

**KOTHARI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, NOIDA**  
**ANNUAL EXAMINATION, SESSION: 2025-26**  
**GRADE: 9 SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)**  
**[SET B]**

**DAY & DATE: FRIDAY- FEBRUARY 13, 2026**

**MAXIMUM MARKS: 80**

**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_**

**TIME ALLOTTED: 3 HOURS**

**ROLL NO: \_\_\_\_\_**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- i). This question paper comprises 11 questions. All questions are compulsory.*
- ii). There are 11 printed pages in this question paper.*
- iii). The Question Paper contains THREE sections - READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING, and LITERATURE.*
- iv). Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*
- v). A reading time of 15 minutes has been allocated.*

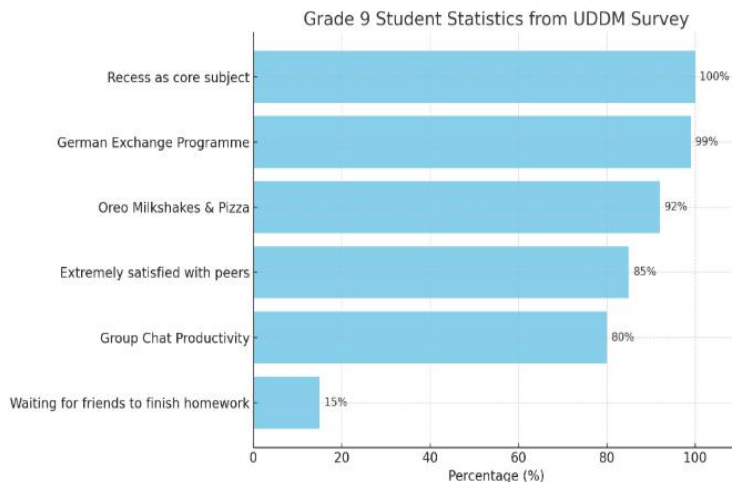
**SECTION A**  
**READING SKILLS**

**20 Marks**

**1. Read the passage given below:**

**10**

- 1 According to the Unofficial Department of Daily Mischief (UDDM), a recent survey of Grade 9 students revealed that all 116 students—yes, the entire troop—are astonishingly joyful, well-adjusted, and thriving. Statistical findings (painstakingly compiled from lunch-table conversations and corridor gossip) indicate that 100% of students believe recess should be a core subject, while 92% insist Oreos Milkshakes and Pizza are the true pillars of scholastic excellence. A remarkable 85% report being “extremely satisfied” with their peer group, whereas the remaining 15% are “waiting for friends to finish copying homework.” The Happiness Index peaked when Ms She-Who-Should-Not-Be-Named postponed a mathematics assessment, proving that happiness can indeed be graphed into pie charts and histograms.
- 2 Attendance has soared, possibly because 99% claim the German Exchange Programme “transformed their worldview.” The debate team argues with such fervour that teachers reportedly need post-round emotional recovery and The Theatre Club continues to excel, notably in performances of “The Case of the Missing Homework” and Oscar-worthy late entrances.



- 3 Social Science teachers lament that students confuse the French Revolution with the Industrial Revolution and think that the “Lok Sabha” is a yoga pose. Science teachers spend half their day preventing accidental discoveries and the other half rescuing lab equipment. English teachers report fatigue teaching grammar to students devoted to emojis while PE coaches struggle to convince students that running builds character just as the entire grade jogs at the pace of Zootopia’s sloth.
- 4 Meanwhile, “Group Chat Productivity” has surged to 80%, fuelled by homework memes and rallying war cries of “We’ll study tomorrow—without fail” and “We will lock in when we are in Grade 10.” In conclusion, this Grade 9 batch relishes every chaotic moment, and if happiness were examinable, they would top the charts. A quick reminder though – Grade 10 is hardly a month away.

*(The passage consists of 298 words.)*

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

- I** Why did the UDDM most likely rely on **lunch-table conversations** and **corridor gossip** for its data collection? **1**  
*(Paragraph 1)*  
**This is because such sources \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. provide the most accurate academic insights.
- B. genuinely reflect student opinions in an informal setting.
- C. are easier to access than official school reports.
- D. ensure that teachers cannot interfere with the responses

- II Complete the following using the correct option:** *(Paragraph 1)* **1**

Students insisted that recess should be a core subject mainly because it is associated with \_\_\_\_\_. (fun / academic rigour)

- III** When the writer says the **Happiness Index ‘peaked,’** they mean that \_\_\_\_\_. **1**  
*(Paragraph 1)*

- A. students became stressed because of assessments
- B. students were happiest when the math test was postponed
- C. teachers recorded the highest number of complaints
- D. the school introduced new recreational facilities

- IV Fill in the blank with ONE suitable word:** *(Paragraph 3)* **1**

Science teachers spend half their day preventing accidental discoveries and the other half rescuing lab equipment, showing that the lab environment is both unpredictable and \_\_\_\_\_.

