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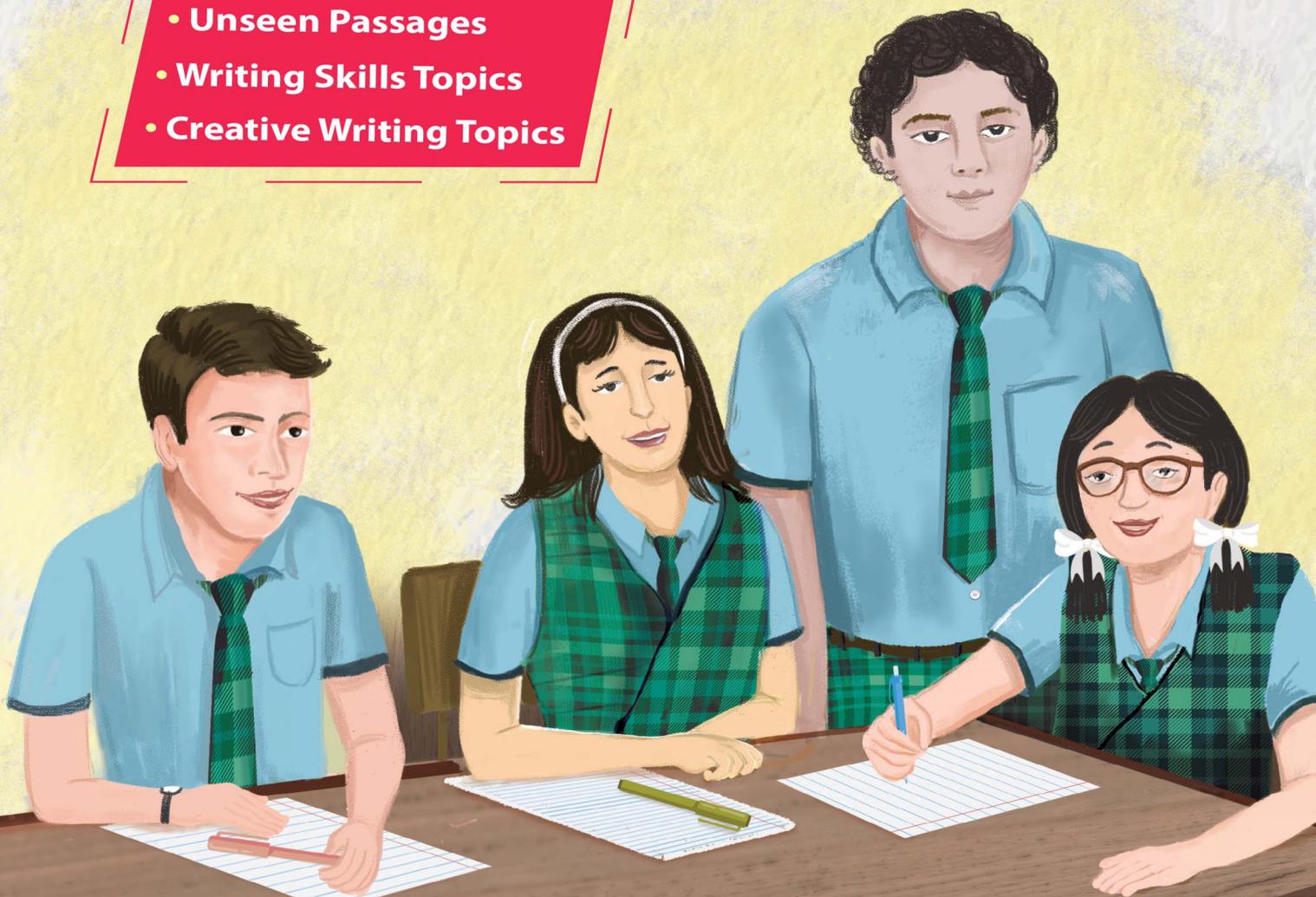


English (HL)

Writing Skills

BASED ON BOARD PAPER PATTERN

- Unseen Passages
- Writing Skills Topics
- Creative Writing Topics



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STD. X
Eng. Med.

Target Publications® Pvt. Ltd.

English (HL)

Writing Skills

(Inclusive of Unseen Passages, Writing Skills and Creative Writing Topics)

STD. X (English Medium)

Salient Features

- ☞ Based on Latest Board Paper Pattern
- ☞ Exhaustive coverage of Unseen Passages for Comprehension and Summary, Writing Skills, Creative Writing Topics
- ☞ Easy-to-understand explanations of topics along-with marking scheme
- ☞ Useful tips to attempt the questions
- ☞ Includes Solved Examples for thorough understanding
- ☞ Complete coverage of relevant Textual Questions
- ☞ Includes comprehensive coverage of Practice Questions (answers through Q.R.code)
- ☞ Includes solved questions from the Board Question Papers of March - 2020, 2022, 2023; December - 2020 and July 2022 and 2023

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PREFACE

“If you just communicate, you can get by. But if you communicate skillfully, you can work miracles.”

–Jim Rohn

With English being one of the most widely spoken language, the use of English in oral and written communication has become imperative. Writing Skills in English are not only necessary to score well in Board exams, but are of vital importance in later stages of life for effective and better communication.

Target’s ‘English Writing Skills: Std. X’ is made with the intent of enhancing a student’s ability of understanding, interpreting the various writing skills topics and presenting the interpretation and ideas with clarity and ease. This book is based on the latest paper pattern and textbook.

