

CBSE Class 10
English Language
Previous Year Question Paper 2017

Series: HRK

Set-1

Code no. 2/1

- Please check that this question paper contains 8 printed pages.
- Code number given on the right-hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains **11** questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer script during this period.

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT-II
ENGLISH (Language and literature)

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 70

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three sections: **A, B and C**. All the sections are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions

SECTION - A

(Reading)

20 Marks

1. Read the passage given below:

8 Marks

Then all the windows of the grey wooden house (Miss Hilton used to live here. She expired last week), were thrown open, a thing I had never seen before.

At the end of the day a sign was nailed on the mango tree: FOR SALE.

Nobody in the street knew Miss Hilton. While she lived, her front gate was always locked and no one ever saw her leave or saw anybody go in. So, even if you wanted to, you couldn't feel sorry and say that you missed Miss Hilton.

When I think of her house I see just two colours. Grey and green. The green of the mango tree, the grey of the house and the grey of the high iron fence that prevented you from getting at the mangoes.

If your cricket ball fell in Miss Hilton's courtyard you never got it back. It wasn't the mango season when Miss Hilton died. But we got back about ten or twelve of our cricket balls.

The house was sold and we were prepared to dislike the new owners even before they came. I think we were a little worried. Already we had one resident of the street who kept on complaining about us to our parents. He complained that we played cricket on the pavement; and if we were not playing cricket, he complained that we were making too much noise anyway.

One afternoon when I came back from school Pal said, “Is a man and a woman. She pretty pretty, but he ugly like hell.” I didn’t see much. The front gate was open, but the windows were shut again. I heard a dog barking in an angry way.

One thing was settled pretty quickly. Whoever these people were, they would never be the sort of people to complain that we were making noise and disturbing their sleep.

A lot of noise came from the house that night. The radio was going at full volume until midnight when the radio station closed down. The dog was barking and the man was shouting. I didn’t hear the woman.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, complete the statements that follow:

1×8=8 Marks

- (a) Nobody went into Miss Hilton’s house because her front _____ .
- (b) Her house had only two colours, (i) _____, and (ii) _____ .
- (c) The high iron fence did not let the boys get _____ .
- (d) They never got it back if their _____ fell into her courtyard.
- (e) The boys were ready to dislike the _____ .
- (f) One resident of the street always _____ .
- (g) The new owners of Miss Hilton’s house were (i) _____, and (ii) _____ .
- (h) The man was shouting, the dog was barking, only _____ .

Ans: (a) front gate was always locked

(b) (i) Grey and (ii) Green

(c) the mangoes

(d) Cricket ball

(e) Owners of the house

(f) complaining about the boys to their parents

(g) (i) man and (ii) woman

(h) woman was silent

2. Read the passage given below:

12 Marks

1. During our growing up years we as children were taught – both at home and school – to worship the photos and idols of the Gods of our respective religions. When we grew a little older, we were to read holy books like the Bhagavad Gita, Bible and Quran; we were told that there are a lot of life lessons to be learnt from these holy books. We were then introduced to stories from our mythologies which taught us about ethics and morality – what is good and what is bad. I also learnt to be respectful towards my parents who made my life comfortable with their hard work and love and care, and my teachers who guided me to become a good student and a responsible citizen.

2. Much later in life, I realised that though we learn much from our respective holy books, there is a lot to learn from our surroundings. This realisation dawned upon me when I learnt to enquire and explore. Everything around us – the sun, the moon, the stars, rain, rivers, stones, rocks, birds, plants and animals – teach us many valuable life lessons.

3. No wonder that besides the scriptures, in many cultures nature is also worshipped. The message that we get is to save our environment and maintain ecological balance. People are taught to live in harmony with nature and recognise that there is God in all aspects of nature.

4. Nature is a great teacher. A river never stops flowing. If it finds an obstacle in its way in the form of a heavy rock, the river water fights to remove it from its path or finds an alternative path to move ahead. This teaches us to be progressive in life, and keep the fighting spirit alive.