- V Complete with the correct option:** *(Paragraph 3)* **1**

When the writer compares students’ jogging pace to that of the Zootopia sloth, the implied meaning is that students run \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. very fast
- B. extremely slowly.
- C. at a competitive speed.
- D. with high enthusiasm

VI According to the histogram / graph, the percentage of students who are extremely satisfied with peers and those who are very productive on the group chat are at almost an equal percentage. 1

*State whether the statement is True / False.*

*(Image)*

VII According to Paragraph 3, what challenges do Social Science and English teachers face when teaching? 2

VIII How does the writer use humour to show the Theatre Club's uniqueness? 2  
*(Paragraph 2)*

**2. Read the passage given below: 10**

1. The concept of education extends far beyond the acquisition of academic knowledge. While academic proficiency forms an essential component of schooling, true education is inherently holistic. It encompasses the comprehensive development of a child's intellect, character, values, and interpersonal skills. Education, in its authentic sense, seeks to prepare individuals not only for examinations but for life itself.
2. A meaningful education equips learners with the ability to think critically, communicate effectively, and respond responsibly to the demands of the real world. Equally essential, however, is the cultivation of emotional intelligence, empathy, and ethical conduct. When children are taught to understand and respect the perspectives, struggles, and feelings of others, they develop into socially aware and morally grounded individuals. These attributes are indispensable in an increasingly interconnected and complex society.
3. At the centre of this holistic vision lies the fundamental value of respect. Respect for elders, parents, teachers, grandparents, peers, and even animals and nature forms the basis of refined conduct and responsible citizenship. Children must be made aware that the privileges they enjoy are the result of the dedication and sacrifices of those who care for them. Recognising this fosters humility, gratitude, and an understanding that entitlement has no place in a well-rounded personality.
4. Such values are best inculcated through consistent habits and conscious practice. Greeting elders with courtesy, offering assistance, giving up a seat, stepping aside respectfully, opening doors for others, and expressing gratitude are simple yet powerful demonstrations of character. Similarly, practices such as beginning and ending the day with a greeting, saying prayers, or reflecting on one's blessings help nurture mindfulness and an attitude of thankfulness.
5. Children must learn to respect elders because it instils discipline, humility, and emotional maturity from an early age. When they interact respectfully with older individuals, they gain wisdom, develop stronger social skills, and learn to value guidance beyond their own limited experiences. This practice also nurtures empathy, strengthens family and community bonds, and shapes them into responsible, grounded adults.
6. Both the home and the school share the responsibility of ensuring that children are not only knowledgeable but also ethical, empathetic, and considerate human beings. Academic excellence may provide professional opportunities, but a strong moral foundation determines the quality, integrity, and purpose with which those opportunities are pursued. It is therefore imperative that education be viewed not merely as a means to intellectual advancement but as a structured effort to cultivate

responsible, respectful, and value-driven individuals. When children learn that true success begins with respect and gratitude, they become better prepared to contribute meaningfully to society and uphold the ideals of humanity.

*(The passage consists of 429 words.)*

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

- I** Why is respect described as the “**fundamental value**” at the centre of holistic education? **2**  
*(Paragraph 3)*
- II** Why must both the **home** and the **school** take **equal responsibility** in shaping value-driven individuals? **2**  
*(Paragraph 6)*
- III Identify the sentence in which the word authentic is used incorrectly:** **1**
- A. The chef is known for preparing authentic Italian pasta using traditional recipes.  
B. She bought an authentic painting that was verified by the museum curator.  
C. The student gave an authentic answer that clearly reflected her understanding.  
D. He wore authentic shoes to match his outfit perfectly.  
*(Paragraph 1)*
- IV Complete the analogy using the correct option:** **1**  
Gratitude: humility :: respect: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Paragraph 3)*
- V** Select the option that is **True** about the phrase “**emotionally grounded individuals**” as used in the passage: **1**
- A. They are individuals who remain unaffected by others’ emotions.  
B. They are individuals who understand and manage emotions with maturity.  
C. They are individuals who suppress emotions to appear confident.  
D. They are individuals who believe in grounding children for every offense.  
*(Paragraph 2)*
- VI** Why does the passage describe education as “**inherently holistic**” rather than purely academic? **1**  
*(Paragraph 1)*
- VII** According to *paragraph 1*, education encompasses all of the following **EXCEPT:** **1**
- A. academic proficiency  
B. development of interpersonal skills  
C. memorisation of facts  
D. strengthening of values
- VIII Complete the sentence by selecting the correct option from the bracket:**
- A meaningful education helps learners respond \_\_\_\_\_ to real-world challenges.  
(responsibly / socially) *(Paragraph 2)* **1**

