

**SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 3**  
**English Language and Literature (184)**  
**Class X (2024-25)**

**Time Allowed: 3 hours**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

**General Instructions:**

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

1. This question paper comprises 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper contains THREE sections -
  - Section - A : Reading Skills
  - Section - B : Grammar and Creative Writing Skills
  - Section - C : Literature Text Book
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

**Section A - Reading Skills**

1. Read the following passage carefully:

[10]

1. Floods are not new to India and this subcontinent, but in recent years the problem of flooding has received much greater attention, perhaps largely because it has led to greater damage now than it did in the past. Even though information on the impending occurrence of floods is now more accurate and certainly more timely, often there is very little time or support infrastructure in place by which damage can be minimised. This is particularly true in the case of flash floods resulting from sudden and excessive heavy rain.
2. In the case of India, flooding is very much related to the seasonal nature of our rainfall. The monsoons are spread over a short period during the year and often bring a concentrated volume of rain, which cannot be absorbed by the earth and finds an outlet only in the form of streams that join up with our major river systems. Flooding due to heavy rain is confined not only to the main rivers of the country, but also affects smaller tributaries and streams. Once these streams spill over their banks they could cause excessive harm, mainly because those living near the banks of these streams, particularly in mountain areas, do not have easy recourse to moving away quickly.
3. One major factor that could lead to a higher severity of flooding in the future is the danger of climate change. While the evidence of the nature of impacts, resulting from climate change on precipitation and flooding at the regional

level, is not entirely clear, it could happen that the Indian subcontinent witnesses and suffers the effects of a significantly changed pattern of monsoons. One set of scientists has estimated that the monsoons could be shorter in duration but far more intensive; in other words, much greater precipitation would take place in a much shorter period of time, thereby increasing the danger of floods. Climate change is the result of human actions through the increased concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, of which carbon dioxide is the most prominent.

4. At the local level also human actions have heightened the danger of floods through the cutting of trees in the mountains as well as in the plains. In case of India, the ecological damage through deforestation of the Himalayas has led to large-scale erosion of the mountain slopes and high levels of siltation. These lead to the deposition of silt on the riverbeds in the plains and hence spillover of water whenever the volume in the river reaches a certain level. With siltation on the riverbeds, flooding occurs even at very shallow water levels. The vulnerability of the population has increased substantially because of population pressures. An example is the stubborn and perhaps helpless settling of slum dwellers on the banks of the river Yamuna in Delhi, who become victims of flooding. What is a mere trickle most of the year, bursts its banks during the monsoons, as has been the case in recent years.
5. Flood forecasting is critical to minimising the damage from floods. It is for this reason that the Central Water Commission has set up a network of forecasting stations, which cover the most important flood-prone interstate rivers in the country. These stations produce forecasts that are used to alert the public and to mobilize various official agencies so that they take both preventive as well as relief measures, whenever required. However, even in cases where forecasts have been timely and generally accurate, people have often been reluctant to move away, because in most cases they lack the means and physical options for moving away from a danger zone to one that is relatively safe. In the case of flash floods, forecasts are difficult to make, and often the time available for relief is very short.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below: (10)**

- (i) Based on the reading and understanding of the above passage, list 2 factors contributing to the severity of floods in India. (1)

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) Select the option that corresponds to the meaning of the following sentence from paragraph 1: (1)

"Even though information on the impending occurrence of floods is now more accurate and certainly more timely, often there is very little time or support infrastructure in place by which damage can be minimised."

(a) Flood information is timely but often ineffective due to lack of infrastructure.

(b) Flood information is delayed, leading to more damage.

(c) Accurate flood information always prevents damage.

(d) There is ample time to respond to flood warnings due to better infrastructure.

(iii) Based on your reading of the passage, examine in about 40 words how climate change could affect flooding in India. (2)

(iv) What is the tone of the writer in the given line from paragraph 3? Rationalize your response in about 40 words: (2)

"One set of scientists has estimated that the monsoons could be shorter in duration but far more intensive."