It is a compact book, critically analysed and extensively drafted to aid the students’ understanding of each writing skills’ topic and improve their scores in board examination. Structure and the format of this book is kept student friendly for better learning outcomes.

Each chapter begins with the explanation of the topics in an easy-to-comprehend language along with useful tips on how to attempt the question and marking scheme of the topic in the board exam. Illustrative examples are included wherever relevant for ease of understanding of the topic. The chapters are generally **classified** into four sections as per the requirement of the topic. **Solved Examples** section includes comprehensive coverage of solved questions pertaining to the topic. **Solved Textual Questions** section covers textbook questions related to the Topic. **Board Exam Questions** includes latest board paper questions relevant to the topics. **Questions For Practice** offers extensive practice of the topic with answers provided in downloadable pdf format through Q.R.code.

The book has extensive coverage of Solved Examples: 10 Non-Textual (Unseen) Passages, 31 Letter Writing, 75 Information Transfer, 17 Speech Writing, 13 Views and Counterinterviews, 28 Expansion of Theme, 19 Report Writing, 19 Developing a Story, 12 Narrating an Experience. We are sure that Target’s **‘English Writing Skills’** will not only prepare the student for board examinations but also create a strong foundation for their language skills and help them communicate more effectively.

We hope the students find this book purposeful and enjoy using it as much as we enjoyed making it.

The journey to create a complete book is strewn with triumphs, failures, and near misses. If you think we’ve nearly missed something or want to applaud us for our triumphs, we’d love to hear from you. Please write to us at: mail@targetpublications.org

A book affects eternity; one can never tell where its influence stops.

Best of luck to all the aspirants!

Publisher

Edition: Second

Disclaimer

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Std. Xth – English Kumarbharati
PAPER PATTERN AND MARKING SCHEME
(Non Textual Passage, Writing Skills and Creative Writing)

Section IV: Unseen / Non-textual Passages (Reading Skills, Vocabulary, Grammar and Summary)		15 Marks
Q.4	A. Unseen / Non-textual Passage for Comprehension	
	A1. Simple Factual Activity	02 Marks
	A2. Complex Factual Activity	02 Marks
	A3. Activity based on Vocabulary	02 Marks
	A4. Activity based on Contextual Grammar	02 Marks
	A5. Activity based on Personal Response, Expression, Creativity and Imagination	02 Marks
	B. Writing a summary of the Unseen passage given in Q.4 (A)	
	• Suggest a suitable title	01 Mark
	• Central Idea / Theme	02 Marks
	• Use of appropriate language	02 Marks
Section V: Writing Skills		15 Marks
Q.5	A. Letter writing	05 Marks
	A1. Formal	
	OR	
	A2. Informal	
Q.6	A. Information Transfer	05 Marks
	A1. Non-verbal to Verbal	
	OR	
	A2. Verbal to Non-verbal	
	B. Speech Writing / View-Counterinterview	05 Marks
	B1. Speech Writing	
	OR	
	B2. View-Counterinterview	
Section VI: Creative Writing		10 Marks
Q.7	A. Expansion of Theme / News Report based on the given headline	05 Marks
	A1. Expansion of Theme	
	OR	
	A2. News Report based on the given headline	
	B. Developing a story / Narrating an experience based on the given beginning/ending	05 Marks
	B1. Developing a story	
	OR	
	B2. Narrating an experience	
Total = 40 Marks		

CONTENTS

No.	Topic Name	Page No.
1.	Non-Textual (Unseen) Passages For Comprehension and Summary	1
Writing Skills		
2.	Letter Writing	14
3.	Information Transfer <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Verbal to Non-Verbal• Non-Verbal to Verbal	35
4.	Speech Writing	75
5.	Views and Counterviews	84
6.	Expansion of Theme	91
7.	Report Writing	97
Creative Writing		
8.	Developing a Story	105
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•	Scan the given Q.R. Code to access Answers to Questions For Practice.	

Non-Textual (Unseen) Passages For Comprehension and Summary

Q.4. (A) Comprehension

[10 Marks]

In this question, you will be presented with a non-textual (unseen) passage i.e. a passage not from the textbook. The objective of the question is to test your reading ability and comprehension skills. Therefore, you will be expected to grasp the meaning of the passage and answer questions based on it, in your own words.

Format of the question

- i. An unseen passage, consisting of 15 to 18 lines will be provided.
- ii. Five types of activities will be asked after the passage.
- iii. The activities would be as follows:

A1 Simple Factual Activity:

[2 Marks]

Name the following, Who said to whom, Match the columns, Complete the Web-diagram, Complete the sentences, Choose the correct alternative, True or False, Arrange the events in chronological order, etc.

A2 Complex Factual Activity:

[2 Marks]

Complete the sentences, Justify, Explain, Describe, Enlist, Give reasons, Correct the False statements, Completing the web-diagram, Choose the correct alternatives, Match the Columns, Name the following, Who said to whom, etc.

A3 Activity based on Vocabulary:

[2 Marks]

Antonyms, Synonyms, Provide meanings, Form meaningful sentences from given words / phrases, Rearrange letters to form meaningful word, etc.

