

BCM SCHOOL, BASANT AVENUE, DUGRI ROAD, LUDHIANA
ANSWER KEY – PAPER PATTERN ASSIGNMENT (2026-27)

CLASS – X

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)

SECTION A : READING SKILLS

1.

i) d) to hike

ii) a new meaning and significance to us

iii) flowers

iv) The mountains offer the excitement of climbing to the top of a hill, the adventure of coming down a slope, and the grandeur of a sunset behind a mountain.

v) d) It is an escape from our busy schedule.

vi) Any two: a snake casting its slough; a mouse peeping out of a hole; a squirrel leaping on the branches; a bird flying past.

vii) It is one of the healthiest sports because it provides a complete escape from the busy activities of life and restores the brain's lost energy.

viii) rejoice / feel delighted.

2.

i) The stock price of PNB Housing Finance gained 35% during August.

ii) b) a considerable decline by 22.6%

iii) The capital base was expected to increase by over 22%, from nearly ₹8,000 crore.

iv) a) marginal

v) The lender's operations suffered because the nationwide Covid-19 lockdown reduced disbursements sharply and caused net interest income to fall from ₹625.5 crore to ₹487.8 crore.

vi) The proposed equity infusion would provide liquidity for medium-term requirements and additional provisions for bad assets, helping PNB Housing Finance withstand the financial impact of Covid-19.

vii) False

viii) borrower

SECTION B : GRAMMAR & WRITING SKILLS

GRAMMAR

3 (i) a) has applied

3 (ii) if she could borrow her English textbook

3 (iii) c) should get

3 (iv) a) owns → own

3 (v) b) having heard

3 (vi) was held

3 (vii) Error: shall → Correction: would. Aman told me that he would go to the market that day.

3 (viii) Error: aesthetics → Correction: aesthetic

3 (ix) Shreya asked the shopkeeper what the price of that bike was.

3 (x) Error: matter → Correction: matters

WRITING

4. Letter of Enquiry – Model Answer

**10 Kamlesh Enclave
Pune**

16 August 2026

The Director
English Language School
45 Patel Apartments
Andheri Mumbai

Subject: Enquiry regarding English language course

Sir/Madam,

I am interested in joining your English Language School to improve my communication skills in English. I would be grateful if you could provide details about the courses offered, duration, eligibility criteria, fee structure and class timings. I would also like to know whether the course focuses on spoken English, pronunciation, vocabulary and public speaking. Kindly inform me about the admission procedure and the next batch available. Please also let me know whether study material and certificates are provided.

I look forward to receiving the required information at the earliest.

Yours sincerely
Parminder/Jyoti

5. Analytical Paragraph – Model Answer

The given data compares suspended particulate matter, sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide in Ludhiana, Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai with permissible limits. Delhi records the highest levels in all three categories: 680 µg/m³ of particulate matter, 124 µg/m³ of sulphur dioxide and 137 µg/m³ of nitrogen oxide. Mumbai follows with 485 µg/m³ of particulate matter, while Ludhiana records 453 µg/m³. Chennai has the lowest particulate matter level among the four cities, though it too exceeds the permissible limit. Ludhiana's sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide levels remain within the prescribed limits. Overall, particulate pollution is a serious concern, particularly in Delhi, Mumbai and Ludhiana, and stronger pollution-control measures are needed.

LITERATURE

6.

i) 'Fits and starts' means irregularly or intermittently, rather than continuously.

ii) c) hop :: skip

iii) False

iv) Anil is kind, simple, trusting and easy-going. He is financially unstable but optimistic, and he does not worry excessively about money. His generosity and faith in Hari Singh reveal his compassionate nature.

7.

i) The speaker is Amanda's mother. Her mood is irritated, admonishing and controlling.

ii) She does not want Amanda to eat chocolate because she is concerned about Amanda's acne.

iii) Eating chocolate : Acne

iv) b) When you take a walk, look around you.

8. Any FOUR

i) Coorg is famous for warm hospitality and bravery. Its people have a strong martial tradition, and many have served in the armed forces. Visitors are welcomed warmly and treated with generosity and affection.

ii) It was called a 'rainbow gathering' because people from different races, cultures and nations assembled for the historic inauguration. It symbolised the unity of South Africa and the birth of a democratic nation.

iii) Lencho thinks the post-office employees have stolen the rest of the money sent by God. The irony is that the very people who collected and sent the money are blamed for stealing it, though they actually helped him.

iv) Mijbil is playful, curious and energetic. His unusual habits and mischievous activities keep Maxwell constantly occupied. His presence brings excitement and affection into Maxwell's life, so there is hardly a dull moment.

v) 'Money is external' means money is only a material possession and cannot replace emotional experiences or the sense of loss. Money cannot bring back the lost ball or the childhood experience associated with it.

9. Any TWO

i) Griffin was a brilliant scientist but an irresponsible and morally corrupt human being. His discovery of invisibility was remarkable, yet he misused it for theft, revenge and violence. His lack of ethics made him dangerous to society.

ii) Ebright's participation in the seventh-grade Country Science Fair was disappointing because he did not win a prize. He learnt that collecting facts was not enough; he needed to conduct real experiments and develop a scientific approach. This motivated him to work harder.

iii) Mrs Pumphrey considered Tricki's recovery a triumph of surgery because he returned home healthy, active and energetic. She believed the treatment had transformed him, although his recovery was mainly due to a controlled diet and exercise.

10. Any ONE – Model Answers

(A) Madam Rides the Bus:

Valli's decision not to tell her mother about her bus journey can be understood from her desire for independence and adventure. She carefully planned the trip, saved money and travelled alone without seeking anyone's help. However, in today's fast-moving world, such secrecy can be risky, especially for a child. Valli was fortunate that nothing seriously harmful happened to her. Her journey shows confidence, curiosity and maturity, but it also highlights the importance of parental guidance. Therefore, although her wish for independence was natural, she should ideally have informed a responsible adult. Freedom becomes meaningful when it is accompanied by safety and responsibility.

OR (B) The Trees / A Tiger in the Zoo:

Both poems present nature as something that should be free rather than confined. In 'The Trees', the trees seem imprisoned inside a house and struggle to return to the forest, suggesting the damage caused when nature is controlled for human convenience. Similarly, in 'A Tiger in the Zoo', the tiger is confined to a cage instead of roaming freely in its natural habitat. The poet of 'The Trees' uses the idea of trees breaking out to suggest that plants and forests have a right to freedom. Together, the poems highlight the conflict between human control and the natural desire of living beings to live freely.

11. Any ONE – Model Answers

(A) The Midnight Visitor:

A calm mind enables a person to think clearly even in a dangerous situation. In 'The Midnight Visitor', Ausable demonstrates this quality when Max enters his room with a pistol. Instead of panicking, Ausable remains calm and invents a believable story about a balcony outside the window. He also creates the impression that the police are arriving. Max becomes nervous and attempts to escape through the supposed balcony, only to fall because there is no balcony. Ausable defeats a dangerous opponent through intelligence, presence of mind and psychological control rather than physical strength. The story therefore shows that calm thinking can help a person tackle even the direst stress.

OR (B) The Necklace:

Madame Forestier's role in 'The Necklace' is crucial. She lends Mathilde a necklace so that Mathilde can attend the ball looking elegant. When the necklace is lost, Mathilde and her husband replace it with an expensive one and spend ten years repaying the debt. At the end, Madame Forestier reveals that the original necklace was only an imitation and had little monetary value. Although Mathilde's pride and desire for appearance cause the tragedy, Madame Forestier's final revelation becomes a turning point. Her presence connects the beginning and end of the story and highlights the irony of the entire situation.