(v) The phrase 'spillover of water' in paragraph 4 refers to: (1)

(a) Water overflowing its usual boundaries

(b) A slow and controlled release of water

(c) A reduction in water levels

(d) Water being absorbed by the earth

(vi) In sets a-e below, identify two sets of synonyms: (1)

a. erosion and siltation

b. intensive and concentrated

c. seasonal and continuous

d. stubborn and helpless

e. forecast and prediction

Options:

(a) b and e

(b) a and c

(c) b and d

(d) c and e

(vii) Complete the sentence appropriately: (1)

The cutting of trees in the mountains has led to \_\_\_\_\_.

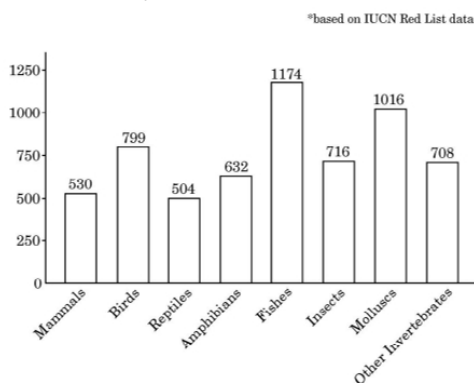
(viii) Complete the following sentence: (1)

Flood forecasting is critical because \_\_\_\_\_.

2. **Read the following passage carefully:**

[10]

1. There was a time when human interference was minimum, the number of wild animals was quite high and there was no problem of their protection or conservation.
2. Due to the irrational use of natural and biotic resources of the Earth in the past, most of the wildlife has been destroyed beyond retrieval. According to an estimate, in India about 200 species of wild animals and birds have become extinct and another 2500 are on the verge of extinction. Some of them are black buck, chinkara, wolf, swamp deer, nilgai, Indian gazelle, antelope, tiger, rhinoceros, gir lion, crocodile, flamingo, pelican, bustard, white crane, grey heron, mountain quail, etc.
3. In India, the Government and NGOs are taking keen interest in protection of wildlife. The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, has several provisions for the conservation of wildlife. As many as 165 game sanctuaries and 21 national parks have been deployed to protect the natural habitat and wild animals. Apart from this, Wildlife Conservation Week is also celebrated from 1st to 7th October every year. But still there is a long way to go in this direction.
4. Preservation of wildlife does not mean a blanket protection to all faunal and floral species; rather it implies a proper, judicious control over the multiplication of plants and animals which interact together to provide a proper environment to man whose very existence is in peril today.
5. It is our urgent duty to protect the natural splendour of ecosystems and to evolve a system of coexistence with every living creature upon the Earth.



**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below: (10)**

- i. Infer one reason for the following, based on the information in the passage. The number of wild animals was quite high and there was no problem of their protection or conservation. **(2)**
- ii. Select the appropriate options to fill in the blanks. **(1)**  
Most of the wildlife has been \_\_\_\_\_ beyond \_\_\_\_\_ due to the irrational use of natural resources on the Earth. **(1)**
- I. destroyed
  - II. retrieval
  - III. desertion
  - IV. build
  - V. revived
- a. I and II
  - b. II and III
  - c. III and IV
  - d. IV and V
- iii. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from the passage. **(1)**  
Flowers: Garden:: \_\_\_\_\_ : Sanctuaries  
(Clue: Just like flowers are in a garden, similarly \_\_\_\_\_ are in the sanctuaries.)
- iv. Select the correct option to complete the sentence. **(1)**  
Judicious control over the multiplication of plants and animals which provide
- a. natural splendour of ecosystem
  - b. proper environment to man
  - c. blanket protection
  - d. happy and comfortable living
- v. According to the graph, which is the most vulnerable animal species and the least vulnerable from the graph. **(1)**
- I. Birds
  - II. Insects
  - III. Fishes
  - IV. Reptiles
  - V. Insects

VI. Mammals

VII. Molluses

- a. I and II
- b. III and IV
- c. V and VI
- d. VI and VI

vi. Fill in the blanks by selecting the correct option. (1)

The Wildlife Protection Policy has several provisions for \_\_\_\_\_ of wildlife.