5. Snakes are worshipped as they eat insects in the field that can hurt our crops,

thus protecting the grains for us. In fact, whatever we worship is our helper and makes our lives easy for us. There are many such examples in nature, but we are not ready to learn a lesson. Overcome with greed, we are destroying nature. As a result, we face natural disasters like droughts, floods and landslides. We don't know that nature is angry with us.

6. However, it is never too late to learn. If we learn to respect nature, the quality of our life will improve.

2.1 Answer briefly the following questions:

2×4=8 Marks

(a) What are we taught in our childhood and growing up years ?

Ans: Throughout our youth and adolescence, we were taught to pray to and worship images and idols of the Gods of our respective religions. A few years later, we were taught to read books like the Bhagavad Gita, the Bible, and the Quran since they included many good lessons.

(b) Why should we respect our parents and teachers ?

Ans: We should respect our parents because they made our lives easier by their tireless efforts, and we should also respect our professors since they helped us grow as better students and citizens via their continual guidance.

(c) What message do we get when we worship nature ?

Ans: Nature's message to us is to safeguard the ecosystem and maintain ecological balance. We are taught to live in harmony with nature and to recognise God's presence in the natural world.

(d) How does a river face an obstacle that comes in its way ?

Ans: When an obstruction, such as a large boulder or fallen trees, obstructs the flow of a river, it never stops. It will simply battle to eliminate the impediment or flow in a different direction to continue. As a result, it teaches us to remain aggressive and bold when confronted with challenges in our lives by keeping our fighting spirit alive.

2.2 Give the meanings of the words given below, as used in the passage, with the help of the options that follow:

1×4=4 Marks

(e) guided (Para 1)

(i) answered

(ii) advised

(iii) fought

(iv) polished

Ans: (ii) advised

(f) explore (Para 2)

(i) search

(ii) frequent

(iii) describe

(iv) request

Ans: (i) search

(g) valuable (Para 2)

(i) proper

(ii) desirable

(iii) available

(iv) useful

Ans: (iv) useful

(h) harmony (Para 3)

(i) beauty

(ii) friendship

(iii) discomfort

(iv) honesty

Ans: (ii) friendship

SECTION – B

(Writing Skills with Grammar)

25 Marks

3. The road that leads to your market is broken and full of potholes. Mosquitoes and flies breed there. Write a letter in 100 – 120 words to the editor of a local newspaper drawing the attention of the concerned authorities to get the road repaired. You are P.V. Prabhu/Prabha, 112, Aram Nagar, Delhi. 5 Marks

Ans: 112, Aram Nagar

Delhi

25th September 2017

The Editor

The Times of India

Delhi

Subject: Raising awareness of the need for road maintenance.

Respected Sir,

I'm writing today to call attention to the importance of mending the crumbling roads in my neighbourhood.

Residents travel to the market on a regular basis to meet their daily necessities. However, people encounter several difficulties while walking on foot or in a vehicle on the road leading to the market because it is broken and full of potholes as a result

of repeated wear and tear. The holes also fill up with rainwater and have created a breeding ground for mosquitoes and flies, endangering public health. The concerned authorities chose to ignore the citizens' hardships and take no action to restore the road, hence there is no upkeep.

I hope you would consider this subject and publish an article in your newspaper to keep the relevant authorities informed.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

P.V. Prabha

Or

Write an article in 100 – 120 words on ‘A library is good for all — the old and young’. You are P.V. Prabhu/Prabha. Use the following clues:

- best place in the school
- reference books, help books, newspapers, etc.
- don't have to buy expensive ones
- books to relax – novels, plays, etc.
- books – treasure of knowledge
- spend leisure hours

5 Marks

Ans: A library is good for all- the old and the young

By: P.V. Prabha/Prabha

Everyone knows what a library is: a room full of books. It can be found in any educational institution and is the ideal location in a school. It is a location where one can seek and receive knowledge on a variety of areas such as math, science, arts, languages, and so on. It includes reference books, guide books, newspapers, periodicals, encyclopaedias, and other materials to assist us study and finish tasks

and assignments. It also broadens our understanding of the world beyond our immediate surroundings. With the help of libraries, one can read the books they desire by borrowing them for a set amount of time and not having to buy them, even if they are expensive.