**SECTION B: WRITING AND GRAMMAR**  
**GRAMMAR**

**20 Marks**  
**10**

**3 Complete ANY 10 out of 12 of the following tasks:**

**I Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence: 1**

*Whenever a responsible citizen \_\_\_\_\_ the rules, society functions smoothly.*

- A. follow
- B. followed
- C. follows
- D. is following

**II Read the conversation between a seller and his customer. Complete the sentence by reporting the customer's reply: 1**

*Seller: Here are your shoes, sir.*

*Customer: You have completely ruined it.*

The seller gave the customer his shoes. The customer was alarmed and said \_\_\_\_\_.

**III Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line: 1**

*If I hadn't taken a cab, I \_\_\_\_\_ for you at the train station for hours.*

- A. had to wait
- B. had to have waited
- C. might have been waiting
- D. ought to have been waiting

**IV Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line: 1**

*To Shivansh's good luck, he met a magician who agreed to sell him a magic wand for many gold.*

Error	Correction
met	meet
who	which
sell	sold
many	some

**V Report the dialogue between Aditya and his sister by completing the sentence: 1**

*Sister: Aditya, don't be late for dinner as our grandparents are visiting us.*

*Aditya: I won't be late. I will also buy a bunch of flowers for grandma on my way back.*

Sister told Aditya not to be late for dinner as their grandparents were visiting. Aditya answered saying that \_\_\_\_\_.

**VI Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction:** **1**  
*The book costed me too much money.*

ERROR	CORRECTION

**VII Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option:** **1**

\_\_\_\_\_ *I assist you?*

- A. Shall
- B. Would
- C. Can
- D. Ought

**VIII Select the option to complete the narration between the father and daughter:** **1**

*Daughter: When will my brother come home?*

*Father: He will come home tomorrow.*

The daughter asked her father when her brother would come home. Father replied that \_\_\_\_\_.

**IX Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction:** **1**

*I told her that I didn't knew whether she had come to school or not.*

ERROR	CORRECTION

**X Fill in the blank with the correct option to complete the opening line of a formal letter:** **1**

*Dear Sir*

*It is unimaginable that a village so near to Indore and along a national highway \_\_\_\_\_ any bus stop.*

- A. doesn't have
- B. didn't have
- C. don't have
- D. wont have

**XI Select the correct option to complete the given sentence:** **1**

*Each of these producers \_\_\_\_\_ (has/have) his own advantages.*

**XII Select the correct option to complete the given sentence:** **1**

*Sylvia Plath, the novelist and poet \_\_\_\_\_ (is, are) dead.*

## WRITING

NOTE: All details presented in the questions in the writing section are imaginary and created for assessment purposes.

- 4A** You are walking through your neighbourhood on a cold January morning in the Delhi NCR region. Describe the foggy streets, chilly air, people wrapped in woolens, street vendors selling hot snacks, and the slow pace of life around you. Bring out the sensory feels of the freezing winter cold, the sounds, limited visibility, and the warmth offered by tea stalls and winter sunlight. Complete your **Descriptive Paragraph** in **80–100 words**. Do not forget to give it a **suitable title**.

OR

5

- 4B** During the Carol Singing Competition held at your school something unexpected and amusing happened on stage. Describe the reactions of teachers and students, the laughter that spread across the hall, and the lively atmosphere. Include your own feelings and explain why this event became memorable. Write this as a **Descriptive Diary Entry** in **80–100 words**.

- 5A** You and your classmates are spending the last week of Grade 9 in your classroom, preparing for the transition to Grade 10, the most important grade of your school life. Everyone is feeling a mix of excitement, nervousness, and curiosity about the challenges ahead.

One morning, everyone notices a mysterious list pinned on the notice board, containing something. The students are puzzled and a little anxious. Describe how you and your friends react, your conversations, the suspense that builds, and the eventual revelation behind the list. Bring the characters, setting, and emotions alive. Write a **Short Story** in **120–150 words**, including a suitable **Title** and a **Moral**. Ensure there is a healthy balance of **dialogue and narrative**.