- a. conservation
- b. safety
- c. habitation
- d. well being

vii. List any two examples of Government and NGOs trying to protect the wildlife. (2)

viii. List one reason why the Government makes certain recommendations for protection of wild animals. (1)

### SECTION B GRAMMAR

3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed [10]

(i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter: [1]

To ensure that this project gains strength, schools may \_\_\_\_\_ (organize) puppet shows and street plays.

(ii) Identify the error and supply the correction for the given sentence from an Art Exhibition invitation. [1]

Artisan Club invite you to Art and Soul: an art exhibition featuring artwork created by our budding artists.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

(iii) Report the dialogue between a mother and her son, by completing the sentence: [1]

**Mother:** Why are you late from school, Amit?

**Amit:** While coming from school to the bus stop, I slipped by stepping on a

banana peel.

In response to the question about being late from school, Amit says that

\_\_\_\_\_.

(iv) I said, "Two fixed menus for us, please." [1]

I \_\_\_\_\_ our meal.

a) proposed

b) protested

c) ordered

d) suggested

(v) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. [1]

According to the studies, dolphins, whales and \_\_\_\_\_ (any/many/much) other sea creatures use highly sophisticated navigation systems.

(vi) Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction: [1]

The orchestra performed on the central theatre in front of a huge audience.

Use the given format for your response:

Error	Correction

(vii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report: [1]

The schools have taken several measures to ensure the safety of students like temperature screening of everyone who enter school premises and special sanitization of the school as per WHO guidelines.

Option no.	Error	Correction
A	have	has
B	the	a
C	of	for
D	enter	enters

(viii) What \_\_\_\_\_ about the plan to shorten the school holidays? [1]

a) do you think

b) will you think

c) are you think

d) you think

(ix) Report the dialogue between Arjun and Arun, by completing the sentence: [1]

**Arjun:** Are you right-handed?

**Arun:** No, I do all my work with my left hand.

In response to the question that whether he was right-handed, Arun denied and said that \_\_\_\_\_.

- (x) The Captain said to his men, "Stand at ease". [1]

**Reported speech:** \_\_\_\_\_

- a) The Captain told his men that they should stand at ease.      b) The Captain wanted his men to stand at ease.  
c) The Captain urged his men to stand at ease.      d) The Captain commanded his men to stand at ease.

- (xi) **Complete the line from a self-awareness song, by filling the blank with the correct option.** [1]

I \_\_\_\_\_ a song into the air,  
It fell to earth, I knew not where;  
For who \_\_\_\_\_ the sight so keen and strong,  
That it can follow the flight of song?

- A. breathe, has  
B. breathed, has  
C. breathed, had  
D. breathe, had

- (xii) Identify the error and supply the correction, for the following: [1]

**Government of Haryana**

**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY**

‘Nagar Van’ are being established for the objective to make the cities pollution free

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

### SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

4. Now-a-days, we see the rise in prices of edible things like pulses, onions, oils and some other products. The layman is facing hardship on account of it. Write a letter to the editor of a reputed daily requesting him to highlight the difficulties faced by the common man due to the rise in prices. Sign yourself as Pranjal/Praneeta living at 124, Vivek Vihar, Delhi. [5]



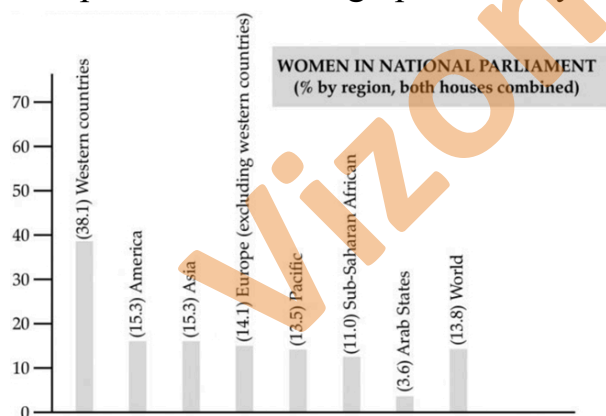
OR

You are the librarian of Delhi Jain Public School, Palam. You are instructed to buy some academic and reference books for the library. While browsing some good publishers over the internet you landed on the website of Oxford University Press, India and found this information there.