A4 Activity based on Contextual Grammar:

[2 Marks]

Do as Directed (Voice, Direct and Indirect Speech, Phrases, Clauses, Transformation, Word formations, Tense, Punctuations, Articles, Wh-questions, Question Tags, Types of Sentences, Prefix / Suffix, Parts of Speech, Gerunds / Participles / Infinitives, Subject and Predicate, Degrees of Comparison, Determiners, etc.)

A5 Activity based on Personal Response, Expression, Creativity and Imagination:

[2 Marks]

State your opinion, What do you feel, What would you do if you were in a similar situation, If you were in the narrator's place, etc.

How to score well in this question

- i. Read the passage twice.
- ii. Read all the activities carefully.
- iii. Attempt the activity according to the marks allotted.
- iv. Study the Solved Examples attentively.
- v. Try and answer the activity based questions on your own to enhance your ability to attempt them in the examination.
- vi. Marks are indicated against each activity to help you decide how many points to include in the answer.
- vii. Generally, write 1 to 2 words/points for a 1-mark answer and 2 to 4 words/points for a 2-mark answer.

Q.4. (B) Summary

[05 Marks]

As per the new paper pattern of the SSC Board Examinations, you will be required to summarise the passage given in Q.4. (A). The following points are to be kept in mind while writing a summary:

- The summary must be one-third the length of the passage.
- You must include all the main points and the central idea of the passage.
- Do not include any information that seems unnecessary.
- Do not add your own opinions regarding the passage.
- Give a suitable title to the summary.

Solved Examples

Q1. (A) Read the following passage and do the given activities:

A1. State whether the following statements are True or False:

- i. Children should start their day with sugary cereals.
- ii. Children should eat yogurt, fruits and veggies or baked chips prior to dinner.
- iii. Children aged 6-12 years should get seven hours of sleep nightly.
- iv. Children should have an inconsistent bedtime.



A new research suggests that eating healthy food and getting proper sleep can help children succeed in school. It also states that when children go to school without eating breakfast, their cognitive function can be severely affected.

According to the research, children should start their day with fruits, proteins and whole grains and avoid sugary cereals because the latter cause a rise in the sugar level. If children do need to eat something prior to dinner, parents should offer healthy choices like yogurt, fruits and veggies or baked chips. Children have also been advised to drink water instead of soda as the latter lacks nutritional value. Moreover, the research suggests that children need a good night's sleep for their overall school performance. Also, that a lack of sleep can lead to problems like loss of attention, poor memory in the classroom, poor impulse control and even anxiety. While children aged 6-12 years should get nine hours of sleep nightly, adolescents from the age of 13 to 18 years should get an average sleep of little more than seven hours per night. However, the research suggests that catching up on lost sleep on the weekend can make matters worse, which is why a consistent bedtime seven days a week is recommended.

A2. The problems that may be caused due to lack of sleep are:

- i. _____ ii. _____ iii. _____ iv. _____

A3. Match the words in Column 'A' with their synonyms in Column 'B':

	Column A		Column B
i.	rise	a.	comprehensive
ii.	overall	b.	steady
iii.	average	c.	increase
iv.	consistent	d.	mean

A4. Do as Directed:

- i. Children have been advised to drink water instead of soda.
(Frame a Wh-question to get the underlined words as the answer)
- ii. If children do need to eat something prior to dinner, parents should offer healthy choices.
(Identify the Clauses)

A5. Do you like eating healthy food?

(B) Read the above passage and write a summary of it in a paragraph. Suggest a suitable title.

Answers

A1. i. False ii. True iii. False iv. False

A2. i. loss of attention ii. poor memory in the classroom
iii. poor impulse control iv. anxiety

A3.

	Column A		Answers
i.	rise	c.	increase
ii.	overall	a.	comprehensive
iii.	average	d.	mean
iv.	consistent	b.	steady

A4. i. What have children been advised to drink?
ii. If children do need to eat something prior to dinner – Subordinate Adverb Clause of Condition;
parents should offer healthy choices – Main Clause

A5. Yes, I do like eating healthy food. I eat fresh fruits and vegetables every day because they are not only nutritious and delicious but also perfectly suited for my dietary needs. I do sometimes crave unhealthy food and even succumb to my cravings but I mostly eat and drink responsibly because I know doing so would benefit me in the long run.

B.

Success in School

A new research links healthy food and proper sleep to success in school. According to it, children should avoid sugary cereals for breakfast. They should also drink water instead of soda. Also, it suggests that lack of sleep can lead to problems with attention, memory, impulse control and even anxiety. Nine hours and a little more than seven hours of sleep, along with a consistent bedtime, have been recommended for 6-12 year olds and 13-18 year olds respectively.



Q2. (A) Read the following passage and do the given activities:

A1. Arrange the following sentences in the chronological order:

- i. The husband and wife set a small table in a corner of the room.
- ii. The father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor.
- iii. The old man would drop food on the floor or spill water on the table cloth.
- iv. The husband took his father's hand and gently led him back to the dinner table.

Once upon a time, a frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law and four-year-old grandson. Every night the family would eat together at the dinner table. But, the old man's trembling hands made eating rather difficult. While trying to eat or drink he would drop food on the floor or spill water on the table cloth. So, the husband and wife set a small table in a corner of the room. There, the old man was made to eat alone, while the rest of the family ate at the dinner table. Since he had accidentally broken a dish or two, even his food would be served in a wooden bowl.