OR

5

- 5B** One day, a mischievous student brings a realistic rubber snake to class and hides it somewhere in the classroom. As the lesson goes on, the snake is “discovered,” causing chaos, screams, and laughter among the students and even the teacher. Describe how the prank unfolds, the funny reactions of your classmates, the confusion it creates, and how the mystery of the rubber snake is finally revealed.

Write a **Short Story** in **120–150 words**, bringing the **prank, characters, and comic adventure alive**. Invent supporting characters for your tale. Do not forget to give your story a suitable **Title** and a **Moral**. Ensure a healthy **dialogue-to-narrative ratio**.

## SECTION C

### LITERATURE TEXTBOOK

40 Marks

5

- 6** Read the given extracts A and B and answer **ANY ONE** of the two:

**A** “I am very grateful to you and to your cook. God bless that good and noble woman! It was your cook, Olga, who saved me.”

“How is that?” asked Sergei.

“When I used to come to your house to chop wood, she used to begin: ‘Oh, you sot, you! Oh, you miserable creature! There’s nothing for you but ruin.’ And then she would sit down opposite me and grow sad, look into my face and weep. ‘Oh, you unlucky man!

There is no pleasure for you in this world and there will be none in the world to come. You drunkard! You will burn in hell. Oh, you unhappy one!’ And so she would carry on, you know, in that strain. I can’t tell you how much misery she suffered, how many tears she shed for my sake. But the chief thing was — she used to chop the wood for me. Do you know, sir, that I did not chop one single stick of wood for you? She did it all. Why this saved me, why I changed, why I stopped drinking at the sight of her I cannot explain. I only know that, owing to her words and noble deeds, a change took place in my heart; she set me right, and I shall never forget it.

(The Beggar)

I Do you agree that Olga was the real reason why Lushkoff reformed himself? How did she manage to change him for the better? What methods did she employ? 2

II Read the following statement that best explains the phrases used by Olga to Lushkoff - ‘Oh, you sot! Oh, you miserable creature?’ Compare this with the statement below and answer whether this is True or False. 1

*Olga used a show of maternal care and well-intended maternal insults to give Lushkoff the belief that there was someone in this world who cared for him. This gave him the hope to truly reform. True or False?*

III What can be inferred by the statement ‘*I can’t tell you how much misery she suffered.*’ Answer in 30 – 40 words. 1

IV Select the option that correctly completes the following: 1  
*God bless that good and noble woman.*

- A. Lushkoff wishes to convey that Olga was good and noble and found a way to truly help him.
- B. Lushkoff wishes to convey that Olga was good and noble, but frustrated with him.

OR

B INTRUDER: My specialty’s jewel robbery. Your car will do me a treat. It’s certainly a dandy bus.

GERRARD: I’m afraid jewels are few and far between in the wilds of Essex.

INTRUDER: So are the cops. I can retire here nicely for a little while.

GERRARD: You mean to live with me? A trifle sudden, isn’t it; you’ve not been invited.

INTRUDER: You won’t be here long, so I didn’t trouble to ask.

GERRARD: What do you mean?

INTRUDER: This is your big surprise. I’m going to kill you.

GERRARD: A little harsh, isn’t it?

INTRUDER: (with heavy sarcasm) Yeah, I’ll be sorry to do it. I’ve taken a fancy to you, but it’s just got to be done.

GERRARD: Why add murder to your other crimes? It’s a grave step you’re taking.

INTRUDER: I’m not taking it for fun. I’ve been hunted long enough. I’m wanted for murder already, and they can’t hang me twice.

(If I Were You)

I Why did the Intruder choose Gerrard as the ideal person to serve his purposes? 2