Books that help you relax are also available in the shape of novels, plays, and other forms that allow you to momentarily escape into another world. Books are also a treasure trove of knowledge because they allow us to learn a lot and expand our vocabulary in a variety of languages. Libraries are beneficial to people of all ages because there is no age limit to studying and spending leisure time immersed in books. It's a fun way to spend our time and learn new things.

4. Write a story in 150 – 200 words based on the following outline: 10 Marks

A stag, thirsty — a pool of clear water — reflection — saw his horns — proud of them — his thin legs — ashamed — hunter's dogs — ran — horns caught in a tree — dogs very near — pulled his horns free — ran for his life — legs saved him.

Ans: Once upon a time, in a big and dark forest, there lived a gorgeous stag. He was lost in the woods and had become quite thirsty. He came to a clear pool of water and knelt to drink. He caught sight of himself in the mirror and adored his horns. He was proud of them, but he was embarrassed by his skinny legs, which were dull and unsightly. Suddenly, he heard the barking of a hunter's dogs as they approached him. He ran for his life as fast as his frail legs could carry him. He'd come a long way, but his horns became entangled in the branches of a tree. He fought hard to get away from the trees and heard the dogs barking as they got closer. Fortunately, he was able to free his horns and flee quickly. He suddenly recognized that the legs he had chastised had saved his life, whilst the horns he had revered had almost killed him.

Or

Complete the story in 150 – 200 words which begins as the following:

It was my fifteenth birthday. My parents were very happy. Some of my class-

fellows had agreed to come.

10 Marks

Ans: My fifteenth birthday had arrived. My folks were overjoyed. Some of my classmates had promised to come to my house for the evening celebration. On a bright sunny Tuesday, I awoke to find my parents encircling my bed, singing "Happy Birthday to you" and showering me with hugs and greetings. I put on my new dress and skipped down the lane to the school bus stop. My classmates met me at school, and I distributed invites and candies for the celebration later that evening. They began to come to my place at six o'clock and began to shower me with gifts. Until my dad brought in the cake, we laughed, danced, played games, sang, and ate junk food. While my family and friends sang the birthday song, I blew out the candles and cut a slice. We enjoyed a special meal prepared by my mother, followed by slices of cake, seconds, and ice cream. Then we settled in for the final act: gift-wrapping. I received clothes, an iPod, a bundle of fantasy novels, a watch, and other wonderful gifts, as well as a new laptop from my parents. It was the nicest birthday I'd ever had.

5. Complete the paragraph given below by filling in the blanks with the help of the options that follow:

1×3=3 Marks

Very few people (a) _____ loneliness. It seems to me that most people (b) _____ scared of (c) _____ left on their own.

(a) (i) enjoy (ii) enjoys (iii) enjoyed (iv) enjoying

Ans: (i) enjoy

(b) (i) is (ii) am (iii) are (iv) was

Ans: (ii) are

(c) (i) be (ii) being (iii) been (iv) having

Ans: (ii) being

6. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the error and its correction as shown in the example. $1 \times 4 = 4$ Marks

	Error	Correction
I met her by chance then I e.g.	then	when
went to getting some medicine	(a) _____	_____
which Sister Amy use to give.	(b) _____	_____
It was amazing for meet Mother.	(c) _____	_____
I start loving just her presence.	(d) _____	_____

Ans:

ERROR	CORRECTION
getting use for start	get used to started

7. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences:

$1 \times 3 = 3$ Marks

(a) accept / his pupil / Swami / Sethu as / did not /

Ans: Swami did not accept Sethu as his pupil

(b) only 14 / very / years old / he was / young /

Ans: he was very young, only 14 years' old

(c) heart / not / but / did / lose / Sethu /

Ans: but Sethu did not lose heart

SECTION - C

(Literature: Textbooks and Long Reading Text)

25 Marks

8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

1×3=3 Marks

**“Never shall a young man,
Thrown into despair
By those great honey-coloured
Ramparts at your ear,
Love you for yourself alone
And not your yellow hair.”**

(a) Whom are these lines addressed to ?