One evening before dinner, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?" Just as sweetly, the boy responded, "Oh, I am making little bowls for you and mama to eat your food for when I grow up." The four-year-old smiled and went back to work. The words so struck the parents that they were speechless and tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both of them knew what had to be done. That very evening the husband took his father's hand and gently led him back to the dinner table.

A2. What is the message of the story?

A3. Find the synonyms of the following words from the passage:

- i. weak ii. shaky iii. mistakenly iv. flow

A4. Do as Directed:

- i. The old man's trembling hands made eating rather difficult.

(Pick out the subject and predicate)

- ii. He would drop food on the floor.

(Change the voice)

A5. Write about an incident when you realised that you had mistreated someone.

B. Read the above passage and write a summary of it in a paragraph. Suggest a suitable title.

Answers

- A1.** iii. The old man would drop food on the floor or spill water on the table cloth.
i. The husband and wife set a small table in a corner of the room.
ii. The father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor.
iv. The husband took his father's hand and gently led him back to the dinner table.

A2. The message of the story is twofold. The first is that we must treat our elders with love and respect. It is during their old age, after a lifetime of working hard, that our elders need our support. At such a time, we must help them rather than leave them alone. The second is that we reap what we sow. Hence, if treat others with cruelty we cannot expect to be treated with compassion.

- A3.** i. frail ii. trembling iii. accidentally iv. stream

- A4.** i. The old man's trembling hands – Subject
made eating rather difficult – Predicate
ii. Food would be dropped on the floor by him.

A5. Once while playing an inter-school cricket match, one of my teammates dropped a catch at a crucial point in the game. Ultimately, this mistake ended up costing us the match. Instead of dealing with the situation calmly I berated him in front of the entire team. I only realised my mistake a few weeks later when I myself dropped a catch in another important match. Having been in his position I now knew that my behaviour that day was totally unacceptable and I promised myself that I would be better.

B. The Wooden Bowl

An old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law and grandson. Every night they would eat at the dinner table but he would often drop the food or spill the water. So, the husband and wife set a small table for him to eat alone. They also served his food in a wooden bowl. One evening the father saw his son making wooden bowls. Learning his lesson, he led his father back to the dinner table.



Q3. (A) Read the following passage and do the given activities:

A1. Choose the correct alternative to complete each sentence:

- i. _____ was the original site of the Olympic Games.
(a) Olympia (b) Altis (c) Persia (d) Macedonia
- ii. The Olympic Games were held in the honour of _____.
(a) Poseidon (b) Zeus (c) Cronos (d) Hades
- iii. The Olympic Games were held every _____ years.
(a) two (b) three (c) four (d) five
- iv. The successful competitors were given a garland of _____.
(a) roses (b) wild olives (c) beads (d) shells

Olympia, the original site of the Olympic Games in ancient Greece is situated in a quiet, beautiful valley. The old ruins are shaded by evergreen oaks, pines and poplars, as well as olive trees. Olympia was never a city, but a sacred ground occupied by temples and dwellings for the priests. At the centre was the enclosure known as Altis, dedicated to Zeus, the god of gods. It was in honour of Zeus, that the Olympic games were held.

The fame of Olympia rests largely upon the Olympic Games. During the week of the games, the Athenians, the Spartans, the Syracusans and other groups, all forgot their narrow identities. They regarded an Olympic victory as the highest honour. A simple reward of a twig of wild olives immortalised the victor and his family. The Olympic Games were held regularly in peace and in war at an interval of four years for over a thousand years from 776 B.C. till 393 A.D. Originally, men who spoke Greek as their mother tongue were allowed to compete in the Olympic Games. No married women were allowed to be present. After each event, a herald announced the victor's name. On the last day, the successful competitors were each given a garland of wild olives.

A2. The Olympic Games were immensely important to the ancient Greeks. Justify.

A3. Find words from the passage which mean:

- i. earliest
- ii. holy
- iii. compound
- iv. close-minded

A4. Do as Directed:

- i. The fame of Olympia rests largely upon the Olympic Games.

(Add a Question Tag)

- ii. The old ruins are shaded by evergreen oaks, pines and poplars, as well as olive trees.

(Change the voice)

A5. Do you think games are an important part of our lives?

(B) Read the above passage and write a summary of it in a paragraph. Suggest a suitable title.

Answers

- A1.** i. (a) Olympia ii. (b) Zeus iii. (c) four iv. (b) wild olives

A2. We can say that the Olympic Games were immensely important to the ancient Greeks because:

- i. During the week of the games, the Athenians, the Spartans, the Syracusans and other groups, all forgot their narrow identities.
- ii. A simple reward of a twig of wild olives immortalised the victor and his family.
- iii. The Olympic Games were held regularly in peace and in war.
- iv. The Olympic Games were held for over a thousand years.

- A3.** i. original ii. sacred iii. enclosure iv. narrow

- A4.** i. The fame of Olympia rests largely upon the Olympic Games, doesn't it?
ii. Evergreen oaks, pines and poplars, as well as olive trees shade the ruins.

A5. Yes, I believe that games are an important part of our lives. Games teach us the value of discipline as in order to perform better than others we need to put in hours of work. Games also teach us to constantly assess our progress, and through the process of trial and error, find solutions to our problems. Finally, games teach us sportsmanship, that despite all our efforts we may fail and we must embrace failure gracefully. Thus, in my opinion, games are vital and their importance should not be underestimated.