The ACADEMIC and REFERENCE programmes publish across a range of subjects. Books on economics and business, history, politics, law, and literature as well as philosophy and religion, sociology and anthropology, and gender studies reach out to students, teachers, researchers, professionals, and general readers. Online services and student-friendly textbooks are recent additions. Cutting across age and reading habit, key focus areas in GENERAL books include arts and architecture, wildlife and natural history, culture, media studies and cinema, Indian writing in translation, and ecology and environment.

Write a letter to Oxford University Press, Ghaziabad, placing an order for books. Mention at least 4 titles of the books to be supplied immediately. Address yourself as Kalpana.

5. The graph below proves that even in the 21<sup>st</sup> century the status of women is not equal to that of men when it comes to occupying high positions in various occupations. Read the graph carefully and write its interpretation. [5]



OR

**Tourism in India means growth of India.**

Write a paragraph to analyse the given argument. You could think about what alternative explanations might weaken the given conclusion and include rationale/evidence that would strengthen/counter the given argument.

### SECTION C - LITERATURE

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

- (i) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

And as the light came on,  
Fowler had his first authentic thrill of the day.  
For halfway across the room,  
a small automatic pistol in his hand stood a man.  
Ausable blinked a few times.

- i. Who was standing in the room with a pistol in his hand? (1)
- ii. Ausable blinked because he: (1)
  - a. was getting adjusted to the light.
  - b. got afraid of the man with a pistol.
  - c. was thrilled to have reached his room.
  - d. started thinking of how to get rid of the man.
- iii. Fowler was thrilled because what he saw looked like a \_\_\_\_\_. (2)
- iv. Which word in the extract means the same as 'genuine/real'? (1)

- (ii) **Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:** [5]

The house-the only one in the entire valley sat on the crest of a low hill. From this height, one could see the river and the field of ripe corn dotted with the flowers that always promised a good harvest. The only thing the earth needed was a downpour or at least a shower. Throughout the morning Lencho-who knew his fields intimately had done nothing else but see the sky towards the north-east, "Now we're really going to get some water, woman." The woman who was preparing supper, replied, "Yes, God willing"

- i. What is the significance of the location of Lencho's house? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- ii. Complete the sentence with the appropriate option. The field belonged to Lencho and he had the utmost confidence that the harvest would \_\_\_\_\_. (1)
  - A. not gain any profit
  - B. reap some profit
  - C. give moderate sale
  - D. reap great profits
- iii. Identify the word in the passage that means the same as "heavy fall of rain" (1)

- iv. State any one inference about Lencho from the given context: Throughout the morning Lencho—who knew his fields intimately had done nothing else but see the sky towards the north-east, “Now we’re really going to get some water, woman.” (1)

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

(i) Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

I sit inside, doors open to the verandah  
Writing long letters  
In which I scarcely mention the departure  
of the forest from the house.  
The night is fresh, the whole moon shines  
in a sky still open  
the smell of leaves and lichen  
still reaches like a voice into the rooms.

- i. Fill in the blank with one word: (1)  
The poet talks about the house as a place of \_\_\_\_\_.
- ii. Find the figure of speech used in the lines above. (2)
- iii. The extract uses ‘open’ twice, suggesting different meanings. Write the correct meaning with reference to the extract. (1)
- iv. Choose the option that DOES NOT state the meaning of the underlined word. (1)  
‘I scarcely mention...’  
A. tactfully  
B. hardly  
C. barely  
D. only just

(ii) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [5]

Belinda is as brave as a barrel full of bears  
And Ink and Blink chase lions down the stairs,  
Mustard is as brave as a tiger in a rage,  
But Custard keeps crying for a nice safe cage.

