression.

(iii) How does the title "Canvas of Soil" symbolically represent the theme of the poem?

(iv) In what way does the title "Winds of Change" reflect the central idea of the chapter?

(v) How does the poem "Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocation" emphasise the dignity of all kinds of work?

(vi) What caution or advice was given to Mesoba by the village council, and why?

Q 13. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-120 words.

(A) Analyse how the imagery and setting in the opening stanzas of "Nine Gold Medals" help in establishing the tone and atmosphere for the events that follow.

OR

(B) "Adversity often reveals true strength." Discuss how this idea extends beyond sports and applies to everyday life experiences.

Q 14. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-120 words.

(A) Analyse the role reversal of granddaughter teaching grandmother. (How I Taught My Grandmother To Read)

OR

(B) Examine how "Bharat Our Land" functions as cultural nationalism during the independence movement. What role did such poetry play in building national consciousness?