B. The History of the Olympics

Olympia was a sacred ground. At its centre was an enclosure dedicated to Zeus, in whose honour the Olympic games were held. During the games, people forgot their narrow identities. They regarded an Olympic victory as the highest honour. The games were held for over a thousand years. After each event, the victor's name was announced. On the last day, the successful competitors were each given a garland of wild olives.

Board Exam Questions

Q4. (A) Read the following passage and do the given activities: *[March 2020]*

A1. State whether the following statements are True or False:

- i. Time is the most valueless resource.
- ii. The importance of time management is self-evident.
- iii. Allow the time to flow and pass away.
- iv. Time's nature is clear.

Time is the most valuable resource available to every individual.

Time is resource to measure quantitatively but its nature is unclear. Time is a fleeting, limited and intangible human resource which is always calculated and used accordingly. The time of the day is as shown on clock or announced on the media like radio, television constantly guide us in carrying out days activities, distribution of time for work, rest, entertainment and checking the progress during the day.

The secret of time management lies in successfully identifying and eliminating time wasting activities with effective and efficient utilization of time. In order to be good time manager, grab the time, utilize it properly and invest it into productive work. Do not allow the time to flow and pass away without offering any result.

The importance of time management is self evident. Every individual has twenty four hours a day to use. One must be aware of the available time and time needed to complete the daily routine. Everyone must remember that time cares only for those who take care of time. So, for the achievement of goals, proper planning and utilization of time is very important which is definitely possible only by time management.

A2. What are the secrets of a good time manager?

A3. i. Pick out two adverbs from the given passage.

ii. Write the root word for the following:

- a. utilization
- b. entertainment

A4. Do as Directed:

i. For the achievement of goals, proper planning and utilization of time is important.

(Rewrite using '... not only ... but also ...')

ii. Do not allow the time to flow.

(Make the sentence Assertive)

A5. "Time once lost, is lost forever". Justify.

B. Read the above passage and write a summary of it in a paragraph. Suggest a suitable title.

Answers

A1. i. False ii. True iii. False iv. False

A2. The secrets of a good time manager are to grab time, utilize it properly and invest it into productive work. A good time manager does not allow time to flow and pass away without offering any result.

A3. i. quantitatively, accordingly, successfully, properly, definitely (write any 2)
[Note: The word 'daily' has been used as an adjective and not an adverb in the passage.]
ii. (a) utilize (b) entertain

A4. i. For the achievement of goals, not only proper planning but also utilization of time is important.
ii. You should not allow the time to flow.

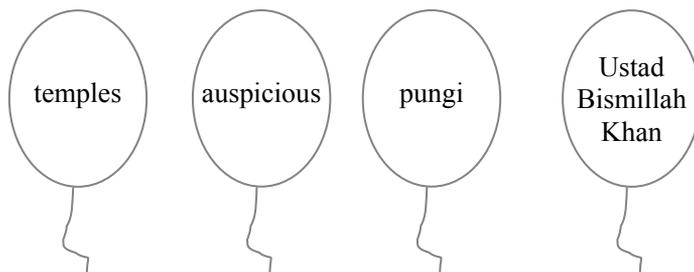
A5. Time once lost is indeed lost forever because no matter how hard one tries one cannot get it back. One can hope to gain happiness, health or wealth in the future by making certain changes in the present. However, there is nothing that one can do to gain even a single second of time.



B. Time – The Most Valuable Resource

Time is the most valuable resource. Hence, it is calculated and used accordingly. Tracking and distributing time guides us in carrying out the day's activities. Time management involves efficient utilization of time. Instead of allowing it to flow, a good time manager grabs and invests time into productive work. Since every individual has twenty four hours, one must be aware of the time needed to complete their daily routine.

Q5. (A) Read the following passage and do the given activities: *[Dec 2020]*
A1. Choose the correct option from the following balloons:



- i. Musical instrument with shrill unpleasant sound _____.
- ii. The sound of shehnai began to be considered as _____.
- iii. The credit for bringing this instrument onto the classical stage goes to _____.
- iv. Till recently it was used only in _____.

A musical instrument called pungi, had a shrill unpleasant sound. A barber of a family of professional musicians, who had access to the royal palace, decided to improve the tonal quality of the pungi. He chose a pipe with a natural hollow stem that was longer and broader than the pungi, and made seven holes on the body of the pipe. When he played on it, closing and opening some of these holes, soft and melodious sounds were produced. He played the instrument before royalty and everyone was impressed. The instrument so different from the pungi had to be given a new name. As the story goes, since it was first played in the Shah's chambers and was played by a nai (barber), the instrument was named the 'shehnai'.

The sound of the shehnai began to be considered auspicious. And for this reason it is still played in temples and is an indispensable component of any North Indian wedding. In the past, the shehnai was part of the naubat or traditional ensemble of nine instruments found at royal courts. Till recently it was used only in temples and weddings. The credit for bringing this instrument onto the classical stage goes to Ustad Bismillah Khan.

A2. Say why?

The instrument was named as shehnai

A3. Find words from the passage which mean:

- i. high-pitched ii. regal iii. admired iv. essential

A4. Do as Directed:

i. Shehnai was part of the naubat. **(Pick out the subject and predicate)**

ii. It was first played in the Shah's chambers and was played by a nai.
(State whether the statement is simple/compound/complex)

A5. Which is your favourite musical instrument and why?