- i. Pick the option that does not display a simile from the extract. (1)  
a. ...as brave as a barrel full of bears

b. ...chase lions down the stairs

c. ...brave as a tiger in a rage

d. none of the above

ii. Fill in the blank with one word. The coward behaviour of \_\_\_\_\_ animal is described here in these lines. (1)

iii. How does the poet describe the pets of Belinda in this extract? (2)

iv. A hyperbole is a poetic device where the poet purposely and obviously exaggerates to an extreme. Comment on the hyperbole from the extract. (1)

8. **Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words** [12]
- (i) What impressed Mr. Barua about Rajiv? (**Glimpses of India**) [3]
- (ii) What do you understand by the tiger's strength behind bars? What kind of a cage is the tiger locked in? [3]
- (iii) Why do you think Natalya Stepanova asked her father to call Lomov back when she heard that he had come with a proposal? [3]
- (iv) Why does Anne think that **paper** has more patience than **people**? [3]
- (v) Fire and Ice projects a pessimistic outlook. Comment. [3]
9. **Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.** [6]
- (i) What does Mr. Herriot mean by **happy period** for himself and his partners? Explain. (A Triumph of Surgery) [3]
- (ii) Why did the Tehsildar come to Ramlal's village? What did he ask Ramlal to do? [3]
- (iii) Why was Mrs. Hall ready to avoid the scientist's strange habits and abnormal behaviour? [3]
10. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words** [6]
- (i) A noted author, Richard Bach wrote - For most gulls it was not flying that mattered, but eating. For this gull, though, it was not eating that mattered, but flight. Evaluate this statement with respect to the young seagull. [6]
- (ii) Both trees and Nelson Mandela are symbols of freedom, but in different ways. [6]  
Trees represent the natural freedom that we all yearn for, while Nelson Mandela represents the hard-won freedom that is possible when we stand up for what we

believe in.

Assume they both meet each other and have a conversation about freedom.

Write this conversation as per your understanding of Nelson Mandela - Long Walk to Freedom and poem The Trees.

You may begin like this

**Nelson Mandela:** Greetings, trees. It is an honour to speak with you today.

**Trees:** It is an honour to speak with you as well, Nelson Mandela.

**Nelson Mandela:** I am interested in hearing your thoughts on freedom.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. [6]

(i) Matilda goes home after meeting Madam Forestier after ten years and shares the fact with M Loisel that the necklace was a false one. Write the dialogue between Matilda and M Loisel. [6]

**Matilda:** I don't know how to tell you this but I met Madam Forestier today and she told me that her necklace was

**M Loisel:** What! I can't believe my ears. That huge debt was for nothing!

**Matilda:** ...

**M Loisel:** ...

(ii) Write a brief character-sketch of Hari Singh in the light of his honesty. Express your opinion also. [6]

**Solution**  
**SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 3**  
**English Language and Literature (184)**  
**Class X (2024-25)**

**Section A - Reading Skills**

1.
  - i. (a) The seasonal nature of rainfall, where concentrated volumes of rain cannot be absorbed by the earth.  
(b) Human actions such as deforestation, leading to erosion and siltation, which increase the risk of flooding.
  - ii. (a) Flood information is timely but often ineffective due to lack of infrastructure.
  - iii. Climate change may result in shorter but more intense monsoon seasons, leading to greater precipitation in a shorter time frame. This could significantly increase the risk of flooding, especially in areas already prone to such events.
  - iv. The tone is cautious and speculative, reflecting a concern about potential changes in monsoon patterns due to climate change, which could exacerbate flooding issues in the region.
  - v. (a) Water overflowing its usual boundaries
  - vi. (a) b and e
  - vii. The cutting of trees in the mountains has led to \*\*erosion and increased siltation, which contribute to the severity of floods.
  - viii. Flood forecasting is critical because \*\*it helps minimize damage by alerting the public and mobilizing preventive and relief measures in advance.
2.
  - i. less human interference / bare minimum human interference
  - ii. I and II
  - iii. wildlife
  - iv. proper environment to man
  - v. III & IV Options are incorrectly placed. B is the closest.
  - vi. conservation
  - vii. The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, has several provisions for the conservation of wildlife / 165 game sanctuaries and 21 national parks have been deployed/protecting the natural habitat and wild animals/ Wildlife Conservation Week is celebrated from 1st to 7th October every year (any two)
  - viii. to protect the natural habitat and wild animals / to keep ecological balance (any one)

**SECTION B GRAMMAR**

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

(i) organize

(ii)

Error	Correction

invite	invites
--------	---------

(iii) while coming from school to the bus stop he slipped by stepping on a banana peel.

