

KOTHARI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, NOIDA
ANNUAL EXAMINATION, SESSION: 2024-25
GRADE: 11 SUBJECT: ENGLISH CORE (301)
[SET A]

DAY & DATE: FRIDAY- FEBRUARY 7, 2025

MAXIMUM MARKS: 80

NAME: _____

TIME ALLOTTED: 3 HOURS

ROLL NO: _____

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- i). The Question Paper contains THREE sections - READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING, and LITERATURE.*
- ii). Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*

SECTION A - READING SKILLS (26 Marks)

Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages

I Read the passage given below:

10

- 1 If you live in a rapidly urbanizing India, especially in the North, and feel that things are getting from bad to worse as far as civility, sensitivity and respect for the law is concerned, you are not alone. I go out cycling almost every morning at the crack of dawn. The total lawlessness that has come to grip the society scares me.
- 2 As early as 5 am, our cycling group notices people huddled around their cars, drinking outside eateries or liquor joints, fighting, arguing loudly, or simply passing lewd comments at the women riders in our group. The comments do not vary from a Mercedes or a Maruti Swift. They are uniformly distasteful. We often see police vehicles at these joints too, and they are certainly not there attending to an SOS call. Several of you would remember the horrific accident that took place in Gurgaon.
- 3 Forty-seven-year-old Avinash Shah, driving his small car with his wife and daughter was hit by a businessman test-driving a powerful new Audi. Avinash died instantly and his wife and daughter barely survived. The man who rammed the big Audi into the small car is now out on bail. According to eye-witnesses, soon after ramming into Avinash's car, this man got out, made a few phone calls using his mobile, got picked up by his driver and then vanished.
- 4 The police said they did not have his address for two days despite knowing that he was on a test drive and had deposited his driving licence at the car showroom before taking the car out. Two days later, this man reappeared, with a lawyer in tow and surrendered, only to be bailed out in a jiffy. Why is it that things are reaching such an impasse? Sudden wealth, easy availability of 'good things' in life, a general feeling that money can buy anything, or what else? Is it just a North Indian phenomenon or is it nationwide? Why is it that uncouth, uncivil and insensitive behaviour is all pervasive? Why is

society so willing to circumvent, indeed buy, the law at will? Do you think the media is responsible for having abdicated its responsibilities by concentrating on flashy things alone while bypassing the real issues that would positively impact society?

- 5 Whatever the answer to those questions is, the solution lies with us alone. We need to stop accepting being pushed around. An individual cannot take on those who mock our law, but together we can do wonders. The choice is ours, whether to stare down the barrel of the gun as lawlessness gains ground faster than these guys drive their fast cars, or start coming together to challenge the perpetrators of these crimes. I have often heard the argument that our economy is growing rapidly and this is just a brief side effect of such growth. I would rather have a slower growth rate of the economy, but a saner, civilized society to live in.

(The passage consists of 493 words.)

Answer **ALL** the questions, based on the passage above.

- i Answer in about **40 words** what you understand by the phrase ‘**The comments do not vary from a Mercedes or a Maruti Swift?**’ **2**
(Paragraph 2)
- ii The author states that the **Police did not have the offender’s address in the first two days. The tone** used by the author is **heavily sarcastic**. Answer in about **40 words** why he uses sarcasm in this context. **2**
(Paragraph 4)
- iii The author states that ‘**he would rather have a slower growth rate of the economy, but a saner, civilized society to live in.**’ Answer in about **40 words** what drives him to make this comment. Base your answer on the incidents in the passage only. **2**
(Paragraph 5)
- iv From the author’s statement that **things are getting from bad to worse as far as civility, sensitivity and respect for the law is concerned**, we understand that: **1**
A. Urban North India is fast becoming a hub for lawless activity.
B. Civility and Sensitivity are sorely lacking in North India.
C. Respect for the law is fully maintained in India.
D. The law does not cater to people who are civil and respectful while driving.
(Paragraph 1)
- v Choose the sentence that uses the word ‘**impasse**’ in the correct context: **1**
A. She decorated her living room with an **impasse** of bright colors and cozy furniture.
B. The argument continued until the debaters reached an **impasse** and could not proceed any further.
C. The chef prepared an **impasse** of delicious dishes for the banquet.

D. She wore a beautiful **impasse** to the gala, turning heads as she entered the room.

(Paragraph 4)

- vi **Read the following sentence carefully and choose the behaviour that is portrayed by the offender in this instance -** **1**

‘According to eye-witnesses, soon after ramming into Avinash’s car, this man got out, made a few phone calls using his mobile, got picked up by his driver and then vanished.’

