

CBSE Class 10 – English (Language & Literature)

Practice Paper – Set 2 (Board Level, High-Probability)

Time: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 MARKS)

A1. Unseen Passage – 1 (10 Marks)

Read the passage carefully.

Success in examinations depends not only on intelligence but also on discipline and consistency. Students who follow a regular study routine develop confidence and clarity of concepts. Procrastination, on the other hand, increases stress and reduces efficiency. Setting realistic goals, revising regularly, and practising previous years' questions help students identify weak areas. Teachers and parents play an important role by guiding students and motivating them to stay focused. Ultimately, self-belief and sincere effort turn preparation into achievement.

Answer the following questions:

1. What does success in examinations depend on apart from intelligence? (1)
2. How does a regular study routine help students? (1)
3. What effect does procrastination have on students? (1)
4. Mention two ways students can improve their preparation. (2)
5. How do teachers and parents help students? (2)
6. Explain the meaning of “self-belief” in the context of the passage. (2)
7. Find a word from the passage that means “delay in doing work”. (1)

A2. Unseen Passage – 2 (10 Marks)

Read the passage carefully.

Water is one of the most valuable natural resources on Earth. Despite covering a large portion of the planet, only a small percentage of water is fit for human consumption. Rapid urbanisation, industrial waste, and careless usage have led to water scarcity in many regions. Simple actions such as fixing leaking taps, harvesting rainwater, and reusing water for household purposes can conserve water effectively. Awareness among citizens is essential to protect this precious resource for future generations.

Answer the following questions:

1. Why is usable water limited despite large water coverage on Earth? (1)
2. Mention two causes of water scarcity. (2)
3. State any two methods to conserve water at home. (2)
4. Why is citizen awareness important? (2)
5. Find a word that means “shortage”. (1)
6. What is the message of the passage? (2)

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)

B1. Analytical Paragraph (10 Marks)

Write an analytical paragraph (100–120 words) on the topic:

“Importance of Time Management for Students”

Use the following clues:

- balancing studies and personal life
- reducing stress
- improving performance
- achieving long-term goals

B2. Grammar (10 Marks)

(i) Fill in the blanks (1×4 = 4)

1. The child was afraid ____ the dark.
(a) from (b) of (c) with (d) for
2. Neither the teacher nor the students ____ present.
(a) was (b) is (c) were (d) has
3. She ____ completed the project before submission.
(a) has (b) had (c) is (d) will
4. He runs ____ than his brother.
(a) fast (b) faster (c) fastest (d) more fast

(ii) Editing (1×3 = 3)

Identify the error and write the correction.

1. The news were very shocking.
2. She has been living here since five years.

3. He is the most tallest boy in the class.

(iii) Sentence Transformation (1×3 = 3)

Rewrite the sentences as directed.

1. He did not work hard. He failed the exam.
(Combine using *so*)
2. “I am preparing for the test,” she said.
(Change to reported speech)
3. It was a very cold day.
(Rewrite using *too*)

SECTION C: LITERATURE (40 MARKS)

C1. Reference to Context (10 Marks)

Read the extract and answer the questions.

**“The way a crow shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree”**

1. Name the poem and the poet. (2)
2. What did the crow do? (2)
3. How did this incident affect the poet’s mood? (2)
4. What does the hemlock tree symbolise? (2)
5. What message does the poet convey through this incident? (2)

C2. Short Answer Questions (4×3 = 12 Marks)

Answer **any four**.

1. Why did Lencho feel angry after the hailstorm? (A Letter to God)
2. How did Anil change Hari Singh’s life? (The Thief’s Story)
3. What lesson do we learn from the poem “Fire and Ice”?
4. Why was Valli determined to take the bus ride? (Madam Rides the Bus)
5. What impression do you form of Anne Frank as a writer?

C3. Long Answer Questions (2×6 = 12 Marks)

Answer **any two**.

1. How does “A Letter to God” highlight the conflict between faith and reality?
2. Describe how Hari Singh’s character develops in “The Thief’s Story”.
3. Explain the central idea of the poem “A Tiger in the Zoo”.

C4. Long Answer – Footprints Without Feet (1×6 = 6 Marks)

How does Griffin’s invisibility become a curse rather than a blessing?

(Answer in 120–150 words)

□ ANSWER KEY / MARKING POINTS (Set 2)

Section A – Key Points

- discipline, consistency, routine, self-belief
- procrastination → stress, inefficiency
- water scarcity causes: urbanisation, waste, misuse
- conservation: rainwater harvesting, fixing leaks
- vocabulary: *procrastination, scarcity*

Section B – Key Points

- Analytical paragraph: clear intro, logical points, conclusion
- Grammar answers:
 - (i) b, c, b, b
 - (ii) were→was, since→for, most tallest→tallest
 - (iii) He did not work hard, so he failed the exam. / etc.

Section C – Key Points

- Accurate references to NCERT texts
- Proper explanation + relevance
- Language clarity & structure as per CBSE marking scheme