B. Read the above passage and write a summary of it in a paragraph. Suggest a suitable title.

Answers

A1. i. pungi ii. auspicious iii. Ustad Bismillah Khan iv. temples

A2. Since, the instrument was first played in a Shah's chambers and was played by a nai (barber) it was named the 'shehnai'.

A3. i. shrill ii. royal iii. impressed iv. indispensable

A4. i. Shehnai – Subject
was part of the naubat – Predicate

ii. Compound Sentence

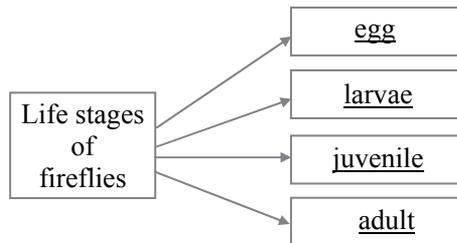


B. Summary Writing

Read the above passage and write a summary of it in a paragraph.
Suggest a suitable title.

Answers

A1.



A2.

- i. Fireflies form a key part of the food web by acting as predators for agricultural pests and prey for spiders and other insects.
- ii. The bio-chemical reactions that fireflies experience have been used in detecting bacterial contamination in foods, testing drugs against cancer, developing drought-resistant crops.

- A3.**
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| i. different × <u>indifferent</u> | ii. experience × <u>inexperience</u> |
| iii. bacterial × <u>antibacterial</u> | iv. natural × <u>unnatural</u> |

- A4.**
- i. Too many people can disturb adult as well as larval habitat.
 - ii. to produce – infinitive

A5. Ants teach us innumerable values of life. Though tiny in size, they are not afraid of carrying heavier and bigger things. This teaches us to be confident and not be afraid to take up difficult tasks or responsibilities. They are extremely hardworking and keep themselves busy all day. This teaches us to not procrastinate or sit idle and waste precious time. They always work in a team which teaches us the importance of team work. Ants collect and store food in summer for winter which teaches us the necessity of planning.

B. Firefly – the beautiful and beneficial beetle

Fireflies are beetles having four life stages – egg, larvae, juvenile and adult. They spent most of their time in the larval stage where they turn into pupae, have a long juvenile stage and a short adult life consisting mainly of courtship, mating and reproduction. Underground or underwater juveniles eat soft-bodied insects and have different habitats. Conservation of fireflies is important as they are key part of the food web; their bio-chemical reactions are detection of bacterial contamination in food, drug testing against cancer etc. Fireflies glow because of the reaction between oxygen, calcium, magnesium and luciferin. To encourage firefly tourism, a festival is held for a particular specie of monsoon firefly. However, we need to be keep in mind that crowds can disturb the habitats and that fireflies need darkness for communication.

Q7. (A) Read the following passage and do the given activities:

[March 2023]

A1. Match the columns A with B correctly:

A		B	
i.	Rocket programming	a.	IIT (Bombay)
ii.	Graduation	b.	ISRO
iii.	Masters in Engineering	c.	S. T. Hindu College
iv.	Ph. D	d.	IISC

The humble son of a farmer from Sarakkalvilai village in Tamil Nadu’s Kanyakumari district, Dr. K. Sivan as Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) chairman was leading the Chandrayaan-2 mission to moon. Sivan studied in a Tamil medium government school. After graduating from S.T. Hindu College in Nagarcoil, Sivan completed a Master’s in Engineering from IISC in 1982. In 2006, he received Ph. D in Aerospace Engineering from IIT Bombay.

Sivan is the first graduate in his family. His brother and two sisters were unable to complete higher education due to their poverty. “When I was in college, I used to help my father in the field. That was the reason he got me admitted in a college near our house.” Sivan told TOI, “Only when I had completed my B.Sc. (Mathematics) with 100% marks his mind changed.” Sivan said he had spend his childhood days without a shoe or sandal. “I continued wearing vesti (dhoti) till college. I wore pants for the first time when I entered MIT.” He joined ISRO in 1982 and worked on almost all rocket programmes. Before taking charge as an ISRO a chairman in January, 2018, he was the director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) which develops rockets. He is known as ISRO’s ‘Rocket Man’.



[July 2023]

Q.8 (A) Read the following passage and do the given activities:

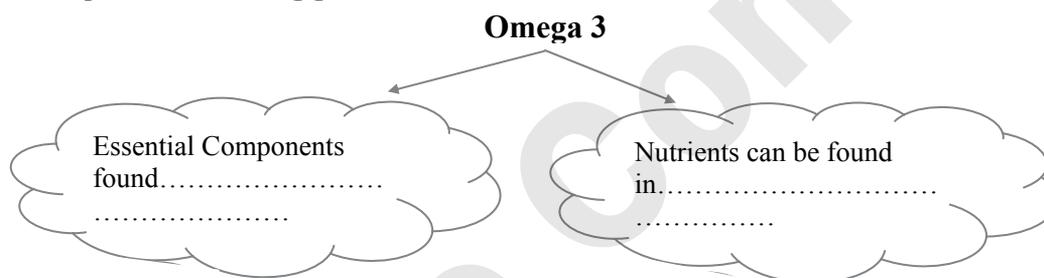
A1. State whether the following sentences are true or false:

- i. Caffeine is good for health.
- ii. Healthy fats are powerful tools.
- iii. Our brain becomes acceptable to oxidative stress.
- iv. Medications can help shore up your focus.