Ans: These lyrics are intended for Lady Augusta Gregory, a poet, and her granddaughter, little Anne Gregory.

(b) What would throw a young man into despair ?

Ans: The young men are smitten with Anne's honey-gold hair, which falls over her ear and covers it with strands. As a result, the men are just interested in her outside appearance and do not appreciate her for who she is. They are depressed since she has rejected their proposals.

(c) What does the word, ‘ramparts’ here mean ?

Ans: Ramparts are the walls that surround a castle to defend it from the elements. It alludes to the golden strands of Anne's hair that form a wall around her ear.

Or

“Why, you’re in evening dress ! Well, I never have ! Are you going to a ball or what ? Though I must say you look better”

1x3=3 Marks

(a) Who is speaking and to whom ?

Ans: In the play The Proposal, Tschubukov is chatting to Lomov.

(b) Why is the person spoken to in an evening dress ?

Ans: The person spoken to is in an evening dress because he wanted to ask the speaker for the hand of his daughter Natalia in marriage.

(c) What does the word, 'ball' mean here ?

Ans: The term 'ball' in this context refers to an opulent social gathering for New Year's Eve celebration.

9. Answer the following questions in 30 – 40 words each: 2×4=8 Marks

(a) What do we learn about the financial condition of the bakers of Goa ?

Ans: Goa's bakers (padars) are well-known for their loaves of bread. The bakers' financial situation was affluent and well-off, as baking was a profitable vocation and bread was adored by everyone. Another example is the appearance of bakers, which is similar to that of jackfruit due to their plump physical appearance.

(b) In the poem 'Trees', where are the trees ? What are their roots, twigs, etc trying to do ?

Ans: The trees are outside the poet's window in the poem Trees. Their roots are seeking nutrition from the earth, while their twigs and branches are lifted into the air, as if praying to God. The branches also give protection for birds to make nests and shade for a variety of other critters from harsh weather. The sturdy trunk can withstand hard conditions and grow during rains. This vast creation of God cannot be likened to a human production, such as a poem. This work of God fascinates the poet.

(c) Which book did Ebricht's mother get for him ? How did it change his life ?

Ans: Richard Ebricht was particularly interested in collecting butterflies in the

Making of a Scientist. His mother encouraged his interest in learning by purchasing a book for him. The title of the book she gave him was The Travels of Monarch X. It altered his life by introducing him to the world of science and its possibilities.

(d) How did M. Loisel try to make his wife happy ?

Ans: Mr. Loisel attempted to please his wife by receiving an invitation to the ministerial ball. His wife yearned for elegance, wealth, and a circle of exclusive friends. He believed that his wife would be overjoyed at the chance to mingle with upper-class people and make an impression on them with her beauty.

10. Answer the following question in 80 – 100 words:

4 Marks

Once we decide to achieve something, so many difficulties come in our way. With focused attention we can make that achievement. How did Valli succeed in fulfilling her desire of riding a bus ?

Ans: Valli was determined to ride a bus in the storey Madam Rides the Bus. In order to do so, she inquired of her neighbours about the bus ride and the distance between her village and the town. She was working hard to accumulate money for a two-way ticket. She attempted to be independent and behave like a mature adult while riding the bus. She enjoyed her travel but knew not to get off at the town bus stop since she is terrified of strangers and avoids talking to them. On her way back, she is involved in an accident, which rattles her, but she completes her journey and achieves her goal. We can see from this storey that, despite the challenges, an eight-year-old girl is able to realise her dream because she makes sacrifices by saving money for the bus fare rather than spending it on her childish desires, and she also goes alone despite her age.

Or

School education turned Bholi from a dumb cow into a bold girl. How did she save her father from a huge expense and become his support in his old age ?