(iv) (c) ordered

**Explanation:** {

ordered

(v) many

(vi)	Error	Correction
	on	in

(vii) (D) enter - enters

(viii) (a) do you think

**Explanation:** {

do you think

(ix) he does all his work with his left hand.

(x) (d) The Captain commanded his men to stand at ease.

**Explanation:** {

The Captain commanded his men to stand at ease.

(xi) B. Breathed, has

The following verbs are to be taken into consideration, like:- 'It fell to earth' and 'That it can follow'.

(xii)	error	correction
	for	with

## SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

4. 124, Vivek Vihar

Delhi

April 5, 2018

The Editor

The Times of India

New Delhi

Sir.

**Subject: Rising Prices**

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I want to express my deep concern regarding the rising prices. This inflation has made the life of a common man very difficult. It was not so in earlier times when things were very cheap and were within the reach of almost everyone. The worst hit is the fixed income groups like the salaried people, labour class and the pensioners. For them, even the commodities of basic

necessities like wheat, pulses, grains, vegetables, etc. are getting out of reach. The government should tackle this problem in the best possible way. The hoarders, black marketers, and profitters should be dealt with severely. The public distribution system of rationing should be made more transparent and efficient. Moreover, taxes on basic necessities should be reduced to bring down the contrast between wholesale and retail prices. It is high time that the concerned authority should wake up to this social cause and try to put reins to the rising price so that people can lead a comfortable and peaceful life. Thanking you.

Yours sincerely,  
Praneeta.

OR

Delhi Jain Public School,  
near Palam metro Station,  
Palam  
4<sup>th</sup> Oct, 20XX  
The Manager  
M/s Oxford University Press  
Civil Lines,  
Ghaziabad.  
Sir,

**Subject: Supply of books for the School Library**

As a librarian of school, through this letter, I request you to place a bulk order for the supply of books. The books are needed in the school library. The Principal has kindly consented to grant money for the purchase of some books.

The list of books with their particulars is attached herewith.

**List of Books:**

S.No.	Name of Books	Authors or Publishers	Copied required
1.	History of India	L. Prashad	45
2.	Modern Trigonometry	Bansi Lal	40
3.	Modern Algebra	S.K. Sen	55
4.	The New Atlas of the World	Frank Bros.	30
5.	Wings of fire	A. P. J. Abdul Kalam	25
6.	The Alchemist	Paulo Coelho	15
7.	The goosebumps	R.L. Stine	20



We would be pleased if you could provide us with a 20% discount on the purchase of books. Besides, we request you to give another 5% special discount that is usually granted to the institutional buyers. It goes without saying that you will have to bear the mail and other expenses involved in the dispatch and delivery of books.

Kindly deliver these books in their latest edition and in proper conditions and order not later than 25<sup>th</sup> November if our terms and conditions are acceptable to you.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully,

Kalpana.

5. **Women in National Parliament**

While more woman than men are being elected to parliament around the world, equality is still a long way off, and the current progress is far too slow. The bar graph clearly illustrates that even in the 21st century the status of women is not equal to that of men when it comes to occupying high positions in various occupations. The lowest number of women in National Parliament can be seen in Arab States where it is only 3.6%. The percentage is a bit better in Sub Saharan Africa where it is 11% though it is again very low. The number of women in National Parliament is not very encouraging in the World and Pacific where it is 13.8% and 13.5% respectively. While the percentage in America, Asia and Europe (excluding western countries) is 15.3, 15.3 and 14.1 respectively. It is only the western countries where the graph shows a picture of 38.1% women in the Parliament. Overall, the status of women does not come at par anywhere when it comes to occupying high positions in various occupations.