- A. A sense of bereavement.
- B. A sense of care and compassion displayed by the phone calls being made.
- C. A sense of ruthless entitlement.
- D. A sense of panic.

(Paragraph 3)

- vii The author states that there are men who stand outside eateries at 5 am **simply passing lewd comments at the women riders in our group**. Choose the option that correctly classifies the reasons for the gathering: **1**

- i. Lawless and disrespectful behaviour brought on by the superiority of female car drivers over female cyclists.
- ii. Lawless and disrespectful behaviour brought on by lack of interference by the Police.
- iii. Lawless and disrespectful behaviour brought on by alcohol consumption.
- iv. Lawless and disrespectful behaviour brought on by the stereotype of a bad female driver.

- A. i & iv
- B. iii & iv
- C. i & ii
- D. ii & iii

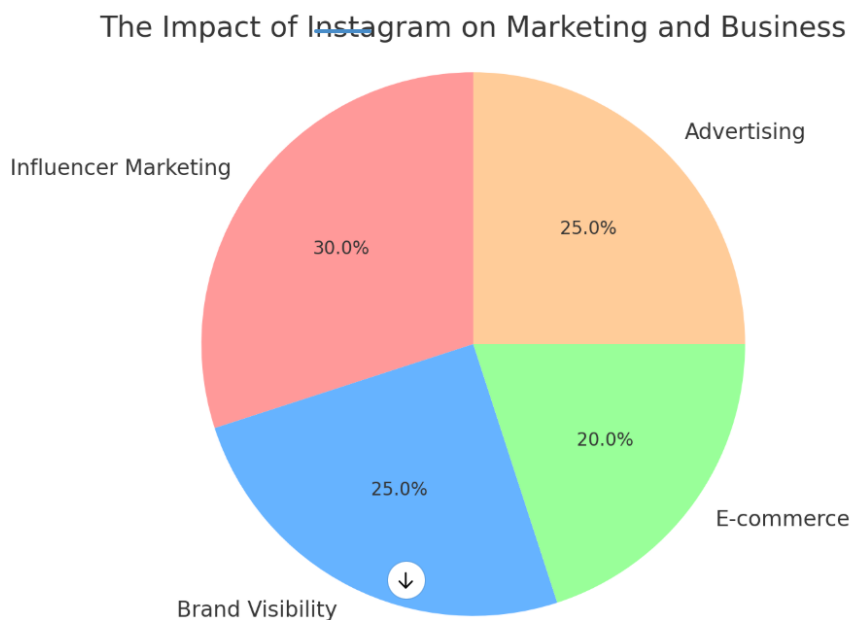
(Paragraph 2)

II Read the passage given below: 08

- 1 Instagram has had a profound impact on the way individuals communicate, consume content, and even shape their identities. Launched in 2010, the platform quickly became one of the most popular social media networks worldwide, with its focus on visual storytelling through photos and videos. Instagram revolutionized the way people share moments from their lives, giving users the ability to curate their personal narratives and present idealized versions of themselves.
- 2 One of the most significant impacts of Instagram has been on the realm of marketing and business. Brands have leveraged the platform to reach global audiences in ways that were previously unimaginable. Influencer marketing, where individuals with large followings promote products or services, has emerged as a major industry. Instagram’s algorithm, which prioritizes engaging content,

has made it easier for businesses to connect with potential customers through targeted ads and sponsored posts.

- 3 Another key impact of Instagram is on the world of fashion, beauty, and lifestyle. The platform has democratized trends, enabling everyday users to become influencers, launching their own brands, or simply curating their own sense of style. However, this rise in influencer culture has also raised concerns about unrealistic beauty standards and the pressure to maintain a curated, perfect life online.
- 4 Figure 1 represents the impact of Instagram on Marketing and Business.



- 5 Instagram has also changed how we communicate and stay connected. The platform allows users to share moments instantly through Stories, engage in direct messages, and create community-focused content through hashtags. While it has made global connections easier, it has also prompted discussions about the mental health implications of constant comparison, online validation, and the impact of social media on self-esteem.

(The passage consists of 262 words.)