- II What is the main reason the Intruder wants to kill Gerrard?** 1
- A. Gerrard has stolen his jewels.  
 B. The Intruder wants Gerrard’s house.  
 C. The Intruder wants to steal Gerrard’s identity, house and car.  
 D. Gerrard insulted him earlier.
- III What does Gerrard say is the reason for which he has been “hunted long enough?”** 1
- IV Choose the sentence that is the right meaning for the one given below:** 1  
*It certainly is a dandy bus.*
- A. The bus belongs to someone named Dandy.  
 B. The bus is very old and falling apart.  
 C. The bus travels only to a place named Dandy.  
 D. The intruder is saying the car is excellent — a really good vehicle.
- 7 Read the given extracts A and B and answer ANY ONE of the two:** 5
- A**
- A slumber did my spirit seal—  
 I had no human fears.  
 She seemed a thing that could not feel  
 The touch of earthly years.  
 No motion has she now, no force—  
 She neither hears nor sees*
- (A Slumber Did My Spirit Seal)
- I What is most appropriately conveyed in the excerpted lines?** 1
- i. Grief  
 ii. Rashness  
 iii. Drama  
 iv. Acceptance  
 v. Elation
- A. i & ii  
 B. ii, iii & v  
 C. iii & iv  
 D. i & iv
- II Why does the poet say ‘No motion has she now, no force—She neither hears nor sees?’** 2
- III Lines 3 & 4 use the following poetic device:** 1
- A. Anaphora  
 B. Onomatopoeia  
 C. Enjambment  
 D. Inversion
- IV ‘A Slumber’ in the lines ‘A Slumber Did My Spirit Seal’ makes use of the following device – Metaphor / Irony. Choose any one and explain why.** 1

OR

B

*Remember, no men are strange, no countries foreign  
Beneath all uniforms, a single body breathes  
Like ours: the land our brothers walk upon  
Is earth like this, in which we all shall lie.*

*They, too, aware of sun and air and water,  
Are fed by peaceful harvests, by war's long winter starv'd.  
Their hands are ours, and in their lines we read  
A labour not different from our own.*

(No Men Are Foreign)

I What does the poet mean by the line '**Remember, no men are strange, no countries foreign?**' 2

II **Choose the correct option:** 1  
*Beneath all uniforms, a single body breathes -- Like ours.*

The phrase '*a single body breathes*' refers to **Human Rights Activism / Universal Humanity.**

III '**by war's long winter starv'd**' – Explain this line with two poetic devices other than imagery. 1

IV Choose the words that use '**symbolism**' correctly in the excerpted lines: 1  
i. Uniform  
ii. Peaceful  
iii. Earth  
iv. Winter  
v. Labour  
A. i & ii  
B. i, iii & iv  
C. iii & v  
D. iv & v

8 Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 50 words each: 4x3=12

I How does the story of Albert Einstein prove that **scientists** who are **humanitarians** are gems of society? (A Truly Beautiful Mind)

II In the story "**The Snake and the Mirror**" how does the author use humour to narrate a serious situation?

III **Dame Evelyn Glennie is a true inspiration to us all.** Justify the statement with examples from the text.

(The Sound of Music – Part I)

IV What is the central theme of **The Legend of the Northland**? How does the poet convey it through the story?

- V Why does the poet call the rain “*a melancholy darkness that gently weeps in rainy tears*” in the poem **Rain on the Roof**? Mention the literary devices used.
- 9 Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words: **2x3=6**
- I Describe any **one story** that Iswaran narrates in *Iswaran the Story Teller*. Add all the dramatic elements used by Iswaran.
- II Write a biographical sketch on the Guru from the lesson “**The Kingdom of Fools.**”
- III “*My cat was back and so was I,*” narrates Zan Gaudioso in the story “**A House is not a Home.**” What does the author mean by this phrase?
- 10 Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words: **1x6=6**
- A Kalam valued family, education and career. He was very excited when he was able to earn his own wages. Write **A Dialogue** between **you and APJ** where you are **taking advice** from him on the **importance of family, education** and being able to **earn a steady income**. Each character should have **6 dialogues** each that **DO NOT** include greetings and goodbyes.
- (My Childhood)
- OR**
- B Imagine you are a visitor to the **Lake Isle of Innisfree**, witnessing the peaceful life **Yeats** describes in the poem. Write a **Diary Entry** in **100–120 words** describing your impressions of the serene lake, the small cabin, the lush surroundings, and the calming sounds of nature. Include your **feelings of peace and solitude**, what you would do to **spend time** there, and the **lessons you learn** about the **importance of simplicity and connecting with nature**. Make your entry personal, reflective, and vivid. Give it a suitable date and a title.
- 11 Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words: **1x6=6**
- A Imagine you are a poor citizen who received help from the **Happy Prince**. Write an **Informal Letter** to your friend in **100 – 120 words** describing the Prince’s acts of kindness and how they changed your life. Include your feelings of **gratitude and hope** for the swallow as well who was the messenger of the Prince.
- OR**
- B Imagine the story “**The Last Leaf**” had a different ending: the last leaf did fall and Johnsy lost hope. Write **A Paragraph** in **100–120 words** showing how Sue and Behrman might have helped her regain hope afterward. Focus on **friendship, courage, and human spirit**.