We're used to drinking coffee to heighten alertness, but too much caffeine can lead to counterproductive side effects, including anxiety, irritability and insomnia. There are other better fuels that help the brain focus. Healthy fats are a powerful tool. As per studies have shown that consuming omega-3 fatty acids-essential components found in the membranes of our brain's neurons-can improve cognition and memory. These nutrients can be found in fish, such as mackerel, sardines, herring and trout, or in capsule form. Avocados, nuts and seeds, which all contain vitamin E, also help to improve concentration. Additionally, as we age, our brains become vulnerable to oxidative stress, which plays a role in cognitive decline. To combat this it is necessary to include darkly coloured fruits and vegetables in your diet.

The antioxidants found in blueberries specifically can cross the blood-brain barrier, which helps boost focus. Approximately four per cent of adults worldwide who will be affected by an attention deficit disorder in their lifetime, a diet adjustment may not be enough. If you regularly have trouble-finishing tasks that demand your sustained focus or are so easily distracted that it adversely affects your life, ask your doctor about a diagnosis. Medications can help shore up your focus.

A2. Complete the following given clouds :



A3. Give the noun forms of the following:

- i. recommend ii. Improve iii. concentrate iv. provide.

A4. Do as directed:

- i. We are used to drinking coffee. **(Make Interrogative)**
- ii. A diet adjustment may not be enough. **(Pick out the modal auxiliary and state its function).**

A5. Personal Response :

How will you nourish your concentration by including proper nutrients in your day to day diet?

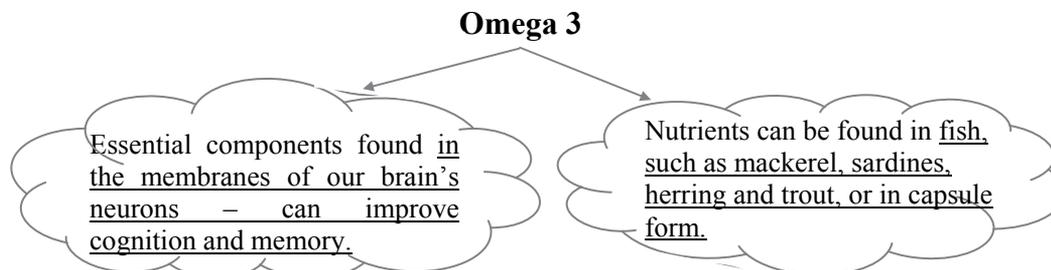
(B) Summary Writing :

Read the passage given in question 4(A) and write a summary of it in a paragraph. Suggest a suitable title.

Answers

- A1.** i. False ii. True iii. False iv. True

A2.





- A3. i. recommend – recommendation
ii. improve – improvement
iii. concentrate – concentration
iv. provide - provider
- A4. i. Are we not used to drinking coffee?
ii. Modal Auxiliary – may
Function - possibility
- A5. To nourish my concentration, I will incorporate proper nutrients into my daily diet. I plan to include omega-3 fatty acids, which can be found in fish or capsules. Additionally, I will consume avocados, nuts, and seeds for Vitamin E, and opt for antioxidant-rich foods like blueberries. These essential nutrients have the potential to enhance cognition, memory and focus. By maintaining a well-balanced diet that includes these elements, I aim to improve my overall brain function.

B. Boosting Brain Health: Diet and Focus

The passage discusses the effects of coffee and the need for alternative brain-boosting options. It emphasizes omega-3's cognitive and memory benefits from fish, alongside avocado, nuts, and vitamin E-rich seeds for concentration. Aging induces cognitive decline from oxidative stress. Including dark fruits and vegetables in your diet enhances focus, countering this effect. About four percent of adults worldwide experience attention deficit disorder, and seeking medical advice and medication for persistent focus issues is advisable.

Questions for Practice

Q9. (A) Read the following passage and do the given activities:

A1. State whether the following statements are True or False:

- i. The butterfly struggled to force its body through the small opening for several days.
ii. The man took a pair of scissors and snipped the cocoon.
iii. The butterfly had a shrivelled body and swollen wings.
iv. Nature places obstacles in our life to cripple us.

One day a man found a cocoon. As he sat and watched it a small opening appeared. The butterfly inside struggled to force its body through the small opening for several hours. Then, it appeared as if it could not go on further. So, the man decided to help the butterfly.

He took a pair of scissors and snipped the cocoon. The butterfly could now emerge from the cocoon but something was odd. It had a swollen body and shrivelled wings. The man continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that at any moment, its wings would enlarge and be able to support its body, which would contract. Surprisingly, neither happened. In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and deformed wings. It was never able to fly.

What the man did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through its small opening were nature's ways of forcing fluid from the butterfly's body into its wings, so that it would be ready for flight as soon as it emerged from its cocoon. Sometimes, struggles are exactly what we need in our lives. If nature allowed us to go through all our life without any obstacles, it would cripple us. We would not be as strong as we could have been. We would not be able to fly.

A2. "Noble intentions become tragic actions when delivered with half knowledge or without careful consideration". Justify with the help of the above passage.

A3. Find the antonyms of the following words from the passage:

- i. lost ii. hinder iii. normal iv. earned

A4. Do as Directed:

- i. He took a pair of scissors and snipped the cocoon. (Rewrite using 'not only....but also')
ii. It was never able to fly. (Rewrite as a Positive Sentence)

A5. Do you believe that our struggles make us stronger? Give reasons for your answer.