Answer ALL the questions, based on the passage above:

- i How did Instagram become one of the most popular Social Media Networks? **Answer in** 2
about 40 words.
(Paragraph 1)
- ii Paragraph two talks about how Instagram's algorithm caters to Businesses and Influencers. Write **a short note in about 40 words** on how this is done. 2

iii The author states that the platform has ‘**democratized**’ trends allowing people to ‘**curate**’ their own sense of style. Choose the option that best explains the meaning of the words **democratized and curate**. 1

- A. Easy access and freedom of choice
- B. Fair Prices and freedom of choice
- C. Easy access and availability of cute products
- D. Cost control and access

(Paragraph 3)

iv Does the following statement agree with the information given in paragraph 5? 1
“Instagram has become a feature that has lead medical professionals to discuss its impact upon the human psyche.”

- A. the statement contradicts the information in paragraph 5.
- B. the statement agrees with the information given in paragraph 5.
- C. there is no information on this in paragraph 5.
- D. the statement is neither true nor false.

v State whether the following statement is **True or False**. Please refer to the Pie Chart in the passage. 1

“While Advertising and Brand Visibility remain as constants, Influencer Marketing dominates the statistic board when it comes to impact on Food and Beverage Intake.”

(Figure)

vi The word ‘**leveraged**’ has been used in paragraph 2. Choose the sentence that conveys the opposite of what the word means. 1

- A. Brands have supported the platform for their benefit.
- B. Brands have advocated the use of the platform.
- C. Brands have limited the use of the platform.
- D. Brands have vetted the platform to meet their own needs.

(Paragraph 2)

III NOTE MAKING & SUMMARIZING

08

Read the passage below:

Sitting in sunlight can have a profoundly positive impact on both physical and mental well-being. Exposure to sunlight is a natural way to boost vitamin D production, an essential nutrient that supports bone health, strengthens the immune system, and reduces the risk of chronic illnesses such as osteoporosis and certain autoimmune disorders. Just 10–15 minutes of daily sun exposure can make a significant difference in maintaining optimal health.

Beyond physical benefits, sunlight has a remarkable effect on mental health. Sunlight triggers the release of serotonin, a hormone associated with improved mood and a sense

of calm. This natural mood enhancer can help combat symptoms of depression, particularly seasonal affective disorder (SAD), which often occurs during darker months. Spending time in the sunlight can also regulate sleep patterns by helping the body maintain its circadian rhythm, leading to better sleep quality.

Sunlight exposure fosters an enhanced sense of well-being and connection to nature, particularly when combined with outdoor activities like walking, gardening, or meditating. This connection reduces stress and promotes mindfulness, offering a break from the demands of daily life. However, moderation is key. Overexposure to sunlight can lead to skin damage or increased risks of skin cancer, so it's important to use sunscreen and limit exposure during peak UV hours. Embracing the sun with care and balance allows individuals to reap its many benefits, from improved physical health to a brighter, more positive outlook on life.

- 3.1 Based on your reading of the above passage, **make notes (points only)** using **proper abbreviations** (at least four) and suggest a **suitable title**. **05**
- 3.2 Write a **summary** of the above passage in about 50 words. Suggest a **suitable title**. **03**

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (23 Marks)

Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purposes.

- 4 The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect and the correct word in your answer sheet: **03**

ERROR

CORRECTION

A. The book, which is lying on the table, belong to my friend.

B. May I request you to return her to me?

C. I need it as I have an exam yesterday.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- 5 **Transformation of Sentences:** **04**

i **Change the Narration:**

A. "Please help me," said Divya to Maya.

B. The coach said, "We are going to win this match."

ii **Change the Voice:**

C. The dancers performed the classical dance with grace.

D. The teacher checked the portfolios of the students.

iii **Change the Degree of Comparison**

A. This movie is as exciting as that one. (**Change to comparative**)

B. This question paper is tough. (Change to superlative)

iv **Re-order the following jumbled words to make a meaningful sentence:**

A. through hard work / success / is / achieved / and determination.

B. in unexpected places / opportunities / often / are / hidden.

6 You are **Sonia**, a **graduate in history** with a **specialization in Medieval India**. You are well acquainted with places of historical interest in Delhi, Agra and Jaipur. You are looking for the job of tourist guide. Write an **Advertisement in about 50 words** for the **Situations Wanted** column of a local newspaper. **03**

7 You are **very upset** about the reports on **Underage Driving** in various parts of the country. As a concerned citizen, **design a Poster in not more than 50 words**, highlighting the importance of adhering to road safety rules. You are Vinay Sinha. **03**

8 The **growing concern** about the **lack of reading habits** among students is a matter of great importance. **Encourage students to visit the library** and educate them on how the habit of **reading** can **contribute significantly** to their **intellectual** and **emotional** intelligence. **Write a Speech in 120 – 150 words** on this topic to be delivered at your school's morning assembly. **05**