OR

The development of tourism industry will definitely lead to development of the country as a whole. India is a land of beautiful landscapes, rivers and places of religious, historical and cultural importance. We have innumerable tourist destinations which if used to their full potential can bring about a lot of development in the country.

Tourism being one of the biggest and fastest-growing industries globally, affects the economic, sociocultural, environmental and educational resources of nations. Improving tourism industry in India would thus contribute to the development of the nation in many spheres. It will have many positive effects on our economy. It will help in the growth and development of various industries directly linked with the tourism industry such as those pertaining to transportation, accommodation, wildlife, arts and entertainment. It also helps in the creation of new jobs. A lot of revenue will also be generated through foreign exchange on payments received for goods and services provided. The development of tourism also enhances the living conditions of the local people.

**SECTION C - LITERATURE**

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

- (i) i. Max was standing in the room with a pistol in his hand.  
ii. (d) started to think of how to get rid of the man.  
iii. looked like a real thriller scene finally. The kind of action and scene he had been expecting while he was on his way.  
iv. authentic
- (ii) i. Lencho, the farmer, lived on the only house that was there on the top of a hill. The hill was low-heighted. From there, a river and a ready-to-harvest corn field were visible.  
ii. One could see from this height the river and the field of ripe corn.  
iii. Downpour.  
iv. He was a **hardworking farmer with minimum resources and worked like an ox in the field. He was a man of faith and hope.** Even after losing their only source of income, he did not lose his hope. He loved his family and was worried about it.

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

- (i) i. confinement, It is so because the houses today are congested, small and lack ventilation  
ii. The second line uses alliteration-long letters whereas the last line uses a simile-like a voice into the rooms.  
iii. The correct meaning of open twice is allowing access and vision-expanse of space.  
iv. (A) tactfully
- (ii) i. (b) .....chase lions down the stairs  
ii. dragon (as he was looking for a nice cage)  
iii. The poet describes the bravery of the pets in this extract. Ink and Blink have the power to chase away someone as strong as a lion. The bravery of the dog is compared to that of a tiger. But, the Custard was not at all brave as he was looking for a nice safe cage.  
iv. It is too much of an exaggeration that a small girl is as brave as many bears combined together into one. The comparison of the bravery of other pets is an example of hyperbole.

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words

- (i) Rajvir did indeed amaze Mr. Barua with his abilities in time management, positivism, and humility. Before leaving for Assam, he did some study to learn more about the region. The most crucial thing is to be aware of the location and comfortable with it.

The father of Pranjal, Mr. Barua, was similarly taken aback by Rajvir's in-depth understanding of the topic.

- (ii) The tiger is not left free in the jungle but is locked in a cage made of cement and concrete in a zoo. His unbound strength is caged in behind the bars. He is locked in a small cage where he is devoid of freedom. He feels unhappy, frustrated, restless and angry.
- (iii) Natalya is an ugly, middle aged woman. She knows that only a food like Lomov can marry her. So the moment she comes to know that Lomov had come to propose for her hand, she cries and shouts and forces her father to bring Lomov back.
- (iv) Anne believed that paper had more patience than people because it listens silently without interruption, remains non-judgmental, allows her to confide secrets securely, and never interrupts her. This patient listening provided her with a safe and non-reactive outlet for expression, unlike interacting with other people
- (v) According to me, 'Fire and Ice' projects a realistic outlook rather than a pessimistic one. The poet brings forth the view that the world will soon end. It can be either by fire or ice. He mentions that he has tasted everything in life after the World War I. So, it would soon end either with greed or indifference.

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.