B. Read the above passage and write a summary of it in a paragraph. Suggest a suitable title.



Q10. (A) Read the following passage and do the given activities:

A1. Choose the correct alternative to complete each sentence:

- i. The human heart is a ____ muscular pump.
 - (a) three-chambered
 - (b) four-chambered
 - (c) five-chambered
 - (d) six-chambered
- ii. The heart receives its own blood supply via _____.
 - (a) coronary vessels
 - (b) coronary veins
 - (c) coronary capillaries
 - (d) coronary arteries
- iii. When a heart muscle dies and one suffers a ‘ ____ attack’.
 - (a) heart
 - (b) panic
 - (c) anxiety
 - (d) asthma
- iv. In a coronary bypass surgery, a blood vessel is usually taken from the ____ of the patient.
 - (a) arm
 - (b) back
 - (c) leg
 - (d) foot

The coronary bypass surgery is undoubtedly a significant achievement of modern medical science. But, one ponders over certain pertinent questions such as the cost and the ultimate benefit.

The human heart is nothing but a four-chambered muscular pump, which supplies blood to all parts of the body. Being a pump, the heart itself requires a lot of energy and receives its own blood supply via certain vessels called coronary arteries. By a process called ‘atherosclerosis’, fat particles are deposited on the inner walls of the coronary arteries, which eventually reduces their size and obstructs the free flow of blood. The portion of the heart, which suffers from lack of blood supply becomes weaker and gives rise to a typical chest pain called ‘angina’. When such blockage is total, the corresponding heart muscle dies and one suffers a ‘heart attack’.

In these circumstances, heart surgeons perform a special operation known as a ‘coronary bypass surgery’. In this surgery a blood vessel is taken (usually from the leg of the patient) and grafted on the heart such that when blood flows through, it bypasses the diseased coronary artery. The idea is to divert the flow from the narrow artery, inside which there is already a ‘traffic congestion’ and in this respect it is synonymous to a road bypass.

A2. Say why?

A coronary bypass surgery is synonymous to a road bypass.....

A3. Find words from the passage which mean:

- i. thinks carefully
- ii. relevant
- iii. provides
- iv. ultimately

A4. Do as Directed:

- i. By a process called ‘atherosclerosis’, fat particles are deposited on the inner walls of the coronary arteries. **(Frame a Wh-question to get the underlined words as the answer)**
- ii. When such blockage is total, the corresponding heart muscle dies. **(Identify the Clauses)**

A5. Do you take good care of your heart? List a few things you do to keep your heart healthy.

B. Read the above passage and write a summary of it in a paragraph. Suggest a suitable title.

Answers

Q9. (A)

- A1.** i. False ii. True iii. False iv. False

A2. Even noble actions taken with limited information, if irreversible, may turn out to be grave mistakes. In the given passage, the man snipped the cocoon with the intention of helping the butterfly. What he did not know was that the struggle of the butterfly inside the cocoon was necessary for its growth. Thus, we must not do anything with half knowledge and always carefully consider all the choices that lie before us and the consequences they might have.

- A3.** i. found ii. help iii. odd iv. spent

- A4.** i. He not only took a pair of scissors but also snipped the cocoon.
ii. It was always unable to fly.



- A5. Yes, I do believe that our struggles make us stronger. If we always got exactly what we wanted, without any challenges, we would not know the value of hard work. If everything we desired was handed to us, we would never work on ourselves, never gain knowledge and never experience growth. It is only when we face problems that we apply our minds and look for solutions and it is only when we struggle that we realise our potential. Hence, we must never curse our struggles and remember that they make us the strongest versions of ourselves.

B.

The Cocoon and the Butterfly

A man, upon seeing a butterfly struggle to get out of a cocoon, snipped the cocoon. The butterfly emerged but had a swollen body and shrivelled wings. It spent the rest of its life crawling around and was never able to fly. The man did not understand that the restricting cocoon and the butterfly's struggle were necessary. Sometimes, struggles are exactly what we need. If we faced no obstacles we would not be as strong as we could have been.

Q10. (A)

- A1. i. (b) four-chambered ii. (d) coronary arteries
iii. (a) heart iv. (c) leg
- A2. A road bypass is an alternate road built specifically to avoid a road with a traffic congestion. Similarly, a coronary bypass surgery diverts the flow of blood around a congested artery. Since, both of these solutions work on the principle of bypassing an obstructed pathway, they can be said to be synonymous to each other.
- A3. i. ponders ii. pertinent iii. supplies iv. eventually
- A4. i. How are fat particles deposited on the inner walls of the coronary arteries?
ii. When such blockage is total – Subordinate Adverb Clause of Time the corresponding heart muscle dies – Main Clause
- A5. Yes, I do take good care of my heart. A few things I do to keep my heart healthy are:
i. I practice yoga and meditation every morning to stay fit and calm.
ii. I avoid eating fried food as well as food with an excessive amount of oil.
iii. I swim every evening for at least an hour in my building's swimming pool.
iv. I try to spend time with my friends and family as they make me truly happy.

B.

Coronary Bypass Surgery

The coronary bypass surgery is an achievement of modern medical science. The heart receives its own blood supply via coronary arteries. When fat particles are deposited on the inner walls of these arteries, the flow of blood is obstructed. In these circumstances, heart surgeons perform a 'coronary bypass surgery' in which a blood vessel is grafted on the heart such that it bypasses the diseased coronary artery.



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