9 '**Homes for the aged is a necessity in India.**' Discuss the growing elderly population, the challenges they face in traditional family structures, and the critical role that homes for the aged play in ensuring their well-being, dignity, and quality of life. Provide **examples** and **solutions** to support your argument. **Write a Debate in 120 - 150 words** strictly for the **motion** only. You are Shivani Rathi. **05**

**SECTION C – LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY
READING TEXT (31 Marks)**

10A **Read the given extracts and answer the questions of ANY ONE extract only:** **03**

*When did my childhood go?
Was it when I found my mind was really mine,
To use whichever way I choose,
Producing thoughts that were not those of other people
But my own, and mine alone
Was that the day!*

i Which of the following devices is used in the title of the poem '**childhood?**'

A. Allusion depicting innocence

B. Metaphor depicting innocence

C. Metaphor depicting purity

D. Hyperbole depicting innocence

- ii Why does Jennings say that her childhood vanished when she found that her mind was really hers to use? Answer in about **20-30 words**.
- iii **‘Was that the day!’** has been used with an exclamatory mark instead of a question mark. State the reasoning for the same.

OR

10B *Then sleek as a lizard, and alert and abrupt,
She enters the thickness, and a machine starts up
Of chitterings, and of tremor of wings, and trillings –
The whole tree trembles and thrills
It is the engine of her family.*

- i There are two **metaphors** mentioned in the poem. In about 20-30 words, write a short note on **any one of them**.
- ii In **20-30 words** write a short note on the **onomatopoeia** used in this extract.
- iii **‘The whole tree trembles and thrills’** What is the device used in the given sentence?
 - A. Transferred Epithet
 - B. Metaphor
 - C. Personification
 - D. Simile

11A Read the given extracts and answer the questions of ANY ONE extract only:

03

Hor was a grim, miserable place. There was no vegetation whatsoever, just dust and rocks, liberally scattered with years of accumulated refuse, which was unfortunate given that the town sat on the shore of Lake Manasarovar, Tibet’s most venerated stretch of water. Ancient Hindu and Buddhist cosmology pinpoint Manasarovar as the source of four great Indian rivers: The Indus, the Ganges, the Sutlej, and the Brahmaputra. Only the Sutlej flows from the lake, but the headwaters of the others all rise nearby on the flanks of Mount Kailash. We were within striking distance of the great mountain and I was eager to forge ahead.

- i **The phrase ‘Eager to forge ahead’ is used to indicate:**
 - A. That the lake was so miserable and that made the author eager to go and see it.
 - B. That the author was apprehensive of the terrain ahead.
 - C. That Nick Middleton was enthusiastic about moving forward.
 - D. That Tsetan was enthusiastic about moving forward.
- ii **Choose the correct sentence that does not use the word ‘accumulated’ in its correct context:**

- A. I **accumulated** the memory of my grandfather's passing.
- B. She **accumulated** a vast collection of rare books from her travels.
- C. The dust that **accumulated** on the shelves was a clear sign the room hadn't been cleaned in weeks.
- D. He **accumulated** enough experience in the field to confidently apply for a leadership role.

- iii Why does the author say that it was **unfortunate** that **Hor** sat on the shore of **Lake Mansarovar**? Answer in about 20-30 words.

OR

11B His five volumes duly arrived on his table. He started from the beginning. Volume one took the history up to the period of Ashoka, volume two up to Samudragupta, volume three up to Mohammad Ghori and volume four up to the death of Aurangzeb. Up to this period history was as he knew it. The change had occurred in the last volume. Reading volume five from both ends inwards, Gangadharpant finally converged on the precise moment when history had taken a different turn. That page in the book described the Battle of Panipat, and it mentioned that the Marathas won it handsomely. Abdali was routed and he was chased back to Kabul by the triumphant Maratha army led by Sadashivrao Bhau and his nephew, the young Vishwasrao.

- i The author of the five volumes of books that arrived on his table was
 - A. Gangadharpant
 - B. Rajendra Deshpande
 - C. Sadashiv Rao
 - D. Bakhar
- ii 'The Marathas won it handsomely' is a phrase that is the same in meaning as: (Choose the correct option)
 - A. The boy who acted in the movie was indeed a handsome lad.
 - B. She was given a handsome amount for her paintings.
 - C. The student gained a handsome score on the test despite having not studied.
 - D. The river flowed through the township handsomely.
- iii What do you understand by the phrase 'Abdali was routed?' Answer in 20-30 words.