- (i) Mr. Herriot and his partners enjoyed a "happy period" during Tricki Woo's recovery because they received lavish gifts like fresh eggs, wine, and brandy from Mrs. Pumphrey. These treats were meant to help Tricki regain his strength. The indulgence made their days feel content and luxurious, with special breakfasts and ceremonial lunches, all while Tricki improved under their care, symbolizing the success of their veterinary efforts.
- (ii) The Tehsildar came to Ram Lal's village to inaugurate the school for girls. He put the responsibility of sending the girls of the village on Ram Lal. He told Ram Lal as he was the representative of the government he must send his daughter to the school. He would set an example to the villagers by sending his daughters to the school.
- (iii) Mrs. Hall was ready to avoid the scientist's strange habits and abnormal behaviour because he had paid her in advance. She thought that her guest was an eccentric scientist but she was satisfied as she had received money from him. So she decided to excuse his strange habits and irritable temper.

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words

- (i) Food is the most essential ingredient that sustains all life on earth. But the young seagull, it was not eating that mattered, but flight. Whenever he tried to flap his wings

to fly, he was seized with fear. He felt certainly that his wings would never support him. He had seen his elder brother catch his first Herring and devour it. It compounded his helplessness even more. He uttered a joyful scream when he saw his mother holding a piece of fish in her beak and flying quite near him. Hunger became motivation for the young seagull. Maddened by hunger, he fell outwards and downward into space. Then a monstrous terror seized him but only for a minute. The next moment, he felt his wings spread outwards. The fear left him. Soon, he was floating on the green sea.

(ii) **Nelson Mandela:** Greetings, trees. It is an honour to speak with you today.

**Trees:** It is an honour to speak with you as well, Nelson Mandela.

**Nelson Mandela:** I am interested in hearing your thoughts on freedom.

**Trees:** For us, freedom means being able to grow and reach for the sky without being hindered by humans.

**Nelson Mandela:** That is a beautiful way of looking at freedom. I think humans could learn a lot from you trees about what freedom really means.

**Trees:** But what does freedom mean to you, Mr. Mandela?

**Nelson Mandela:** With age and experience I understood the real meaning of freedom. As I grew older, freedom to raise a family and freedom to earn livelihood started dominating my thoughts. Tell me about your struggles for freedom, would you please?

**Trees:** Every confined part of us rose in revolt and struggle. Our roots struggle all night to break free from the cracks in the veranda floor. Our leaves struggle to come out of the glass. Small twigs have become hard due to overwork. Long cramped boughs broke open the roof and came out. How you fought against the apartheid system?

**Nelson Mandela:** I joined African National Congress and the desire for my own freedom got converted into the larger desire for freedom of every one of my communities.

**Trees:** Bravo! Freedom is the most important thing. No matter what happens, we must always fight for our freedom.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.

(i) Dialogue between Matilda and M. Loisel \_\_\_\_\_

**Matilda:** I don't know how to tell you this but I met Madam Forestier today and she told me that her necklace was false one.

**M Loisel:** What! I can't believe my ears. That huge debt was for nothing!

**Matilda:** Yes, M Loisel it is really surprising that we had to go through so much. I don't know what God had in store for us.

**M Loisel:** Shocking it is really! Unbelievable. She told you all this herself.

**Matilda:** Madam Forestier was shocked, even she could believe that we had to go

through so much just for the sake of this false necklace.

**M Loisel:** Now what do you think we should do?

**Matilda:** Well! We can ask her to give back the real diamond necklace to us. So, that we can repay our debts.

**M Loisel:** What if she refuses?

**Matilda:** Well! Madam Forestier is a friend of mine. She will never refuse. I am sure. Let me just speak to her.

**M Loisel:** Do what you feel like.

- (ii) Hari Singh was 15 years old. He was an experienced and successful thief. His cleverness and intelligence were the reasons for his success. He planned everything meticulously before choosing his victims. He went to places where he would meet an unsuspecting victim. He would then veer his confidence to get a job and then run away after stealing money from there. Then, he used to change his name to befool the police and his former employers. He got a job as a cook, though he could not cook well. He was a greedy boy. He was a liar. He was cruel enough to rob a simple and trusting man like Anil. He was able to steal six hundred rupees from his house. But, at the end of the story, a transformation took place in his heart and he decided to go back to Anil and keep his trust alive. In my opinion, this shows that there is goodness concealed in even the worst of men. He overcame his evil thoughts with the help of his conscience.