4 Marks

Ans: Bholi was a little girl who had contracted smallpox at a young age and had begun to appear unattractive. She also stammered when she spoke and was naturally shy. Her teacher was very kind to her when she was enrolled in school and encouraged her to succeed, which helped her acquire confidence. Because of her disfigured features, her parents wanted to marry her off to a guy twice her age as she grew older. She agreed like a good daughter would. When the greedy groom sought a large dowry, she rebelled due to her education, which had given her free will, wisdom, and maturity. She saved her father a lot of money by teaching so she could earn a living and support her family for the rest of her life.

11. Answer the following question in 150 – 200 words:

10 Marks

How did Helen Keller get out of the traumatic experience of ‘Frost King’ ?

Ans: Helen Keller had written a novella called The Frost King for Mr. Anagnos of the Perkins Institution for the Blind's birthday and sent it to him. He is happy and impressed by her work, which he has published in a study by The Perkins Institute. Helen's narrative was revealed to be similar to "The Frost Fairies," which was included in Miss Margaret T. Canbey's book "Birdie and His Friends." Helen swears she has no recollection of hearing the story, and Annie Sullivan likewise claims she has never heard of "Birdie and His Friends." However, the Committee determined that Helen had copied from "The Frost Fairies," which shocked her and caused her to refuse to resume writing. Her friendship with Mr. Anagnos had likewise ended. Miss Sullivan and Miss Canbey consoled her when she began to double-check her letters to her mother to ensure that all of the words were her own. Anne was able to recover from this traumatic experience by knowing that it was a life lesson to be learned.

Or

What do you know about Mr. Keith as Helen Keller's teacher ?

Ans: Mr. Keith was Helen's Cambridge school tutor who continued her preparation for the final exam to join Radcliffe College. Anne Sullivan translated his lessons.

She characterised him as gentle and patient because it took her a long time to understand a certain subject. Unlike languages and literature, she found mathematics and geometry difficult to learn, but Mr. Keith was able to make the tough subjects fascinating and concise. He taught her to think calmly and logically, and to practise reasoning skills before jumping to conclusions. He remained patient with her, no matter how long it took her to fully grasp a subject. She appreciated his teaching methods and was appreciative for his patience and recognition of her difficulties. Mr. Keith was well-educated, compassionate, sympathetic, patient, and explained things more clearly than any teacher, according to Helen's description.

Or

How is Anne more mature than Peter? Describe her feelings for him.

Ans: As she comes across gregarious, mature, and energetic, Anne is more mature than Peter. She accepts responsibilities in the Secret Annexe in order to assist her family and to help them survive the hard conditions they were forced to endure. She recognises that life is full of obstacles that may be overcome by working hard and focusing less on her personal discomfort.

Annie thought Peter was obnoxious, lethargic, and sensitive at first, but they became good friends later on. Because she lacked a close buddy, she began to like him and created an emotional attachment with him. She began to develop feelings for him and desired to be close to him at all times. They understood one other since they were so similar in so many ways. They were both lonely and lacking love and compassion from their families. She admired his sense of comedy. Without being shy, Peter found it easy to converse with Anne. They could freely confide in one another and discuss a wide range of topics. Anne was convinced she was in love with him, but Peter merely regarded her as a close friend with no romantic feelings for her.

Or

Anne's diary is as important for Anne as any other character in the annexe. What is your opinion ?

Ans: Anne's diary was as important to her as it was to any other character because she didn't have anyone with whom she could discuss her sentiments and emotions. When she turned thirteen, she received it as a birthday present and named it Kitty. Because it was her constant companion in her loneliness, the diary came to her rescue. She viewed it as a close friend, confiding and venting her emotions in her entries. She never kept anything from her diary and wrote down everything that happened in her life, including squabbles with her family and neighbours. She documented her wartime experiences, including the anguish, irritation, worry, wrath, and despair. One of her dreams was to have her journal published under the title The Secret Annex. She has a lot of thoughts in her limited universe. Her ambition was to become a world-renowned journalist or writer.