12A Read the given extracts and answer the questions of ANY ONE extract only:

04

'Every time she leaves here she takes something home with her,' said my mother. 'She took all the table silver in one go. And then the antique plates that hung there. She had trouble lugging those large vases, and I'm worried she got a crick in her back from the

crockery.’ My mother shook her head pityingly. ‘I would never have dared ask her. She suggested it to me herself. She even insisted. She wanted to save all my nice things. If we have to leave here we shall lose everything, she says.’ Have you agreed with her that she should keep everything?’ I asked. ‘As if that’s necessary,’ my mother cried. ‘It would simply be an insult to talk like that. And think about the risk she’s running, each time she goes out of our door with a full suitcase or bag.’

- i Read the extract and discuss the character of Mrs S, the mother of the author. Answer in about **20-30 words**. Take your answer from the extract only.
- ii Why does Mrs S say that Mrs Dorling would be running a risk each time she took things out of the house? Answer in about **20-30 words**.
- iii Make a sentence with the word ‘**antique**.’
- iv Choose the word that stands as a synonym for the word ‘**lugging**.’
 - A. Preserving
 - B. Packing
 - C. Luggage
 - D. Carrying

OR

12B As he gazed at the still form a shiver of horror passed over Andrew. After all that he had promised! His face, heated with his own exertions, chilled suddenly. He hesitated, torn between his desire to attempt to resuscitate the child, and his obligation towards the mother, who was herself in a desperate state. The dilemma was so urgent he did not solve it consciously. Blindly, instinctively, he gave the child to the nurse and turned his attention to Susan Morgan who now lay collapsed, almost pulseless, and not yet out of the ether, upon her side. His haste was desperate, a frantic race against her ebbing strength.

- i Based on the extract, describe the emotion Andrew experienced as he gazed at the still form.
 - A. Relief
 - B. Joy
 - C. Fear
 - D. Confusion
- ii What caused Andrew’s face to suddenly chill?
 - A. The cold temperature in the room
 - B. His fear of failing to fulfil his promise

- C. The exertion from his efforts
- D. A breeze from an open window

iii What action did Andrew take instinctively?

- A. Gave the child to the nurse and focused on the mother
- B. Attempted to resuscitate the child
- C. Called for a senior doctor
- D. Checked the mother's pulse

iv What does the author mean by the phrase '**not yet out of the ether?**'

13 Answer **ANY TWO** of the following questions, **in about 40-50 words:** **06**

- i The Grandmother in '**The Portrait of a Lady**' is a picture of traditional values. Comment on this statement, giving valid examples to support it.
- ii What is the message of the poem '**A Photograph?**'
- iii In the chapter '**We're not afraid to die,**' the children of the author have been portrayed to be **pillars of strength** to the parents. Justify the statement citing valid examples.
- iv '**And all that in them without me were seeds only, latent, unborn**' Explain these lines that have been taken from the poem '**Voice of the Rain.**'

14 Answer **ANY ONE** of the following questions, **in about 40-50 words:** **03**

- i Write a **character description** of **Mourad** from the chapter '**The Summer of a Beautiful White Horse.**'
- ii **Doris and Cyril Pearson** are spoiled brats who take their mother for granted. Give examples from the chapter '**Mother's Day**' to prove this statement.

15 Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, **in about 120-150 words.** **06**

- i Imagine that you are **Howard Carter** and you have recently **unearthed** the **resting place** of the mysterious boy **King Tutankhamun**. **Write a Diary Entry** detailing your emotional and intellectual experience in making this marvellous discovery.

OR

- ii **Marcus Natten**, the poet of '**Childhood**' and **Elizabeth Jennings**, the poet of '**Father to Son**' present their ideas of **children and childhood** in very **contrasting ways**. Imagine that you are witnessing a **conversation** between both poets on the **difficulties of**

‘Childhood,’ from a child’s perspective. Write a Dialogue between both poets documenting their conversation.

16 Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.

06

- i ‘The Address’ is a story about the **traumatic effects of war**. It talks of its impact on survivors. Imagine that you are **Marga Minco**. Write an Informal Letter to your **cousin** on the **struggles of the survivors** during the Nazi imposed Genocide. As Marga, **narrate** your **personal experience** and the impact it had on you and your family.

OR

- ii In ‘Mother’s Day,’ **Mrs. Pearson** undergoes a **significant change** in how she is **treated** by her **family** after Mrs. Fitzgerald’s intervention. If you were in Mrs. Pearson’s place, how would you **ensure that** the **respect and equality** you gained were **maintained** in the **long run**? Provide **reasons** for your **approach** and **connect it** to the **themes of the play**. Write your answer in the form of A Paragraph and give it a suitable title.